

SPECIALIST PROGRAMS 2018

Music



The Music Program is one of six domains within the Discipline based program at Birmingham Primary School. The major focus of the Music Program is for students to enjoy learning about the fundamentals of music e.g. beat, rhythm, tone colour, melody and style, in a meaningful way. This is achieved through discipline based learning activities such as

Exploring and expressing ideas: Exploring sound and silence and ways of using voice, body percussion, instruments and technologies to develop and express ideas.

Music practices: Developing knowledge and understanding of skills, techniques and processes for listening, composing and performing music from diverse cultures, times and locations.

Presenting and performing: Planning, rehearsing and refining performances to communicate ideas and intentions to an audience.

Responding and interpreting: Reflecting, questioning, analysing and evaluating as listeners, composers and performers.

A weekly 40 minute music lesson is given to all grade levels by the music specialist. Additional music activities include:

- **Grade 4 Recorder** – students learn recorder during class lessons in Term 2 & 3.
- **Senior Choir** – 1 x 40 minute rehearsal every Tuesday lunchtime.
- **Harmony Choir** – 1 x 40 minute rehearsal every Friday lunchtime. This choir will also incorporate harmonies and part singing and is audition based.
- **Band for children in grades 3-6** – 1x 40 minute rehearsal every Wednesday lunchtime.



- **Junior Choir** – for children in Grade 1 and 2.
- **Private individual, paired and group tuition** is provided by Metro Music in guitar, keyboard, singing, drums, and violin during school hours.

Grade 6 are involved in a Musical Production/Concert in Term 3 this year.

Other special groups such as Band, Junior Choir, Senior Choir, Harmony Choir, Skipping, Juggling and grades do a presentation in the first half of the concert program.

Chloe Newstead
Music Specialist

P.E.



Each grade takes part in one 40 minute session of specialist P.E. instruction per week. The program incorporates the areas of aquatics, athletics, dance, gymnastics, ball handling, games skills and fitness. In addition, the children in grades 3 – 6 will be involved in a 40-60 minute sport session each week, where the skills introduced in P.E. sessions will be used in a game situation.

Special programs, that children are given the opportunity to participate in during the year, relevant to P.E. / Sport include:

- Term 1 – 4 Grade 1 – 6 'Triple Ace Coaching' – 7 lessons, of half an hour duration of intensive Tennis Coaching (Lunch time Activity).
- Hoop Time Basketball Competition – Junior (Grade 3 and 4) and Senior (Grade 5 and 6) Hoop Time teams to be entered for a one day Basketball Round Robin Tournament.
- Term 4 Grade 5 & 6 'Surfing' - A one day 'Learn to Surf' excursion at Smith's Beach Phillip Island (Limited to 50 children).
- Swimming Program – Prep – 6 1 week (5 x 1hr) intensive swim lessons at Kilsyth Pool



It is imperative that children are dressed appropriately and are not inhibited or disadvantaged by their clothing. This is particularly the case when performing gymnastic or other athletic activities where dresses, tight fitting clothes or slip-on shoes or heels definitely hinder participation. Please note that during Term 1 and Term 4 school hats are compulsory in all Sport/P.E. sessions.

If your child is unable to participate in sport or P.E., please write a note.

Justin Harriss
P.E. Teacher

Global Studies

Students will attend Global Studies once a week for a 40 minute session with their classmates.

The program aims to help students develop an understanding of their place in the world, valuing and celebrating the similarities and diversities amongst all cultures, locally and globally.

These aims are reflected in both our school's Mission and Vision statements and the school values of Courage, Compassion, Community and Curiosity.

There will be an incursion and/or excursion for each grade level.

Sue Withers (Prep-Gr 2), Elsa Allen (Gr 3) Sally Buckland (Gr 4-6)
Global Studies Teachers



Library

The Library program covers 2 curriculum areas,

- i) Children's Literature
- ii) Information Skills



It is a sequential program and resource, which supports all curriculum areas of the school, providing children with the opportunity to develop concepts, skills, knowledge for information retrieval, and positive attitudes towards books and literature.

2018 -Classroom teachers will be taking their own Library sessions.

Loan Limits

Prep	3 Books
Gr 1 & 2	3 Books
Gr 3 – 6	4 Books – 1 of which we expect to be a Lexile levelled text

No more than 2 books from any one series can be borrowed at a time.

Borrowing Period

Students are allowed to borrow all books for a maximum of 3 weeks. However if a child has an overdue book they will need to return it before they can borrow another book.



Please note that books can be returned at any time by placing them in the RETURN SLOT at the borrowing desk

Library Bags

All children from Prep – 6 must have Library bags. These can be homemade or bought through the school uniform shop. The preferred style is on display with the school uniform near the front office.

Lexile Reading

The Library has a Lexile Section. The books in this section are levelled, based on reading comprehension levels. These books are available for borrowing by all students and are used in classroom programs.

Lunchtime Library

The school library is open each Monday and Friday
2.00pm – 2.25 pm for leisure reading.

Birmingham Reading Challenge

The challenge will commence in the month of May and complete on the 8th of September.

Annual Book Fair

Each year we hold a Book Fair. Scholastic Australia returns a percentage of overall sales. This year the Book Fair will be held in October.

Library Staff

Two friendly Library Technicians are present to support grade teachers during their Library sessions and to maintain the quality of the library stock. If you have any queries about specific titles, overdue books, Book Club...or if you wish to volunteer your time to help cover new books...please call in and see:

Sudar Sridhar Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays
Lu Olsen Tuesdays and Wednesdays



Reading with and encouraging your child to read is one of the most valuable educational activities you can do with your child. More detailed information regarding Book Fair, Book Week and the Reading Challenge will be distributed in the future

Language – Italian

Each grade participates in an intensive 40 minute Italian class per week. The class is conducted by a Specialist Language teacher.

The aim of the classes is for children to learn to communicate in Italian in different contexts as well as to gain a deep understanding of Italian culture and history. The topics or themes taught are linked as closely as possible to the topics or themes being taught by the classroom teacher.



Grades 3 – 6 will experience a modified ‘immersion’ program whereby the lesson is conducted in Italian as much as possible. The younger grades will also be exposed to as much target language as is practical.

The lessons are designed to be interesting, fun and interactive and will often incorporate music, drama, art and craft through activities such as singing songs, playing games, performing role-plays, designing posters and creating learning resources. The interactive whiteboard and access to chrome books and an ipad in the Italian room also assist in making Italian classes for Preps through to Grade 6 even more engaging, interactive and exciting.

Additional Activities include:

- Italian Cooking
- Cultural Incursions – ‘Puppets and Masks of Italy’
- Annual Italian Inter-school Poetry Competition



Vicki Kouris
Italian Language Teacher

Visual Arts



The emphasis of the Visual Arts program is on children exploring the art materials imaginatively, while developing their skill level through challenging activities. Each child receives an 80 minute Art session per fortnight.

Visual Arts provides children with the opportunity to:

- Develop their intellectual, imaginative and expressive potential
- Develop and extend their skills, techniques and knowledge of processes, as a basis for personal expression and enjoyment.
- Create and present artworks for a variety of purpose and audience.
- Develop critical thinking skills and an understanding of aesthetics.

Where possible Visual Arts uses a variety of materials and techniques to promote and enrich the classroom Integrated Topics.

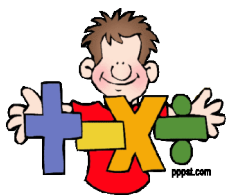
Each child is required to have a clearly named smock to protect their clothing. It is important that older children have one that fits, as the materials used by them may be harder to remove from clothes.



Please feel free to see me with any queries or concerns or just to have a visit to view our lovely work on display, and in progress.

Pam Hughes
Visual Arts Teacher

EMU Maths (Extending Mathematical Understanding)



EMU Maths is a fantastic program aimed to assist some students in Grade 1 & 2 who may benefit from assistance to develop their mathematical understandings.

Children will be offered this help after thorough assessment and discussion with both their classroom teacher and parents. There are 4 half an hour lessons/week. The children will also work with the EMU teacher to present some of their work to their usual class to share some of their insights and take pride in their successes.

This is my first year taking EMU and I am very excited and feeling passionate to be able to work with these students!

Sue Withers
EMU Maths Teacher & Global Education Teacher (Prep-2)