Meet the Teacher, Term 1 2011
Miss Gore 6G

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As your child’s teacher for Term 1 2011, I would like to welcome you and your family to the new year at Cartwright Public School. I would like to begin by providing you with an outline of some of the things 6G will be involved in during Term 1, 2011.

It is important to ensure your child brings to school with them the following items each day:

★ 2 x Lead pencils
★ Coloured pencils
★ Glue stick
★ Ruler (wooden or plastic only)
★ Hat
★ Library bag or a plastic bag
★ Lunch and Recess
★ Paint shirt (e.g. an old t-shirt)

Overview of the Classroom Program

Spelling
Students are given new spelling words including theme words on the Monday of odd weeks. The students will complete a number of activities to assist them in learning and being able to use the spelling words in everyday situations. Students are tested on their spelling words and theme words on the Friday of even weeks. Every Monday, every student will make a copy of their spelling words, to practise at home each night. Completed spelling sheets will be handed in on Friday morning, before assembly.

Reading
Reading Groups are held throughout the week. Students are grouped according to their Reading Level. During Reading Group session students read with the teacher or complete a number of activities based on their book.

Talking and Listening
In Term One, the students will participate in Talking and Listening activities on a daily basis in the form of short speeches about a number of different topics. This term students will be completing a persuasive writing topic and each week will have a different topic they are basing their arguments on.

Writing
Each week, students participate in modelled and independent writing activities during the morning literacy session. This term the text types focus will be "Persuasive Texts". Grammar features are taught explicitly within the text type units. Some weeks, students will be required to complete various tasks, such as research, to assist them in their writing.

Mathematics
In Term 1, the students in 6G will participate in a number of Mathematical learning experiences daily. During these sessions we focus on Number activities (such as counting, addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division) and activities based on the other Mathematical strands such as Patterns and Algebra, Data, Measurement, and Space and Geometry. Students will also participate in ‘The Language of Mathematics’ program, focusing on developing strategies to answer written problems.

Personal Development, Health and Physical Development
As part of our Health program students will participate in the unit “Keeping Fit” once a week. Students will explore and learn about and describe how we can keep ourselves fit and healthy. The students will have the opportunity to make decisions as an individual and as a group member about healthy choices, as well as effects and components of an active lifestyle. On Friday afternoons the students will participate in a sports program focusing on developing the fundamental movement skills.

Human Society and its Environment (HSIE)
This term, 6G will participate in the HSIE unit "Rainforests". Students will learn about locations of rainforests, the structure of a rainforest as well as completing a case study based on the Daintree, Queensland. Students will immerse themselves in the rainforest world by creating the rainforest environment and studying its changes.
Science and Technology
The students in 6G will participate in a Science unit on Weather. Students have already taken a keen interest in the extreme weather we have been experiencing across Australia recently and are using their technology to continue and extend their knowledge.

Creative Arts
Creative Arts includes areas such as Dance, Drama, Visual Arts and Music. This term we are focusing on Visual Art and will create a number of artworks relating to ‘The Rainforest’ to support our learning about tropical rainforests.

Home Learning
Home learning is not compulsory, however it is beneficial. Therefore, as Year six students, in preparation for high school it is expected and highly recommended. Home Learning will go home on Mondays, with spelling to be returned by Friday of each week, while reading records, maths and an additional task will be checked the following Monday. For Home Reading I would be grateful to see a weekly log of the books, as well as any other reading material, read at home. I realise, some weeks may be more difficult to find time than others, therefore, some weeks parents may tick to say their child has read independently, date and sign it.

Special Times in 6G’s Weekly Routine

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-6 Assembly</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9:00-10:00</td>
<td>Parents/Caregivers welcome to attend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-6 Scripture</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>1:05-1:35</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>1:55 – 2:55</td>
<td>Students should wear running shoes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>10:00 – 11:00</td>
<td>Students need a library or plastic bag to borrow</td>
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Behaviour - Classroom Rules
At the beginning of the year the students in 6G collaboratively agreed upon the classroom rules which they will abide by both inside and outside of the classroom. The rules are as follows:

1. Put your hand up if you need to speak
2. Walk in the classroom
3. Listen to the teacher and others when they are talking
4. Keep your hands and feet to yourself
5. Respect others and their property
6. Use sensible year 6 behaviour and inside voices, when appropriate
7. Speak with manners and respect
8. Always try your best

Behaviour Monitoring
Throughout the day students receive personal points when they are observed following the classroom and school rules, along with being recognised for positive behaviour, outstanding work and showing initiative in their work. When children receive ten personal points they will receive a “WOW” card. Once the students receive 5 wow cards, they receive a merit card. 6G has a behaviour monitoring system where children are given warnings, however, if they are reminded about the same thing three times in a session they will receive a cross next to their names. If children receive three crosses in a week, they miss out on the class’ reward. If a student continues to misbehave the Cartwright Public School four-step plan is implemented:

1. Warning – issued by the teacher
2. Time out – the students works independently at the Time Out table
3. Time out with another teacher – in another classroom for a short period of time
4. Sent to the Assistant Principal/Principal

*If students are violent, they will be sent directly to the Assistant Principal/Principal. Students are aware of the acceptable classroom behaviour and of the consequences for inappropriate behaviour.

I look forward to working with you in achieving the best outcomes for your child this term and for the remainder of the year. If you wish to speak to me, about your child’s education please feel free to contact the school, to make an appointment.

Miss S J Gore