



Weethalle Public School

Empowering learners for their future

Term 4, Week 3
25th October, 2010
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PRINCIPALS REPORT

Last week's cancellation of the primary excursion to Borambola due to flooding, left many students (and parents) very disappointed, but accepting of the fact that it was out of everyone's control. They enjoyed an afternoon movie and popcorn on Monday as small consolation for their disappointment.

VISIT FROM GEOFF

Today, Geoff Pellizzer visited our school for my Term 4 PARS. We discussed the progress with the ASR completion, 2011 targets/planning based on the School Self Evaluation, NAPLAN data summary and findings, anticipated enrolments for 2011 and the completion of Best Start and the K-2 reading levels. These topics provided a basis for extensive professional dialogue, giving Geoff a valuable insight into the achievement levels of Weethalle Public School.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Brendan McKenzie, Emily Jolly, Jaimee Studholme, Jemma Luelf and Will Luelf who received special Mathletics Achievement Awards for Outstanding

results in Concept Mastery. Well done everyone, we are very proud of your efforts and achievements.



Emily, Jemma, Will and Jaimee (Brendan absent)

KINDER ORIENTATION

Our second Kinder Orientation day will be held on Tuesday. Last week Leah, Sammy and Will thoroughly enjoyed their first day at "Big School", engaging in some wonderful activities organised by Miss Mac and helped by Mrs. McKenzie. We look forward to them becoming regular members of our school.

BEST WISHES

Mrs. Sedola will be on leave this week. We all wish her a speedy recovery from a cataract operation. Miss Irvin will be replacing her until her return, which should just be the one week.

WELCOME BACK MRS ANDERSON

We welcome back Mrs. Morgan Anderson who will be working with Miss Mac and the Infants class. She will be here for 4 weeks, from Monday 25th October until Friday 19th November, to complete her 2nd year practicum. Please introduce yourself to her when you are next at school and make her feel welcome. We want each and every student to have a very positive learning experience while they are at Weethalle Public School.

WRITING WORKSHOPS

After the wonderful 2 days of writing workshops our students engaged in with children's author Paul Stafford last week, we will be following up with a 5 week series of videoconferencing sessions for Primary Students and Year 2. The VC's will be organised by Paul and conducted from the Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum. They will be Writing Persuasive Texts workshops entitled "This T-Rex followed me home, Mum. Can I keep him?" Only schools personally invited by Paul will have the opportunity to participate. Our students are just so lucky to be able to continue accessing and benefiting from the expertise of such as inspiration writer and teacher. We look forward to some exciting persuasive texts been written over the next 5 weeks. Please sign the attached video conference permission note and return to school asap. If your child does not return their permission note they will be unable to attend the video conferences.

AUTHOR VISIT

Our school writing focus will again be addressed when David Miller (author, illustrator and sculptor) visits our school on Thursday afternoon. I have purchased a class set of David's "Refugee" as an Accelerated Literacy text for the primary next year, and will hopefully get them all autographed during this visit. A special thank you to the Bland Shire Library West Wyalong for organising this special visit. We have been very lucky to be able to once again access such high quality children's authors.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

I am really pleased that so many people are accessing our school website weekly newsletter, student homework and school photos are regularly updated by Miss Mac. Each week I am sent an email detailing the weekly digest of publishing activity and viewings. Last week 988 page views were received from our school community. It is wonderful to see. I know we all appreciate the fantastic work Miss Mac does in maintaining the site.

STAFF TRAINING

Thank you also to Miss Mac for agreeing to share her expertise in technology at our Wednesday staff meetings. Each week staff will engage in professional learning focusing on a specific program. This week we learnt about "Wordle". Staff must do their homework now and complete a task using Wordle before our next weeks meeting. Students will all be introduced to this new online site www.wordle.net.

PEER SUPPORT

In Peer Support the children will be reminded that we can never have too many friends, and that it's important to take care of the friends we have. The children will also look at what good friends do, how friendships vary and how to solve problems that arise in our friendships from time to time. It would be worthwhile to take some time to talk to your children about what they have learned and how to put it into practice each day.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Mia McCarten who competed at State last week in 800m and Long Jump events. Well done on a great effort!!

SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOL 2012

This year, for the first time, parents with internet access are requested to apply online. **Online applications will be available from 25 October to 22 November, 2010.** Application information is available on the internet. Please

contact the school if you would like a commercially printed application package.

SCHOOL SELF-EVALUATION

Thank you so much to all those who took the time to provide very useful feedback on both Writing and School Planning, our two areas of school improvement as well as Community Engagement. Your responses are greatly valued and enable the school to continue its improvement process. This year we received an impressive 93% school community participation in the self-evaluation process. What a fantastic effort. Everyone's opinion is equally important to the school. I will analyse the results and report back on the findings next week.

P & C MEETING

Don't forget the P & C Meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday evening. I look forward to seeing you all there.

I will be discussing our school NAPLAN results in great detail.

Keep smiling and be happy.....Cheryle

Attachments:

*2010/2011 Learn to Swim brochures

*Video conference permission note for Year 2 - 6



Students enjoying our new iPads.



P & C NEWS

******* MEETING - THIS WEEK *******

TUESDAY 26TH OCTOBER @ 7.30pm

There will be a P&C meeting on Tuesday night at 7.30pm. Please can as many parents as possible attend to cover all issues needed before the end of term. Bring along any points for discussion.

Agenda:

- School magazine
- Shade Cloth
- NAPLAN analysis
- BER
- Tea towel fundraiser
- Discussions - student participation/activities 2011
- Battery Drive
- Pavers

TEA TOWEL FUNDRAISER

Tea towel orders are now being taken - there is no return date (though orders will be filled in a 'first in first served basis' until all tea towels have been sold). Thanks for orders that have already been placed.

A total of 100 tea towels have been ordered and (hopefully) will be available from the middle of this term, at a cost of \$12.00 per tea towel. Please complete the order form & return with payment to Georgie. If you have any questions contact Georgie Luelf t. 69756217.

They are a fantastic commemoration of the students, staff & school for this year, and are a fabulous inexpensive Christmas presents for family & friends.

THANKYOU

A **big** thankyou to all that helped on Thursday to lay the pavers & reinstall the shade cloth. The pavers look amazing and will be a great feature to the school grounds when they are completely finished.

PAVERS OPENING

As the completion of laying of the pavers is in sight - we will be having an 'Official Opening' of them on Friday 19th November 2010 @ 2.00pm. This will be combined with the final school assembly of the year with afternoon tea afterwards. Invitations/details of this have been sent to all that purchased a paver/s. Hopefully the whole school community will be able to come.

BATTERY DRIVE

The battery drive is still underway & collection of the batteries has begun. Contact Brian 0428 410116 with any questions.