



VIRGINIA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Learning Together, Learning for our Future

CARING, RESPECT, FAIRNESS, ACHIEVEMENT, DIVERSITY

Issue 12, 2018

16th August

DATES TO REMEMBER

Week 4

Friday 17th August

SAPSASA Girls netball

@ Virginia

1:00pm start

Week 5

BOOKWEEK

'FIND YOUR TREASURE'

Tuesday 21st August

Senior Choir Excursion

Wednesday 22nd August

Book Week Parade

"FIND YOUR TREASURE"

9:15am

Friday 24th August

SAPSASA Athletics Carnival

Week 6

Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th August

World of Maths Incursion at Virginia

Friday 31st August

Whole School Assembly

9:15am



Entertainment Books and app available at
Virginia Primary

Principal: Iliia Tsoutouras

Deputy Principal: Voula Pounendis

Gov. Council Chairperson: Colleen Sheedy

Park Road, Virginia SA 5120

Phone: (08) 83809292

Fax: (08) 83809576

Email

dl.0455.info@schools.sa.edu.au

Visit our web site

www.virginiaps.sa.edu.au

Download our school app



National Support Staff Week

In 2001 the Public Service Association launched National Recognition Week for School Services Officers to celebrate the contributions of non-teaching staff across Australia.

This week is SSO week, we are fortunate enough in our school to have a highly skilled and dedicated SSO team. So much of our success as a school is due to the high quality work of our SSO staff, whether it be with students, teachers, leaders or families. There is also a huge amount of work that goes on behind the scenes that most people wouldn't be able to see. If you happen to see one of our SSO's this week or next, don't forget to thank them for their outstanding work!



BOOKWEEK – FIND YOUR TREASURE!!!



Next week is one of the most exciting weeks in our school calendar – Book Week!!!!!!!!!!

You would have received some indication from your child/ren's class teachers as to what the class have organised for Book Week parade. Some are sticking to a class theme, others are allowing children to come as their favourite character. We are hoping that everyone get involved in what is truly a fantastic day. The parade will kick off Wednesday at 9:15am on the basketball court, please feel free to come and celebrate Book Week with us.



Arriving to school on time

We often make references to the importance of arriving at school on time in our newsletters. Arriving at school late and signing in at the office should be an exception rather than the rule. **It is crucial that students arrive to school on time. Being 15 minutes late a day on average a year adds up to over 9 days of learning.** The morning routine is crucial for getting organised for the day and often the learning that takes place in the morning isn't something that can be caught-up throughout the day. **We have a teacher on duty from 8:30am every morning and have breakfast available out the front of OSHC.** Can you please make sure you are ready for learning by 8:55am.

Pupil Free/ School closure

ADVANCED NOTICE

PUPIL FREE DAY (Thurs 7th September)

On this day staff will be working together and be a part of professional learning in wellbeing for learning. **OSHC WILL BE AVAILABLE**

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY (Fri 8th September)

Our Governing Council has approved a school closure 'Show Day' day. A reminder, there is **NO OSHC** available on school closure days.

Pre-School Team

After a busy end to term 2 with the 'Fun Run', 'Grandparent's Day' and our camping socio-dramatic play the preschool children have returned eager to continue exploring their interests and engage in many new experiences. To further develop children's oral language skills this term we will be focusing on reciprocal shared conversations and sentence structure. We will continue building upon the children's interests and knowledge in relation to the world around them. Including exploring facts and myths about sea creatures and due to the recent interest sparked by children retelling the story of 'The Hungry Caterpillar' we will also be learning about the 'Lifecycle of a Butterfly'. Our focuses on manners and fine motor strength and skill will also be continuing. We are now half way through our '3 Way Interviews' and this has proven to be a very special experience for the children. The look of pride on their faces when they are sharing their learning with their parents is priceless.

Reception – Ms Krystal and Ms Anita (Room 1 & 2)

Rooms 1 and 2 have had a fantastic start to Term 3. This term we will continue to build upon our English and Maths skills as we continue to learn new concepts. In English we are learning to write procedures and use adjectives, nouns and verbs to write descriptive sentences. Our main focus in reading is to ensure that every student is a 'Balanced Reader'; ensuring that they read with fluency, have sound comprehension of texts and use the necessary

decoding skills. Students have co-constructed reading goals to ensure that they know the reading strategy they are working on to become a balanced reader. In Maths we are continuing to develop skills in Number by focussing on addition and subtraction using efficient mental computation strategies. We are also learning about irregular subitising patterns to assist with addition. As we have finished learning about 2D shapes we are now learning about 3D shapes in our environment and looking at different forms of measurement (mass, capacity, length and height). We look forward to seeing the growth that each student makes this term.

Year 1 – Jenny Gordan and Christina Tsonis Room 4

In Maths we have been looking at fractions; $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$'s, and making designs of halves. Part of our maths learning will also include looking at measurement. To combine with Book Week in Week 5 this term, we will be beginning our Maths Investigation unit on 'A Treasure Hunt'. This will involve revisiting our learning of skip counting by two's, five's and ten's, patterns, as well as, addition and subtraction problems using strategies like counting on, partitioning and rearranging parts. In Literacy, we have been practising our recounts each week and looking at narratives, doing timed writing and are going to be learning about expositions in the coming weeks. Each week we also do explicit handwriting lessons where we focus on correct letter formation and position of the letters on the lines. We continue to work on extending our sentences and making them more interesting by using nouns and adjectives. Our learning intention is to consistently use capital letters and full stops when writing sentences. Our reading focus continues to be on developing our fluency by being able to use punctuation and read like we are talking and also developing comprehension by being able to retell what we have read. Children are still practising reading and spelling their Oxford Sight Words. In HASS, we are looking at Aboriginal Dreaming stories. In Science we are investigating 'On the Move' which will entail looking closely at movements Humans do and also how some toys move. We are participating in the Premiers Be Active Challenge and each day record as a group how we keep active in P.E. fitness and recess and lunch play times.

Year 1/2 – Ms Katrina, Ms Mary, Ms Crompton (Room 5 & 6)

What an amazing start to term 3 in Room 5 and 6. This term we have been exploring the Habit of Mind 'Taking Responsible Risks'. We are aware that we take Responsible Risks in our learning all the time! We don't need to be perfect because making mistakes is how we learn. We are working interdependently (being able to work and learn with others) during our guided reading rotation. We have many different learning intentions. Some of them

include; to be able to read with fluency and phrasing, to be able to listen to sounds in words (phonological knowledge), to be able to write a sentence and to be able to re-call information from a text (comprehension). We have been using mind-maps to help us better understand the genre of text we are reading

This term we are all focusing on narratives and fairy tales. We have had a great time reading and looking at the features of our favourite stories. We have discovered that all narratives have the same structure and features. They include characters, the setting, a problem and a solution.

Our maths focus this term is exploring and developing fluency with number up to 1000. We have been looking at different addition and subtraction strategies. Our learning intentions include: to be able to use number strategies for addition, to be able to use number strategies for subtraction and to understand the value of a number.

We look forward to seeing everyone in their costumes for the book week parade in week 5.

Year 3/4 - Ms Luckman Ms De Silva (Room 9 & 10)

The students returned to school this term rested and keen to start another term of learning. Students in Room 9 were lucky enough to have Pauline working with them for the first two weeks and we warmly welcomed Miss Jess back in Week 3. We were also lucky enough to be joined by two new students this term, Chelsea and Rachel from Room 10 and Campbell in Room 9. These students settled in quickly thanks to the values demonstrated in both classrooms of caring and diversity and the other students have enjoyed 'showing them the ropes.'

In English we have continued our Literacy Circle work incorporating writing, grammar, guided reading and spelling. Students are focussing on targeted reading goals and strategies during guided reading sessions using Stephen Graham methodology. In writing we started this term with the Response genre and students have thoroughly enjoyed responding critically to performances, art work, songs and texts. After this genre we will then be revisiting and developing our narrative writing skills.

Maths has involved exciting hands on lessons based around measurement. We have focused on Volume and Capacity and have just begun our work on Mass. Our mathematics vocabularies are broadening as we continuously add to our word walls and we look forward to undertaking some more problematised situations.

In Health our focus is on healthy eating and keeping our bodies healthy which coincides with our participation in the Premier's Be Active Challenge this term. We are very excited about the upcoming book week parade in week 5 and can't wait to see all the bright and wonderful costumes.

Year 4/5 – Ms DeFazio, Ms Valente, Ms Hayley (Rooms 7, 8 and 11)

This term in Rooms 7, 8 and 11 we are excited to be changing our reading groups slightly to include some of the great strategies we learnt from Stephen Graham. In our reading time, we are focusing on a range of goals. Each group has a special focus that is going to help them become a strong balanced reader. We are working in both our writing and our reading time to understand information reports more clearly. We have started oral language this term and are concentrating on our skills for being an active listener. As well as developing our speaking aloud skills, we are concentrating on being engaged active listeners too! In maths, we are finishing off our learning about division strategies and getting excited to tackle lots of great learning about fractions. We will be continuing to improve on our multiplication facts and fluency and will even have some students working on their fluency in division facts. We have started a big focus on problem solving this term and one day a week, we are using a range of habits of minds to help us solve problems. In particular, we are going to need to use persistence, questioning and problem posing, striving for accuracy and thinking flexibly! In geography we are investigating a range of different countries and the different climates and environments these different countries have. We are looking forward to yet another busy and jam packed term!

Year 6/7 – Ms Alchin, Mr Coleman, Ms Lock (Rooms 12, 13 and 4)

We have had a fantastic start to the term and we are looking forward to the many quality learning experiences ahead of us. In English, we are continuing to participate in guided reading and we are all reading a variety of texts in these reading sessions. The focus in guided reading this term is on text structure and comprehension. In writing, we have begun to analyse explanation texts and are researching information to write our own.

In maths, we are continuing to work on problem solving skills, and we really enjoy completing our maths investigations. In term 3, we are focusing on probability, money, rates and ratios, coordinates on number planes and equations.

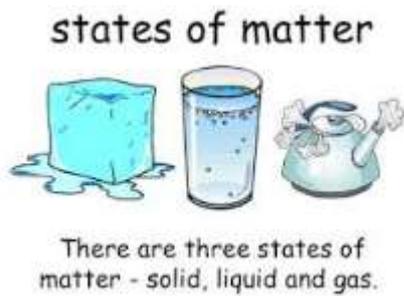
In HASS and Science, we are exploring sustainability, and looking at variety of renewable and non-renewable energy sources. The lessons will examine the pros and cons of all these different types of energy.

We are all looking forward to the Aquatics excursion at the end of the term and all the fun water activities we will be participating in!

Junior Primary / Primary Science – James Yates

Junior Primary students have been investigating natural and man-made objects/materials. Students

really enjoyed looking for different man-made objects on our walk around the school yard. Students have recently started describing properties of a variety of materials and objects.



Middle Primary (3/4/5) students are currently exploring states of matter (solids, liquids, gases). Students have really enjoyed the start of the unit and in particular the Mystery Materials investigation, in which they needed to use their senses to describe the properties of materials in order to determine what the material is and the state of matter of the material.

6/7 students have started a new unit of work investigating mixing and separating techniques and how these techniques are used in the real world. Students really enjoyed the hand picking technique experiment, in which they had access to a variety of tools and had to separate a mixture of 3 ingredients.

In Primary PE the students have recently started a unit of work on European Handball. The students



have started really well and are beginning to familiarise themselves with the different rules and skills involved in the sport. We have started the unit with a strong focus on gameplay and rules, as many students have very limited experience/knowledge of the game.

Junior Primary PE – Beck Boteju

Unfortunately, the weather this term has made it



difficult to get over to the Community Centre for some PE lessons. Luckily we have the Performing Arts Room available for indoor games and dancing. When we are able to get to the hall, we are working on soccer skills. The first focus

has been kicking and stopping the ball without using our hands, which can be quite challenging. We are also learning to pass the ball more accurately and are

now moving on to dribbling. We have several children who play soccer and are able to demonstrate and share their skills, which has been fantastic.

EALD / Special Ed – Robyn Lewis and Thuy Tran

In writing this term we have begun focusing on information reports in year 4/5 and explanations in year 6/7. Before writing, students were exposed to examples of these types of texts and their particular features. Once the topic was chosen, research was undertaken and notes were made for future writing. After this, both texts were modelled to students so that they could understand the type of thinking a writer needs to do when putting words on paper. Following modelling, comes shared text writing where the text is written by the teacher and students together. This builds student confidence as they can ask questions and make suggestions with teacher support. This is the stage both groups are currently working through. As they are both factual text types, we have made sure that our sources of information are accurate and credible.

During Guided Reading we have been working on fine tuning our planning using the Stephen Graham template which includes learning intentions, specific teaching points and future learning to consider. So far the students have responded positively and have a clearer understanding of their own learning. They are also able to articulate what they are learning. In our small group work, we have been focusing on phonological awareness (sounds in words), fluency and digraphs (sh, ch, wh, fl).

LLI (Language and Literacy Intervention) is continuing to evolve as we learn more and more about the program. Those students who are reading at home most nights are showing the greatest progress with their reading and comprehension. At the end of last term, 2 of our students graduated from the program with great results. Lateness to some of our 8:30 am sessions is an ongoing issue for some families and we are encouraging them to be on time to get the most out of the program.

VPS Term Planner (Term 3, 2018)

****Please note, times are subject to change, any changes will be communicated ASAP**

Week	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	13/8/2018	14/8/2018	15/8/2018	16/8/2018	17/8/2018
4	Preschool 3-way discussions NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK				SAPSASA girls netball @ Virginia 1pm
	20/8/2018	21/8/2018	22/8/2018	23/8/2018	24/8/2018
5	BOOK WEEK Find Your Treasure	SENIOR CHOIR EXCURSION 9:00 – 11:30	Book Week Parade Theme – Find Your Treasure		SAPSASA Athletics Carnival
	27/8/2018	28/8/2018	29/8/2018	30/8/2018	31/8/2018
6	Literacy & Numeracy Week	WORLD OF MATHS BOOKED	WORLD OF MATHS BOOKED		****R.A SHOW ASSEMBLY
	3/9/2018	4/9/2018	5/9/2018	6/9/2018	7/9/2018
7	****R.A SHOW National Child Protection Week	****R.A SHOW	****R.A SHOW	****R.A SHOW Pupil Free Day Well-being OSHC AVAILABLE	****R.A SHOW SHOW DAY SCHOOL CLOSURE NO OSHC
	10/9/2018	11/9/2018	12/9/2018	13/9/2018	14/9/2018
8			Governing Council Meeting 7:00pm	R U Ok Day	R-3 Cricket Clinic
	17/9/2018	18/9/2018	19/9/2018	20/9/2018	21/9/2018
9		SENIOR CHOIR EXCURSION – Festival theatre 9:35 – 1:30pm 6:40 – 9:40pm	3 Way Interviews LATE NIGHT		International Day of Peace ASSEMBLY
	24/9/2018	25/9/2018	26/9/2018	27/9/2018	28/9/2018
10			Aquatics 6/7		Premier's Be Active Challenge finish Staff V Students netball

Your Parenting Ideas Webinar Voucher

Webinar: **Managing video games and the next digital craze**

Guest Speaker: **Martine Oglethorpe**
13 September 2018 - 07:30pm



VOUCHER CODE
BALANCE

VALID UNTIL 13 OCTOBER 2018

Valued at: **\$37**

parenting ideas schools