

The Cup

Silence is harder, Una said.
If I could be quiet I might come true
like the blue cup hung over the sink,
which is not dead,
but waiting for someone to fill it and drink.

Una said, Silence can reach my mouth:
but a long way in my trouble lies.
The look in my eyes, the sound of my words
all tell the truth:
they spring from my trouble like a flight of birds.

Let silence travel, Una said,
by every track of nerve and vein
to heart and brain, where the troubles begin.
Then I shan't be dead,
but waiting for something to come in.

Judith Wright

Diary Dates

Tue 18th Nov: School Photos for all children and teachers. Please wear *colours!*

Wed 19th Nov: Playgroup 9am-11am here at the school sandpit. Please bring morning tea.

Wed 19th Nov: Parent Group meeting 1-3pm at school. All welcome.

Wed 19th Nov: 'Class 2/3' Café. The menu is spaghetti and tomato herb sauce for tuckshop!

Thu 20th Nov: Kindy children join class 1 for orientation 2pm-3pm.

Fri 21st Nov: First "Fathers, Sons & Daughters" get together at school, from 3pm onwards.

Sat 22nd Nov: "Welcome to Community" Day at Hanging Rock Hall 1pm and into the evening.
Activities for children, stalls, food and music. Come and have fun!

Diary Dates continued overleaf...

Diary Dates Continued...

Tue 25th Nov: Biodynamic Introductory workshop with Brian Keats 6:30-9pm at school. All members of the wider community are welcome to attend by donation.

Thur 4th and Fri 5th Dec: Class 1 camp at Tyalgum Ridge Retreat.

Thu 11th Dec: Kindy children join class 1 for orientation 2pm-3pm. Parents are invited to join Marga and the children for afternoon tea from 2:45-3:30pm.

Wed 17th Dec: End of year Celebration and Graduation Ceremony.

Thur 18th Dec: Beach Day for the whole school at Brunswick Heads. Bring lunch to share

We had a yummy tuck shop this week. The children were very busy with the preparation, cooking set-up, washing up and helping with the putting away. Jaqui (Sylvan's mum), dropped in to help Sylvia with the last part of the clean up which made the workload easier after a very busy day! Everyone enjoyed the pancakes!

Tuck shop this week will be spaghetti and tomato herb sauce.

On Friday afternoon we saw the return of our happy, tired campers from the upper primary.

They had to face many challenges and most likely overcome some fears while on their recreational camp on the Nymboida River near Grafton. Our class camps are an important part of the curriculum for the developing child.

Our local weather was very wet last week. It feels like the wet season has arrived and just may stay. This means that the children need appropriate footwear and clothing and for the kindergarten – spare clothes!

The teachers have changed their meeting evening to Thursday as they have started a Wednesday afternoon life movement class at school with Patrice. Patrice is a curative eurhythmist who has recently moved into our local area. It is great to have such knowledgeable people sharing their work with our school and the wider community.

Which brings me to another upcoming event at school. The astronomer and creator of the annual biodynamic calendar Brian Keats will be coming to do an evening talk on the November 25th new moon. We will be gathering from 6:30pm and the talk will be from 7-9pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to come and be really inspired by Brian and walk away all the more informed about the cosmic world around us.

The College of Teachers

Class 1 has settled into Term 4. We had two beautiful home visits, thank you Rachel and Juliann. We started a new Main lesson, which belongs into the Key Learning area of Human Society and Its Environment. Our lesson is titled: "Four Forest Folk." The stories I tell create a picture of the 4 temperaments (which are never mentioned with the children) expressed in human or animal behaviour and physiognomy. These stories help the children to sympathise with and understand who they are and how different other people can be. This knowledge of Mankind, and hence self-knowledge, is the central goal of the whole social studies syllabus. The 4 temperaments were used before in a Maths lesson.

Introduction of the 4 operations. The 4 Number Mover Puppets live in our class room and they are loved by all the children. The children understood the connection to those characters. They drew the 4 Forest Folk characters in the colours and shapes of the puppets they know already. Naturally we practise and enhance our Maths skills. Xavier brought in brightly coloured wooden number blocks. We have used them so far to learn the 2 and 3 times table as well as the connection to addition. I call the blocks carriages of a train. We had carriages with 2 people and carriages with 3 people. I put out the blocks and the children count in twos or threes (2 4 6 8 10

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12...2+2+2+2+2+2) we count how many carriages are there and Magic Multiplier shortens the operation, instead of adding up 2+2+2+2+2+2 he multiplies 6X2 which gives us the number of the people in the carriages of the train (number of wooden blocks of the same length and colour). A homework task for the children is to learn the 2 and 3 times tables by heart singing them in order: 1X2=2, 2X2=4 etc., they can count in twos and threes and then learn to answer questions like : How much is 6X2 ?

The children retell the stories; discuss parts of the story and role play parts of it.

Every Monday in Middle Lesson I teach Music, Tuesday we do water colour painting, on Wednesday I introduce story books from our library to the children and on Thursday we do Dynamic Form drawing exercises. Marlene still comes on a Wednesday afternoon to finish craft projects. I continue other afternoons with a craft lesson and follow a games program. Harumi teaches Japanese on Thursday afternoon while I stay at school doing other tasks. I am looking forward to meet the older Kindy children this Thursday afternoon. On Friday I have a day off school. Jodi will teach and look after class 1.

Our class camp is booked for the 4th and 5th of December. I need to know dietary and medical conditions if applicable. You can contact me on Mondays at school from 3-4pm.

I am looking forward to seeing you or hearing from you.

Love Marga

Everyone is making a great effort to read and learn their lines for our class play. Many ideas are circulating regarding lighting, costumes and props. Each day as part of the class 3 main lesson work we will be developing and creating some of what we need. There have been some offers of help for other jobs. Many thanks.

Thank you also, for your support as the children endeavour to fulfill their house building homework task. The different styles of houses are really very well thought out and although it has not been an easy task for many, the quality and craftsmanship is outstanding! Each little house has its own coziness, which of course, is influenced by the choice of building materials. I had many complaints that no igloos made of ice were allowed in the task!

We have an animal carer coming to our class for the next three Tuesdays to teach the children about appropriate care and behaviour towards pets. The programme is called SPOT. Diane from the Nimbin preschool facilitates it.

This week we will be having a gymnastics/circus lesson with Genevieve. It will be held in the Barkers Vale School Hall. The girls love to wear skirts to school so it would be good to have a pair of shorts at school for this activity.

We made enough money from last Wednesday's tuck shop to adopt an orangutan. We will know more about this opportunity when, Tony from the Association, comes to talk to the class about the fund.

The class worked very hard to cook pancakes for the school, as well as work together on all the other jobs that were needed to provide the tuckshop service. We look forward to helping Sylvia again this week.

Have a happy week everyone. Well no truckloads of manure for our compost were delivered to school! I meant to write bags not truck! We will do a class cow poo collection when the weather is just right. We have gloves!

Love Simone

School photos will be taken on Tuesday 18th November here at school. India (Tané's Mum) will be taking the class photos and the individual portraits. Please dress colourfully for this occasion.

The Welcome to Community party at Hanging Rock Hall is coming up on Saturday 22nd November from 1pm. We will be selling food, hosting a crystal dig and craft activities. If possible, can families please provide a cake and some savoury food (easily handled e.g. pizza) for sale on the day. This can be dropped off to school on Friday or brought to Hanging Rock Hall.

Amanda/Helen for the Parent Group