

# NEWSLETTER



TERM 2, 10th June 2008

Mars speaks through the Iron and the gnarled Oak  
"O man, take root in the depths and strive to the heights  
Be powerful and strong  
Become warrior, knight and protector."

## College News

It was a lovely assembly last week. Filled with songs of welcome and sharing between our children and new teacher Peter. Peter played us some Maori songs on the guitar and explained that song and music are a medium of expressing care and welcoming between the people of New Zealand. There has been a buzz in the school accompanying his arrival and we thank the parents of class 4,5,6 for your welcoming support.

We send our loving thoughts to Marg and wish her a wholesome and restful recovery.

It was a busy week with Simone and Marga's classes sharing the school bus into Lismore to attend a theatre performance.

College of Teachers

## Parent Group

The parents and friends Association meets on the first Wednesday of the month from 9-11am at school. Our purpose is to welcome people into the school community, creating a space and place for us to all come together. There is an opportunity for interest and study groups to begin. Some ideas are a food group, garden group, market group, anthroposophical studies group and craft group. For further information contact Amanda on 6689-1545 or come on the day if you can. Please contact the coordinators directly if you have an interest in the groups:

- Food and gardening group contact Murray 6679 7045.
- Craft group contact Alenya 6689 7077.

Regards Parent Group

## Diary Dates

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Craft Group Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 9am-2pm at Sylvia's house. Tel. 6689 7524.

Kindy Winter Soltice Festival Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June 5-6:30pm.  
(This takes the place of the previously mentioned festival on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June.)

Parent Group Meeting, 9am Wednesday 2nd July at school. All welcome.

Winter Festival for Primary School Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July.  
Last school day for term 2 will be Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July.  
Setup day prior to term 3 will be 9am -1pm, Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July.  
Term 3 begins Monday 28<sup>th</sup> July.

Parent/Teacher interviews for class 1 Sat/Sun 9/10<sup>th</sup> August.

Craft Group will meet next Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June at Sylvia's house from 10am-2pm. All welcome to come and create. We will have lunch together so please bring something to share. Please confirm with Sylvia on 6689 7524. See you there!

Thanks & regards Alenya

Greetings

The season of winter naturally leads us to more 'inside' time. We're more inclined to sit still for longer, linger beside the fire and embrace early nights. Quality sleep is important for all of us to feel rested and to function with clarity and energy. For kindergarten aged children, enough sleep is vital to support the child in their process of forming the physical body. This process is integral to the task of the first 7 years which, given the right environment, nurturing and rhythm, creates the healthy foundation for the higher capacities of thinking, feeling and willing to unfold.

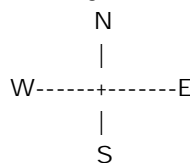
As I have expressed in previous talks, young children are completely sense beings. They're totally given over to the environment, extending themselves into it. Every sight, touch, sound, smell, word, texture and feeling penetrates the child, who doesn't yet possess the consciousness to digest these impressions. In this modern world, children's senses are constantly over stimulated and overwhelmed. The impressions (or 'food') experienced during their day become part of the formative process in establishing the physical body. Hence, the need to protect, and care for the senses through healthy impressions. Healthy physical development can be compromised by over stimulation along with lack of sleep and rhythm.

Sleep is imperative to transform the day's impressions into life giving forces. As expressed by Steiner "Life continues during sleep, and the forces that are active and creative during the waking state receive their strength and renewal from what is given to them by sleep ..." It is recommended that a kindergarten aged child needs 12hours sleep a day, with a bed time between 7 – 8pm. I understand that sleep and bedtimes can be very challenging for families, particularly when there is more than one child. However some things are really worth persisting with, particularly if you feel a strong inner conviction as to the worth and benefit. The children are certainly entering the winter mood. They are joining the gnomes in their gathering and cracking of stones. It is wonderful to see the different patterns revealed as rocks break open. The children are monitoring their bulbs daily for their growth and health. We have been tracing stars and moons onto our lanterns and coating them in linseed oil.

If anyone has pumpkins to spare, we would love them to contribute to our festival soup. If you can help, please send some along.

Love Simone

We had an exciting outing on Friday. The performance was greatly entertaining and we enjoyed the combined outing with class 2/3. I am looking forward to doing something like that again. On Friday class 1 will visit Indigo's home. This is the last week of our "Home and Surrounding" main lesson block. Please remember that our homework project is to tell the story of the child's home and draw a picture of the house (this doesn't need to be exact) with the directions. Ella Rose brought in a floor plan and I could tell how the sun was affecting different rooms at different times.



Our last main lesson this term will be MATHS with the introduction of the FOUR OPERATIONS. We will have 4 visitors in our class, the four operation Master Puppets, who will help us to understand the concept of Addition and Multiplication, Subtraction and Division. That will be fun! I wish to enthuse and build confidence that the children can enjoy maths like I did when I was a student, and still do.

The planned assessment Teacher/Parent Interview weekend will be on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of August, the second weekend in Term 3. I will create a roster. Please let me know soon if you have a preference of Saturday or Sunday and the time. I will start at 9:30am and have the last interview at 4:30pm each day. It is important that you book in a time by calling the office. (Tel. 6689 7033)

We are learning a song about Australian animals which we'd like to perform for parents during our last week of school. Every student will represent an animal and wear a costume and the children will play a percussion instrument.

Our bamboo flutes are arriving this week. I am very excited. Thank you Marlene and Hetty, parents and friends for the initiative and help!

Love from Marga

Dear class 2 and class 3 parents,

We have had an active and inspirational money lesson. Our preparation took 2 days. In that time the children had to make "stock" to sell in their shops or market stalls. They were given simple materials such as clay, recycled bees' wax, paper (origami squares) and cartridge paper, cardboard boxes and wool felt to make things out of. We discussed who would make certain items so that there was no doubling up. Taaj made clay bowls, Alex made origami peacocks and chatter boxes, Tane made amazing cardboard inventions, Lotus made dry felted woollen creations. Alkira made cards, and a felt mouse, Rose made a cat, a finger puppet and angels, Della made a finger puppet, Sianna made felt cushions, Sage and Fraser made candles, Gaia made many felt items and wrote a story.

On the first day of trading Lotus, Rose and Sianna were our bankers (unfortunately the manager, Oscar, was away all week). The bankers distributed \$21.85 to each class member which was put into a purse that had been made the week before in preparation for spending. The shops and stalls complete with signage (open, closed and back in 5 minutes) were opened. The Classroom Emporium run by Sage and Fraser traded steadily over the two days and had over \$90 in takings - more that 1/3 of the currency circulating! Some spenders spent everything within the first day and had to take a loan from the bank (with 20% interest on repayment). Every shop and stall owner was able to restock their counters within allocated restock times when trading ceased. It was a fun lesson which continues with a visit to a real market - The Lismore Organic market. We will let you know how that goes.

Thank you for the response about the bus drivers' licence. Amanda and Helen will take on that responsibility.

Thank you to Anthony for the palm tree to decorate our room.

At the end of last week we shared an outing with class one. The school bus and one car were packed with children, teachers and helping adults. We went to see "Milli, Jack and the Dancing Cat" at the Lismore City Hall. I have bought the book by Stephen Michael King for the school library as a gift from class 2/3. It is a delightful and whimsical story about following one's dreams - creatively.

Warm Regards Simone

A short note about scissors: All children in class 4/5/6 need to have a pair of scissors available for craft projects throughout the week. Some of the scissors purchased earlier in the year are now missing. Would you please check to see if school scissors have arrived home and if so would you please send them back to us. We will also do a search here at school. If any of the children cannot locate their scissors they will be reissued with new ones and a note sent home to let parents know the cost.

Thanks & regards Harumi