



**St Leonard's College**

An education for life.

# Years 5 and 6

## 2021 Handbook







# Contents

Introduction	4
Years 5 and 6 Daily Timetable	5
Years 5 and 6 Subjects	5
2021 Term Dates	6
Cocurriculum Programs	7
Pastoral Program	7
Interschool Sport	8
Music	9
House Events	10
Camp	11
Academic Development	12
General Information	13
Cornish Library	14
Hart Theatre	15
Social Justice	16

# Introduction

Welcome to years 5 and 6,

The time across years 5 and 6 are to be cherished with students showing genuine enthusiasm towards all aspects of their schooling life. Across these years, children will continue to develop their evolving sense of self, identify their passions and form strong friendships with their peers. Increased independence and responsibility is seen in our students during the upper primary years, with children at an age and a stage where they are ready to take greater agency over their learning, engage in new challenges and learn about the world in which they live.

Students in years 5 and 6 will be supported in making their transition and in adapting to our unique model which allows students to become engaged and excited about their learning. Our program consists of specialist teachers for all of their subjects. Importantly, they are supported by their Mentor who play a significant role in the lives of our students and their parents.

I would encourage all students to embrace the many and varied opportunities which exist beyond the classroom. Whether it be Sport, Music, Theatre, Drama, Social Action, Debating or House Events. These activities complement our academic and pastoral program and provide great enjoyment for students.

At the completion of year 6, our graduating students will have many fond memories, whilst being equipped with the skills, knowledge and attributes to successfully navigate their journey into the Middle School.

I look forward to the year ahead,

Simon Daniels  
**Head of Years 5 and 6**



## Years 5 and 6 Daily Timetable

Period 1A and 1B	8.30am to 9.50am
Recess	9.50am-10.15am
Period 2A and 2B	10.15am to 11.35am
Period 3A and 3B	11.35am to 12.55pm
Lunch	12.55pm to 1:40pm
Period X	1.40pm to 2:15pm
Period 4A and 4B	2.15pm to 3.35pm
Dismissal	3.35pm

## Class Routines

Years 5 and 6 operate on a ten-day cycle. Week 1 (days 1 to 5) and week 2 (days 6 to 10) is marked on the timetable and these weeks alternate throughout the year.

## Years 5 and 6 Subjects

All students in years 5 and 6 will study the following subjects throughout the academic year:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities
- LOTE (French, Mandarin or Spanish)
- Physical Education / CIPSSA Sport (Coeducational Independent Primary Schools Sports Association)
- Music
- Drama
- DigiSTEM
- Choir
- Head, Heart and Soul





## 2021 Term Dates

### Term 1

Thursday 28 January – Thursday 1 April (10 weeks)

Australia Day Public Holiday - Tuesday 26 January

Labour Day - Monday 8 March

During term break

Good Friday - Friday 2 April

Easter Monday - Monday 5 April

### Term 2

Monday 19 April – Friday 25 June (10 weeks)

Anzac Day - Sunday 25 April

Queen's Birthday - Monday 14 June

### Term 3

Tuesday 13 July – Friday 10 September (9 weeks)

Curriculum and Assessment Day – Friday 6 August

### Term 4

Monday 4 October – Friday 10 December  
(10 weeks)

Mid Term Holiday – Monday 1 November

Melbourne Cup Day – Tuesday 2 November



## Cocurriculum Programs

St Leonard's College provides a comprehensive Cocurricular Program as an integral part of our broad educational offering. A wide variety of activities are offered to enable students to develop interests and skills that will enrich their lives now and into the future. Students are encouraged to become involved in the Cocurricular Program with activities taking place throughout the school year. Some of the popular programs for years 5 and 6 students include:

- Aerobics
- Basketball Club Training
- Chess
- Cheer Sport
- Chamber Music Groups
- Coding Club
- Dance Team – Year 6
- Debating
- Fun and Fitness
- Gymnastics
- Karate
- Netball Club
- Power Strings
- Snowsports Team
- Social Action Group
- Sport Aerobics
- Swimming Development Squad
- STEM Studio



## Pastoral Program

Students in years 5 and 6 are part of a Mentor Group, led by a teacher known as the Mentor. Mentors develop a relationship with their students across two years in which they provide ongoing guidance, instruction and encouragement, aimed at helping young people develop their character, achieve their goals and become involved members of the College community.

Mentors meet with their students daily during our period X, which is our pastoral period for 35 minutes after lunch. Mentors take an holistic view of their students and come to know them across all domains of school life. Mentors track academic progress, understands a student's strengths and weaknesses, and meet regularly with individual students to discuss progress and challenges.

Effective pastoral mentoring recognises the developmental challenges and social pressures of different ages and stages. In collaboration with other pastoral staff, Mentors deliver a Personal Development Program, which plays an important role in fostering the social-emotional skills and values our young people need today. This covers a broad range of content across the College, and includes such areas as cyber education, anti-bullying and growth mindset challenges. Mentors are the first point of contact for parents and an important connecting element in the vital home-school partnership.

In years 5 and 6 students are encouraged to become self-managing individuals who take responsibility for their own learning; challenge their mindsets and comfort zones; foster a culture of positivity; and empower all to achieve their personal best.





## Interschool Sport

Our years 5 and 6 students are involved in the Coeducational Independent Primary Schools Sports Association (CIPSSA). CIPSSA provides an opportunity for students to participate in a wide range of sports. This participation aims to enable the students to gain maximum educational and social benefit from sport and to promote a positive sporting spirit.

There are several schools involved in the CIPSSA competition including: St Michael's Grammar, Westbourne Grammar, Wesley College (Elsternwick Campus) and Christ Church Grammar School. The competition is conducted on Fridays, however, when byes occur, St Leonard's College utilise this opportunity to train.

On Wednesdays (fortnightly, Day 3) students train for their particular sport.

- Summer season (terms 1 and 4) sports include: Basketball, Biathlon, Cricket, Sofcrosse, Softball, Tennis and Touch Rugby.
- Winter season (terms 2 and 3) sports include: AFL 9s, Hockey, Netball, Soccer, Table Tennis and Volleyball.
- Lightning Premiership is held at the end of each season to decide pennant winners.



## Music

In year 5, every student has the opportunity to learn an instrument or be a member of a vocal ensemble. In addition, everyone sings in the year 5 Choir. In year 6 Music, students develop their musicianship skills either as a member of the Vocal Ensemble, Practised Group (for those already learning an orchestral instrument) or Established Groups (students continue to learn a brass, woodwind or string instrument as part of the program). Each group explores appropriate technical skills and students gain experience in performing both as a soloist and as a member of a group. They develop skills in reading the appropriate music notation and the conventions of music notation are reinforced.

### Year 5 Music

There will be an instrument demonstration at the start of the school year for all year 5 students.

There are four classes students will be placed into:

**Practised** - for students who are experienced players and take private lessons for an orchestral instrument.

**Established Strings** - for students continuing from the St Leonard's College year 4 String Program who are not taking private lessons.

**Vocal Ensemble** - for students who have a genuine interest in developing their singing skills. This is listed as an Apprentice Group.

**Apprentice Groups** – beginner group classes in flute, clarinet, oboe, trumpet, trombone, euphonium, violin, viola, cello, percussion and voice.

### Year 6 Music

Students continue with their instrument from the year 5 Music classes. Music runs as a two-year program across year 5 and year 6. Students are unable to change their instrument from year 5 to year 6.

### Years 5 and 6 Choir

Everyone sings in the year level choir. Rehearsals are held during music class time. The first performance is held at the Community Day Fair.

### Private Music/Drama Lessons

Students in years 5 and 6 will generally be given lessons on a rotating timetable during periods 1 to 4, including period X. Therefore, a student will only miss a part of any particular curriculum class occasionally. For example, a student scheduled for a lesson in a Mathematics class may miss 30 minutes (out of an 80-minute class) of that Mathematics program in one week. In the weeks following, subsequent lessons would most likely be scheduled during different academic lessons meaning that they would not miss a part of another Mathematics class. In some cases, music lessons may be scheduled in a fixed weekly time that is decided upon between the music teacher and the student's Home Room Mentor.





## House Events



All students in years 5 and 6 belong to one of our six Houses at the College. Throughout the year, numerous House events take place for the students to participate in. Student leadership opportunities are available for our year 6 students with House Captains elected for each House. Some of the House events which take place include:

- Swimming
- Life Saving
- Cross Country
- Athletics
- Music
- Social Action
- Debating
- Mentor group House activities
- Chess





## Camp

### Year 6 Canberra Trip

All year 6 students will visit Canberra accompanied by six staff members who predominantly teach year 6 classes.

This trip is designed to provide students with first-hand experiences to enhance their understanding of the historical events leading up to the Federation of Australia and development of our local, state and federal systems of governance, as well as the growth of Canberra as our national capital.

An exciting program of activities has been planned for the week including visits to The National Portrait Gallery, Royal Australian Mint, National Capital Exhibition Centre, National Museum, National Gallery, Australian War Memorial, Australian Institute of Sport, Australian Electoral Commission, Old Parliament House, High Court of Australia, New Parliament House, Questacon and a boat cruise on Lake Burley Griffin.



### Years 5 and 6 Camp Ibis Experience

All years 5 and 6 students will visit Camp Ibis, the College's permanent campsite on the Banksia Peninsula. This Outdoor Education program is an integral part of the school curriculum for students' personal development.

Two classes at a time attend the camp. Year 5 students attend during term 1 for four days and year 6 students attend during term 4 for five days. Students are accompanied by Mentors and Outdoor Education staff. Travel to and from camp will be by bus. Further information regarding the camps will be made available closer to the experience.





## Academic Development

### Talent Development

The College's Talent Development Program offers a variety of experiences. We encourage all students to extend and enrich themselves by participating in as many activities as possible.

Voluntary programs include:

- Debating Association of Victoria (DAV)
- Tournament of Minds
- ICAS Science Competition
- Science Talent Search
- National History Challenge
- Years 5 and 6 Writing Competition
- Maths Olympiad
- Australian Mathematics Competition

### Future Problem Solving

Future Problem Solving is a highly successful academic program whereby year 6 students are invited to join, based on their academic performance, as a result of a number of formal assessment tasks.

### Learning Enhancement

The College has qualified Learning Support staff who assist teachers to provide individualised learning programs to cater for specific needs. Individual support, small group intervention and classroom assistance are all implemented by the Learning Enhancement staff in years 5 and 6. Parents will be informed if students are to receive learning enhancement.

### Home Learning

The main aim for home learning in years 5 and 6 is for students to consolidate their learning, develop a routine and for the students to take greater responsibility for their own learning.

Home learning should be undertaken each weeknight. It is expected that the students spend approximately one hour each night (Monday to Friday) on their homework. This should include reading for 20 minutes each night and on weekends.

All students in years 5 and 6 have access to an electronic diary called App4.

## General Information

### Parent Teacher Interviews

There are three formal parent-teacher interviews each year. In early term 1 there will be parent/teacher interviews with House Mentors. These interviews will offer parents an opportunity to provide Mentors with any relevant background information that may assist in ensuring the transition of their child into year 5 or 6. Academic parent/teacher interviews will take place during terms 2 and 3.

### Continuous Online Assessment and Reporting

Student grades and feedback will be available continuously throughout the year via STL Link. Each semester, students will be provided with between three and five grades with a comment from each of their subjects. This information will also be available to parents. At the end of each semester, there will be an overall comment regarding progress and improvement, and an indication of organisation, engagement and attitude to learning.

### Mobile Phones

In line with the College's policy, students are permitted to bring mobile phones to school each day. Once at school, however, they must be stored safely in their schoolbag.

### iPads

Students in years 5 and 6 require an iPad. Any information you may require for the organisation and setting up of iPads is available on STL Link.

### School Supplies

The College will provide a book and stationery list of required resources prior to the academic year. Please ensure that your child has everything they need at school. Items such as pens, pencils, textas, rulers, scissors and glue sticks are all used regularly, and are required at school every day. It would be greatly appreciated if you would clearly label each item with your child's name.

This also applies to sports and school bags, uniforms, iPad covers, lunch boxes, water bottles and instrument cases.

### Uniform

The College uniform must be worn correctly and labelled with your child's name.

- Summer Uniform - Term 1 and Term 4
- Winter Uniform - Term 2 and Term 3
- Full sports uniform can be worn to school on CIPSSA and sports skills days.

- Students must wear a hat for all outdoor activities during terms 1 and 4 including recesses, lunchtimes Physical Education and CIPSSA.

Blazers are compulsory for attendance during Assembly and Chapel throughout all four terms of the school year. Students are reminded that blazers must be seen as the outermost garment at all times while travelling to and from school.

### **Cafeteria**

The College cafeteria is open every day of the school year. Students may make over the counter purchases during recess and lunch times. In addition, the canteen is open for breakfast each morning from 7.45am and for afternoon tea from 3.45pm-5.00pm. (Early closure on Friday afternoons at 2.00pm.)

Lunch orders may be purchased by placing an order online at [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au)

On early departure CIPSSA days, the cafeteria have implemented a restricted CIPSSA menu online lunch-ordering system exclusively for years 5 and 6 students.

### **Attendance**

Student absences should be reported via phone or email. The College has a direct line to record all student absences - 9909 9599. Please endeavour to call before 9.00am or send an email to [absentee56@stleonards.vic.edu.au](mailto:absentee56@stleonards.vic.edu.au). In the event of an unexplained absence you will receive a text message from the College at 11.00am. Advance warnings of imminent student absences are always appreciated.

### **Late arrival and/or early departure**

Students who arrive late to school or are required to leave early must sign in and/or sign out from the years 5 and 6 Administration office. Parent permission is required on these occasions.

### **Student Illness**

If a student becomes ill while at school, the student must first consult with the College Nurse who will then contact a parent if necessary.

It is important that medical and other appointments be made, where possible, outside of school hours. It is appreciated that the unavoidable appointment during school time will occur very occasionally.

### **Student Personal Property**

All belongings should be clearly named.

### **Organisation**

It is suggested that students take responsibility for organising their own requirements for school each day. This may mean packing their sports and school bags and lunch, and being responsible for their home learning

timetable. We support students in years 5 and 6 in working towards becoming self-managing individuals and being responsible for their own actions.

### **Communication**

Parents should check STL Link regularly to be aware of items on the College calendar. Every Friday at 4.00pm, you will receive STL News – an email digest, which compiles your child's most recently assessed subject grades, important operational and day-to-day information, as well as the latest College news.

In addition to the above, accessing STL Link on a regular basis will provide you with personalised information such as your child's subject grades, timetables, work due dates, absence data and information from teachers.

Queries pertaining to students' pastoral care and organisational matters can be directed to Mentors.



## Cornish Library

The Cornish Library is located at the heart of St Leonard's College, opposite the Middle School office and above the school cafeteria. The library meets the educational and pastoral requirements of all students in years 5 to 12. Students in years 5 and 6 are timetabled for a Wide Reading Library Session once a cycle in the library with a Librarian. Library staff are always on hand to assist with book selections.

Library staff are available to support the curriculum by assisting teachers in running research sessions in the library. These sessions allow the library staff to explain and work with students to ensure appropriate researching of the books, databases, e-journals through the libguides available to all from school and home.

The Cornish Library runs a movie club every Monday lunch time, in the Wide Reading area. Additionally, a book club is offered during lunchtime once a cycle for students in years 5 and 6. This club is facilitated by the library staff under the direction of the students.

During recess and lunchtime the library is open for playing games, mindfulness colouring, MakerSpace activities, quiet reading and completing homework.



## Hart Theatre Company

In 2021, the award-winning Hart Theatre Company celebrates its 10th year. Staging five performance seasons across each year, this area of our cocurricular program teaches life-worthy skills for the stage and beyond.

Rehearsals for all shows take place after school and on some Sundays. Being in a show is not just about performing; students need to work collaboratively and are encouraged to challenge themselves by stepping out of their comfort zone. There is no single cast or crew member more important than any other. It is the collective ensemble that devises work to take a script and bring it to life – from the page to the stage!

Students in years 5 and 6 are invited to audition each year for a role in the 5 and 6 Musical. The audition process covers acting, singing and choreography.

In 2021, The Hart Theatre Company is proud to bring the story of Doctor Dolittle Jr. to life in one of the best performance spaces in Australia, our Leonardian Centre.

From the village of Puddleby-On-The-Marsh, comes Dr Dolittle, a doctor who, after an unfortunate mishap with General Bellowes, decides that being a doctor to the animals may suit him better. He sets out to learn the linguistics of the animal kingdom and becomes one of the most sought-after veterinarians in the world.

Curiosity takes Dolittle on a worldly adventure to find the elusive Great Pink Sea Snail. Dolittle is joined on his quest by a bevy of characters including Emma Fairfax and the larger-than-life, Albert Blossom of Blossom's Mammoth Circus.

Be prepared to see wonders of the unique animal kingdom that would amaze even Sir David Attenborough. Talking dogs, parrots and introducing the Pushmi-Pullyu: a 2-headed Llama! This is a story of discovery, adventure, warmth and laughs. Doctor Dolittle Jr. is set to amaze its audiences and take the years 5 and 6 Musical to new heights while introducing audiences to some of the most memorable characters we have had in years.



## Social Justice

The years 5 and 6 students have an opportunity to help others by participating in the St Leonard's College Social Action Program. There are four Social Action Groups throughout the College that make up this Program with over one hundred student participants, one group each for Junior School, 5 and 6, Middle School and Senior School. Each group takes a slightly different approach to how they do social action, but overall, each group meets once a week to raise awareness, raise money, advocate or contribute to social justice issues and causes through the planning and delivery of projects and events.

The years 5 and 6 group are at a stage where they are moving beyond an activity-based model and are beginning to understand and be interested in some of the broader implications and grounds for social action. Dr Zach Greig, Head of Social Action, Engagement and Global Citizenship, therefore, works with the years 5 and 6 students to deliver projects build understanding of why social action is needed. This knowledge helps students to better relate and accept people from diverse ethnic and religious backgrounds, as well as those with disabilities. It also helps them to tackle real-world problems as they equip themselves to look at issues from multiple viewpoints. As they graduate through the Program, students learn to look at current and historical events – even their own actions – through the lens of social justice. They are able to spot discrimination and inequality and thus, become true global citizens.

Just as important as the knowledge students acquire from taking part in social action, is the sense of belonging and togetherness they experience from being involved. Students have fun working on projects that promote group solidarity. In 2020, students dealt with the complexities of Covid-19 while writing letters of hope and inspiration to people experiencing homelessness, celebrating Pride Month through online speeches and activities, and facilitating bystander training to fellow students. The social action students are recognised throughout the College, the wider community and not-for-profit sector as dedicated leaders, who work hard for others. This prepares them for an empowering journey through St Leonard's College and beyond.

If your child would like to get involved, or if you would like to know more about the Social Action Program, please contact Dr Zach Greig at [zach.greig@stleonards.vic.edu.au](mailto:zach.greig@stleonards.vic.edu.au)







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