

## THOBURN PROGRAMME

### Purpose

To provide effective provision in the core subjects for the high progress group so as to achieve their individual potential

### Goals

- Develop intellectual depth, critical thinking and reasoning skills
- Nurture productive creativity
- Develop attitudes for self-directed lifelong learning
- Heighten aspirations for individual excellence and fulfilment

### Approach

The Thoburn curriculum is planned with the following 21CC learning outcomes in mind

- extends beyond the basic syllabus in depth and breadth
- covers higher order skills
- encourages the investigation of authentic situations
- promotes the examination of affective issues in the various subject areas

### Thoburn Programme

The Thoburn programme for each subject is based on the following curricular structure

English: In-house curriculum that incorporates language skills, 21 CC skills and VIA

Mathematics: E2K programme (MOE GEP)

Mother Tongue: HMT programme (MOE CPDD) & in-house curriculum that incorporates language skills and 21 CC skills

Science: E2K programme (MOE GEP)

## **English**

For the Primary 4 EL Thoburn programme, the students will embark on a journey to learn about the art of debating. Through debates, we aim to develop students with critical thinking skills into primary issues in various given topics through research and presentations. At the Primary 5 level, students will delve into the world of journalism. By working towards the publication of their own newspaper, students will learn to research, gather information, write and put together their articles, advertisements and other sections of a newspaper. The Thoburn programme for the Primary 6 students will see them getting involved with a student VIA project where they will discover the joys of giving back to the school by working on and presenting to the Primary One and Two students on a selected topic. They will also explore Poetry Writing and learn to understand and appreciate some of the poetical works of selected poets.

## **Mathematics**

The E2K Mathematics Programme Singapore is a Mathematics enrichment programme for upper primary (Primary 4 to Primary 6) pupils who demonstrate interest and ability in Mathematics. It aims to develop in pupils mathematical reasoning skills and deepen their conceptual understanding through an inquiry approach. Pupils will have opportunities to collaborate with their peers and engage in mathematical thinking through resources such as puzzles, games and mathematics explorations which are specially designed for the programme. The rich learning experiences offered by the programme serve to help pupils to develop the habits, attitudes and dispositions mathematicians possess, as well as to gain important 21<sup>st</sup> century competencies such as critical and inventive thinking and effective communication skills.

## **Mother Tongue**

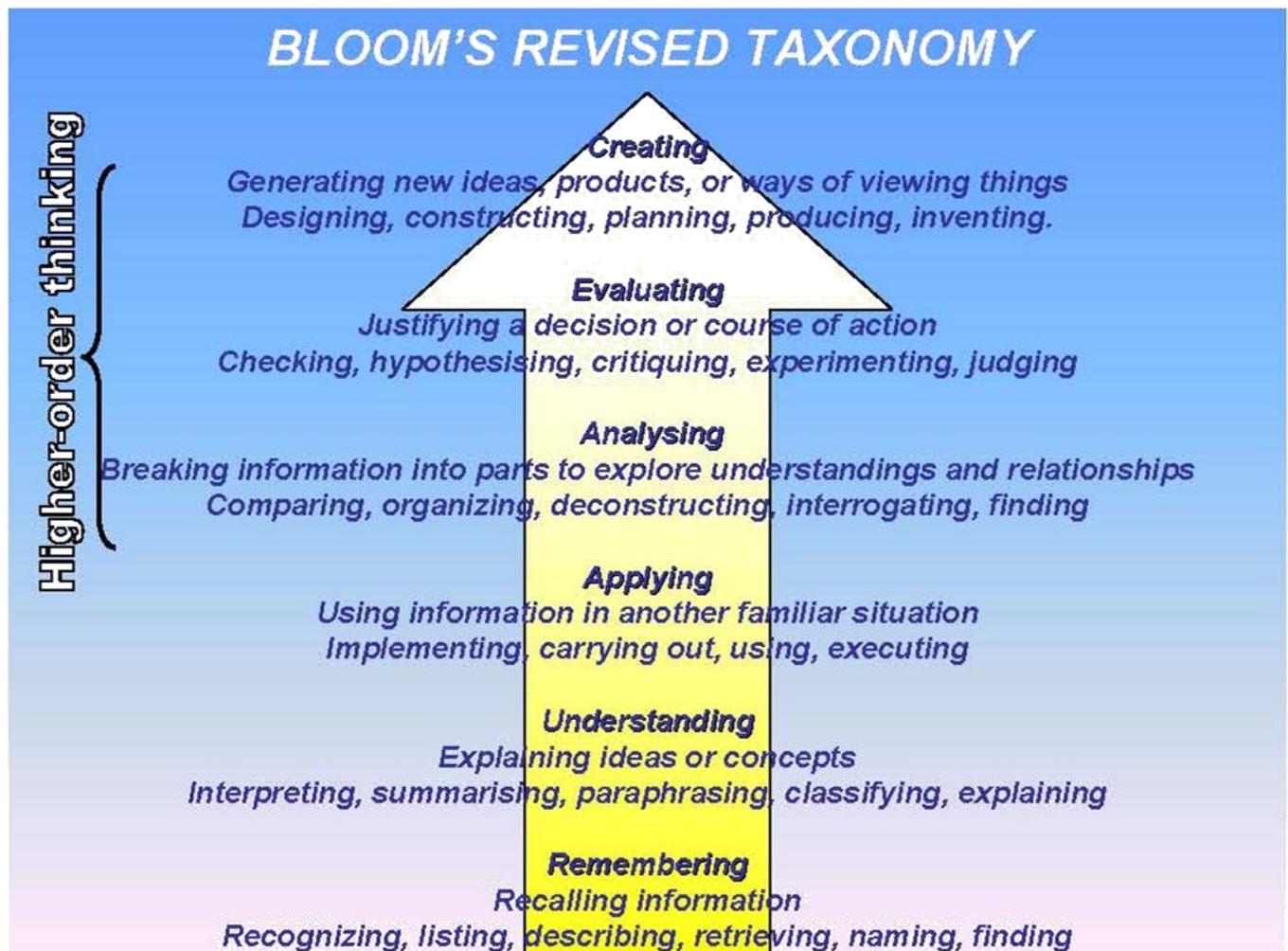
Higher Mother Tongue programme is for pupils who demonstrates an interest in the learning of Mother Tongue and have the capability to manage Mother Tongue at a higher level. The focus is on higher order thinking questions as well as situational and continuous writing. MOE Syllabus is closely followed for the P5 and P6 and this is one of the subjects tested in examinations. For the Primary 4, some of the passages from Higher Mother Tongue syllabus are used to develop thinking skills. In-house curriculum which includes news reading, report writing and interview skills are conducted to promote 21<sup>st</sup> century competencies such as critical thinking and communication skills.

## **Science**

The E2K Science Programme Singapore is a Science enrichment programme for upper primary (Primary 4 to Primary 6) pupils who demonstrate interest and ability in Science. The programme engages pupils in scientific investigations involving advanced science concepts. It aims to engage pupils in scientific inquiry that will help them to develop the habits, attitudes and dispositions scientists possess as well as to gain important 21<sup>st</sup> century competencies such as critical and inventive thinking and effective communication skills.

The planning and delivery of lessons for Thoburn Programme will incorporate the following Learning Philosophy:

- (A) Bloom's Taxonomy
- (B) William's Taxonomy
- (C) Inquiry-Based & Problem-Based Learning



<b><u>Williams' Taxonomy</u></b>	
Fluency	generation of ideas/ responses to a given situation
Flexibility	generation of alternatives
Originality	generation of novel responses/solutions
Elaboration	Expansion of ideas to make it easier for others to understand or make it more interesting
Risk-taking	trying new challenges
Complexity	bring logical order to a given situation and/or to see the missing parts
Curiosity	the ability to wonder
Imagination	the ability to build mental pictures, visualise possibilities and new things or reach beyond practical limits

<b>Inquiry-Based Learning (IBL)</b>	<b>Problem-Based Learning (PBL)</b>
promotes active learning & open teaching	authenticity in learning
learn through discovery	encourages creative problem solving
stimulates critical thinking	
considers different perspectives	