



MERCEDES COLLEGE

COMPASSION LOYALTY JUSTICE INTEGRITY RESPONSIBILITY MUTUAL RESPECT

Class Newsletter

Year 4

Week 6, Term 2, 2016

Dear Parents

Please find some information for the last 4 weeks of the term below. Please refer to our detailed class newsletter provided in Week 1 explaining the focuses for each subject area.

What's happening in Year 4?

A special thanks to geologist Matthew Furness, Angus's father, who shared his knowledge with the class about how the earth's surface changes. Students were interested in the PowerPoint presentation and it was terrific that he sparked the children's curiosity. In Week 4 we walked to McElligott's Quarry and Mitcham Reserve and using iPads, collected evidence of weathering, erosion and deposition. Observing these natural processes in our local community helped consolidate our learning. A special thanks to the parents who joined us on our excursion.

We are very sorry to be saying goodbye to the West family at the end of the term. Wesley has been a valued member of 4IB and we will miss his wonderful sense of humour. A huge thank you to Melissa who has been working in 4CB this term and also as a relief teacher in our Junior School for a number of years. Her professionalism, caring nature and adaptability have been truly appreciated. We wish the West family all the best for their new adventure in Western Australia.

Units of Inquiry:

We have just commenced our new Unit of Inquiry for *How We Express Ourselves*.

Central Idea:

- Creating and responding to poetry develops an awareness of ourselves and the world around us.

Lines of Inquiry:

- How poetry communicates feelings, ideas and perceptions
- Poetic devices
- Personal preference in appreciation in poetry

Students will be exploring a wide range of poems and poetic devices and experimenting with their own creations. Feel free to share your favourite poem(s) with your child.

Science

This term we will be investigating a stand-alone Science unit with the Central Idea: *Forces can be exerted by one object on another through direct contact or from a distance*. Students will be involved in a range of hands-on activities to gain a deeper understanding of the impact of different forces, including push, pull, friction, magnetism and gravity.

Mathematics:

Topic we aim to explore for the remainder of the term:

- Multiplication Facts – class focus on 4x, 8x, 3x & 6x
- The relationship between multiplication and division
- 2D shapes – comparing & describing using a variety of attributes

Congratulations to those students who have demonstrated perseverance and commitment with the Numerical Acumen Challenge, resulting in gold, silver and bronze awards.



Religious Education

For the remainder of the term we will be focussing on:

- **Prayer and Liturgy** where students will examine a variety of liturgical celebrations and prayers and explain how prayer is a dynamic encounter with God.

Reading:

It is really important to not only listen to your child read, but to read to your child. This models expression, reading strategies and is quality time together. Please ask your child to make predictions, question and infer whilst reading to you as part of their homework.

Premier's Reading Challenge:

Don't forget to keep reading wonderful books and recording them on your Premier's Reading Challenge form. All of our books have stickers on the books to show if they are on the list, but don't forget you can also check their website:

<http://www.premiersreadingchallenge.sa.edu.au/prc/pages/home>

Visit the library to see our display of students who have finished the challenge already and congratulations to those students for their enthusiasm and organisation.

Year 2/4 Production:

Excitement is building about the upcoming Year Two and Year Four Performance in Term 3. Students continue to practise their dancing and singing skills in preparation for our wonderful production. They are participating in Drama lessons once a week with Mrs Mavis Waddington.

Uniform:

It's great to see the students wearing their winter uniform with such pride.

Reminder: blazers must be worn to and from school; if students have sport, before or after school, they will change into the appropriate uniform.

Diaries:

Diaries are an effective organisational and communication tool. Please ensure that diaries are signed and ready for collection each Monday.

Important Dates

June

- 9 Assembly (Year 2 hosting)
SAPSASA State Cross Country Championships at Oakbank
- 10 Student Free Day
- 13 Queen's Birthday Holiday
- 14 Year 3-5 ICAS Writing Competition
- 15 Year 3-5 ICAS Spelling Competition
- 17 Year 3 Morning Mass
- 24 Year 4 Morning Mass
Reception Mid-Year Transition Visit
Assembly (Year 3 hosting)
Mercedes Uncorked

July

- 1 Reception Mid-Year Transition Visit
- 5 Assembly
- 6 Winter Concert
End of Term 2, 3:30pm dismissal

Kind regards

Franca Iskra

Janine Crookes

Melissa West

The Year 4 Teaching Team