An inquiry into the natural world and its laws, the interaction between the natural world and human societies.

**CENTRAL IDEA:** Human beings and the earth are affected by natural phenomena.

**Enduring Understandings:**
What do we want the students to remember for a lifetime?

- Humans use scientific developments to adapt to an ever-changing environment that is affected by natural phenomena.

**Teacher Questions:**

- What is natural phenomenon?
- How do we categorise natural phenomena?
- How does humankind try to reduce the impact of natural disasters?
- What physical characteristics does the earth carry from natural phenomena?

**Lines of Inquiry**
What is the focus of our inquiry?

- Humankind wonders, explores and explains natural phenomena
- Natural phenomena impacts people and the environment
- The Earth continues to change
- Humankind has adapted to the affects of natural phenomena

Inquire. Explore. Imagine.
PYP Attitudes
What attitudes do we want students to demonstrate?

Cooperation – To cooperate, collaborate, and lead or follow as the situation demands

Commitment – To show commitment to learning, preserving and showing self-discipline and responsibility

Curiosity – To understand that it is important to be curious about the nature of learning and the world

Learner Profile Attributes
What attributes do we want students to exemplify?

Thinkers – They exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognize and approach complex problems, and make reasoned, ethical decisions.

Inquirers – They develop a natural curiosity. They acquire skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning.

Communicators – They understand and express ideas and information confidently

Skills
What Transdisciplinary skills will students acquire and practice during the unit?

RESEARCH SKILLS
Formulating questions – Identifying something one wants or needs to know and asking compelling and relevant questions that can be researched

Observing – Using all the senses to notice relevant details

Presenting research findings – Effectively communicating what has been learned; choosing appropriate media

SOCIAL SKILLS
Cooperating – Working cooperatively in a group; being courteous to others; sharing; taking turns

Adopting a variety of group roles – Understanding what behaviour is appropriate and acting accordingly; being a leader in some circumstances, a follower in others

How can parents help at home?
To deepen your child’s understanding of their inquiry, you could:

- Ask your child what their inquiry is
- Discuss with your child natural disasters that are currently occurring around the world
- Go on a day trip to Kinglake and surroundings that were affected by the Black Saturday Fires.

Key Concepts
FORM – Most things have a form or shape with an outward or visible manifestation and an internal structure.

CHANGE – Change is an inevitable aspect of the physical world as things become different or pass from one form to another.

CAUSATION – The effect brought about by an intended or unintended action or reaction.