Senior Sub School Newsletter

September 2016

It has been a cold and wintery term 3 and I am sure we are all looking forward to the warmer weather in Term 4.

Maths
Senior School students have been exploring fractions, decimals and percentages. They have been involved in lessons that allow them to demonstrate their knowledge in these areas. Students have been using a proficiency scale and ‘I can’ statements to guide their learning and set goals.

Later this term our maths focus becomes measurement, where students will participate in a number of hands-on and real world experiences to better understand the concepts of measurement.

Literacy
In our Daily 5 reading sessions, students at Chelsea Heights Primary School have individual reading goals. The following is a comprehension strategy which you can practise with your child at home.

CAFÉ Strategy: Check for Understanding
How can we help students improve their comprehension?
We can teach them the comprehension strategy, ‘Check for Understanding’. Good readers stop frequently to check for understanding or to ask who and what.

How can you help your child with this strategy at home?
1. When reading to your child, stop periodically and say, “Let’s see if we remember what I just read. Think about who the story was about and what happened.” Do this 3 or 4 times throughout the story.
2. When reading to your child, stop and have them practise checking for understanding by saying, “I heard you say…”
3. Ask your child the following questions:
   - Who did you just read about?
   - What just happened?
   - Was your brain talking to you while you read?
   - Do you understand what was read?
   - What do you do if you don’t remember?

The Book of the Year: Older Readers

Dates to remember:

Friday 2nd September
• District Athletics—selected students

Friday 9th September
• CHPS Art Show

12th - 15th September
• Book Fair in the Library

Friday 16th September
• Fun Food Day, Footy Dress-up Day
• Last Day of Term — 2.30pm finish
WRITING
We are focusing on explanation texts until the end of term. An explanation text is a non-fiction text which describes a process, for example: the water cycle, how bees make honey or how a car is made.

The features the students need to include are;
- Written in the present
- Text arranged into numbered points
- Sub-headings to separate sections of texts
- Time connectives, such as: first, then, later, finally
- Technical vocabulary
- Glossary to explain technical terms
- Diagrams with labels
- Pictures with captions

INQUIRY TOPIC/SCIENCE
This term we have been investigating the major countries of Europe and North America, in relation to Australia and their major characteristics, including the influence of people on the environmental characteristics of places. We have researched at least two countries from both continents.

Students have been using geographical tools, such as printed and electronic atlases, to identify the relative location of Europe and North America and their environmental characteristics. They have also been researching the changes made by people to a particular environment in one region in Europe or North America and comparing findings with other regions.

PLAY IS THE WAY
Pathway to Empathy

Empathy is about having an awareness of others with the ability to see things from other’s points of view and the ability to identify with the needs of others.

The Key Virtues include:
- Good Manners
- Friendliness
- Courage
- Persistence/Resilience
- Tolerance/Acceptance
- Compassion

Senior Team
Lisa Reiffel, David Rosser, Michelle Thompson and Paul Duncan