Annandale State School Curriculum Newsletter Term 4

Year Six

English

Students will explore The Wild Robot by Peter Brown, investigating themes of friendship, belonging, survival and responsibility. They will examine how the author develops characters, relationships and challenges, and uses descriptive language and literary devices to engage readers. As authors, students will plan, write and illustrate their own imaginative narratives, using cohesive paragraphs, complex sentences and vivid vocabulary to bring their stories to life.

- **Character detectives:** Discuss how characters change throughout a story and what their actions reveal about them.
- **Perspective switch:** Retell a favourite scene from another character's point of view.
- **Story twists:** Invent an unexpected problem or alternative ending for a familiar story.

Ask questions such as:

- Why did the character make that choice?
- How does the author build tension?
- What clues support your thinking?
- How could you make this story more engaging?

Mathematics

Students will strengthen their mathematical reasoning through fractions, decimals, percentages and number patterns. They will solve practical problems, including percentage discounts, and create algorithms to generate growing patterns. Students will also investigate probability through chance experiments and digital simulations, comparing predicted outcomes with actual results.

- **Bargain hunters:** Calculate discounts when shopping or browsing catalogues.
- **Pattern machines:** Create number rules and challenge someone to predict the next values.
- **Chance challenges:** Roll dice or flip coins repeatedly and compare predicted and actual outcomes.

Ask questions such as:

- How much would we save with a 25% discount?
- What rule creates this pattern
- How could you check your answer?
- Why might our experimental results differ from what we expected?

Science

Students will investigate how electrical energy moves through circuits and transforms into light, sound, heat or movement. They will construct and test circuits, explore conductors and insulators, and investigate how different components affect circuit function. Students will plan safe, fair investigations and communicate their scientific findings.

- **Energy detectives:** Identify household appliances that transform electrical energy into light, sound, heat or movement.
- **Circuit creators:** Use a low-voltage battery-powered circuit kit to investigate switches and circuit components.
- **Safety spotters:** Discuss how electricity is used safely around the home.

Ask questions such as:

- Why does a circuit need a complete path?
- What happens when we open a switch?
- Why are electrical wires covered in plastic?
- How does this appliance transform energy?

HASS

Students will explore the diversity of places, people and cultures across the world, with a focus on Australia and Asia. They will investigate how environments, economies and cultures influence the ways people live, comparing countries such as Australia and Japan. Students will use maps, geographical data and evidence to identify patterns, make comparisons and draw conclusions about our interconnected world.

- **Around the world:** Explore maps or Google Earth to locate Asian countries and compare their landscapes with Australia.
- **Country comparisons:** Choose two countries and investigate differences in climate, population or everyday life.
- **Culture explorers:** Discover traditional foods, celebrations or customs from different countries.

Ask questions such as:

- How is life in Japan similar to or different from Australia?
- How might the environment influence where people live
- What can maps and graphs tell us about a country?

Arts

In Semester 2, students are exploring how drama can be created using more than just actors in role by incorporating masks, props, movement, media, fantasy elements and alternative performance spaces. They will devise, perform and respond to dramatic works that demonstrate how dramatic transformations can communicate meaning and engage audiences.

- **Mask Maker:** Design and create a mask for a character and act out a short scene.
- **Prop Challenge:** Choose a household object and transform it into something completely different in a performance.
- **Mystery Space:** Turn a room, backyard or outdoor area into a unique performance space.
- **Character Transformation:** Create a character using movement, voice and costume pieces from around the house.

Ask questions such as:

- How can masks, props or costumes help tell a story?
- How did movement help communicate meaning?

Health & Physical Education

In Semester 2, 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.