PRINCIPAL'S COMMENTS – (Paul Jorgensen)

Each week we put in information from each class or team in our school newsletter. This information is very important as it is a ‘PREVIEW’ for what some of the work each class will be doing in the following week. This allows parents time to discuss with their child about what they already know and gets them ready for their learning. In essence this is ‘homework’ as we expect children to do this work at home with their parents. It is open ended in the fact that parents are able to find out what the children already know and build on this knowledge with them.

In our classrooms staff also use ‘Process Praise’ as a form of feedback to students.

The way we praise children can have a huge impact on their sense of self, their resilience, their ability to face challenge, and their learning. Staff praise the process, not the person. Therefore children are able to learn from mistakes and develop a growth mindset. Struggles, mistakes and misconceptions should be viewed as opportunities to grow and learn. We aim to not be too quick to rescue children when they are wobbling. We give them the opportunity to experience the satisfaction that comes from overcoming difficulties.

Therefore we try to steer away from saying things like “Aren’t you clever” or “You are fantastic at reading” or “You’re a very smart child”, as this then gives children the perception that they are naturally ‘smart’ or ‘clever’ and therefore don’t need to work hard on their learning. Children with only this type of praise tend to have a ‘Fixed Mindset’ and when they encounter a problem or challenge they struggle as they only see themselves as being clever.
With this in mind we tend not to give out daily or weekly awards to children. We tend more to focus on the effort children put in particularly around our school values of Challenge, Responsibility, Curiosity, Collaboration and Resilience. In classrooms students are acknowledged when they display these values, they are praised around the skills and strategies they are using and the work being performed. We do hand out awards to children who consistently apply themselves to their learning, those that consistently display to the school values. These awards are given to children at assemblies during the year and recognise the qualities we want to see in children. Our Civics and Citizenship and Achievement medals are given out to one student per grade on three occasions per year. This is a very prestigious and sought after award as they recognise children for consistent effort around our school values.

SCHOOLS FEES CAN NOW BE PAID AT THE OFFICE:

The following is a breakdown of what the 2016 contributions will cover per child for materials, booklists, ICT and photocopying consumables etc. These are all areas, under Education Department rules, that the school is able to ask parents to pay for.

There is no need for parents to purchase pencils, pens, glue sticks etc as this is all included. Some children do like to purchase special items such as other types of textas but this is a family choice.

**School Fees $185 Breakdown:**

Classroom materials (Including Text Books, paper, pens, pencils, rulers) $85.00

Arts materials $ 20.00

Inquiry Based Learning materials $20.00

Library Consumables (Library sessions, lunchtime, recess) $ 20.00

Photocopying/printing consumables $ 20.00

ICT (Affiliations/Consumables) $ 20.00

**Reminder**

**CAMPS SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)**

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. The annual CSEF amount per student is $125.00 for primary school students. Please contact the school office to obtain a CSEF Application form and make sure it is returned to school by 23rd February 2016.
Order Forms will be sent home tonight for School Photos on Tuesday 23rd February. All Photos ordered needs to be cash or cheque and goes in the envelopes to go straight to John Ansell Photography all cash needs to be correct money. No change through the office can be given for photos. The school directly hands these envelopes to John Ansell Photography and does not deal with any money in relation to this.

F/1A and F/1W Preview

The students are continuing to settle in to the class routines, and have been discussing and practising two of our five school values – collaboration and responsibility.

We have introduced our Term 1 Inquiry Unit, with students thinking about what life might have been like for people living 100 years ago, and when their grandparents were young. At home, you might like to discuss aspects of the past and perhaps show your child some old family photos. A note has been sent home about our proposed excursion to Old Gippstown on March 2nd. Please check your child’s bag if you did not see it yesterday.

In Maths next week students will look at how numbers can be represented in different ways. We will also look at recognising, describing and continuing different types of patterns, including skip-counting patterns for the Grade 1s. At home students could use materials such as beads or coins to make patterns, or continue patterns made by others.

The students are attending Chinese sessions in grade groups so that the Grade 1s can extend on their learning from last year, whilst the Foundation students are introduced to the Chinese language. This arrangement also allows for Foundation students to undertake alphabet work together with Miss Waite, and the Grade 1s to practise spelling and handwriting skills with Mrs A. Next week the Foundation students will be learning the letter t, as well as revising m and s. Grade 1 students have spent some time practising the correct formation of the letters b and d, which are often confused. Next week we will revise sh, ch, and th words.
It has been wonderful to see so many of the Foundation students taking part in “Show and Share” and speaking with such confidence in front of their peers.

Our “Show and Share” topic for next week is “**Something Old**”. Please encourage your child to bring along an item or some information that fits with this topic, as this helps to give a focus to our conversations.

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**Grade3/4A**

These past few weeks have been an amazing start to 2016! This week we have continued to build both positive relationships and a safe and challenging learning environment. We had a visit today from Grade’s 4/5/6 D. and 4/5/6 S. to participate in student designed collaboration workshops to really show what we can do when we work together! In mathematics we have continued to look at place value including a place value challenge in our grade. As grade 3 students will be able to undertake NAPLAN this year, they were challenged to complete the challenge under ‘test conditions’ and were able to work independently for 45minutes which is a fantastic achievement! This really shows their dedication and mature attitude toward their own education. Amazing work 3/4A!

Next week we will continue to focus on place value as it is a fundamental mathematical concept which will support students throughout their future schooling. Some quick activities to try at home can be to start off with a two digit number (e.g. 23) and ask your child to name the number. Then try swapping the order of the numbers and asking your child to re-name the number. What has changed? Why? You can challenge your child by increasing how large the number is (e.g. 345, 2354, 23654). In reading, we have been and will continue to establish our expectations for Reader’s Workshop and Writer’s Workshop. The students have developed a good understanding of choosing a “Just Right” book which challenges them, but is not “Too Easy” or “Too Hard”. Students should be able to explain how to choose a Just Right book and a focus for students reading at home is reading aloud for at least 5 minutes to develop their reading fluency. Students currently have books that they have borrowed from the library.

Our specialist sessions are on:

**Monday** – **Art** 10am to 11am

**Tuesday** - **Chinese** 10:20am to 11am, **Physical Education** 12:30pm to 1:30pm (*occasionally earlier in the day due to the hot weather*)

**Wednesday** – **Library** 11:30am – 12:30pm

**Thursday** – **Performing Arts** 9:40am – 10:20am, **Chinese** 12:50pm to 1:30pm

**Friday** – **Senior Sport** 2.15 to 3.15.

Again, during the school year it is not uncommon for students to experience some difficulties. Please, if this is the case, come in or call me. This will give us an opportunity to discuss the issue and
work out some strategies to help the student. Communication is very important in ensuring a productive and happy school year!

**Grade 4/6**

**School Values**

During 2015 the staff had been working on developing a set of documents that help our students understand their own behaviours and learning about our school values. Throughout the term teachers will be working with the students to help them dig more deeply into our values so they develop a greater understanding. Students have been learning about “Collaboration” and how to be a great collaborator. This rubrics will be used by teachers and students so they can track their progress throughout the year and know what their next level of learning is. As the students and teachers use the rubrics some adaptations may be made.

**Preview 4/5/6 S & 4/5/6 D**

We have had a great third week back at school and the classes are humming along nicely. As the term moves on, we are bringing in more learning challenges and encouraging the children to be resilient and persist. Over the next few weeks the teachers will be testing students so we have a solid understanding of each student’s learning. This will mean that teachers will have some days out of the classroom so we can conduct one on one assessments. This information is used to inform our teaching so we can provide learning tasks at the point of need.

Our specific learning focus for next week are:

**Maths:** Place Value. We are focussing on how the position of a digit shows us the value of a number. Language used is ones’, tens, hundreds, thousands, ten thousands, tenths, hundredths, thousandths. An activity you could do at home with your child to support their learning is:

Cut out products priced between $10 and $100 from advertising brochures. Make a number line with 10 intervals as shown below and mark $0 to $100 at each end. Ask your child to place the price on the correct spot on the number line. Discuss what each interval means. Ask your child to round to the nearest $10 and then ask why they made this choice.

**Writing:** We will be learning about editing and revising our writing. We will also revise how we use our Writer’s Checklists to set learning goals.

**Reading:** We are continuing to focus on tracking our thinking during our Independent Reading and how to keep records of this.

**Inquiry:** The beginning of our unit on history. We are very excited about our photo booth. If you have any costumes please don’t forget to bring them in. Thank you to the parents that are busily hunting through op. shops and clubs to find some costumes. Please take some time to look at a map of Australia. Notice and discuss where the states and capital cities are.
Vocabulary: History, Australia, Victoria, Melbourne, Country. Please take some time to spell these words with your child.

I have included some photos of our Footy Clinic that was held on Wednesday.

Have a great weekend.
Week of 15th February, Sausage sizzle organised by Jazmine and Shanae as a fundraiser for their China trip, orders due back to school by 9.00 Wednesday prior.

If you missed order form one is attached to this newsletter.

**FUNDRAISING for 2016**

Profits from fundraising in 2016 will be going toward new IT equipment for our school and recladding of our building.

Bakers Delight Morwell and Traralgon give a percentage of all sales back to our school so please don’t forget to mention Hazelwood North Primary when you make your next purchase.

Ritchies IGA, Churchill also support our school through their Community Benefits Program, if you need a Card for this please let Francesca or myself.

**Next meeting Wednesday 2nd March 9.00**, this is our AGM, in the art room.

Come along for a cuppa and chat, toddlers welcome.

If you cannot make meetings but would like to be involved or have any ideas for fundraising please let me know on either: bronwyn@wideband.net.au or 0412855933.

Our AGM will be on the 2nd March where all positions will become vacant, please have a think about being part of your schools fundraising body.

**China Trip Fundraiser.**

We will be selling Zooper Doopers for 50c each in the Central Area *everyday* after school for the month of February. We also have a ‘Guess the Lollies in the Jar’ competition. Children can make a guess for 50 cents 3 guesses for $1.00 or 7 Guesses for $2.00. See Jazz or Cheyenne.

**PLAYGROUP STARTS - MONDAY 8TH February** 9.30 til 11.00 at hall across the Road any queries please contact Louise 0438140088.
WOW!!! It has been great to see so many students remembering to bring their bankbooks to school on Tuesdays. We have had lots of new bankers among our Preps and even some younger brothers and sisters banking with us too. They will be excellent bankers by the time they start school. And I’m sure we’ll have lots of students from our school receiving an entry in to the Commonwealth Bank competition to win a family holiday to Australia Zoo. I have noticed lots of golden tokens while stamping everyone’s bankbooks. Have you had a look at the rewards for this term? 10 silver tokens or 1 golden token can be used to redeem a reward.

Term 1 rewards are: Flying Snake Tail and Wildlife Writer Set. Please leave a note in your bankbook if you need a new page for redeeming your rewards.

**Things to remember:**

- Remember to write your **name** and **student number** on your deposit slip
- Please write the amount being banked on the stub and the slip
- Bring your bankbook to school on **Wednesday** and put it in your classroom banking bag
- The minimum deposit for a token is $0.50