

Year 4 Balam Community Newsletter

Term 4, 2019

Welcome to Term 4 in the Balam Community! We are soon approaching holidays and the conclusion of another year! Our students have been busy learning and have had some fun in the sun during our new CBL unit on Design. Learning Specialists at H.H.P.S have been working closely with some of our students, visiting their classrooms and even taking them to other communities for some 'Minute to Win it' style learning!

The Balam Community Specialist timetable has remained the same for Term 4:

<u>4A Specialist Timetable – Term 2</u> Monday – Science, PE Tuesday – Spanish Friday – Visual Arts	<u>4B Specialist Timetable – Term 2</u> Monday – Visual Arts, Spanish Tuesday – Science Friday – PE
<u>4C Specialist Timetable – Term 2</u> Monday – Spanish, Science Tuesday – Visual Arts Friday – PE	<u>4D Specialist Timetable – Term 2</u> Monday – Science, Visual Arts Tuesday – PE Friday – Spanish

This term we are focusing on:

Reading:

- Increasing our reading stamina during Independent Reading
- Ensuring students are aware of, are practising and are recording evidence of their personal reading goals using their goal template

Our overarching comprehension focus is analysing and critiquing. We have been exploring how the author builds suspense in fiction texts and the organisational structures of non-fiction texts, such as characteristics which reflect the genre. Students have also been completing book reviews and justifying their opinions using evidence from the text.



Book Recommendation/Report

- Book Title: _____
- Book Author: _____
- Recommended By: _____
- Genre: Circle One of the genres below
 - Non-Fiction
 - Biography
 - Fiction
 - Mystery
 - Action/Adventure
 - Fantasy
 - Auto-Biography
 - Other
- Who would like it? _____
- What you enjoyed about the book (remember don't give anything away!) _____

- Start Review - Color in your star score
 - = 5 Stars = The BEST book - I couldn't put it down
 - = 1 Star - I don't think I would re-read that book

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Writing:

- Text type – Reports

This term we are working towards writing reports. We will be exploring:

- The features of newspaper articles, magazines, news reports and annotated diagrams
- How to plan, prepare and present an interview using open-ended questions
- What makes a title engaging or eye-catching for the reader
- The writing process and what it looks like when writing reports



Newspaper Report Texts Checklist

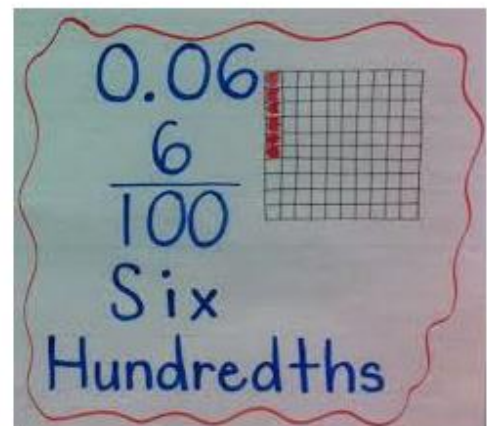
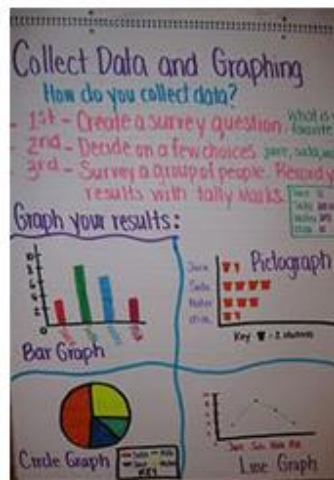
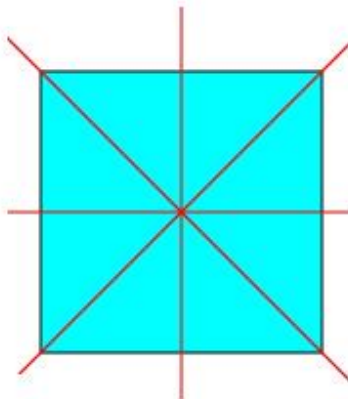
Positive	
Post tense	
First word in capital letters	
Introductory (what, who, where and when?)	
Contents (facts)	
Contents (facts)	
Contents (facts)	
Capital letters and full stops	

Numeracy:

In Term 4, these are the main topics of focus with some examples:

- Symmetry and angles – comparing angles and creating symmetrical patterns
- Data – constructing data displays such as column graphs and picture graphs using collected data
- Fractions and decimals – recognising place value system up to tenths and hundredths and forming connections between fractions and decimal notation
- Volume – comparing objects using familiar metric units of area and volume

We are continuing with our weekly 'challenging tasks' allowing students to develop their deep thinking, problem solving strategies and reasoning skills.



SWPBS

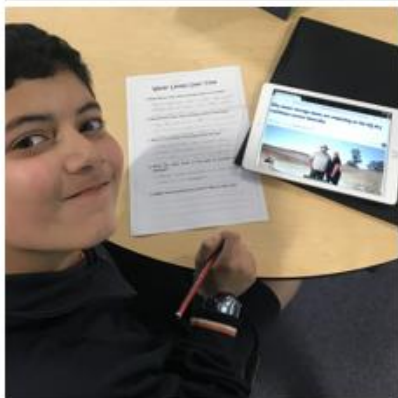
As part of our School-Wide Positive Behaviour sessions, we are continuing to reinforce our school values and behaviours. In the Balam Learning Community as well as across the school, we are always looking to demonstrate Kaizen and Be Our Best, Safe and Respectful.



We will also be looking at important social skills concepts such as how to ask for help and understand social and physical development.

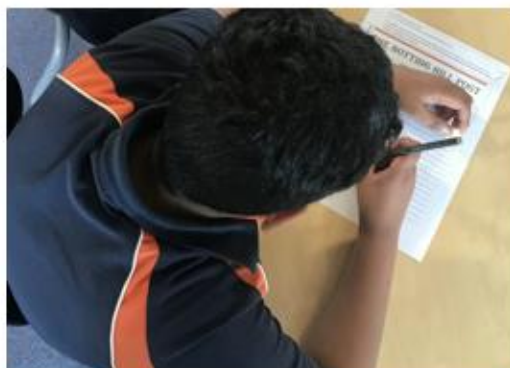
Challenge Based Learning (CBL)

Our focus this term is DESIGN! Students have been learning about water, considering the impact of drought as water is a precious resource for survival. Water wastage has been explored, identifying the need for effective designs to prevent this. Students have engaged in various design-related activities such as locating designs which store, collect or provide water within the school, completing a water audit at home and timing how long it takes to fill a litre bottle using the taps at school.



Learning with a Twist

Some of our students have had the opportunity to work with our Learning Specialist, Dale. Dale has been taking some additional guided reading groups, working with our students to improve comprehension and discussions about texts. Dale has also been running some small group learning activities based on 'Minute to Win it', making learning exciting and engaging for our students. We are lucky to have Dale's presence in our community!



Home Learning Expectations:

Home learning has now commenced. Home learning folders sent home in week 2 including an outline of the HHPS home learning expectations. Please refer to the 3-4 Community column below:

HHPS HOME LEARNING



	Foundation	1-2 Community	3-4 Community	5-6 Community
Take Home Reading	Reading to, with and by parents for 10mins (Wushka ebook or hard copy) **Record in Take Home Reading Journal	Reading to, with and by parents for 20mins (Wushka ebook or hard copy) **Record in Take Home Reading Journal	Independent reading for 30mins minimum (Wushka ebook or hard copy) **Record in Take Home Reading Journal	Independent reading for 30mins minimum (Wushka ebook or hard copy) ** Record in Take Home Reading Journal
Online Learning	Reading Eggs, Mathletics, Spellodrome *Set tasks individual needs	Reading Eggs, Mathletics, Spellodrome Set tasks for individual needs	Reading Egg/Eggspres, Mathletics, Spellodrome Set tasks for individual needs	Reading Eggspres, Mathletics, Spellodrome Set tasks for individual needs
OWL Words	Word Lists sent home for children to practise recognising	Word Lists sent home for children to practise recognising	Word Lists sent home for children to practise recognising (needs basis)	
Spelling Words	Spelling Words from the OWL Word Lists (once able to read them)	Spelling Words from the OWL Word Lists.	Spelling Words from the OWL Word Lists.	Spelling Words from the OWL Word Lists.
Class Work	Work from class that may need to be finished or children may want/need to practise more of	Work from class that may need to be finished or children may want/need to practise more of	Work from class that may need to be finished or children may want/need to practise more of	Work from class that may need to be finished or children may want/need to practise more of

*Reading each night is a priority from Prep-Six. Throughout the week, time can be spent on the other home learning options as negotiated by students and parents.

Please let your child's home group teacher know if you have a question about home learning.

If for some reason your child is absent from school, you can explain the absence on Compass or make contact with the school on 8468 9000.

If you have any questions, please email one of us via Compass, or call the office to arrange a time to pop in for a chat.

Kind Regards,

Lisa, Sophie, Diana, Courtney, Laura and Dilhani
Year 4 Balam Community Teachers and Staff

