

## TERM 3, 18th August 2008

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### Spring

In the heart of a seed buried deep so deep  
A dear little plant lay fast asleep  
"Wake" said the sun and creep to the light  
"Wake" said the voice of the raindrops bright  
The little plant woke and rose to see  
How wonderful the outside world might be

### Diary Dates

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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!

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

POSTPONED - Class 2/3 parent talk Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> August 3:30-5:00pm - POSTPONED  
\*\*\*\*\*This will now be on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.\*\*\*\*\*

BOOK WEEK! Please remember to bring in your favourite book on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>!

CANCELLED - Craft working bee for Open Day Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> August CANCELLED!

Spring cleaning Monday August 25<sup>th</sup>. Anytime during school hours. All welcome to help!  
In preparation for all of the upcoming events.

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

Spring cleaning Monday September 1<sup>st</sup>. Anytime during school hours. All welcome to help!  
In preparation for all of the upcoming events.

Craft Group is meeting at Sylvia's place ph66897524. Monday 25<sup>th</sup> August at 10am.

Official Opening of Kindy extension Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2pm followed by afternoon tea.

Parent Group Meeting, 9am Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at school. All welcome.

Board of Studies Inspection day will be on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September.

School Open Day will be on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September.

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

Well, it's been another week of absolutely glorious weather, although the crisp mornings followed by surprisingly hot afternoons have meant that layers of clothing have been essential. Children and teachers have been peeling off all over the place. It certainly seems that Spring is in the air and there is a feeling of steady progress being made in all areas of the school. Each day this week has seen new developments take place and there is a sense of happy anticipation all around. The lower playground now has a long jump pit all ready to be filled with sand, and materials for fencing the new garden by the big stump are being gathered and we should soon see the first sections being raised.

The first of our Spring songs have been sung and some new Spring songs (imported from NZ and Germany) have been introduced in the assemblies.

The outdoor tuck shop, 'Café Fx', opened to a full crowd on Wednesday and received rave reviews from teachers and children. How nice it was to see everyone sharing a warm meal and sitting around chatting so easily afterwards. A big thank you to Sylvia and Class 4,5,6 who put it all together, and a special thank you to the hard-working parents from that class who made the fresh bread and cakes. Delicious! There will be another Café this Wednesday with hot soup, bread and cake again while the cooler weather holds.

The children will be required to wear their full-brimmed hats from this week on, so please check that your child has one for school. Putting their names on the inside is important too so the hats can be reunited with their owner if left somewhere outside.

The teachers all thank you for your support with this as chasing up the children and sitting them in the shade if they don't have hats becomes quite tiresome as you can imagine.

Another piece of news is that this week is National Book Week. All over the country libraries and schools are putting all sorts of activities on. At our school the children have been asked to bring in their favourite book and promote it to the class. The teachers have some great lists of books suitable for each age level and these make great ideas for presents. A copy of this book list is available at the office and will be up on our website shortly.

Have a lovely week.

Warm regards Peter for the College of Teachers

Greetings,

The children have been picking the strawberries from our kindy garden, and we have been sharing them for morning tea. Such a simple act, but so satisfying and lovely!

We have enjoyed our sanding so much that we'd like to do more. If anyone has some driftwood they'd like to send in to kindy we'd be most grateful.

We begin this week with a spring morning circle in honour of the transition into spring. We introduced spring songs and rhymes last week, and this week story-time will be a puppet show where the spring fairy magically brings flowers and fresh life into the world.

Tuckshop will be available on Wednesdays for the kindergarten children. The cost is \$3:50 for soup and bread, followed by cake for dessert.

Birthday blessings to Declan.

Love Simone

Thank you everybody for attending last weekend's interviews and for waiting so patiently. I enjoyed leading you through your child's progress and sharing strengths and weaknesses to understand your child on a deeper level and being able to remedy and balance behaviours and skills if necessary.

All the children have done a lot of wonderful work.

Last Friday we were invited to Grace's home, nestled in a magical forest spot on Blue Springs. Grace showed the class her cubby outside and most of the class disappeared down the hare's path in the undergrowth coming out at the neighbour's house, Lisa, Daniel and Sasha's place. I sent the boys out as scouts to bring the party back home. It was just like in one of our stories.

Continued overleaf...

On their return we had lunch and the mountain of pikelets Elizabeth had prepared us was gone in no time – exploring gives appetite. We had a great time. Thank you Elizabeth and Grace!

On Friday we are invited to Lily Ann's home.

On Monday we started a new Main lesson. We are investigating the 4 elements through stories, observations from nature, playful discoveries and artistic presentations. The mineral world expresses through mechanics (pulley, wheel, inclined plane, lever, and wedge). Then we'll experiment with liquids and air. We will explore heat in the story – deepening the respect and responsibility learning about fire safety.

The first homework task is for children to look through their toys to see if there is anything left of those good old pulling/pushing toys (and other movements) like the duck on wheels. I would love to see some of those toys for show and tell.

Love Marga

Dear Class 2 and Class 3 parents,

I look forward to seeing you all at the class meeting which has been postponed until Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September and will have news for you then!

Warm regards Simone

#### CLASS Fx News

The class has now finished their main lesson on Norse Mythology, Ancient Greece, and Ancient Rome and this week begin a Maths main lesson on Fractions, Decimals and Percentages.

Last week the class had their first woodwork lesson for the term and we all headed out into the forest to harvest nice straight Camphor Laurel branches to make simple wooden swords. These make great first projects as they need only simple tools to construct but give the children valuable experience in shaping and jointing, as well as some basic designing and handle crafting.

Another new experience last week was our first lesson in basket making that was given by Nicole. She taught the children the extremely useful skill of string-making and showed us some of her wonderful baskets. Some of the children got quite skilled at making string and some very fine friendship bracelets and necklaces soon appeared. Nicole specialises in using materials from the local environment and apparently we have plenty around us that will make excellent string. Some of the string made will go to binding a nice grip for our sword handles, and later we hope to make string strong enough for our bow and arrow construction. More to come on this.

Another rich experience that came our way last week was the chance to visit a bladesmith, Geoff from Nimbin, at his home forge. After our class discussions about sword-making, the chance to actually make a set of knives was very exciting and the children all leapt at the opportunity to heat iron 'blanks' to red hot in the forge then shape them with a heavy hammer on the anvil. Geoff showed us how to grind them to a fine edge on the grinder and the children were most impressed with the shower of sparks that flew as he worked. Our new woodwork workshop now sports three little whittling knives and we have all gained a new piece of knowledge. Thanks very much to Geoff from us all.

The class parent meeting on Monday went very well. Although only six strong, some important information was shared and some useful discussion held. A copy of the minutes is attached to this newsletter.

Go well. Peter Calkin

Newsletters can now be emailed to anyone who prefers to receive their newsletter this way in place of (or in addition to) the printed copy. Also, the newsletter is published on the school's web site each week. If you would like to have your newsletter emailed, please let me know by sending an email to: [admin@rainbowridge.nsw.edu.au](mailto:admin@rainbowridge.nsw.edu.au)

Warm regards Helen

This week is BOOKWEEK and we would like the children to all bring in their very favourite book from home on Wednesday. It could be a book they loved from younger years or something they've read more recently.

Also if you didn't make the set up day this term and are a good book coverer the library needs your help – please see Lisa (Lille)

Warm regards Lisa

Craft group will meet next Monday 25<sup>th</sup> August at 10am. We will be making craft items for Open Day at Sylvia's house ph 66897524. All welcome and please bring lunch to share

Warm regards Elenya

#### WANTED

Please let us know if you can help with any of these items...

#### Storage Cupboard with Doors

Large cupboard preferably with shelves and must have doors. We can collect/repair etc. Please contact Cristina.

#### Sports equipment for class 4/5/6.

Old hockey sticks, balls, hoops etc. Please contact Peter.

#### Hand tools for woodwork projects.

Particularly seeking gouges, wood rasps, surform rasps, files, vices, work benches, fret saw and coping saws. Please contact Peter.

#### Fabric for Teepee covers.

Does anyone know of an inexpensive covering material for a little village of Teepees at school? Please contact Peter.

# CLASS 'FX' CAFE

## Wednesday Lunch

### \$3.50

This Week's menu:

Sylvia's homemade soup - Luscious Leek & Potato and Superb Minestrone served with fresh bread and butter followed by fresh home-baked cake with whipped cream.

Wheat and dairy-free alternatives will be available.

## Minutes of Class Parent Meeting Term 3 2008

Date 11<sup>th</sup> August 2008

Meeting opened 3:40pm

Present:

Peter (teacher), Elizabeth, Juliann, Lisa (Lille), Nicole, Amber

Apologies: Anna, Michelle,

Peter welcomed everyone and presented a game that the children played in the morning.

Class Report

Peter gave his impressions of the class and discussed the strengths and areas for development that he had observed. In general the children's academic skills were fairly well-developed and the main areas of focus for him were in working on the children's sense of beauty and a class culture of cooperation. He also discussed the curriculum and his reasons for giving separate main lessons for each class. He also expressed his desire for every child to be learning an instrument and a sport.

Parent Feedback

Parents spoke of how the change of teacher had been for their children and how things now seemed to be going for them.

Class Camp

Marg has already booked an exciting 4 night camp at the Nymboida Canoe Centre on the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> November. The children will have opportunities to learn canoeing, abseiling, orienteering, river safety (including tubing and boogie boarding), and have fun on a low ropes challenge course. The cost will be \$320 per child so fundraising will be important to begin straight away. More information will be coming out on the camp soon.

Fundraising

Ideas for raising money to off-set camp fees were discussed. All parents present were happy to contribute to the Class Fx Café by preparing breads and cakes, and other ideas suggested were:

- Growing basil and making pesto
- Busking

Class Café begins this week and continues for the term. Parents will be asked to make something to contribute most weeks. Peter to coordinate this.

Greek Olympics – Class 5

Dates were given for this event to be held at Tyalgum Ridge Event Centre on 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> September. 175 class 5 children booked to come. Five disciplines: running, long jump, discus, javelin, wrestling. Judged on both strength, skill and beauty. Parent help needed. Poppy Leeberry also attending. Cost \$45. Notice to come out on this.

Closing

Peter taught a song which is sung as a round. (To surprise the children with our skill!)

Meeting closed 5 pm