News this week…

Band 5 principals meet at Tent Hill Lower

Yesterday our school had the pleasure of hosting a Band 5 Principals professional development day. Our Assistant Regional Director, Peter Baker organised the day. He asked a number of local principals to deliver presentations about their school improvement journeys and the work that was taking place in each of those schools.

I was privileged to be one of those presenters and talked about our whole school focus on improving Mathematics throughout the year. It was a great opportunity to reflect on how well the staff in this school have work as a team to work on enhancing teaching pedagogies to ensure that students acquire deep understanding of mathematical concepts. Many other principals asked questions about the daily number fact programs that we have in place. They were also interested in the diagnostics we use so we know where every student is at in terms of their maths understanding and as a way of ensuring we meet the needs of individuals.

I took the 20 principals in attendance on a school tour. Many asked questions about our positive behaviour for learning approach. I noticed quite a few taking photos of our BUDS walls and rewards charts in the classrooms. They liked our certificate reward system and asked many detailed questions about this.

The outstanding behaviour of the students, who were working quietly and calmly in their classrooms was also a standout mention.

There were also many comments about how beautiful our school looked, including the aspect, our grounds and classrooms. They were also impressed with the way we have utilised our library/admin area. It was nice to put our school on the map as this was the first time that a lot of these principals had visited this school. All on all a very successful day.

Leave
Mrs Kowitz will be on long service leave for the next 2 weeks while her family is visiting from the United States. During her absence, Mrs Martin will be the Acting Principal.

Around the Classrooms...

Prep—Yr 1 (Mrs Samuelsen) Final assessment tasks have begun for students in Prep—Year 1. Thank you to Mrs Natalier for her assistance while Mrs Smith is on leave.

Yrs 2/3/4 (Mrs Peach) Students have been busy working on fractions within real life and 3D shapes.

Yrs 5/6 (Mrs Martin) We have started our final assessment tasks for the year. This includes Mathematics assessments, History research assignment and our English assessment comparing the book of “Red Dog” to the movie. This is a very busy time and it is important for all students to be here so we can complete all of our tasks as well as possible. Many thanks to the students who have great attendance—this really has a definite positive effect in their results.
**SCHOOL NEWS...**

**Whole School Excursion**
As an end of year celebration for students, we are going on an excursion to **Darling Downs Zoo on Monday 28th November**. All students in P-6 will be going by bus. We will depart at 9.00am from school and return by 3.00pm for a normal pickup.

Each child is required to pay $5.00 by Wednesday 23rd November. This is half of the entry cost. The P&C and the school will fund the rest as well as the bus costs.

**Book Fair**
There are lots of excited students who are enjoying Book Fair at the moment. It is only here until Tuesday afternoon next week. Opening times are: 8.30—8.55am in the mornings and 3.00—3.30pm in the afternoons.

The P&C also give every child an end of year book prize. Each child will be able to select a book to the value of $15.00, which will be presented to them on our School Presentation evening. This will be organised by the teachers during class time. I would like to thank the P&C for this generous outlay of funds to support the literacy development of every child.

**The Arts News**
Students are completing their Music units. It has been pleasing to see the development of students with their recorder playing. Years 2 - 6 presented a short piece on the recorder to the class for assessment. Prep/Year 1 have been learning about beat, rhythm and pitch/melody and will complete a short item in the last week that involves both the rhythm of the piece and the solfa.

The students are all learning a special song to perform for Remembrance Day. We have talked in the upper classes about songs that are sung on special days. The whole school are also learning a song which they will sing with students around Australia for Music Count Us In. Music Count Us In is a programme to highlight the importance of learning music. We will be singing a song called "Let It Play". Look out for our choir performances at the end of year concert.

The Year 5/6 class are also beginning to put together a dance performance which they will present in class. Years 2 - 4 having been learning about improvisation in Drama and are completing assessment on this within some Drama games. The Prep/Year 1 class are beginning to develop some improvisation skills in Drama. Looking forward to continuing to work with your students in the Arts,

*Fiona Chapman (Music Teacher)*

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**BUDS AWARDS**
**Rainbow Warriors**

**Week 3**

**Week 4**

**Prep Open Morning**
Our next Prep Morning will be Thursday Nov 24. Not Nov 4 as in the school calendar.

**Enrolments for 2017**
Enrolment packs are now available from the office for parents wishing to enrol their child/ren for 2017. Enquiries welcome.
From the Chappy...

Choosing movies and games

Four tips to help you choose a movie or video game for kids

Movies and video games can be fun and entertaining. Only you can decide what is best for your child. We have put together some practical tips to help you make informed decisions about your family's entertainment choices.

1. Check the age recommendation for the movie or video game. If it is higher than your child's actual age, it may not be suitable.

2. Check the content – what does the advisory information state about the movie or game's content? Does it contain strong language, violence or sexual references? Will you be comfortable exposing your child to this type of material?

3. Look up the Classification Board decision about the movie or game you are thinking of watching or playing. Access the public database here.

4. Read reviews to see what other parents, experts and users are saying about a particular movie or video game.

Parenting Corner......

Children’s Anger - one of the biggest challenges as a parent

Managing anger is the biggest emotional issue that many children face. Boys, in particular, seem so angry at the moment, and I’m not sure why. Currently, our community is undecided about how to handle anger. In fact, anger is discouraged as we see no place for it in homes, schools or the community. 'People in a civil society don’t get angry' seems to be the conventional wisdom, so we bottle it up rather than express it healthily. The trouble is anger handled in this way simmers away making a person unhappy and depressed or it bursts forth in awful, uncontrolled ways.

Here are five ways to help boys (and girls) manage anger in healthy ways:

1. Recognise it
   The first step is to help kids recognise that they are angry. What are the signs? What are they thinking? We are all different but tension in the shoulders, restricted breathing and clenched teeth are common signs of anger. The Mood Meter offers a visual way for kids to recognise their emotions.

2. Name it
   Developing a vocabulary around anger is important. The more nuanced kids' language is, the better. Annoyed, angry and enraged are very different emotions but are often described as the same.

3. Choose it
   Help children recognise that they have a choice to stay in control or lose control when they get angry.

4. Say it
   Encouraging children to express how they feel is okay as long as no one is hurt. The use of 'I Statements' is one way of letting others know how they feel. “I feel really mad when you say nasty things about me...” is one way of being heard.

5. Shift it
   Help children shift their anger to a more pleasant and less energised place. Kids can shift their moods by modifying their thinking or altering their physiology. They may go for a run, play a physical game or pour their anger into a protest letter to let their frustrations out.