Number 22

From the Principal…

Prep 2016 / Leap Into Learning Enrolments

Over this week I have had the pleasure of meeting a number of our 2016 prep children and their families as they have toured our school. It is a wonderful experience to watch the interaction of new families with our children as they welcome them to their classes and to our school. I look forward to the signing of our “Leap into Learning” Program that starts in August. We also welcomed three new families (4 children) to our community this week.

Melbourne Visitors Look at our Learning

Yesterday we hosted a visit from delegates from Melbourne Central Office/Department of Education and Training, who were interested to hear about our approach to developing oral language and challenge in learning. They were very impressed in the way that students from Grade Prep, Two and Four were able to tell them about Philosophy for Children (Community of Enquiry) and the Learning Pit (https://vimeo.com/128462564). They shared how it helps them to see others points of view and that you can change your minds about ideas based on what others are saying. What a wonderful life skill to be able to LISTEN and consider others. They said they got to talk about themes that were important to them such as fairness, friendship and jealousy (our prep’s favourite). We also had a parent group who spoke about the impact of PAC in the types of conversations they were having with their children. They also spoke about how talking together about ‘tricky’ questions was a fun way to fill in time in the car and the dinner table. I look forward to continued conversations with children and parents as they develop skills, conversations and learning. I would love to hear more of your stories as parents and children learn together.

VCAL Students/School Gardens

The Wonthaggi Secondary College (VCAL) Students and Vince Green, who have continued with their wonderful project in the front of the school. Our children are enjoying watching them. It’s great for our children to observe the amount of effort, time and skill that goes into constructing garden edging, and new garden beds in our vegie garden. It is inspiring a number of our children to spend their recess and lunchtime in sweeping paths, picking up branches and rubbish and having real pride in their school.

Winter Illness

This week we have had a number of children unwell, which is not unusual for this time of year however we have had quite a few children with Gastro. If your child is experiencing gastro symptoms, please keep them home from school to minimise the spread of the illness. If you would like further information on the illness, causes and treatment visit your doctor or check the following website: Better Health Channel: http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/bhcv2/bharticles.nsf/pages/Gastroenteritis. We have also had a parent notification of Slapped Cheek which is a viral infection that mainly affects primary-school-aged children. It causes a bright red rash on the cheeks, which looks as though they have been slapped – hence the name. For most children, infection with slapped cheek disease initially causes little more than cold symptoms. These generally improve after a few days, when the rash starts to show. Children are asked to stay home until they are well. The infection can be more serious for pregnant women. On rare occasions if a pregnant woman gets this infection, it can have consequences. If you would like further information on this virus please contact the office for a parent information sheet or visit this website: Better Health Channel http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/bhcv2/bharticles.nsf/pages/Slapped_cheek_disease.

Continued ……………..

2015 Nomination Forms are available at the school office.
ART/R.alt/O.alt1/O.altM N/E.alt/W.alt1S

Each year the school conducts an opinion survey of 15 per cent of the school community. Parents are randomly selected to participate and we use the information to inform and direct our future school planning and improvement. If you were selected I would really like to encourage you to take the time to complete the survey as your opinions are important to us and will contribute to the future management and organisation of our school. For example, feedback from parents last year helped to change the way we report to parents and structure Parent-Teacher interviews. Please return your completed survey to school by Friday, 31st July 2015.

Leonie Anstey
Principal

MUSIC NEWS

Our first new whole school song for the term is “Big Bad Bush Bushranger,” a comical account of being a bushranger in colonial Australia. As usual, creating actions helps students remember the lyrics. We have also started to learn a new song from Ghana, which celebrates singing and playing together. Some of the shorter songs we learn will provide the tune to parodies (someone else’s tune, original words) that classes are writing. Topics include philosophical questions (such as “What is bravery?”) and general areas chosen by the students. Apologies for having to postpone the Grade 6 performance, but as there are many who are more than willing to step in, we thank the children from 1/2A for providing us with an instrumental piece. Well done to senior students who supported this.

Ruth Chambers
Music Teacher

ARTROOM NEWS

All students have made a fantastic start to the term. We have been exploring cartoon characters, in particular the development of their own character. Students have been assisted in this by the incursion we had on Tuesday with illustrator and cartoonist Heath McKenzie. Heath demonstrated how he uses a computer to create his artworks, showed the students that there is no right or wrong way to draw—just the way that you draw, and that if you can draw basic shapes such as circles and rectangles then you can break whatever you are drawing up into these base shapes. He also explained how he chooses what to include in his drawings that will go with the text for a book.

The students were really energised after his visit and after asking classroom teachers for feedback about the incursion one teacher shared some amazing maths work that their students had done inspired by the visit and another spoke of how motivated their students had been during their writing time. As always with incursions, the students were really excited about having a specialist visitor in their school. The students are also really excited because their first batch of clay work is, as you’re reading this, off in the kiln at the Wonthaggi Secondary College being fired. These will be coming home to you soon.

Thankyou very much to all those people who dropped in donations recently—they are always really appreciated.

Pirili Chapman
Art teacher

100 NIGHTS OF READING

UNSW/ICAS TESTING

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

BOOK CLUB

Scholastic Book Club Brochure Issue Number 5 has been sent home today.
Orders are due back with payment no later than Friday 31st July.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

00A Hayley C. Putting lots of effort into her writing.
00B Archie M. Always persevering with difficult tasks.
12C Lincoln W. For being an encouraging member of the class to our new students.
12D Jake M. Making a great start to Term 3.
34A Hamish B. Outstanding acting during Readers Theatre.
34B Kailahn T. Making a great start to Term 3. Well Done.
34C Jai W. Perseverance in all work.
34D Holli S. For her excellent effort with multiplications and division.
56A Ethan W. Fantastic effort using his diary and reading every night.
56C Cloe B. Always being kind to others.
56D Jack I. For his excellent home reading throughout the year.

Parent/Teacher/Student interviews will be held at 2:30pm - 5:50pm on Thursday 6th August, 2015.
Orders are due back later than Friday 31st July.

BOOKINGS CLOSE Monday 3rd August, 2015

CSEF FUNDING

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR PARENTS

HAS BEEN EXTENDED

DON’T MISS OUT*

APPLY BEFORE 18th September 2015.

For Parents/Carers who have missed applying for this funding in Term 2, there is a second round available.

If you have a Concession Card that is valid on the first day of Term 2 (13th April 2015) or Term 3 (13 July 2015) you could be eligible for funding of $125.00 for Primary and $225.00 for Secondary Students, which will be sent to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses.

Application Forms are available at the Office.

FOR SALE

Copies of School Captains
House Captains
School & Vice Captains
Student Rep Council
Grade 6 Group
Library Captain
Bus Captain
Simply come to the office to view and place your order with payment.
Available as:
6” x 8” = $13 each or
8” x 10” = $20 each
Offer Closing 26th August, 2015