

# 5/6 Galada Community Newsletter

## Term 2, 2018



HARVEST HOME  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

We are back into the swing of things here in the Galada Learning Community. We have been busy with our new inter-school sports, commencing our Economics unit and preparing for NAPLAN. We are really proud of our grade 5 students for their determination during this time. Grade 6s will get their turn next year!



This term we are focusing on:

### Reading:

- Picking *Just Right* books, using the 5 Finger Rule
- Continuing to build up and sustain Independent Reading stamina
- Identifying unknown vocabulary when reading, and using strategies to find out its meaning.
- Comprehension focus:
  - Summarising both Fiction and Non Fiction texts. The students have been exploring different summarising tools and strategies, including "Somebody, Wanted, But, So Then" for a fiction text. For non fiction texts, students are identifying the main idea, using the GIST strategy or note-taking. The emphasis is on providing a succinct overview of what the text is about, rather than re-telling what happened.

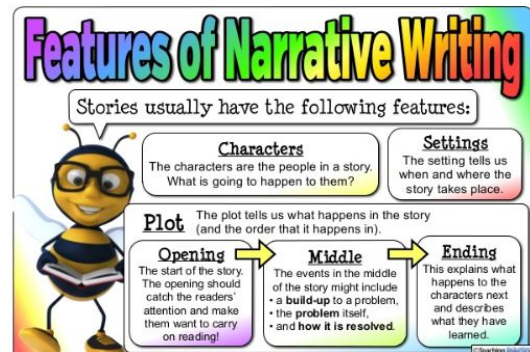
<b>Somebody</b>	Who is the main character?
<b>Wanted</b>	What did the main character want?
<b>But</b>	What was the problem?
<b>So</b>	How did the character try and solve the problem?
<b>Then</b>	How did the story end?

## Writing:

This Term we are focusing on:

### Text type - Narrative

- Planning and writing a narrative using narrative text features (e.g. characters, setting, plot, problem and solution)
- Using the seven steps of writing success to assist them with structure.
- Publishing and illustrating a narrative piece to be peer assessed.



### Grammar

- Conjunctions: Using a word that joins two simple sentences or two phrases together (e.g. and, so, but, because)
- Pronouns: a word that replaces a noun (e.g. she, he, we, my)
- Prefix: a word, letter, or number placed before another
- Punctuation: commas, apostrophes, question marks and talking marks, sentence structures.

### Spelling

- Irregular words
- Jolly/unusual phonics
- Compound words
- Digraphs/quadgraphs
- Irregular spelling words
- Plurals

## Numeracy:

This term we have been encouraging students to go deeper in their thinking to approach mathematical problems. In preparation for NAPLAN, but also to develop mathematical understanding and a range of strategies, students have been working collaboratively to unpack key mathematical language in a question, and interpret pictures that support questions.

We have also been warming up with problem-solving tasks like the one below, and continuing using the Back to Front program for addition, subtraction and place value.



**Grade 5/6 Homework Expectations:**

It is recommended that students in Grades 5 and 6 participate in a minimum of 30 minutes of homework per day. Students are to read their take home book on a daily basis and return it **every** day. Please record the book read each night in their diary. **After** reading, parents are encouraged to discuss the meaning of the text with their child to develop a deeper, richer understanding of what has been read.

Being a 21<sup>st</sup> century learning school we have school and home access to some exciting online programs to support the curriculum. Teachers will at times set learning tasks/assessment tasks on these programs for your child to complete.

In your child's diary you will find the login details to the following websites:

**Reading Eggs-** [www.readingeggs.com.au](http://www.readingeggs.com.au)      **Wushka:** [www.wushka.com.au](http://www.wushka.com.au)

**Mathletics-** [www.mathletics.com.au](http://www.mathletics.com.au)

Students can also access the program **Spellodrome** [www.spellodrome.com.au](http://www.spellodrome.com.au) using their Mathletics password.

There may be certain instances where unfinished class work will be sent home to be completed. Projects or oral presentations may need to be worked on at home but we will provide more information if this is the case.

Example home learning schedule:

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
30 mins reading	15 mins reading 15 mins Mathletics	30 mins reading	15 mins reading 15 mins Spellodrome	30 mins reading	Rest	Rest

**Sport:**

This term inter-school football and netball teams are underway with training sessions held once a week and games on Friday mornings. Students who have not been selected for a team have been participating in home sport, with a focus on volleyball. Students had the opportunity to qualify for school cross-country, which was held on Friday in week 1. Those students who completed the course under the qualifying time competed at the regional cross-country day held at Bundoora in week 4. All students will be given the opportunity to represent HHPS at some point throughout the year. Later this term some students will be participating in a volleyball gala day. Stay tuned for more information on these events!

**Reminders:**

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 don't hesitate to email one of us via Compass, or call the office to arrange a time to pop in for a chat.

*Kind Regards,  
Anthony, Emma and Sophie*

*Grade 5/6 Community Teachers*

