Snapshot of Term 1

In English, we will be immersing ourselves in the picture book, *Fire* by renowned Australian author Jackie French. It is inspired by the bushfires that have affected many Australians; Fire is a moving and sensitive story of a natural disaster as seen through the eyes of a cockatoo. The fire mercilessly engulfs homes and land, leaving a devastating path of destruction. It explores the concepts of community and relationships and courage and hope. We will also enjoy reading the book Bungawitta by another prominent Australian author, Emily Rodda. Bungawitta is a funny yet thought-provoking book about living in a drought-affected area of Australia.

In Science we will be studying a unit called Smooth Moves (Primary Connections). The Smooth Moves unit is an ideal way to link science with literacy in the classroom. Some questions that we will be discussing are, why do balls roll? Why do apples fall from trees? Why do some things slide across ice but not on carpet? What makes our bikes stop when we brake? In this Smooth Moves unit we will explore forces and motion. Through hands-on activities we will identify forces that act at a distance and those that act in direct contact, and investigate how different-sized forces affect the movement of objects.

In our History unit we will be exploring the concept of change and continuity in communities. Our initial focus will be on investigating the environmental and social changes over time of the Victorian town of Port Fairy. The students will use these investigative skills to conduct their own investigation of changes that have occurred over time in Bathurst.
Our Geography studies will see us explore why and how places are different and similar. Initially we will explore the different climates, settlement patterns and demographic characteristics of inner Sydney suburb Glebe and rural north-west NSW city, Gulargambone. We will use this information to imagine what it would be like to live in different places. Then the students will conduct their own investigation to compare the cities of Bathurst and an Asian city of their choosing.

During Creative Arts we will be exploring a range of techniques including, drawing, animation and photography to enable us to create artworks styled on some of the works created by Australian artist, Jess MacNeil

Place this webpage in your favourites, as we will be showcasing some of the artworks produced by our budding artists.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to those people who are able to help with Before School Reading. Your assistance is vital to the efficacy of the program and is greatly appreciated.

Once again I extend a very big welcome to all of our Year 4 students and their families. Here’s to a wonderful term.

Regards

Ms Lisette Dale
Year 4 Teacher, 2017

All images sourced from Google Images January, 2017