PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

A warm welcome back to all after the Easter break. Most students have returned to school happy and eager to discuss the events they participated in over the holiday period. It is a wonderful time to invest in family events and to enjoy spending quality time with those closest to you.

Term 2 is already moving very quickly as it is only a 9 week term. It is packed with many enjoyable experiences for your children.

In the final days of the school holidays students participated in the ANZAC day ceremony held in Gladstone. We had representation of our students from Kindergarten to Year 6. Jess Hensler delivered a prayer with maturity and respect, whilst our youngest students laid a wreath, demonstrating responsibility and integrity well beyond their years. I couldn’t be more proud of the students at Gladstone PS.

On Thursday students participated in an environmental excursion, ‘The Big Bitou Bash’ where they learnt about weed eradication and current environmental issues. Students also explored Secret Beach where they viewed geological rock formations and caves. All students enjoyed the excursion and learnt many interesting facts from Ranger Kath and Ranger James.

On Friday we had a visit from seven beautiful Golden Retriever puppies. Everyone enjoyed the company of the puppies including staff. All students were so caring and loving towards the puppies. I have had many requests to keep one as a school pet.

Congratulations to the students who participated in the Kempsey show. We were lucky enough to have students who came 1st, 2nd and 3rd in many categories. Well done! Finally, thank you to the P&C who have prepared our Mother’s Day Stall for this Friday. It was an excellent fundraiser and students are looking forward to pampering their mums, nans and grans.

Kind regards

Kathryn McNee
Principal
2M News

Week 3 is going to be a big week for our Year 3 and 5 students who will be sitting the NAPLAN assessment. This assessment will be conducted on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. It is very important that students participating are present on these days.

This term we are studying persuasive texts. Students have already argued why we should or shouldn’t play sport and why cats are better than dogs. After writing detailed arguments, students debated their topics. Mr Usher participated in some careful adjudication and the team who argued dogs were better than cats were victorious. All debaters were great sports shaking hands at the conclusion of the debate.

In numeracy this week we are focusing on our 4 times tables and area. Students are developing their understanding of area, however, they can confuse perimeter and area at times.

Legends of the Week!

Angus Robinson-Sangster – Improving the quality of his work.

Jess Hensler – Excellent rebuttal in our debate.

Reece Garton – For demonstrating perseverance and determination in the cross country.

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Aussie of the Month

Brian Robinson
For collaboratively working with his peers to present an outstanding debate and assisting his peers in PD.H.PE activities.

Student of the Week

Bill Tyne
For outstanding work in the classroom over the past two weeks and for his effort and application to Cross Country.

The Bitou Bash
By Jess Hensler

On Thursday the 8th of May we went down the back road to Limeburner’s National park to learn about Bitou bush. We learnt many interesting facts. One crazy fact was that each plant has over 50,000 SEEDS!

Our main job was to kill Bitou bush because Bitou bush kills other beautiful plants. The Rangers that escorted us through the National park were Ranger James and Ranger Kath. While we were killing Bitou bush we got a chance to look at the beautiful scenery which included the beach, the rock formation and many other things.

When we finished killing the Bitou we back to the bus and had lunch. After lunch we drove the bus down to the car park. We then had to hike on foot to Secret Beach. My favourite part of the hike was when we got to descend down the cliff to get to secret beach. When we got down there we got to look in a really cool cave. When we finished looking in the cave. We got to collect rocks which was really fun. We then had to ascend back up the cliff which was just as fun!

Overall the day was great and I’d like to do it again!

The end
1H News

We have settled back into our routines very quickly. The cooler weather is making it hard to get out of bed in the morning. Please ensure your child wears or brings a jumper to school and that it is labelled with his or her name. Our H.S.I.E. topic this term is "The Way We Were" which looks at how we change and how our lifestyle changes. In PDH our focus is on "Safe Living". We have been talking about how to be safe near roads and how to cross roads safely. Kindergarten have started their home reading and they are super keen. They have also been given some sight words to practice that are the ones we are learning in class. They are for word recognition only not spelling.

Sensational workers have been:

Jasmine- our Student of the Week

for her super efforts to be neat with her handwriting.

Layton- our Aussie of the Month for May

for his good manners and happy disposition.

Caitlin and Tyson- for great work with word recognition.

Zachary- fantastic independent work in Maths.

Taite- for his enthusiasm in learning about "ants" this week.

Brooke S- For her fluent reading and excellent comprehension skills.

Mrs Pugh’s News-

The Gutsy Challenge is coming in Week 4

Gutsy Challenge out of uniform day is Thursday

22 May 2014

- Raise money and awareness of gastro-intestinal cancer by holding an out of uniform day.

- Students to come dressed in the colour of their favourite fruit or vegetable and collect a gold coin donation.

Garden- Many thanks to Chris and Laura Meehan for preparing our garden beds for winter crops. GPS has entered the Yates Junior Landcare Winter Vege Growing Journey and we have received some spinach seeds to plant. Students will submit photos and stories of their growing journey and will be eligible for monthly prizes. Good luck! We have all the makings of a compost bin-we just need a capable volunteer to come and put it together for us. We can always use some manure of any kind to help add nutrients to our soil.

Science- This term 1H will be investigating the Mini Worlds of living things while 2M will be studying our Ancient Land. If any of you have skills in the areas of etymology or geology please come forward and share your knowledge and/or experiences.

Library-

Some new books have been ordered through Australian Standing Orders. We look forward to them arriving soon.

OT- We have some fabulous results from last terms standardized testing and if the parents of the children involved would like to come in and discuss their child’s progress please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Pugh or your classroom teacher.
Mrs Pugh will continue to run the course through Term 2 with a focus on fine motor skills and hand/eye coordination. A note will come home with your child if he/she has been selected to join the group.

In term 1 a selected group of senior students participated in a program facilitated by Jenny Pugh and Sara Dow, Student Welfare Worker. Students were provided with activities that enhanced their health and wellbeing whilst giving them exposure to new ideas and experiences. The activities were delivered through workshops and exercises that were fun, inclusive and student centered. Social inclusion and participation were encouraged and effective communication and group cohesion was key focus of learning. The successful program will be delivered to a group from 1H in term 2 with team building activities with the children working together on student centered activities.

Happy days,
Mrs J. Pugh

P & C CANTEEN:

Once again, a huge thank you to our wonderful Canteen workers for all the wonderful food they continue to provide. If you would like to become part of this wonderful team—enquire at the school office.

Kempsey Music Studios
Ph: 6567 2157
Tuition in: Keyboard, Guitar, Piano, Violin and Singing Tuition

Kempsey Show Winners

Our students were very successful with their artworks at the recent Kempsey show.
Environmental Education

At the end of last term Gladstone received its accreditation for being a Waterwise school. The waterwise team interviewed many of our students and reported that our the students at Gladstone have a high level of understanding about environmental education and water management. Our tank has been installed and all our toilets and gardening taps are now running off tank water.

Take the Challenge—for more info ask at the school