

Term Week 2
Monday 2nd May 2011

The boys (&girls) are back in town (Thanks Thin Lizzy)!

Welcome back! Term 2 is with us already! Our first couple of weeks are and were quite busy. We've had Anzac day in Camden and a service at school. We had photos (today). Smile everybody. We have cross country (this Wednesday) and NAPLAN is about to land on us. (Next week to be precise.)

Cross Country

It would be great to see 100% participation. (We came close last year). Be positive, have a go, do your best. Set your own goal. It might be to place. It might be to run faster than you did last year or it might just be to finish. No one is expecting you all to be Olympic athletes but just by having a go, taking a risk you just might surprise yourself. I am also looking forward to grabbing a hot dog and car cake afterwards. (Thanks Renai & P&C)

NAPLAN

NAPLAN is almost upon us. In fact it kicks off next week on the 10.5.11 and goes until the 12.5.11. This is a national test for all students in Year 3, Year 5, Year 7 and Year 9.

We have done some preparation at school and done some for homework. The test is done to identify aspects of your child's literacy and numeracy and it helps us identify some of their strengths and weaknesses. Of course it is only one piece of assessment and usually confirms what we already know at school. For some, however, being a time limited task and a test that is often talked about by the community and media it can cause some anxiety for some students. Of course you want your child to do their best. You can help with this by being encouraging. Tell them to concentrate, double check if time permits and to have a go and try their best. On the practical side make sure that they get a good sleep and eat a nutritious breakfast. (Included with this newsletter is a note for Parents of Year 3 & 5 students.)

ANZAC DAY

More than 25% of our students were in attendance. It was great to see so many children and parents take the time to march and represent the school at Camden. (Thanks Janine for the Anzac Day biscuits and lamingtons which kept the troops (us) fed during the ANZAC Day service. On Friday we also held a brief service at school conducted by the Year 6 students. Traveller made a fantastic wreath and Westbrook wrote expositions about why we should celebrate ANZAC Day. Here are a few to share...

ANZAC DAY by Oliver

Anzac Day is a very special day. It represents the day that our soldiers went out to fight for our country. We didn't have to. We chose to. Some of our poor Australians died horrible deaths during that war. Some people don't think we should celebrate and remember those brave soldiers who fought to make the world a better place. Obviously I think we should. The Anzacs fought for us so we could live freely. They gave their tomorrows for our todays. As they fought for freedom, they thought about their family. A family they might not return to. Through the blistering hot days and ferocious cold nights, they fought with pure boldness. They were courageous and positive, even though they saw their friends lying dead upon the ground. They were innovative and loyal, fighting to save us.

Anzac day isn't just any normal day. It's a tradition. Soldiers fought a fight that people were told they couldn't win. But they didn't give up. There were soldiers as old as 50 and others as young as 13. They all put their lives at risk, all for us. How would you like it if you died, doing what you thought was right and people didn't even care? You wouldn't like it, would you?

This is why I believe Anzac Day should be celebrated as a true tradition, forever to come.



We Should Celebrate Anzac Day - by Chantel

I think we should celebrate Anzac Day because soldiers made their tomorrows for our todays. We should be proud of them. We should remember them. Lest we forget. Those people were brave. Believe in those people that died for us. It's



important to remember the people that gave up their lives, even young people. It is a way to thank people.

It's good to remember people like Simpson and his donkey that helped soldiers who were hurt or suffering. Even though Gallipoli was a failure the men were brave and thought they were doing the right

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Help for the Goldsworthy's

You will recall the terrible incident that happened with Belinda Goldsworthy at the end of last year. The family are still in need of assistance as Belinda's recovery has and continues to be a long one. Emily and Justin are now both ex-students of our school but are still very much part of our community.

I have been approached by several people and groups who wish to offer support just as we did as a school community just prior to Christmas. I am told it would be of invaluable assistance to both Emily and Justin if people could assist by preparing and providing meals. Janet Broome a member of the Mount Hunter community is co-ordinating this and if you are able to help please let me know and I will put you in touch with her. The Macarthur Lions club are also currently organising a 'fundraising' night to support the family. (Probably June or July). I will let you know more when more information is available.

Workshops & P&C

Next Monday the 9.5.11 will be P&C. Before the meeting I will run our first workshop on Numeracy. I will touch on Problem solving skills and how you can help at home but I will also be

available to answer general questions on various areas of maths.

For example how we do subtraction? I will also provide tips and how maths is taught and how you can help at home.

Below is a simple strategy for dealing with problems. Remember our main goal is to learn as much as we can and learn how to get along with others. Remember things don't always go our way and mums and dads can't solve every problem or issue for us so don't forget...

S – Stay Calm (most problems come about because of misunderstanding or miscommunication or because of an accident.)

T – Try to ignore (Being calm and ignoring can often make things go away.)

A – Ask to stop or ask why? (Do this politely but firmly so understandings are clear.)

N - Never Fight (You may have disagreements at times but it is never an option to fight with anyone and be rude, mean or physical.)

D – Duty Teacher (see a teacher for help)

Head lice strike again –

Unfortunately this problem is rearing its ugly head again.

I ask that all parents thoroughly check their children for any sign of lice.

If you need to, please treat thoroughly and check before returning to school as they tend to spread quickly amongst some students.



Lost Bird

One of our students has found a bird that is tame, has a blue head, and is possibly a type of parrot. If anyone is missing or knows someone that has lost a bird please contact the school.

CommonwealthBank



Don't forget Student Banking is on Thursdays.

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School Contribution

Don't forget to keep your receipt you may be able to claim this at tax time. Contributions are \$25 per child or \$40 per family.

Mathletics

The school has already covered the cost of many text books and school magazines. Each child will be provided with 10-12 booklets in mathematics this year. The cost to the school is \$15 per student and I am asking that you assist with this cost by paying \$10 per child. Thank you, your assistance is appreciated.



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