

Newsletter: **SCIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY**

Term 2, 2017

Welcome to Term 2; it will be another busy term of learning. In Science & Sustainability we will be studying the Biological sciences and looking at living things. Students will also be looking at the waste they produce at school and take action to reduce their personal impact on the environment. We will be looking at composting and what we can do at school and home with our organic waste and the important role of earthworms. Furthermore, students will look at the different types of waste management systems we have at school and home. The Green Team monitors for each classroom will continue their great job of looking after the mini compost bin in their room. The upper grades will build an understanding of their personal impact on our planet by looking at how rubbish enters the marine environment and look at the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. This will help them to rethink their ideas about waste and take action to reduce the impact of their personal attitudes and behaviours on the environment.

Most students will also be involved in some form of planting over the term.

***Prep students** will all be making their own **Grass Head Person** this term and taking care of it, so that it can grow. It would be helpful if you could send along a small glass jar (labelled with your student's name & class) and a clean thin stocking (legs only).

What we expect the students to learn in Preps:

This term, the Prep students will learn about the basic needs of humans and animals. They will look at the different animal families, their characteristics and the names of their young. They will also use the microscope to observe different mini-beasts. Students will learn about the basic features of a plant and what it needs to grow. They will be exploring and observing, asking questions, predicting outcomes, recording and communicating their ideas to others.

What we expect the students to learn in Grades 1 & 2:

The Grade One and Two students will be Biological Scientists this term. We will be investigating what living things are and how they are similar or different to each other. We will discover the parts and features of animals and plants. We will learn how they grow and change, their needs and habitats. The Grade Two students will be asked to bring along a baby picture of themselves to share with the class. Mrs Davies is looking forward to teaching another exciting term!

What we expect the students to learn in Grades 3 & 4:

This term in Biological sciences, students will understand the difference between living, non-living and once-living things. They will learn about the lifecycle of a typical flowering plant. They will compare between structural features and functions of animals and plants. Students will learn about various animal life cycles and how these life cycles can be affected by environmental factors. They will understand adaptations and interdependence of living things within an ecosystem and how a food chain works. They will learn how animals and plants are classified.

What we expect the students to learn in Grades 5 & 6:

This term in Biological sciences, the Grade Five and Six students will understand the 7 life processes of living things. They will learn about the structural features of plants and animals and how they have adapted to their environments. Through experimentation, students will discover the best conditions of algae growth and look at the difference between plant and animal cells. Students will also learn about science as a human endeavour. They will research the history and development of the microscope and understand the work of a botanist by researching Sir Joseph Banks and his contribution to the European settlement of Australia.

**If you have any queries, suggestions or comments, about the Science & Sustainability Program, or would like to donate any materials that you think we may be able to use, please see Mrs Polini or Mrs Davies at school.*

Regards,
Julie Polini & Laura Davies
SCIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY
Sunshine Heights P.S.