Year 5 Curriculum Description

English

READING & VIEWING
This semester students have explored a range of texts and their purposes, including narratives, expositions and information reports. They focussed on reading strategies that supported their inferential and literal comprehension, reading accuracy, fluency, vocabulary expansion, making connections and synthesising. Students have had opportunities to use reciprocal reading strategies where they take on a number of reading roles. They are able to lead and contribute to reading discussions based on a range of text types.

WRITING
Year 5 students analysed and wrote a series of expositions, narratives and information reports. They participated in activities that related to the structure and language features associated with each genre, in addition to purpose and audience. Students followed the writing cycle (including planning, drafting, analysing, editing and publishing) and used a range of references to check their spelling. Students were involved in weekly word study, spelling and grammar activities through the implementation of the ‘Words Their Way’ spelling program that focusses on the knowledge and usage of individual spelling rules.

SPEAKING & LISTENING
As part of our reading group rotations, students have had the opportunity to practise reading scripts and performing small plays in front of other students. They have focussed on using tone, pace, pitch and volume. This has given students the opportunity to discuss literature with others, share responses and provide feedback to peers in small and whole group scenarios.

Mathematics

NUMBER & ALGEBRA
Our students read, represented, ordered and compared the place value of numbers to at least hundreds of thousands, and decimals and fractions to tenths and hundredths. They explored equivalent fractions, including placing fractions on a number line and started to use the four operations when working with fractions. They used a range of efficient mental and written problem solving strategies, studied the order of operation rules and explored a range of different number patterns.

MEASUREMENT & GEOMETRY
Students used a range of measuring instruments to explore length, area, perimeter, volume, mass and capacity. This also involved making decisions to use an appropriate unit of measurement. They have investigated the properties of 2D and 3D shapes. Students also explored symmetry, transformation and tessellation, and have read and created grid map references.

STATISTICS & PROBABILITY
Students collected data based on a range of mathematical investigations and represented this using a variety of tables, charts and graphs. Students investigated the probability of events occurring, using number lines, spinners and connecting probability to fractions and decimals.

Inquiry

SCIENCE
In Term 1, students studied the topic ‘Animal Adaptations’. They researched a range of animals, identified interesting and unique adaptations, and explored the purpose of these. Students conducted a science experiment. They devised a question and explored how to run a ‘fair test’ to investigate how different variables would affect a sponge’s ability to retain water over a 48 hour period.

HISTORY
In Term 2, students studied The Australian Gold Rush, focussing on the Victorian regions and the Eureka Stockade. Students created research questions based on their areas of interest and learnt a range of research skills, including using various texts from the library and the internet.

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