Principal’s Prattle

It has been a very smooth start to the beginning of the school year. The children are very settled in their classes and beginning to apply themselves to their learning.

All classes have started to talk about Your Job, My Job, Our Job. This is a way of setting the tone of the classroom that gives the students responsibility for their learning and their choices. It is a positive approach to outline the expectations for students’ work and social behaviours. This is a continuation of the introduction of mindsets and developing students as independent learners.

Staff News
This year we have 3 specialist areas. They are:
Library – Mrs Jenny Jones    Art – Mrs Allison Luxford
Physical Education (sport) – Mrs Jessica Ross
They will be working on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays.

If you would like to make an appointment or see Brooke Chatterton (Student Welfare Officer) she will be available on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Fridays. Brooke will not be working on Wednesdays this year.

School Council Elections
We have five vacancies open for parent representatives on our School Council. Parent representatives provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help to shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on school council find their involvement rewarding and feel a greater sense of belonging to the school community. School Council is held on the second Tuesday of every month (during the term) at 7pm. Interested parents can collect nomination forms from the school office. Nomination forms are due in to the office by Thursday 19th February 4pm. If you would like to find out more, please see the Principal and refer to the attached sheet.

School Council Meeting
Our next School Council Meeting will be on Tuesday 17th of February at 7.00pm.

The new School Council (after nominations and elections) will convene on Tuesday 10th of March at 7.00pm. Office Bearers will be elected at this meeting as well.
BEING ON TIME FOR SCHOOL
It is very important that children are at school ready to start their learning at 8:45.
If a child is 15 minutes late every day that adds up to 1 hour and 15 minutes each week. Over a term this would equate to 12 hours and 30 minutes which is 2 ½ days. Over a year this is 10 days of their learning over a year by just coming 15 minutes late every day.
Teachers begin the morning by outlining what is happening during the day and setting routines. They also begin teaching groups for focus learning.

PREP 2015 DAY OF ATTENDANCE
In 2015 the Prep children will be attending school on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday for the whole day (8:45 – 3:15) until the first week in March. They will be having the Wednesdays off. During this time, the teachers will be making individual appointments with the children for testing.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL - Wednesday 11th of February at the Moe Outdoor Pool.
Unfortunately our Foundation (previously Prep) children will not be joining us for the swimming sports. During February they have Wednesday off and the Foundation teachers will be testing. We were unable to change the day of the swimming carnival due to the availability of the pool. The Foundation children will be joining us for a Whole School Athletics Carnival on Wednesday 11th of March.
The plan for the day will see the grades 3-6s walk to the pool for a 9.30 am start. Capable and confident swimmers in the 9/10, 11 and 12/13 year old age groups will then compete in a series of 50 metre swimming races to assist in the selection of our swimming team for the Western Valley Interschool Swimming Carnival on Thursday, 19th of February. Competing students must be able to swim 50 metres confidently.
At 11.45 the grade one and two students will walk to the pool for a 12.30 start. These students will then have some fun activities in the wading pool, competing in a series of relay based events.
Obviously at this time of the year students will be required to be super sun-smart with hats, plenty of sun-screen and drink bottles. Students are also required to bring their own snacks and lunch as we will not be using the canteen.
Come dressed to impress in as much of your team colour as possible no matter how wacky! House points and ribbons will be awarded throughout the day for students competing in events, best team chants, team spirit and best dressed!
Parents are welcome and we hope to see you all there.
Jessica Ross (Physical Education Teacher).

“Snack Attack” Canteen News
Any parent volunteers for canteen on Wednesdays and Fridays would be greatly appreciated.
This is a valuable resource for the school with profits being used for your children.
Please see Mandy Wiggins if you are able to help. Thankyou, Mandy.

Asthma Management Plans
All Asthma Management Plans must be updated annually. If you require a form, please collect one from the school. Thankyou, Belinda Johnson.
Hello and welcome back to another fantastic, fun-filled year in the Art Room. I have already enjoyed catching up with both old and new faces this week and I am very excited for the year ahead.

I would really appreciate it if students each had an Art Smock: an old T-shirt will do the trick and while on the odd occasion the paint seems to still find its way onto school uniforms, for the most part they remain clean.

Please have your child give their Art Smock to their classroom teacher.

Don’t be afraid to pop in and say hello. I have an open door policy and you are all more than welcome to come and participate in your child’s Art Lesson. Further more, if you would like to help please come and see me and we can arrange a suitable time for you to come in. I welcome as many people as possible and it is wonderful to have and extra set of helpful hands.

The Art Room is active on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays and is located down in the bottom wing. I hope to have the pleasure of meeting you around the school and once again welcome back!!!

Alison Luxford.
AWARD WINNERS

Snippets