Family Fun Page

Kanga Cricket

On Monday the Gr 5/6 girls went over to Leongatha to play Kanga Cricket. We did an amazing job by winning all of our games. Next Tuesday we will be going over to Traralgon to play another 4 rounds of Kanga Cricket.

Jokes of the Week

What do you call a donkey with three legs?
A wonky donkey! Phoebe Gr 4/5

Tidy Team Awards

Last week’s Tidy Team Award went to Prep/1. They only had 4 pieces of rubbish in their Area. Congratulations and thank you for keeping our school tidy.

Bookclub

The current issue of bookclub has gone home today. Orders need to be received in the office by Thursday 23rd November.

Tinkering

We are seeking donations of old electrical equipment to run a lunch time tinkering club. Items need to be around shoe box size and may include old toasters, kettles, radios, CD players, clocks etc. We are also looking for timber offcuts that could be used in a woodwork group. Please send these along to Mrs Higgins.

Working Bee

Thank you to everyone who gave up their time on Sunday to help with the working bee. We had a fantastic turn out and got lots of jobs done around the school. If anyone is interested in purchasing the old rotunda please contact the office. The building and grounds committee will be meeting again soon to plan and prioritise projects for the future.

Important Dates

November

Thursday 14th
School Concert
Matinee—1.30pm
Evening - 7.00pm

Friday 15th
Pyjama Day—Gold Coin donation for Philippines Typhoon appeal

Wednesday 27th
Grade 6 Graduation Dinner

Friday 29th
Grade 6 Leadership Day—non uniform

December

Mon 2nd-Fri 13th
Swimming Program

Tuesday 3rd
Starlab Incursion—No Swimming

Tuesday 10th
Statewide Transition Day—No Swimming

Tuesday 17th
Christmas Dinner

Wednesday 18th
Reports go home

Thursday 19th
Mini Fair

Friday 20th
Last day of term, early dismissal

This week at School Council I presented the results from our parent opinion survey. A random sample of 30 parents was taken last term. Parents were asked to respond to statements about our school climate, student behavior and student engagement. Our successes included higher than state mean results in staff morale, parent input, stimulating learning, learning focus and social skills. Our areas for improvement include extra curricula, homework and student safety. There is a common misconception about extra curricula activities. Many people believe this to mean activities that occur outside of school hours. However, what it actually means is anything outside of the standard Maths and English curriculum such as camps, interschool sport, excursions, concerts, visual and performing arts, artists in residence, leadership opportunities, community and environmental/sustainability events etc. I’m sure you will all agree we provide a wide range of extra curricula opportunities for our students.

Despite the rain we have had a great week learning all about Indian culture and dance in preparation for our school concert today. We hope you can all join us this evening for a night of Bollywood celebrations!
**Value of the Term**
This term we are learning all about respect. This includes respect for oneself, respect for others and respect for the environment. It is great to see some students taking this on board and demonstrating respectful behaviours. Please continue to support and encourage this at home.

**Student Accident Insurance & Ambulance Cover**
Just a reminder that parents are responsible for paying all medical costs, (including ambulance) for any injured student. To minimise the cost, parents can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers and obtain ambulance membership.

**Parent Payments**
This week accounts were sent out. Unfortunately we have a number of families owing money for school fees, camps, excursions, swimming etc. As a small school we get limited government funding and rely on parent contributions. If we are unable to recover these funds it makes it difficult to be able to offer extra curricula activities. We understand that some families may be experiencing financial hardships and always encourage them to contact the school to make payment arrangements. Our staff try to keep the cost of activities to a minimum and often our parent’s club and community sponsorship helps to subsidise these activities. School Council will be reviewing the parent payment policy and this will be updated in December.

**Pyjama Day**
Tomorrow Junior School Council has organised a Pyjama Day. They had originally planned to raise money for our World Vision sponsor child. However, in light of the devastating typhoon in the Philippines they have decided to donate any money raised to the appeal. The United Nations says 9.5 million people across the Philippines have been affected, including about 1.7 million children. About 660,000 people have been displaced and around 10,000 have died. $50 could provide two families with essentials like blankets, sleeping mats and mosquito nets. $100 could provide three families with items like soap and shampoo to help prevent disease. Please give generously to the appeal by bringing along a gold coin donation tomorrow. For more information please check out their website http://worldvision.com.au/Tissues/Emergencies/Current+Emergencies/Typhoon-Haiyan-Philippines.aspx?post=typhoon-learn-more

**PNF Meeting**
The PNF will hold its next meeting next Friday, 15th Nov from 9.00am in the staffroom. All welcome.

**Primary Welfare Officer**
The DEECD has granted us some funding for a primary welfare officer for 2014. The funding will be used to employ a staff member for one day a week. They will be responsible for providing professional development and support to staff to assist them with our two student wellbeing initiatives, eSmart and KidsMatter. They will also be working on policy development and implementation.

**Absenteeism and Numeracy**
Young children who frequently take days off school have poorer results in maths, new research shows, but the same level of absenteeism appears to have less of an effect on literacy at the same age. A major longitudinal study from the Australian Institute of Family Studies shows high rates of absenteeism in primary school - about one day a week - had a noticeably detrimental effect on NAPLAN numeracy scores. Students who frequently missed days of school also had poorer literacy results, although it did not have an independent impact over and above other more influential risk factors, such as social and emotional problems or learning difficulties, the study found. Read more: http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/missing-classes-in-primary-school-adds-up-to-poor-maths-skills-20131030-ztrcu.html

**Resilience Robbers**
Robber #7: Rescue from challenging or stretch situations. There are many times kids are put in situations that are outside their comfort zones for a time. For instance, giving a talk, singing at the school concert or going on school camp may be challenges for some kids. They are all situations that kids usually cope with so show your confidence in them and skill them up rather than opt for avoidance.

Resilience notion #7 Overcoming challenges enables kids to grow and improve. Sometimes the manageable hardships that children experience such as a friend moving away, not being invited to a birthday party or completing a difficult school project are fabulous learning opportunities. They help kids to stretch and grow. Dealing with them effectively also teaches kids that they’re capable of coping when they meet some of life’s curve balls.

And that is a huge lesson to learn at any age.

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**Student of the Week**

**Maya Hayward-Bannister**
Prep/1
For her efforts to improve her reading & writing. Maya is a positive learner who cares about herself and others. She is really tuned in to her own abilities and is reaping the benefits.

**Kayley Williams**
Grade 1/2
For her efforts and motivation to reach her learning goals. Kayley has shown respect to herself to set goals and work hard to achieve these. Keep up the wonderful learning.

**Kirra Gange**
Grade 3/4
Kirra is very respectful towards her classmates. She even shows respect towards the P/1 “teachers” in Chinese!

**Ethan**
Grade 4/D
Ethan is one cool and respectful dude! He looks out for others and LOVES the respect song!

**Lauren**
Grade 5/6
Lauren is always willing to help others. She is a great role model for the younger students. Great work Lauren.

**Nick McKay**
Specialist Award – PE
For displaying a positive attitude and being a role model to others. He also shows respect to others.

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**Brush Cutter & Mower For Sale**
Since the gardening is now contracted out to someone who uses his own equipment, the school has the following items for sale:

Briggs & Stratton 190CC Mower 850 I/C
Exceed Brush Cutter

Each item also has a $50 fuel voucher attached to it for use at Evans. Tenders welcome and must reach the office by this Friday, 15th November.

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**Photos taken by Grade 6 students**

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**Term 4, Issue 35**

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