

TERM 3, 11th August 2008

A Growing Rhyme

A farmer once planted some little brown seeds
With a pit a pit, pit a pat, pit a pat, pat.
We watered them often and pulled up the weeds,
With a tug-tug at this, and a tug-tug at that.
The little seeds grew tall and green in the sun,
With a push-push up here, and a push-push up there,
And a beautiful plant grew from everyone,
With a hey-diddle, holding their heads in the air.

Westrup

Diary Dates

Diary Dates

Class 4/5/6 parent meeting Monday 11th August at 3:30pm.

School Board meeting Monday 11th August 4pm at school. All welcome.

Craft Group at Sylvia's place. Tuesday 12th August 10am-2:230pm. Ph66897524.

Tuck Shop is back! Hot soup with bread and cake with cream is on the menu. \$3.50 each.
Each Wednesday this term starting this week. Yum!

Wool dying Monday 18th August 10am at school in preparation for Open Day. All welcome.

Kindy parent talk Monday 18th August 3:30 - 4:45pm. All welcome.

Class 2/3 parent talk Tuesday 19th August 3:30-5:00pm. All welcome.

Working bee to pack craft items for Open Day Wednesday 20th August 9am at school.
Please come to help for as much time as you can spare on the day!

The AGM for the school board will be held on Monday 25th August at 4pm here at school.
All are welcome. The agenda for the AGM was included in the newsletter for July 29th.

Official Opening the Kindy extension Tues. 9th September 2pm followed by afternoon tea.

Parent Group Meeting, 9am Wednesday 3rd September at school. All welcome.

Board of Studies Inspection day will be on Wednesday 10th September.

School Open Day will be on Saturday 13th September.

There will be a pupil free day on Friday 12th September to set up for the Open Day.

This long spell of fine weather has certainly set the scene for the beginning of the Spring theme in this week's assembly. Last week we heard the last of the winter tales with a dear story about little Frederick the mouse who soaked up the sun while his brothers and sisters worked to save food for the cold winter. Oh how they grumbled and complained, but when the food was short and the nights cold, Frederick performed his songs and dances with such joy and humour that his family's hearts grew so warm that they completely forgot their hunger.

This week we begin learning our spring songs in readiness for the festival at the end of the term. Look out for some great items from classes being prepared from now on.

Also at the assembly Simone told us a story about a village where the villagers solved many problems by having a bell made that was rung every morning and every night to help every body stay on time. The nine-year olds of the village rang the bell each day and so it will be in our school too. Class Three will ring the bell to call the children back to class each day after morning tea and lunch.

Starting this week the tuck shop is back in business and the whole school will once again be treated to a delicious and wholesome lunch from the 'Class FX Café' every Wednesday for the rest of term. Sylvia has teamed up with the children to create a delicious menu that will change each week. More to come on this.

Some exciting news for school is that there are plans afoot and the first work started on a few new projects for the playground.

The first is the plan for a large, fenced, school garden site on the southern bank around the big stump. Each class will have their own bed inside the generous allotment, safely fenced from little nibblers. Good news for everyone (except the hungry wallabies).

The second piece of news is about the construction of a long bush walk track that will run for about a kilometre through the beautiful forests that surround the school. Class 4,5,6 (FX) will be helping Paul O'Reilly and others to clear and maintain the tracks, so look forward to lovely nature walks coming soon.

The third piece of news is that a long jump pit is nearing completion near the oval in readiness for the Class 5 Greek Olympics in September.

With the fine weather and more heat from the sun it is important that the children have adequate head covering. A hat that has an all-round brim is requested to stop any sunburn to the neck and ears. After this week baseball caps will not be allowed to be worn to school so please check the type of hat your child has to wear.

Also, as it warms up, we will be encouraging the children to drink more water and stay well-hydrated. This is a good thing to remember at home too. It's amazing how many headaches are a result of dehydration!

A big welcome back to Cristina and Lawrence who have returned safely from their adventure in Germany, it is very good to have you both back.

A big welcome also to Tzaadi who is working hard on the gardens for two days a week until the end of year.

And one final thing; the College of Teachers would like also to remind parents that all visitors must report to the office when they come in school time, just so that teachers and classes are not disturbed by unexpected arrivals. Thank you again everyone for your support. College of Teachers

Warm regards Peter for the College of Teachers

Greetings,

Lady Spring's magic can be felt in the air and the earth as she skips over the hill towards us. The kindy is filled with the scent of hyacinths, jonquils and daffodils. The children love to watch the growth of our bulbs in their different coloured dresses and daily bend down with their little noses close to drink in the smells.

Lemon yellow now sits beside the blues in the painting jars, and the children watch the colours dance and expand to create green. The children have all commenced their craft, showing great care in their stitching and spacing, and lovely enthusiasm for their work.

Warm thanks to parents from our craft group who have made us new crowns, flower bands, and delightful felt animals.

The children love all our beautiful toys, and most importantly, can feel the love that went into creating them. I often tell a rest time story about the elves that come into kindy at night and make beautiful toys for the children. The elves also walk around the kindy to check that the toys are lovingly cared for. The teacher pretends to walk up to her car, but hides in the kindy kitchen with a little candle lit to find where the toys are coming from!

The children have loved sanding our new wooden story chair. I actually had to ask them to stop so the arms wouldn't disappear. Next we will polish it with some bees wax.

We have been starting the days with skipping. The children are improving every day and increasing in confidence. Some of the children are still happy to watch, which also helps to experience the rhythm and to take it into the body. Skipping is a wonderful skill to master in developmental skills, particularly in readiness for class one next year. Skipping at home also would be helpful for the children.

Remember named water bottles and hats with a decent brim for outside play.

Love Simone

Dear Class 2 and Class 3 parents,

This week class three has written poems about the winter and spring and a few sentences about the bush. They have further developed their writing with nouns, verbs, adjectives and helper words (the article). Before we wrote about the bush we went for a walk down into the gully where a small water course runs. There are old logs across the water course and hillsides to scramble up with the help of forest vines. The forest is still damp from the rain earlier in the year and has the smell of rotting leaves and damp earth. When we sat quietly, for a couple of minutes you could hear the breeze and the shrill whip of the whip bird's call. The children also began writing a journal in the morning lesson for 10 minutes. This writing time has now been included in the rhythm of the day.

Class 3 has been given the great responsibility of ringing the bell. The ringing of the bell will be passed down to each class 3 group as a part of the school day from this week on.

Class 2 has been writing up lists of words and their synonyms. Also, they have nearly finished their first book from the fable the Lion and the Mouse. Taaj finished his woollen winter hat which he knitted around in one piece using 5 needles and Rose is soon to finish her hat while Della has a beautiful one piece gnome on the way.

As the Open Day is not too far away and will be upon us before we know it, I would like parents to locate craft items such as woollen wrist warmers, hats and the musical instrument project from term 1 and the silk angel mobiles from term 2, which were taken home. Please keep them aside ready to bring in during week 7.

Warm regards Simone

Class 4,5,6 (FX)

The class is now in their last week of Norse Mythology, Ancient Greece and Ancient Rome studies and we have heard some wonderful stories. The children's books are alive with characters from these stories with their various troubles, battles and adventures. The class has made Greek-styled oil lamps from clay which will be trialled eagerly this week, and in the next

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few days class 4 will make clay rune-stones and Class 5 miniature Trojan Horses. The whole class has been playing touch football whenever there is a moment and everyone is gaining in skills and confidence. They are very keen to test themselves against another team so, fingers crossed that one of the other schools will be willing.

Our fundraising for the class camp in November will begin in earnest this week with the first of the weekly school tuck shop days starting on Wednesday. The children will bring cakes and bread from home to complement the soup and then will serve and take money on the day. Last term's café was very successful, both for fundraising and for the children's learning, so, we hope these subsequent ones will be also.

A reminder about the parent meeting this afternoon; we plan to discuss upcoming curriculum, class camp details, fundraising ideas, Greek Olympics, musical instruments, and helpful hints from and for parents, so if you missed the meeting, a copy of the minutes will be sent home with the children.

Go well.

Warm regards Peter

There will be a working bee held on Wednesday 20th August beginning at 9am to prepare craft items for sale at the Open Day. This will involve packing items like crayons, bees wax, knitting and felting wool into cellophane bags ready for sale and will not require any needle work skills! Work will begin at 9am at school.

We are looking for ideas for craft packs which could sell well on the craft stall at Open Day. If you have any ideas for this, the coordinators would love to hear from you!

The coordinators are Anja ph66891350 and Leanne ph6689007.

Warm regards Helen for the Parent Group

Craft group will meet this Tuesday 12th August 10am – 2:30pm. Please come along and share in making lovely felt craft to sell at our "Open Day". Bring lunch to share and phone Sylvia on 66897524 to confirm. (Not on Wednesday as stated in the last newsletter.)

Special wool dying day at school on Monday 18th August at 10am. Come and learn how easy this is!

Warm regards Elenya for the Craft Group

CLASS 'FX' CAFE

Wednesday Lunch

\$3.50

This Week's menu:

Homemade Soup, fresh bread and butter, cake and whipped cream. Two soups to choose from: Sylvia's Superb Minestrone, Olympic Pumpkin

Wheat and dairy-free alternatives will be available.