How the World Works

YEAR 5 UNIT OF INQUIRY OVERVIEW

16 March – 15 May

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

CENTRAL IDEA: Humans use their scientific knowledge to understand 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 effected by natural phenomena.

Teacher Questions:

- What is a natural phenomenon?
- How does science explain the occurrence of natural phenomena?
- What systems do we have in place to reduce the impact of natural disasters?
- How do scientists predict and prepare for natural phenomena?
**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

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**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

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**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.