How quickly time flies! Term 1 has almost finished and so has inquiry unit 1; ‘Food plays an important role in people’s lives’. This unit provided a perfect segway into our upcoming unit on the human body.

Inquiry

Our second Unit of Inquiry this year has the Central Idea: Health and survival is reliant on systems of the body functioning together. Throughout this unit we will be covering; body systems and how they work, how body systems are interdependent and the impact of lifestyle and choices on the body. If you discuss these concepts with your child it will help them to consolidate their understanding of this inquiry unit. Students will have a matrix to set expectations, guide them in their learning and to monitor their progress. Tasks will be based around Gardner’s Multiple Intelligences and Blooms Taxonomy.

English

English sessions will include T.H.R.A.S.S. activities, Spelling and Grammar, Reading, Writing and Listening Skills. This term in Level 3; students will focus their writing on narrative writing and procedural texts. Narrative writing will focus on the development of characters, settings and plots. The focus for Procedural texts will be on vocabulary, sequencing and requirements particular to the procedure. During grammar lessons attention will be paid to parts of speech, including paragraphs, clauses and punctuation. In reading sessions, we will be focusing on establishing good fluency; expression, pace and comprehension by using punctuation correctly.
Maths

Throughout this unit of inquiry, the major focus will be on addition, subtraction, fractions and decimals. We will be extending the students by teaching them problem solving strategies, thereby engaging their higher order thinking skills. An example of a problem solving question that will challenge the students is: ‘I have 60 cents in my pocket, what combination of coins could I possibly have?’

We will also be linking data with the current unit of inquiry. We will explore how to collect, read and analyse data. Students will collect data, organise it into categories and create displays using lists, tables and simple column graphs.

We will continue the Maths Mastery program on a Monday morning from 9am to 10am. Students will continue to focus on the Number strand this term.

Mathletics has been a successful tool in reinforcing student understanding and we will continue to make use of this valuable learning aid. Mathletics will feature in the homework regularly.

Homework

Homework will continue to be given out on a Friday and will be due back the following Thursday. It will include an English and a Maths focus each week. In addition students should be reading every night and practising their times tables and spelling every week.

Key Dates

March:

Monday 21\textsuperscript{st} Anti-Bullying Day
Tuesday 22\textsuperscript{nd} Melbourne Museum Excursion
Wednesday 23\textsuperscript{rd} Harmony Day
Thursday 24\textsuperscript{th} Easter Egg Hunt & Raffle / Last day of Term 1.

April:

Monday 11\textsuperscript{th} First day of Term 2
Monday 25\textsuperscript{th} ANZAC day

May:

Tuesday 10\textsuperscript{th} – Thursday 12\textsuperscript{th} NAPLAN