Annandale State School Curriculum Newsletter Term 4

6/5F1

English

Students will explore poetry, investigating how poets use imagery, figurative language, rhythm and sound devices to create meaning and engage readers. They will interpret poems, explain how language influences emotions and ideas, and compare different poetic structures. Students will use evidence from texts to support their interpretations and develop their understanding of how poets communicate with audiences.

- **Poetry detectives:** Find examples of similes, metaphors or personification in poems, songs or books.
- **Poetry in motion:** Read a poem aloud, experimenting with rhythm, expression and emphasis.
- **Creative comparisons:** Challenge your child to describe everyday objects using imaginative comparisons.

Ask questions such as:

- What picture does this poem create in your mind?
- Why did the poet choose those words
- How does the rhythm change the feeling?
- What might the poet be trying to communicate?

Mathematics

Students will strengthen their mathematical reasoning through decimals, number patterns and problem-solving. They will explore place value, factors and multiples, and use step-by-step algorithms to identify patterns and solve problems. Students will also investigate probability through repeated chance experiments, comparing predicted and actual outcomes.

Year 6 students will extend their learning by calculating fractions, decimals and percentages of quantities, exploring growing patterns and using digital simulations to investigate probability.

- **Number challenges:** Compare decimal prices, calculate discounts or explore fractions of everyday quantities.
- **Pattern machines:** Create number rules and challenge someone to predict the next values.
- **Chance investigators:** Roll dice or flip coins repeatedly, recording and comparing results.

Ask questions such as:

- What pattern do you notice?
- Can you explain your rule?
- How could you solve this another way?
- Why might the results change when we repeat the experiment?

Science

Year 5 – Investigating Light

Students will investigate how light travels, creates shadows, reflects and refracts. Through experiments with mirrors, prisms and different materials, they will make predictions, observe patterns and use ray diagrams to explain their findings. Students will apply their learning to design a creative model demonstrating the properties of light.

Year 6 – Exploring Electrical Energy

Students will investigate how electrical energy moves through circuits and transforms into light, sound, heat or movement. They will explore circuit components, construct and test simple circuits, and investigate how changes affect their operation. Students will develop their scientific inquiry skills through fair testing, recording observations and explaining their findings, while learning about electrical safety in diverse communities.

HASS

Students are investigating how decisions made by individuals, businesses and communities can impact people, the environment and the economy. They are exploring concepts such as consumer choices, trade-offs and opportunity cost, and considering how resources can be used to create positive outcomes for their community.

- **Community Changemaker:** Identify a local issue and brainstorm solutions that would benefit the community.
- **Budget Challenge:** Decide how you would spend a small community budget and justify your choices.
- **Needs vs Wants:** Compare family spending decisions and discuss trade-offs.
- **Local Hero Hunt:** Research a local business, organisation or community group and discover how they help others.

Ask this question:

- What changes would make our community better?

Arts

In Semester 2, students are exploring how artists from different cultures use animals to communicate ideas, beliefs, values and stories. They will experiment with sculpture, collage and mixed media techniques to create a three-dimensional artwork that expresses their own ideas and personal perspective.

- **Animal Symbol Challenge:** Choose an animal and discuss what it might represent (e.g. courage, wisdom, loyalty).
- **Recycled Sculpture Studio**: Create an animal sculpture using recycled materials from around the home.
- **Artist Detective:** Explore artworks featuring animals and discuss what message the artist might be sharing.
- **Clay Creations:** Use playdough or modelling clay to create an animal with unique textures and features.
- **Gallery Walk:** Display artworks at home and explain the meaning behind each creation.

Health & Physical Education

Students are analysing health information to make informed decisions about nutrition, wellbeing and healthy lifestyles. They are also refining movement skills, applying game strategies, and learning how teamwork, inclusion and fair play contribute to success in a range of physical activities.

- **MasterChef Makeover:** Redesign a favourite family meal to make it healthier.
- **Label Detective:** Compare food labels and identify the healthier choice.
- **Family Fitness Challenge:** Create a weekly challenge involving walking, cycling or active games.
- **Game Changer:** Play a family game and invent a new strategy or rule to make it more inclusive.
- **Hydration Challenge:** Track water intake for a day and discuss healthy drink choices.