

Fishy News

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Staff and students have enjoyed a *tranquil* week three of Term 3, with our Principal, Dale Banks, taking a short break in Thailand. In his absence, I have taken over the reigns of the school, working alongside Irene in the office to keep things humming along. Any predictions or reports of an Agatha Trunchbull style reign of terror are vastly overstated.

I asked our Prep/1 class what they thought Mr Banks might be up to while he was away. They speculated that he might be: “playing cricket or golf”, “sleeping”, “going to New York to be in all the movies” (perhaps as the next Ken in *Barbie 2*), “getting big muscles every day”, “relaxing at the beach”, “having a rest at the hotel” (we’re pretty sure this will be necessary), and “eating a thousand hundred hot dogs” (seems realistic). We hope at least some of these are true.

It was fantastic to see students participating in the annual School Cross Country run in their PE classes with Mr Couper this week. I remember the excitement of participating in this event as a primary aged student, especially if the track was muddy or rain was involved. This enthusiasm seemed to evaporate the moment I took my first step into secondary school, so I always admire the energy, commitment and mayhem of a primary school cross-country. As they returned from the Rail Trail, I enjoyed observing the range of personal victories students were celebrating: one student grinning ear-to-ear with satisfaction that they completed the course but came “second last”, alongside other students proudly displaying their place ribbons. I think this is a testament to the culture at our school, where having a red-hot go is encouraged and celebrated, just as much as the competitive elements. Congratulations to all our students who participated in the Cross-Country. Mr Couper will send through the results for next week’s newsletter.

It was great to welcome Lucas Vanderzalm back to the school this week, after a trip to Cambodia. I know many students will be grateful and excited to return to playing footy and cricket with Lucas, who generously offers his time each recess and lunchtime outside of his usual yard duty timetable. Through this, he has encouraged a number to students to step out of their usual playtime routines and try new sports, learn new skills, and play with new people, which is always fabulous to observe.

Over and out,

Clare Ellis



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IMPORTANT DATES

August :
24th– PNF Movie
25th— Book week Dress Up
September :
8th—PJ Day
14th Division Athletics
Casey Fields
15th End of Term
2:30 dismissal

PRIMARY WELFARE

Donna Giliam
Phone: 03 9080 1881
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Thanks for buying
books from

 SCHOLASTIC

Book Club

they help build our
classroom resources



Student of the Week



Primary Welfare

Last Friday I had a phone call from school. My daughter had come off the playground in a game of tag and had given herself a fractured foot and a compound fracture in her arm.

Teachers are in an industry where we come across broken bones, my daughter's break was not pretty and when I saw it, I was reminded of the other time I had come across a break like this: when I was teaching out bush in the NT. As I followed the ambulance to Traralgon, I pondered on the two different scenarios for a similar break.

When I arrived at school my daughter was being supported by teachers who knew her and cared for her. She then travelled by ambulance with me following behind with a full tank of fuel in a reliable car, on arrival she had access to pain relief, X-rays, excellent doctors and specialists and nurses caring for her. By 7pm that evening she had her arm straightened, she had surgery and she had a bed, with me in a little fold out chair next to her. We listened to a talking book in our first language and quietly went to sleep. Each day she improved a little bit more in the hospital and on day three safely drove to our warm little home in Fish Creek. All of her follow up appointments have been easy to access and within an hour away.

The little human who had the same break out bush had a different story. At the time, he was between houses and families. He was a new student to our school and I did not even know his last name. I walked him to the clinic where he waited for most of the day for transportation to the Alice Springs Hospital. The hospital had excellent doctors, nurses and specialists but all treatment was done in English, which was not his first language. After treatment, his situation at home had not changed much, so he was not coming home to the security that my daughter and I came home to. His follow up appointments would require a 5-7-hour trip into Alice, which may or may not have been possible depending on transportation.

It made me think about the 'gap' in our country and while I am incredibly grateful for the excellent care my daughter received, my heart also hurts that this is not the case for all children across Australia.

I listened to a story by a doctor recently and she said, 'Once you have been in the gap, you can't not do anything about it.'

Donna Giliam- Primary Welfare

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MARC Preview of Learning – Term 3 2023

The Children’s Book Council of Australia (CBCA) presents awards to Australian books of literary merit each year, and these winners are announced and celebrated in August during Children’s Book Week. The CBCA began in 1945 when there were few Australian children’s books. In 1945 the CBCA chose the theme ‘United Through Books’. A theme is chosen each year and this year, 2023, it is ‘Read, Grow, Inspire’.



This term, we are using many of the books which have been shortlisted (for the above awards) by the CBCA in our focussed teaching sessions. Australian books are shortlisted according to a variety of literary criteria. For example, picture story books chosen are those in which the author and illustrator have achieved artistic and literary unity. All chosen books aim to enrich young lives through Australian stories. Reading and sharing wonderful stories which inspire student learning is our passion as teachers and important to you as parents and carers.

This term we have also chosen books which: contain features specific to certain genres, recognise special people in our lives, encourage dipping into the continuity of book series, and complete our term’s teaching with the joy of new literature. New literature is always enjoyed by both teacher and student!!

Weeks	Junior	Middle	Senior
1 and 2	Cautionary tales - eg, ‘Pig the Fibber’ by Aaron Blabey.	Mystery genre - eg. ‘The Underdogs Catch a Cat Burglar’ by Kate and Jol Temple.	Horror genre – ‘Stinetinglers’ by R. L Stine.
3-7	CBCA books eg. ‘Where the Lyre-bird Lives’ by Vikki Conley.	CBCA books eg. ‘Farmhouse’ by Sophie Blackall.	CBCA books eg. ‘Amazing Animal Journey’s by Jennifer Cossins.
8	Father’s Day/Special Person’s Day	Father’s Day/Special Person’s Day	Father’s Day/Special Person’s Day
9	Series eg. What Zola did.	Series eg. Little People, Big Dreams.	Series – to be chosen
10	New Literature – to be chosen	New Literature – to be chosen	New Literature – to be chosen

Yours in reading and learning,

Jeanette Johnson and Sophie Callcott

JSC—JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

Our Junior School Council is organising Jump Rope for Heart this year – a fantastic fundraising and physical activity program by the Heart Foundation.

By participating in Jump Rope for Heart this term, we’re hoping to get our students moving. We’ll have ropes available on the school grounds and will be encouraging everyone to help raise funds for lifesaving research and support programs.

Over the coming weeks your child will learn new skills, increase their physical activity, and learn about heart health. The program will end with our school-wide ‘Jump Off Day’ on the 15th of September where your child gets to show off their new skipping skills to their friends.

When you register your child online you’ll get access to additional skipping resources to help give your child a great reason to get away from the screens and get outdoors. Register and create your own secure webpage at jumprope.org.au/parents

By signing up online, you and your child can:

- Easily raise funds online
- Track skipping skills progress and earn virtual badges along the way
- Post updates to your page so family and friends can follow their progress
- Access additional skipping resources

We look forward to seeing the activity, laughter and flushed faces this fundraiser creates.

Donna Gilliam and the Junior School Council

