

Term 1 Newsletter

5/6

Welcome to Term 1, 2026!

Miss Herring, Mrs Scott and Ms Thompson, are delighted to be your child's classroom teachers for 2026 and look forward to the year ahead, navigating your child on their learning journey.

Important dates and days for this term:

- Parade is every Monday at 9:00am
- Religion is on a Monday
- HPE is on Monday, Wednesday and Friday for 5/6 S and 5/6T and Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for 5/6H
- The Arts is on Monday and Friday for 5/6S and 5/6T and on Thursday and Friday for 5/6H
- Instrumental Lessons are on Tuesday (Wk3)
- LOTE Online is on Tuesday where students require headphones that include a microphone
- Tuckshop operates at both breaks on Monday, Wednesday and Friday
- Library borrowing is Thursday for 5/6S and 5/6T and Friday for 5/6H
- Homework will be taken home on a Monday and is expected to be completed and brought back to school by Friday of that week

Please keep your eye on the school Newsletter and Facebook page for notable events taking place throughout the term.

Principal – Mrs Jacinta Wimmer
Deputy Principal – Mr Noel Reynolds
Head of Curriculum – Mrs Dee Acutt
HOSE - Nikki Griffiths

School Times

Students line up and walk to class at 8:50 am.
School starts at 9:00 am.
School finishes - 3:00 pm
1st Break – 11:00 am to 11:45 am
2nd Break – 01:15 pm to 01:45 pm

Here is what is happening in our classrooms this term:

Subject Areas

English – Speaking and Listening

Year 5 and 6

Students will engage with a variety of literary texts that will support and extend them to become independent readers. This term, students will use appropriate interaction skills and features of voice to present opinions and ideas about texts, using specific terms about the literary devices, text structures and language features that the author has used.

Year 5 students will show their understanding via a Speaking and Listening Task by planning and presenting a podcast episode for future Year 5 students.

Year 6 students will show their understanding via a Speaking and Listening Assessment. They will participate in a 'book club' to share, develop, explain, and elaborate on ideas about a literary text in response to a discussion question.

Maths

Year 5 - Space and Statistics

This term, students will explore two units of learning. **Space** is where they will perform and describe transformation of shapes, identify symmetries, and use grid coordinates to locate and move positions.

Planning and conducting a statistical investigation about sun safety is the second unit where students will plan and conduct statistical investigations that collect nominal and ordinal categorical and discrete numerical data using digital tools. Students will identify the mode and interpret the shape of distributions of data in context and interpret and compare data represented in line graphs.

Term 1 Newsletter

5/6

Year 6 – Number and Space and Statistics

Students will further develop proficiency and positive dispositions towards mathematics and its use this term. **Number and Space** is where they will locate and represent points on a number line and ordered pairs on the Cartesian plane and create tessellating patterns using combinations of transformations.

In the **Statistical investigation** unit, students will compare distributions of data about recycling. They will critique arguments presented in advertisements based on statistics and use digital tools to organise data, communicate comparisons of the results using graphing and analysis.

Science and Visual Arts

Year 5/6 students are learning about physical conditions (Yr 6) and structural and behavioural features (Yr 5) that affect the survival of Marine Turtles, particularly those that inhabit on Mackay's beaches and our surrounding islands. They will annotate a drawing of a marine turtle, label and explain these features (Yr 5), conditions and environment (Yr 6) that can affect the behaviour of the turtle and its survival.

Linking with Visual Arts, students will demonstrate their scientific understandings, knowledge, and vocabulary by painting a Marine Turtle using specific artist's techniques.

HASS

Year 5 -The Australian Gold Rush and Chinese Immigration

Students will be investigating the Australian Gold Rush (during and after) with the focus on the roles that the Chinese immigrants played during this period (after 1800). **Students will present a written brochure or a visual poster or a spoken presentation to display their understanding.**

Year 6 – Vietnam

Students this term, will explain in detail geographical diversity of a place and how that diversity directly affects the interconnections with other countries. Students will evaluate a range of information and data formats to identify and describe how patterns, trends and inferred relationships are interpreted. **Students will use that information to evaluate evidence to draw conclusions about how Australia and Vietnam interconnect.**

HPE

Health And Physical Education are taught by our Specialist HPE teacher Mr Maxwell. This semester, we are focusing on PE split over 2x 30-minute lessons and health with its own 30-minute session (total of 1.5hrs)

In PE lessons, students are expected to be safe (by following instructions and staying within boundaries set), be respectful (by taking turns, communicating with kind language and following instructions) always having a go (attempt all activities).

PE

This term Year 5 and 6 will be engaging in a boot camp like program called "Tough Mudder", activities include:

- Planks
- Squats and holds, army crawls
- Jumping drills
- Running
- Core strength activities
- Obstacle course fitness related activities

Health

In our health unit we aim to develop students' relationships with others through the respectful relationship program. Topics include:

Term 1 Newsletter

5/6

- Cultural identity and self-identity
- Stereotypes in society
- Diversity analysis
- Examining the role of power in society

Performing Arts

Music, Dance, Drama and Media are taught by our Specialist Music teacher, Miss Kay. This semester we are focusing on Drama and Music, split over 2 x30 minute lessons a week.

In the Music room, students are expected to be safe (by using inside voices, staying within boundaries set, only using equipment for its intended purpose), be respectful (by taking turns, communicating with kind language and following instructions) and have a go (attempt all activities).

Drama

In our drama unit this year we aim to develop students':

- confidence and self-esteem and
- create a sense of curiosity, enjoyment and achievement through exploring and playing roles, and imagining situations
- knowledge and understanding in controlling the elements of drama.

This term, students will explore the elements of Drama and will be able to apply them to a given script. Students will explore audience perspective and design how to perform the script and characters. Students will look at what influences their decision based on cultural protocols, time period the drama is set in and place where it is set.

Music

In our Music unit this year, we aim to develop students':

- confidence to be thoughtful, skilful and informed musicians
- knowledge and skills for listening with intent and purpose, composing and performing
- understanding of music as an aural art form as they acquire skills to become independent music learners.

This term, students will continue to explore the elements of music by refining their performance skills on many musical instruments. Students will work on texture by layering the sound with different parts and tonal qualities. Students will identify form aurally and compose a soundtrack to a movie scene using given sound samplers taking into account cultural protocols, time and place.

Digital Technology

Students will be involved in a 30 minute lesson each week in the school computer lab, instructed by Mr Noel Reynolds.

Online Japanese

Students will be involved in a one hour lesson each week. Mr Christopher Lynagh will be 5/6's teacher for 2026. Term One's unit is called 'Welcome to Japan.'

We thank you for the opportunity to teach your child this year. Miss Herring, Mrs Scott and Ms Thompson look forward to a wonderful year ahead that is filled with engaging, interactive, learning opportunities. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email your child's teacher.

Term 1 Newsletter

5/6

Regards

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