Meet the Teachers, Term 1 2012
Stage 3: Mr Green and Miss Curtis

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As your child’s teachers for 2012, we would like to welcome you and your family to the new year at Cartwright Public School. We would like to fill you in on some of the things 5/6C and 5/6G will be involved in during Term 1, 2012. 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
- Red and blue pen (once pen licence is obtained)
- Hat
- Ruler (wooden or plastic only)
- Lunch and Recess
- Library bag or a plastic bag

Overview of the Classroom Program

Spelling
Students are given new spelling words including theme words on the Monday of even 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 odd weeks.

Reading
Students will be involved in Guided, Modelled and Independent reading activities throughout the term. Reading Groups are held throughout the week. Students are grouped according to their Reading Level. During Reading Group sessions students read with the teacher or complete a number of activities based on their book.

Talking and Listening
In Term 1, the students will participate in Talking and Listening activities on a daily basis. Talking and listening has been integrated into all aspects of the curriculum.

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.

Accelerated Literacy
During Accelerated Literacy lessons, students will engage with a text and discuss how the author created the intended meaning through structure, word choices and word order. Students will examine images and precise language that describe what happened, where, when, how and why. The students will use this information to enhance their own reading and writing. The text being taught this term is “Pannikin and Pinta” by Colin Thiele.

Mathematics
In Term 1 the students in 5/6C and 5/6G 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 on the other Mathematical strands such as Patterns and Algebra, Data, Measurement, and Space and Geometry. Students will participate in “The Language of Mathematics” program, which looks at strategies to assist students when solving word problems.

Science and Technology
Throughout Term 1 students within Stage 3 will have the opportunity to increase their understanding and knowledge of communication and its many different aspects through the unit ‘Way out Communication’. They will discover that there are many different ways to communicate and to receive and convey messages with various senses. Students will learn about the history of communication and how these methods have changed over time. The students in 5/6C and 5/6G will participate in a Technology unit focusing on publishing and research skills.
Human Society and its Environment (HSIE)
This term 5/6C and 5/6G will participate in the HSIE unit “Identity and Values”. Throughout Term 1 students within Stage 3 will have the opportunity to explore the contribution of different cultural groups to Australian identity. The unit focuses on the diversity of Australian life, what has influenced it in the past, present-day influences and the changing nature of these influences.

Creative Arts
Creative Arts includes areas such as Dance, Drama, Visual Arts and Music. This term we are focusing on Visual Arts and will create a number of artworks relating to “Identity” to support our learning about Australian Identity and values.

Personal Development, Health and Physical Development
As part of our Health program students will participate in the unit “Taking a Stand” once a week with Miss Murphy. Students will learn how to communicate appropriately in a variety of conflicting situations. They will develop skills in decision making; investigate the body systems and their functioning, study the effects of drug use and explore health services and products available within the community. The students in 5/6C and 5/6G will participate in the welfare program You Can Do It! once a week. On Friday afternoons the students will participate in a sports program focusing on developing the fundamental movement skills while exploring a number of Indigenous games.

Home Learning
Home Learning has begun for this term. The school policy on Home Learning has changed recently and Home Learning is now optional for students. Due to this, there will no longer be fortnightly Home Learning Awards. Home Learning will go home on Mondays and is to be returned by Friday of each week.

Special Times in 5/6C and 5/6G’s Weekly Routine

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<th>Event</th>
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| Library        | Tuesday | 9:00-10:00 5/6G  
10:00-11:00 5/6C | Students need a library or plastic bag to borrow with Mrs Colbert       |
| National       | Thursday  | All day for 5/6G | National Partnerships executive release day for Mr Green. 5/6G will be taken by another teacher |
| Partnerships   |       |                          |                                                                             |
| 3-6 Scripture  | Thursday  | 1:05-1:35 |                                                                             |
| K-6 Assembly   | Friday  | 9:00-10:00 | Parents/Caregivers welcome to attend                                        |
| Sport          | Friday  | 1:55-2:55 | Students should wear full sports uniform                                     |

Behaviour - Classroom Rules
At the beginning of the year the students in Stage 3 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. Speak with manners and respect
7. Always try your best
8. Respect each other and their right to learn
9. Set high expectations for your work

Behaviour Monitoring
5/6C and 5/6G has a behaviour monitoring system where the students move their names along a progressive chart. When a student misbehaves 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.

We 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 either of us about your child’s education please contact us via the school phone number 9607 7979 to make an appointment.

Mr Ben Green and Miss Fiona Curtis