

TERM 2, 23rd June 2008

Why is the magpie singing what reason for his cheer
On this cold day in winter the wettest of the year?
The wettest day of Winter the wind blows cold and strong
And merry magpie singing his distinct happy song. Francis Duggan

College News

The children have been coming together beautifully to sing in celebration of winter. It is lovely on these misty mornings to hear their combined voices floating through the school. We look forward to sharing the singing with you at our winter festival. *If any families can help with the supply of foliage for our winter spiral (wattle or grevillia) please let the office know.* Last week we had the exciting event of a visit from the volunteer firefighters who came and gave us a very informative demonstration about fire safety. We all learned how to 'Stop, Cover, Drop and Roll' to put out flames on our body, should we ever need to, and then we learned to 'Get down low and go, go, go!' if we ever need to get out of a burning building. We also learned that we should never try to outrun a bushfire, and instead learned to crouch, with our heads down low, behind a boulder or a log and hope for the best, if we are ever caught out in one. We also learned that if we ever need to make a 'zero, zero, zero' call then the operator will ask us whether we need fire, police or ambulance and then we must be able to give our name and the address of the fire. The call centre will have a record of our phone number and they will ask us if we have a safe place to go. After all this excitement we all went out to the fire-trucks and sat inside them and even got to squirt the hose. A big thank you to the generous men and women firefighters Noel, Beth, Randy and Ian who gave up their time to come and talk to us.

College of Teachers

Diary Dates

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Class 4/5/6 luncheon for parents this Friday 27th June at 1:15pm followed by a concert at 2pm. All welcome.

Class 1 musical play Monday 30th June at 2pm. All welcome. Please be seated by 2:15pm for the beginning of the play.

Class 2/3 roller blading excursion to Lismore. Please send in \$8 for this outing.

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

Winter Lantern Festival for Primary School Thursday 3rd July.

Last school day for term 2 will be Friday 4th July.

Setup day prior to term 3 will be 9am -1pm, Friday 25th July.

Term 3 begins Monday 28th July.

Parent/Teacher interviews for class 1 Sat/Sun 9/10th August. Please call the office to book your interview time.

Thank you to our beautiful Kindy families, for bringing such love and warmth to our winter festival. The kindergarten space felt beautiful and the children were incredibly patient and calm while they waited to individually walk the spiral. It was certainly an honour for me to accompany each child into the spiral, a memory I will treasure. It was such a heart warming sight to look back at all those glowing lanterns bobbing along in the darkness. With such little assistance from the moon, I'm relieved we didn't lose anyone down a hole (next year I shall provide more light!).

Next Tuesday, July 1st, will be my last teaching day of the term. For the remaining three days the children will be in the capable hands of Sonja and Alenya on Wednesday, Robyn and Alenya on Thursday, and Sonja and Alenya on Friday.

Love Simone

The winter solstice has passed and we are now moving towards longer daylight hours. We will celebrate the solstice, next week, at the end of the school term, with our winter lantern festival.

We have enjoyed another home visit, this time to Luke's house. We drove out to Kunghur Creek Road from where we could look up at Sphinx Rock. First we walked up the hill behind Luke's home to look at the old dairy, marvel at the view to Mt Warning and climb an old tree with low branches. Then we ate lunch sitting around a long table like a big family. We were spoiled with home-baked raisin snail buns. Yum! Luke showed everybody his room and then it was time to leave again. Thanks to Luke, Brigitte and Murray for inviting us. This week we are invited to Zelulah's house and on the last Friday of term we will visit Nelene's home. There are a few more home visits planned for next term for any children who have not yet had one.

Our little musical play will be performed at school next Monday for the whole school at 2:15pm. Please come and support your child. I still need some help with the costumes. I am looking forward to seeing you soon. Please make an appointment for the parent-teacher interviews next term. Ring the office to have your name put into the roster for Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th August.

Love from Marga

Dear Class 2 and Class 3 parents,

Last week we visited our local organic market in Lismore as part of our maths lesson. We got to taste home made pickles and preserves and to see the first bunch of beetroot for the season. Many stall holders gave us things to taste as we walked around the market. We finished the visit with delicious shortbread and a hot chocolate at Alli's stall.

We are starting our last lesson block for the term and are learning about light and colour. Please take some time to view the spectrum of colours found in spiders' webs. Where else do you find the spectrum of colours? Look at different sources of white light – does the light spread out or does it create a spot of light on a dark surface. We will be carrying out different experiments in class, but your own observations are encouraged. Observe a flower petal on different coloured backgrounds. Does it look brighter or duller against a particular colour?

With the support of Michelle (Oscar's mum), India (Tane's mum), Marlene and Lisa, we will be using the Wednesday morning library time to practise reading. This will allow small groups of 2 children to work together on their reading with a supporting adult on hand to help.

Next Tuesday we will be going roller blading at the Lismore skating centre. I will be taking Gerhard's sister, Bettina and Paula (Fraser's mum) with me. The cost will be \$7 for the skating and \$1 to buy some warm chips to share at the park afterwards. Children are not to bring money for lollies.

Kathryn has been practising a song on the recorder and xylophone with the children and also some class songs. These will be performed at our winter festival on Thursday 3rd July.

Warm regards Simone

What a chilly start to the week it has been today! Time to get the winter woollies out!

We have three pieces of news from class 4/5/6 today:

Invitation – On Friday 27th July, class 4/5/6 would like to invite all class parents to a shared lunch put on by the children which will be followed by a class concert. The lunch will begin at 1:15pm and the concert will start at 2pm. Children may go home with parents after the performance.

Class Fundraiser – As part of our "business" maths, class 5/6 have been developing ideas for fund-raising enterprises. A decision on the most practical and profitable activity will be made this week and is likely to include a whole class activity on Saturday morning – tailored to fit in with sports activities. I will keep you posted on what develops. Funds raised will go towards a class outing in the last week. More to come on this.

Calling all lantern makers – Class 4/5/6 has begun making beautiful, but challenging, geometric lanterns. On Tuesday this week we need parent help to push these along. Please let me know if you're available. The lesson will be from 11:45am to 1pm.

Thanks Peter Charlie Calkin