What's happening in Year 6

Literacy

Literacy groups run 4 days per week, first thing in the morning. Activities are based around all areas of literacy: speaking and listening, reading and writing. Activities may include blogging, comprehension skills and strategies, writing tasks, the 100 word challenge, independent and group reading, book reviews, among other things.

Along with literacy groups, students develop their literacy skills through explicit and focused text based lessons. These lessons are focused on students developing writing, grammar, spelling, handwriting and comprehension skills.

Mathematics

Mathematics lessons start with a problem solving focus each lesson. Students are given a NAPLAN style, word problem to solve. This gives students the opportunity to develop their problem solving skills, which are essential in real life situations.

Mathematics lessons run in a group format each day with students placed in groups according to their needs. These groups may change from day to day, as student knowledge develops and needs change.

HSIE

This term we are studying the rainforest in HSIE. Students are encouraged to find social issues through their research, as well as making an effort to make social change. Students use their laptops throughout each lesson to research, contact experts and outside agencies and consolidate their knowledge through writing and other literacy tasks.

Homework

Homework is handed out on a Monday on a fortnightly basis. Students are given until the Friday of the following week to complete homework. Homework will consist of reading 20 minutes a day, practicing times tables and division facts, along with one creative project. This project is intended for students to be able to commit as much, or as little time they have available that fortnight. I understand that everyone leads very busy lives and that some weeks more time can be spend on homework than others.

Genius hour

Genius hour is one hour per week in which students can research an area of interest. The genius hour project must be completed in class and will be presented at the end
of the term. I am happy for students to watch documentaries or do small amounts of research at home. The topic has been individually chosen and students are allowed to present their knowledge in any way they wish. Students are encouraged to contact outside agencies and experts in the field to develop a greater depth of understanding on their chosen topic.

Creative and Performing Arts
Each Wednesday students will participate in choir or non-choir. The choir will be working on songs to be presented at the Choral Festival. Non-choir students will be learning about body percussions and having a go at making some fun music with me!

Blogging
We have started blogging on our very own blog page. The web address for those who would like to have a look is kidblog.org/MOPSYear6. The blog consists of students posing questions on areas of interest, as well as myself posing questions to students. It is also a place where homework will be uploaded, so have a look there if your child’s homework sheet goes missing. Administration posted on this page will be directed at students, while any administration for parents will be posted on the MOPS PS blog site. In the near future students will be participating in an exciting blogging experience. I have arranged international blogging for our class with students from North Carolina and South Korea. We will begin with cultural discussions and lead onto a social or environmental experiment to be carried out between all three classes. We (myself included) are all very excited at this opportunity!

Year 6 Shirts
I am in the process of finding a supplier for Year 6 shirts. I have been made aware of the fact that there were some issues with last year’s shirts so I am looking for a new supplier. I will update you when the process is further along.

Teacher meetings
Parent teacher interviews will happen later in the year, however if you have a concern please feel free to contact me. I am happy with ‘pop in’ visits in the afternoon, however it is best to call ahead and make sure I will be free as we do have staff meetings some afternoons. If you wish to contact me via email I am more than happy to pass on my address. Either see me or let your child know and I will send it home with them.