Junior Sub School Newsletter

Literacy
We incorporate the Daily Five and CAFÉ reading strategies into our literacy curriculum. Through this, we aim to build independence for your child via authentic reading and writing activities. Daily reading and writing is essential for your child’s development. Some of the many benefits are:

- The experience of reading (whether you’re the reader or the one being read to) activates and “exercises” many of the areas of the brain.
- Reading develops your child’s vocabulary, which in turn improves oracy and writing skills.

The graph above shows the effect on students when they are provided with 10 more minutes of self-selected reading per day. Look out for a Daily 5 Parent Survey—coming soon!

Below are some of the activities you could do over the holidays:

Read to Self
Give your child a few minutes to read a book of interest from their own bookshelf. You could also practise selecting ‘good fit’ books from your local library—the students really enjoyed doing this during our excursion to the Chelsea Library earlier this term.

Read to Someone
Your child reads to you or other family members, with undivided attention. As in Read to Self, your child can read good-fit books from their personal bookshelf. If your child gets stuck on a word, you can offer support through the ‘Coaching or Time’ checklist (see left).

Listen to Reading
Perfect for bedtime reading, model fluency and reading with expression to your child.

Work on Writing
Encourage your child to engage in creative writing tasks or keep a holiday journal to maintain writing stamina.

Word Work
You can support the learning at home with hands on activities, such as: writing high frequency words in playdough, rainbow writing (writing words with different coloured textas), using scrabble tiles to form words, cutting up letters from magazines and the newspaper to form words, etc.

Please let your classroom teacher know if you have any questions in relation to the above.

Dates to remember:
- Thursday 3rd December—Cross School Transition Session 3
- Tuesday 8th December—Statewide Transition Session
- Friday 11th December—Christmas Carols & BBQ 5:30—7:30pm
- Wednesday 16th December—Junior Sub School End of Year Celebration
- Thursday 17th December—Reports go home
- Friday 18th December—Last Day of Term 4—1.30pm dismissal
Big Write

Our writing topic for this term has been Procedure Writing. The students have produced some wonderful procedures, including the following:

![Procedure Writing Example]

Numeracy

The Junior School has been consolidating their knowledge of Place Value, Addition and Subtraction through hands on activities and mathematical games.

Why Mathematical Games?

- Quality mathematical games help to develop mental computation strategies.
- Games provide fun, motivating experiences that actively engage students in learning mathematics.
- They improve students’ problem-solving ability.
- Using manipulatives in games makes the learning ‘visible’ by helping students see the mathematics and explain their thinking.
- Group games encourage students to use and hear appropriate mathematical language.

To support the learning at home, you can play simple dice and card games with your child. Some great sites to search for game ideas include:


Inquiry Multicultural Celebration

To complete our term’s unit on Diverse Celebrations within our community, we will be having a Multicultural Feast on Wednesday the 16th of December. Students are encouraged to bring a plate of food unique to their culture or family traditions.

Farewell and Congratulations to Mrs Love and Mr Antoniou

The Junior School would like to congratulate Mrs Love on the upcoming arrival of her first child in February 2016. As a result, she will not be at CHPS next year.

We would also like to congratulate Mr Antoniou on his new position at Footscray North Primary School. They have both been wonderful members of the Junior School team, and we are sure that parents and students will miss them as much as we will.

Wishing you all a happy and safe holiday break. Thank you for all the support that you provided over the course of the year and we look forward to seeing you in 2016.