Term 1 Overview

I hope everyone is well rested after the hot summer holidays because this year, to complement our already robust specialist curriculum, we have a number of very special initiatives that will challenge and inspire our very talented students.

This year GWPS is adding a whole new dimension to our specialist program by introducing Multimedia & Drama Classes and Advanced Art classes. Mr. Lewis will lead Multimedia & Drama classes where he will combine his passion and expertise in Drama and Multimedia with his vast teaching experience to produce excellent learning opportunities for your child. Adding to our Visual Arts program, Mr. Hudson will conduct Advanced Art Classes. This class will challenge and extend the artistic skills and knowledge of a selection of our students. In Music, Ms. Bures is forming a Junior Choir. This choir will enable our younger students to develop choral skills of singing as one group and accurately following the directions of a conductor. This will ensure these choir members will have developed strong skills for their future participation in the Senior Choir.

Also joining the Specialist Team this year is Mr. Warren. He has moved from a Level 4 classroom role to tap into his passion for sport and teaching by becoming our new Level 2–6 PE Teacher. In order to maintain a high standard of weekly PE classes and cater for all grades he will be joined by Mr. Lewis who will teach Foundation–Level 1 PE classes.

In 2014 monthly Specialist Awards will be presented to recognize students who have demonstrated outstanding skills and application in each of the Specialist areas. A special display is located in the corridor of the main building that consists of a photo of each award recipient. Award recipients are added to the display each month throughout the year.

We hope you enjoy reading our Specialist newsletter as much as we have enjoyed creating it. Please take the time to discover all the wonderful things your children will be learning and participating in during their specialist classes this term, and also learn about extra-curricula activities that compliment our programs.

Thank you,

The Specialist Team
Welcome back to school and make a step into 2014, the year of the Horse. I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and a happy new year. Last year students from Glen Waverley Primary School explored a lot about Chinese language and culture through various fun and engaging activities. We also had 26 students from Foundation to Grade 2 participate in the after school Mandarin Extra-curricular Program every Thursday afternoon. The students enjoyed the activities and made brilliant efforts in their learning. This year Language classes will be taking place in the ELC building. Please find out more below:

TERM 1 LOTE (MANDARIN)

Welcome back to school and make a step into 2014, the year of the Horse. I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and a happy new year. Last year students from Glen Waverley Primary School explored a lot about Chinese language and culture through various fun and engaging activities. We also had 26 students from Foundation to Grade 2 participate in the after school Mandarin Extra-curricular Program every Thursday afternoon. The students enjoyed the activities and made brilliant efforts in their learning. This year Language classes will be taking place in the ELC building. Please find out more below:

Prep (Foundation)
Foundation students will start with fun Chinese New Year activities focusing on the ‘Year of the Horse’. During the term they will be introduced to the Chinese language and culture. They will learn basic greeting language in Chinese such as greeting others and introducing themselves. They will also begin to read and write numbers in Chinese.

Year 1 & 2 (Level 1 & 2)
This term, students in Year 1 and 2 will explore language associated with colours in Chinese. Throughout the term they will be participating in various activities and games around this topic such as interactive white board games and iPad activities. They will also practice language about family and learn to introduce their families in Chinese.

Year 3 & 4 (Level 3 & 4)
Students in Levels 3 & 4 will spend the first few weeks learning about the Chinese Zodiac Animals and then will learn how to say their nationalities in Chinese. They will also learn how to introduce their family members including nationalities, age and zodiac animal sign, etc. By the end of the term, students will be expected to finish a booklet about their family.

Year 5 & 6 (Level 5 & 6)
Year 5 and 6 students will start the term with Chinese New Year activities. After that they will focus on the topic ‘Food’ through researching the differences between Western and Chinese foods. They will also research popular Chinese foods or dishes. By the end of this term, they will create a menu for a Chinese restaurant. The menu will be used further next term to extend and enhance their learning.

Chinese Choir
The Chinese Choir that started last year will continue this year. There were 20 students from Years 3 and 4 practicing extremely hard on some of the traditional Chinese folk songs every week. They did a wonderful job performing at various events. This year we are planning to have even more students joining the Choir. Any students in Years 2 to 5 that are interested in joining the Choir are welcome to come along.
TERM 1 MULTIMEDIA & DRAMA

This year our school is introducing a new initiative that will support the extension of Literacy, ICT, Drama and Communication for students throughout the school. The Multimedia and Drama program will be run by Mr. Lewis, who will work collaboratively with groups of students, using his expertise as an actor and drama teacher to help support student learning, as well as introducing Film Making and Radio Show classes.

Students from across the school will have access to the multimedia program as a means of supporting their classroom learning. This term the Year Five and Six students will be working on the development of storyboards as a means of planning visual texts. The Year Five students will then develop stop motion films, while the Year Six students make live action films. Both of these projects will reflect their learning around their inquiry unit as well as providing extension in the areas of Literacy, ICT, The Arts and Communication.

The Film Making and Radio Show classes have had a huge amount of interest with over 60 students expressing interest.

To apply for the Film Making class, students were asked to produce a short film, to demonstrate their current skills and passion for the craft. These films were used to select a dedicated group of students who will work towards creating films to enter into competitions throughout Australia, maybe even the world.

The Radio Show classes will work towards producing an outstanding radio program that will broadcast on our radio station, 87.5FM. We will also be developing a live news bulletin, which will broadcast across the school every Wednesday and Friday morning, delivering news and reminders for the week and celebrating all the wonderful things that go on at our school. Friday lunchtime broadcasts will continue this year, however we will be taking this even further and including all of our school community in this popular show.

This is a very exciting initiative in 2014, if you have any questions or would simply like to come and see what is happening this year please feel free to visit Mr. Lewis in the Multimedia room (opposite the library).
TERM 1 VISUAL ARTS

Last year proved to be an eventful year in Visual Art at GWPS with an explosion of vibrant murals brightening up our school, and the creation of many outstanding individual artworks by our very talented students. This year with; a $1,500 grant for a multicultural mural, the new innovation of Advanced Art Classes, exciting new art activities, the Visual Art program at GWPS in 2014 just might hit a new zenith!

The Visual Art curriculum for 2014 has been developed based around three key objectives:
1. All activities challenge and reward all skill levels, to maximise all students’ learning and foster an appreciation for the Visual Arts.
2. Where possible, activities compliment the unit of work students are studying in their classrooms for all-round immersion.
3. The process of making all art works is engaging and exciting.

Prep (Foundation)
Your Prep students will explore aspects about themselves (‘I’m a Big Kid Now’ Unit) through various activities including drawing their emotions and creating a primary and secondary coloured ‘Mini-Me’. They will also create their own star to be used in a Year 3 and 4 installation.

Years 1 & 2 (Levels 1 & 2)
Your Year 1 and 2 students will explore cultural masks from around the world and then creating a mask that reflects the stylistic qualities of a particular culture. (‘One Big Family’ Unit)

Years 3 & 4 (Levels 3 & 4)
Your Year 3 and 4 students will develop a knowledge and appreciation of different architectural styles from around the world and then create a mini building made from polystyrene that utilises aesthetic qualities of these buildings (‘Journeys’ Unit). All 190 Level 3 and 4 students will then combine their buildings to create a miniature city. A group of Smart 8 students will further enhance the city by creating features that ‘glue’ the city together such as creating mini roads, trees and traffic lights.

Years 5 & 6 (Levels 5 & 6)
Your Year 5 and 6 students will explore the beautiful world of Renaissance art and more specifically the chiaroscuro style (extreme light and dark), and will then produce an observational drawing of their hands and face using charcoal and executed in a chiaroscuro style.

Advanced Art Classes
A selection of approximately 15 Year 3 and 4 students will design and make a ‘marionette’ (string) puppet by manipulating polystyrene, rope, string, fabric, mesh wire, and pop-sticks, and combining these materials using their artistic creativity.

School Leader Mural
Last year the Year 6 leaders began a beautiful mural located on the outer walls of our new school library that celebrated the multicultural nature of our school. This year’s Year 6 Leaders will complete the mural. Make sure you watch its progression from the state you see below, to its final completion!

Art Displays
Be sure to regularly look for new displays in the main corridor or on display boards around the school showing the students’ fantastic learning!

WANTED
Do you have any unwanted magazines at home? If you do the Art room would love to have them for future art activities.

After School Art Classes
New Star Art School are continuing afterschool art classes throughout the term. There are 2 art classes, F-2 and Years 3-6.

Where:  F-2: GWPS Art Room
         3-6: 4KB (opposite the Art Room)

When:   Throughout Term 1 every Wednesday from 3:45-5:15.

For more information please contact Yaping on 0417 104 975 or e-mail yaping.jiang@gmail.com
CLASSROOM MUSIC LESSONS

Hello everyone and welcome to a fantastic year ahead in the Music Room! This year, there are going to be some exciting music events and programs.

A new Junior Choir for Levels F-2 will commence on Thursday, lunchtime, Week 2 (In the music room). This will be a wonderful opportunity for the younger students to understand what is involved in a choir and to discover the expectations and responsibilities of a choir. This year, our school will also take a mass choir of 20 students to the Victoria-wide Schools Spectacular event, which will be held in September at the Hisense Area. There will be more information on this magnificent event to follow. In addition to this event, an African Drumming incursion by the company Planet Rhythm will occur in the school hall on Monday, 31st March and Tuesday, 1st April for all the students. A notice regarding this incursion will be sent home shortly.

In Foundation, the students will learn about beat and tempo in music. They will participate in a variety of musical songs and games that develop their understanding of keeping a steady beat using their body and percussion instruments. They will learn about slow, medium and fast music and how to move their body appropriately. The students will also learn how to hold the flutophones correctly and begin to understand how to play them, using the Music House as a guide to assist them in learning notes on the musical staff.

In Levels 1 & 2, the students will explore pulse and rhythm and the differences between the two concepts. They will listen to and participate in a variety of songs, including call and response, and will invent new verses for several songs. They will also learn a variety of cultural dances from around the world, including France, Germany and Israel. The students will participate in class performances, which will demonstrate their understanding of pulse and rhythm, and will continue to learn the flutophones, focussing on crotchets and minims and simple time.

In Levels 3 & 4, the students will focus on rhythmic patterns. They will participate in body percussion activities, and will learn to play and invent melodic ostinatos on tuned percussion. The students will explore how music notation can represent a variety of rhythms and will create their own music notation using symbols. The students will also continue to learn a variety of notes and rhythms on the ukuleles and the recorders and a range of songs related to Journeys.

In Level 5 & 6, the students will explore lyrics and melody, with a focus on ‘What is my Role in the World.’ They will listen to and discuss the mood, cultural, historical and social meaning of the lyrics of songs. The students will also develop an appreciation of various musical forms, such as jazz and blues music, and the history of various music artists. They will continue to develop their ability to play more complex pieces on

TERM 1 MUSIC

EXTENDED MUSIC PROGRAM

This year there will be several music programs that will be run outside of lesson times that students can be involved in. These programs include:

- School Band
- Choir
- Recorder Ensemble
- Junior Choir

Students are currently in the process of auditioning and being selected for these groups.

Important Dates:

- African Drumming incursion: Monday, 31st March and Tuesday, 1st April
- State Schools Spectacular:
  - First rehearsal: Wednesday, July 30th
  - Second rehearsal: Wednesday, August 20th
- Performance: Saturday, 14th September
- Junior Choir: Every Thursday at lunchtime
- Recorder Band: Every Monday at lunchtime
- School Band: Every Tuesday at 8am in the music room
- School Choir: Every Friday Session 5 in the music room

Monday Assembly 9:00-10:00am throughout the Term

Similar to last year, we will be continuing to have students present and perform during assembly on Mondays so be sure to come and watch!

IMPORTANT

It is essential that your child has a recorder or flutophone in every music lesson. Grades Prep, 1 and 2 need a flutophone and Grade 3, 4, 5 and 6 need a recorder. If you don’t have one at home you may purchase one from the school office. Please make sure your child brings theirs to school so they can be involved in all musical activities and do not fall behind in their recorder/flutophone skills.
Term 1 PE News

It’s a very exciting year in the Physical Education department with two different teachers (Mr Lewis – Foundation-Year 1 & Mr Warren Years 2-6) taking over the PE roles. We are certainly very eager to promote, challenge and engage our students in participating and enjoying as many different games and sports as possible with an emphasis on skills and tactics. There have been a couple of important changes already this year with synthetic turf being installed to cover the concrete cricket pitch on the oval – making it safer. The second big change has been the introduction of sports equipment sets into every single classroom in the school. More than 300 pieces of sports equipment has now been made available for all students to borrow and use during recess and lunchtimes. We hope this brings about an increased participation rate of students during these times as well as teaching them the need to be responsible for these items.

Term 1 Overview

Years 2-6 (Levels 2-6)

As a new initiative this year, all Year 2-6 students will undergo fitness assessments on speed, endurance and agility in Term 1 which will be used as a base for comparison later in the year. We plan to establish a database so that results over a number of years can be viewed and analysed. Year 2-4 students will complete a small unit of Hockey to consolidate the skills they will learn during their clinics in week 3. Meanwhile, the Year 5 and 6 students have been practising their striking skills and techniques in preparation for the Summer Sports day. All Year 2-6 students will then spend a number of weeks practising their Athletics skills in preparation for the school’s Athletics trial day. To finish off the term, the students will be taught some of the variety of kicking styles that are used in Australian Rules Football to celebrate the opening of the season.

Prep and Year 1 (Foundation & Level 1)

What an exciting time of the year, seeing all those familiar faces back at school and with the introduction of a whole new cohort of students joining us at school for the very first time.

In Foundation there is so much to learn, both inside and outside the classroom. For Physical Education, students will be learning all about the rules at school when playing and participating in games, while also beginning to learn the fundamental skills for movement, that are used in most major sports. This will put them in good stead for later in the year when they are ready to start using those skills and putting them to work playing different sports.

Year One students have had a whole year to develop their movement skills and will be working at consolidating what they already know and beginning to learn some more complex movements and actions. They will be taking part in fun, educational games and sports that are designed specifically, to support and enhance their development towards becoming active sports people.

Very Important

It is critical that ALL students bring both a school hat and water bottle to school every day during Term 1 and in particularly on the day that they have their PE lesson. Most PE lessons are held outside and involve a lot of activity, we want all students to be hydrated and kept safe from sun burn. Running shoes are also recommended to be worn on PE days.

2014 Term 1: Important PE Dates & Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date/s</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 12th &amp; 13th</td>
<td>Hockey Victoria Clinics for Years 2-4 (in school)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 3rd, 4th, 5th, 11th, 12th, 17th, 18th, 19th</td>
<td>Swimming program for Years 3-6 @ Just Swimming Syndal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 6th</td>
<td>Yr 6 Summer Sports Syndal District Round Robin Day @ Jells Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 21st</td>
<td>Yr 3-6 Athletics trials @ Waverley Athletics Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2nd</td>
<td>Twilight Sports</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TWILIGHT SPORTS

On April 2nd we will see the annual event of Twilight Sports. The night has been a success in the past with houses competing against each other through a sequence of skill based activities. More information will come out shortly, however we hope to see many families there supporting and participating on the night.
The EAL program will continue to run this year, which will include a variety of lessons that focus on English grammar, punctuation, text types, listening, reading and writing. As there are a number of new students in the program, individual testing will commence in Week 2 and continue throughout the school term.

Foundation, Level 1 and 2 EAL students will be supported within their classroom Literacy programs. During Term 1, there will be a focus on accurately using a variety of pronouns. The students will build up their English vocabulary with words related to themselves and families.

Level 3 students will focus on EAL activities around the topic ‘Journeys’ including songs, games, writing, reading and listening activities. They will explore question words, past tense of ‘to be’ and the affirmative, ‘used to’ and ‘use to’, biographies and personal recounts, and adverbs of frequency.

Level 4 students will focus on EAL activities around the topic of ‘What is my Role in the World?’ They will explore economic and global vocabulary, such as ‘fair trade,’ language for exposition writing, including opinions and beliefs. The students will also learn the grammar points ‘must/have to,’ ‘too/enough’ and predictions.