Theme 2016: Lighting our past, opening doors to our future

Assessment and Learning 7-12 Focus

Academic

- What makes an effective PLT?
  - All PLT’s gathering and effectively using class data
- High Impact Instruction – big Ideas, assessment as, of and for learning, use of diagnostic data, STILE Learning Management System, examination techniques
- Homework and assignments
  - Making homework meaningful and following up
  - Making assignment and assessment structure consistent
- Academic Detention
- Independent Learning Skills program (renamed Step Up)
- Explicit teaching of instructional verbs
- Ensuring students become responsible and independent learners
- Ensuring classroom learning is engaging and seeking feedback from students

Routines

- Diaries (Senior and Junior)
  - Checking, signing, and following up
- Classroom expectations
  - Ensuring these from Day 1
- Punctuality
  - We cannot expect compliance if we do not model correct behaviour
- Attendance
  - Making every lesson important
- Uniform
  - This cannot be a one person crusade
  - Everybody must be part of the team to make this succeed

Year Group Focus

Year 8 & 11

There will be a special focus on these two groups

- Seeking opportunities to identify, communicate with and mentor students who are struggling with routines and expectations
  - Homework (and follow up)
Level of work completed.
Organisation, and preparedness for lessons
Meeting deadlines with assessment tasks and consequences for those who do not
Goal setting

All Year Groups will continue to have a focus on…

- Classroom management – routines, rules and expectations set from day 1 and continue throughout the year
- Use of diary every day
- Goal setting each semester
- Homework, stamp and follow up
- Study skills and assignments
- Academic Detention
- A general focus on critical and creative thinking and inquiry learning
- Work ethic and insistence on high quality of work presented by students
- Attendance – following up students who are regularly late and/or absent
- Implementation of NAPLAN Focus (see below 7 - 12)
- Assessment – NAPLAN results Year 7 and 9, English (Enrichment), Maths (Enrichment) and Science Competitions (Enrichment) Benchmarking. PAT testing of literacy and numeracy across junior years
- Addressing additional needs (in conjunction with A.N.T) and Enrichment of students

Examinations

Year 7 - Semester One no formal exam block  
Year 8 - Semester One 50min exams  
Year 9 - Semester One 60min exams  
Year 10 - Semester One 80min exams  

Semester Two 50 min exams
Year 8 - Semester Two 50 min exams
Year 9 - Semester Two 60 min exams
Year 10 - Semester Two 80 min exams
Whole School Approach – NAPLAN Results

**Literacy Action Plan**

* Revisit action plans for 2016 to be undertaken at the start of each semester in PLCs.

* Set literacy activities across specific KLAs in 7-10 with a particular focus on Years 7 and 9 for NAPLAN.

* Areas of literacy weaknesses will be targeted through the modules designed and implemented through the Diocese. Access to these will be through Moodle and Professional Development will occur during PLTs.

**Writing**

- **Engage students in writing.** E.g. persuasive devices- authoritative statement, conditional mood (e.g. *unless, even though*), directly addressing reader (e.g. “Only you can”), emphatic statements/emphasis etc.

- **Vocabulary and Spelling.** Build sustained, precise, effective vocabulary for each topic. Consistent work on topic-specific vocabulary- 10 words per session max, practise through spelling, definitions, Quizlet, sentences, synonyms, illustrating, Popplet, posters, etc.

- **Practise connectives**- words to link ideas e.g. “firstly”, “consequently”, “unless”, “for example”

- **Instructional verbs** (i.e. “explain”, “analyse”) to be displayed on posters in all rooms and distributed to each student. These are to be explicitly taught in context with the subject material, and to be explained in terms of hierarchy of verbs /marks/requirements (posters in rooms to assist).

- Instructional verbs incorporated into class tests and yearly exams as per the schedule below

**Critical Instructional Verbs**

| Relevant verb list to be distributed to each student and stuck into back of their books. | Yr 7-11 |
| Relevant verb list to be available on school Moodle page. | Yr 7-11 |
| When tests and exams are reviewed, the teacher points out the verb, reviews its meaning and relates it to the available marks (hierarchy poster). | Yr 7-11 |
| **All topic tests and exams** to have a copy of the verb list provided to each student. | Yr 7-10 |
| **All topic tests and exams** to have the key verb in questions underlined. | Yr 7-9 |

- **Literacy Component on Criteria Marking Guide**
Criteria marking sheets in suitable KLA tasks will contain a mark component assessing literacy outcomes

Reading

- Stress the importance of reading activities with the classroom.
- SSR will occur in morning PC on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Students will be expected to read novels, biographies or graphic novels. No magazines allowed. Seniors allowed to read subject texts

- PLTs will run from 8.30am til 9.10am as per the staff handbook.

THE ABOVE AREAS IN LITERACY MUST BE UNDERTAKEN BY EVERY TEACHER IN EVERY CLASS AND SUBJECT FOR WHOLE SCHOOL STUDENT IMPROVEMENT.

Numeracy Action Plan

- Explicit teaching of percentages/fractions/decimal questions across all KLA’s. Decoding the literacy of written Numeracy questions. Understanding the instructional verbs of examination style questions involving Mathematics and/or Numeracy.