Dear Parents,

Here are some of the highlights of our specialist programs at Greythorn in Term 4. We are looking forward to a busy and productive term.

**Music/Performing Arts with Mrs Joy Odou**

During Term 4 students will continue to develop their vocal and instrumental skills through a range of creative tasks. Students in Prep will create their own sound stories and consolidate a range of songs to nurture singing in tune. Year 1 students will develop their understanding of instruments of the orchestra through listening and responding to the musical story ‘Peter and the Wolf’. Students in Year 2 will build their skills in improvising and composing and experience an introduction to musical styles. Students in Years 3 and 4 will use Garageband on their iPads to create their own music by sequencing layers of sound. In addition, Year 3 students will experience music from different cultures and students in Year 4, some music from different times in history. Year 5 students will explore composing music inspired by a given theme and Year 6 will create some experimental group compositions, improvise some theatre games and prepare for Graduation.

**Art with Ms Kristina Verhagen**

During Term 4, Prep students will begin experimenting for the first time with clay and work towards creating a pinch pot. The junior school will complement their Inquiry unit ‘Mini Beasts’ through the art of print making. The middle school will be inspired by Vincent Van Gogh’s flower painting and replicate these through paper construction. The senior school will also be getting their hands dirty in clay for the last time, creating mini sculptures inspired by Shaun Tan ‘The Singing Bones’ and their year 6 gift to the school. Towards the end of term, all students will enjoy creating some festive Christmas craft as well as bringing home what they’ve made over the school year.

**Physical Education and Sport**

Physical Education in Term 4 will centre on continuing the development of Fundamental Motor Skills for students from Prep to Year 2. These skills are the basis of what is needed for all human movement and for success in the playing of games and sports. Term 4 in particular will focus on the skills of throwing, agility, balance and coordination. Year 3 to 6 students will focus on skills covered in units including Cricket, Volleyball, and Racquet Sports. These units will focus on distinguishing techniques of previously acquired fundamental motor skills, locomotor skills, and characteristics such as teamwork and use of strategy in game-play situations. Sport in Term 4 will include a Year 5 Cricket Day focusing on the skills and strategy needed to compete in the sport. Year 5 and 6 students will also have the opportunity to be selected to participate in District and Division events including Basketball, Volleyball, Softball, and Athletics. These events will showcase the skills of Greythorn students competing in a tournament scenario against other schools from the North Balwyn area.
Library with Mrs Cheryl Williams
All students are supported and encouraged to borrow and read from a wider range of ‘just right’ texts for personal enjoyment from both fiction and nonfiction sources. Students from Year 3 will engage in developing and reviewing the skills required for effective and accurate research across multimedia. The teaching literature focus for all students will be: The Preps’ engaging with Lynley Dodd picture books to make real life connections with nonfiction texts. Year 1 & 2 will be asked the questions ‘Why is reading important?’ and ‘Why we like Naughty Characters in stories?’ Year 3 will be read excerpts from two modern novels and they will decide if they will become ‘classic reads’ of the future. Year 4 will be practising and performing from Readers’ Theatre scripts. The Year 5 & 6 will be encouraged to discuss events from the nonfiction text Tough Stuff about kids and courage as they prepare for transition and leadership.

French with Madame Aude Joyce and Madame Kirstin Tuminello
Thanks to additional professional development undertaken in Term 3 in regards to the AIM teaching program, students this term will have the opportunity to further experiment with this program. French lessons will include even more engaging activities using gestures, acting, songs and dance as well as following the Victorian curriculum. In the junior school, students in Prep will be looking at members of the family, whilst Year 1 will learn about transport and shapes with the help of a well-known French character named T’choupi. Students in Year 2 will be looking at seasons and items of clothing. Students in the middle school will be learning about French prepositions, using this to create a French picture book on their iPad. Year 5 students will be learning about French school life and Year 6 students will be using vocabulary learnt through the AIM program to present a play.

Learning Assistance Program (LAP) with Mrs Denise Hartigan
The LAP program supports students who have additional learning needs. Students are accurately identified through classroom assessment and learning goals are set for each student. It is an intensive program with students involved up to a maximum of three sessions per week for one term. This may happen individually or in a small group situation. Each student’s progress is accurately tracked over one term against their individual learning plan and information is provided to parents on their child’s learning and development.

English as an Additional Language (EAL) with Ms Amber Shepherd
The EAL Program caters for students who speak a first language other than English. During Term 4 students from Prep to 6 are withdrawn from their classes 2 - 3 times a week to attend small group sessions in the EAL room with Ms Shepherd. The EAL Program works in consultation with teachers at each year level and Ms Shepherd. The EAL Program should help all students:
• make an easy transition from a Language School to a mainstream setting
• feel comfortable in their social and learning situations
• feel confident in using the English language at all times
• feel valued in what they have to offer in the classroom.
Parents can help by:
• sharing a variety of social experiences with their children where English is the main language
• reading and discussing books together speaking English together at home.