

GATE PROGRAMME

Sunnybrae Normal School has a commitment to catering for its gifted and talented students.

Definition

Gifted and talented students at Sunnybrae Normal School have an aptitude or advanced ability in academic, emotional, cultural, physical, creative and/or artistic pursuits.

Giftedness: high intelligence or aptitude

Talent: high level of performance.

Within the regular classroom:

We aim to run an inclusive programme where gifted children are not made to feel isolated. Where possible the teacher will adjust content, process and product in response to student readiness, interests and learning profile.



Future Problem Solving

Future Problem Solving (FPS) is our Year 5 and 6 Core Gate programme. In this programme we study futuristic topics chosen by the FPS organisation. We have to sit an exam in Term 3.

At the start of each term we are given a future scene and have to find 10 problems. In our groups we create solutions for these problems. After we decide the best futuristic solution we write an action plan explaining how our solution would work.

In the first term, our topic was Space Junk and how it could affect us in the future. The next term, Term 2, we studied genetic modification and the issues involved for our future.

We think FPS is a good way to learn new things about the future problems and possible ways to solve them.

By Prachi and Kieran



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Outside the regular classroom programme we offer:

- Future Problem Solving
- Maths problem solving
- Philosophy
- Speech
- Choir
- Orchestral Group
- Ukulele Group (Year 6)
- Recorder groups
- Kapa Haka groups
- Friends for Life
- Sporting representation
- Solo parts in productions
- Assembly presentations
- Peer Mediator
- Student Council
- Kiwi Competitions - English, Science and Maths

Our Team

- Mrs Trudy Thumath
- Mrs Mary Waters
- Miss Karen Rodger

Philosophy Groups

Aims:

- To develop higher order reasoning skills through discussion.
- To explain opinions and give evidence to support them.
- To discuss real philosophical ideas, e.g. “what does it mean to be free?”
- To discuss societal issues, e.g. the rights of children.
- To develop social skills such as the respect for different values and opinions.
- To reflect on the idea that there may not be a “right” answer.

Comment from Year 3/4 Philosophy Groups

In Philosophy this term we have been reading and talking about Maui. We talk about how the characters behave and feel and why. We always share our ideas and talk about what we think.

Year 3/4 Core GATE Programme

This year our Year 3/4 groups are looking at Chemical Reactions and Inventions.

I like coming to Core GATE because ...

- ... we do experiments. Adrian
- ... we get to make stuff like mobiles and models. Shaye G
- ... we learn interesting stuff. Holly
- ... I like learning about chemical reactions and doing the experiments. Nicole
- ... I like researching on the computer. Tasman
- ... I like learning about acids, bases and neutrals. Ann
- ... I like making models of our inventions. Sophia
- ... I like learning about inventors and inventions. Ezra