



No. 4314

Chatham Primary School

Weybridge Street, Surrey Hills Victoria 3127

Telephone: (03) 9830 1933

Email: chatham.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Website: chathamps.vic.edu.au

Year 5/6 Newsletter Term 1 2024

Dear Year 5/6 Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful start to the year we have all had! Your children have settled in beautifully and are enjoying our new learning space. It was a wonderful Year 5/6 Camp at Lakewood Park and we are sure your children returned with many stories about their experience.

Our 5/6 students are recognised as the senior students of the school. They are given many responsibilities and opportunities for leadership, especially the Year 6 students, and are expected to set an outstanding example of positive behaviour. During this year, students are encouraged to build their confidence, self-esteem and self-discipline, endeavour to undertake initiatives, and develop effective independent and collaborative work habits in all curriculum areas.

Events

Date	Event	Notes
Friday 16 th February	Interschool Sport	Students will compete against Canterbury Primary School. Please refer to the Compass event for more details.
Tuesday 20 th February	District Swimming Carnival	For students who have qualified for our District Swimming team. Please ensure consent and payment have been made via the Compass event.
Wednesday 28 th February	Parent Information Session	4:00pm – 5:00pm to be held in the Year 5/6B classroom.
Friday 1 st March	Interschool Sport	Students will compete against Bialik College. Please refer to the Compass event for more details.
Thursday 7 th March	School Photos	Full school uniform (excluding sport uniform).
Friday 8 th March	Interschool Sport	Students will compete against Camberwell Primary School. Please refer to the Compass event for more details.
Monday 11 th March	Labor Day Public Holiday	Student-free Day.
Friday 22 nd March	Interschool Sport	Students will compete against Balwyn Primary School. Please refer to the Compass event for more details.
Thursday 28 th March	Interschool Sport	Students will compete against Auburn South Primary School. Please refer to the Compass event for more details.
Thursday 28 th March	Last Day of Term 1	Students are dismissed at 2:30pm.

Morning Routine

Students are to line up at their usual spots at 8:50am. Their classroom teacher will meet them at the music and bring them into the classroom. Once in the classroom, students are to promptly put their bags away, acquaint themselves with the timetable for the day and hand in any notices. Students will then complete the morning work provided on the board.

English

Reading

In preparation for the *Reciprocal Reading and Literature Circles* reading program, students will be undertaking tasks that specifically focus on the program's four main reading strategies: summarising, clarifying, predicting and questioning. The program also involves each child working both independently and collaboratively to study and analyse texts tailored to their level. Each rotation, students will be assigned a specific reading comprehension strategy in which they need to report back to the group about their findings and insights. Furthermore, they will respond to textual analysis questions and specific quotes, where it will be further discussed and analysed in their reading group.

Writing

Students will explore various text types throughout the year with a stronger focus on specific language features, selecting purposeful vocabulary, enhancing cohesion and effectively targeting a specific audience. To improve the transparency and clarity of the Year 5/6 expectations, students will receive a rubric at the beginning of each new genre topic where it will outline the areas their teacher will be assessing.

This term, students will be exploring persuasive texts and explore strategies to engage their audience using a range of effective persuasive devices. Grammar and punctuation conventions will be revised, and new concepts will be taught. Year 5/6 students will also regularly use their handwriting book to develop a handwriting style that is fluid and legible, and joining letters and using correct loops will be practised. The school-wide *Effective Spelling* program will be used to support the Writing program. The Term 1 Big Idea will be morphological word families, affixes.

Speaking and Listening

Students are given many opportunities to develop their public speaking skills both inside and outside the classroom. Each term, students will participate in formal public speaking tasks, explore strategies to reduce anxieties and discover ways of capturing and inspiring our target audience.

Later in Term 1, to complement the new learnings from the writing program, students will be preparing a persuasive speech to try and convince their audience of their point of view.

Mathematics

We aim to ensure that all students are confident and enthusiastic in their attitude towards Mathematics. Having a growth mindset is vital to achieving success in this subject. The strands in Mathematics include: Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. Within each of these dimensions, a variety of Mathematical concepts will be explored through our program, which will include whole-class and differentiated small group activities. Students will also participate in a weekly problem-solving session in which they will be encouraged to use a variety of strategies.

Teachers will cater for students requiring support or extension within the classroom program and there will be the opportunity for a number of children to participate in the Mathematical Olympiad Competition

At this level, students are required to give prompt automatic responses to addition and subtraction facts up to 100, as well as multiplication and division facts up to 12. Luckily, these concepts can be easily practised at home and will be regularly revised through the homework program's *Maths Mate*. If students do not have automatic recall, it slows down their ability to use the processes correctly to manipulate larger numbers and solve multi-step problems. As students progress through their education, especially in the next few years as they move into secondary school, the topics and concepts that need to be covered will naturally broaden and become more challenging. Thus, it would be beneficial for your child to continue developing their automaticity in Mathematics.

During Term 1 there will be a strong focus on number concepts. This includes place value, number properties and the four operations of both whole numbers and decimals. Students will develop their mental and written strategies for solving problems as well as using estimation and rounding to check their answers.

Inquiry

This broad heading includes the curriculum areas of The Humanities (Civics and Citizenship, History and Geography), Economics and Business, Science, Design and Technologies, Digital Technologies and Critical and Creative Thinking. We also provide a number of opportunities for students to negotiate aspects of their learning in terms of both content and presentation format. Our first learning concept will be *Devine Diversity*, which is a geography-based unit that includes a focus on the world and its cultures. Especially our connection to Asia, Europe and North America.

Year 5/6 Interschool Sport

The Interschool Sport program is an addition to the regular Physical Education program. It gives our Year 5/6 students the opportunity to promote excellent sportsmanship and to develop teamwork skills. The summer sports consist of Hot Shots Tennis, Cricket, Volleyball and T-ball.

Sport is held on Friday mornings during the summer to minimise danger from UV rays. The swimming sports, including House, District and Division categories, are all held in Term 1.

Students may wear the Chatham sports uniform two days a week: Fridays and class Physical Education days. The sports uniform can be purchased from Spartan Clothing.

Year 6-7 Transition

As this is their last year of primary school for our Year 6 students, there is a major focus on preparing students for secondary school. We encourage and assist students in becoming more independent learners and taking greater responsibility for their own learning and organisation. The school diaries are also used to aid in this process. As we approach the end of the year, we will have plenty of discussions about secondary school life and developing coping strategies for the years ahead. Information about secondary placements will be sent home early in Term 2 in greater detail.

Year 6 Student Leadership

At Chatham Primary School, the student leadership selection follows a meticulous and fair process. Students are given time to carefully consider which position they would like to undertake.

Students who aspire to be School Captains, and are nominated by their peers, then deliver a speech to the Year 5 and 6 cohort and teachers, Ms Kirwan and Mr Cotching. Year 6 students will then have the opportunity to cast their votes. The School Principal and Year 5/6 teachers will collect all votes, which will determine our new School Captains and School Vice Captains.

A similar process will occur for those who would like to be a House Captain. If nominated, students share their aspiration to become House Captain with their Year 5 and 6 peers from the same house. Their house members will cast their vote once all candidates have delivered their speeches, and the School Principal and Year 5/6 teachers will collect and count the votes. It is important to note that students are allowed to be nominated for both School and House Captain if they choose to do so.

After the House Captains are elected, the Year 5/6 teachers and leadership team will carefully review each student's preferences and allocate them one of the following leadership roles: English Captain, Mathematics Captain, Science Captain, Art Captain, Japanese Captain, Music Captain, Environment Captain, Junior School Councillor or ICT Captain.

Year 5 Buddy Program

Chatham Primary School has a long-standing history of social education within a peer-to-peer environment. At the beginning of this journey is the Chatham Primary Buddy Program. This program looks to support leadership and mentoring skills among our senior students, while providing guidance and support for our juniors. At Chatham Primary School all Grade 5 students are paired with a Prep student. Throughout the year these pairs will undertake structured activities together as the students look to build strong relationships across the varied age groupings.

Each Grade Foundation (Prep) student is assigned one or two Year 5 buddies. This pairing creates the first stage of our Buddies Program. Throughout the course of the year as the buddy relationship grows, Grade 5 students develop their mentoring skills as they assist and guide their younger peers through the early years of primary school.

NAPLAN

The NAPLAN testing window will be between March 13th and March 25th. This year, NAPLAN testing will be completed online. It is comprised of a Reading, Writing, Language Conventions and Numeracy assessment. Specific testing dates will be confirmed in the coming weeks.

For more information, you can visit: <https://www.nap.edu.au/home>

Other Activities and Compass

Please see the calendar of events at the beginning of this letter to review the exciting schedule of activities involving Year 5/6 students this term. Please also be sure to regularly check the website calendar for all activities at Chatham and also remember to check upcoming events on Compass, ensuring that you provide permission for your child to attend these events prior to the cut-off date. It is also a requirement that you log on to Compass to explain your child's absence if they are away from school. Also, if you are picking your child up early from school, please email the school office (chatham.ps@education.vic.gov.au) as well as your child's teacher to help ensure we can have your child ready at the appropriate time.

Timetable

Below is a timetable outlining your child's Specialist Program for Term 1. On the days we have P.E., please ensure that your child is wearing suitable footwear. Please be aware that there may be changes to the timetable from time to time, due to events or unforeseen circumstances.

5/6B	5/6S	5/6Y
<p>Monday <i>Assembly: 9:05am – 9:45am</i> <i>Library: 12:30pm – 1:30pm</i></p> <p>Tuesday <i>Performing Arts: 9:00am – 10:00am</i></p> <p>Wednesday <i>P.E.: 12:30pm – 1:30pm</i></p> <p>Thursday <i>Visual Arts: 10:00am – 11:00am</i></p> <p>Friday <i>Japanese: 2:30pm – 3:30pm</i></p>	<p>Monday <i>Assembly: 9:05am – 9:45am</i> <i>Library: 11:30am – 12:30pm</i></p> <p>Tuesday <i>Performing Arts: 10:00am – 11:00am</i></p> <p>Wednesday <i>Visual Arts: 12:30pm – 1:30pm</i></p> <p>Thursday <i>Japanese: 10:00am – 11:00am</i></p> <p>Friday <i>P.E.: 2:30pm – 3:30pm</i></p>	<p>Monday <i>Assembly: 9:05am – 9:45am</i> <i>Library: 2:30pm – 3:30pm</i></p> <p>Tuesday <i>Performing Arts: 11:30am – 12:30pm</i></p> <p>Wednesday <i>Japanese.: 12:30pm – 1:30pm</i></p> <p>Thursday <i>P.E.: 10:00am – 11:00am</i></p> <p>Friday <i>Visual Arts: 2:30pm – 3:30pm</i></p>

Please come and see us if you have any questions.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Zac Barry (5/6B), Hannah Spivak (5/6S), Rose Yodgee (5/6Y – Monday - Wednesday) and Cathy Townsend (5/6Y – Thursday and Friday)

Zachary.Barry@education.vic.gov.au

Hannah.Spivak@education.vic.gov.au

Rose.Yodgee@education.vic.gov.au

Catherine.Townsend@education.vic.gov.au

Year 5/6 Teaching Team