



Year 5 and Year 6 Opportunity Class (OC) – Term 4, 2020

Dear 'Treehouse' students, parents and carers

Welcome to Term 4! We hope you have had a restful break. Thank you to the parents and carers who took the time to phone-conference with us, for parent-teacher meetings, during Term 3. It was a valuable opportunity to touch base and discuss your child's learning and progress during this unique school year that we've experienced so far. We are looking forward to an exciting final term - particularly for the Year 6 students who will be navigating their final weeks of primary school. Please note that Semester 2 reports will be issued at the end of the term.

English

During Term 4, we will continue our literature unit guided by 'Robot Dreams' and 'I, Robot' by Isaac Asimov. Both these texts encompass a series of short stories in the science-fiction genre. Students are not required to purchase either of these texts. Students will continue to engage with these texts through a variety of speaking and listening, reading and viewing, writing and representing, and responding and composing opportunities. Literacy rotations will continue to encompass spelling, grammar (language conventions), CARS & STARS (reading comprehension), SOLE presentations, guided reading and guided writing.

Mathematics

During Term 3, students have been working on two mathematics investigations related to our overarching theme of space - 'Cartesian Coordinates' and 'Solar Sums'. These investigations incorporate the skills of navigating coordinates and graphing data, respectively.

During Term 4, students will continue to work through our mathematics program, engage in mathematical investigations that look to the strand of 'Working Mathematically', as well as continue to learn and apply problem solving skills and strategies through 'Maths Olympiad'.

Freedom to Learn

Our Freedom to Learn unit on space is now coming to a conclusion. Freedom to Learn presentations will be scheduled throughout Week 1 and Week 2 of this term. We were very mindful that students may not have experienced the full extent of collaboration that they might have wanted during their Semester 1 Freedom to Learn project, due to our context of remote learning at the time. Therefore, we made a conscious effort to actively maximise students' collaboration time for this semester's project. We are really looking forward to seeing all the wonderful work that students have produced!



Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE)

PDH - Managing Self

Students will develop knowledge, understanding and skills addressing their personal health, safety and wellbeing. They will explore emotions and how they affect their decisions, behaviours and relationships. Students will develop an understanding of what a respectful relationship looks like, both in person and online. Our 'You Can Do It!' focus will be building resilience (Weeks 1-5) and demonstrating persistence (Weeks 6-10) in all aspects of school and personal life.

PE - Gymnastics

Students will be participating in an 8 week gymnastics program on Thursdays, starting in Week 1. This will be facilitated by trained specialists from an external company, 'Sportspro'.

History

In history, students will be learning about the topic of 'The Australian Colonies'. As we focused on the gold rush last term, Term 4 will look at learning about the lives of Australians during the colonial past, how the Australian colony developed and why, and how colonial settlement changed Australia's environment. We will also focus on the topic of migration during this time period.

STEAM

Students will continue to participate in STEAM for 1 hour per week with Miss Barcenilla. Stage 3 will be investigating the principles of sustainable development, where students will be planning and developing solutions for a potential opportunity within their direct environment here at Balmain Public School. This term our students will be furthering their knowledge and understanding of project management and the relationship between models and the real-world systems that they represent.

Creative Arts

Students will participate in Visual Arts for 1 hour per week with Mrs Bowman.

Kind Regards,
Miss Holly Wright and Miss Annabel Yau
OC Teaching Team
Balmain Public School