SANDON PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
Friday 4th December 2015

THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK:
“If we wait for the moment when everything, absolutely everything is ready, we shall never begin.”

– Ivan Turgenev

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY
Today we celebrated the International Day of Disability with a special assembly. Congratulations to the students who did such a superb job in leading the assembly. It was a wonderful opportunity to share and celebrate the contributions made to Sandon Public School by all of our students with special needs, difficulties and disabilities. I know those of you who were able to come to the assembly would agree that the Purple and Green Class performance was creative and fun. I would like to thank the students of Green and Purple Classes and their helpers from other classes for their terrific efforts. I would also like to thank their teachers – Miss McCulloch, Miss M, Mrs Commens, Julie and Chrissy – for the work they did in preparing the students for the play. Thank you to those parents and carers who were able to come to the assembly today to help us celebrate and acknowledge that part of Sandon which underpins our culture of inclusiveness and support for every one of our students.

PRESENTATION DAY AND PARENT THANK YOU MORNING TEA
Next Tuesday 8th December, we will be holding our Annual Presentation Day to be followed by our annual Parent Thankyou Morning Tea. Presentation Day will be held in the school hall and commence at 9:30 am. We hope as many of our Sandon parents and carers will be able to join us to celebrate the many achievements of our students throughout the year. We also hope that as many of our parents and community members who have assisted us and volunteered throughout the year, can join us for morning tea following the morning’s formalities.

CALENDAR – 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 7th December</td>
<td>Last day canteen will be operating this year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 8th December</td>
<td>Presentation Day 9:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Volunteers’ morning tea 11:00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 9th December</td>
<td>Year 6 Farewell Dinner 6:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 11th December</td>
<td>SHINE picnic day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 16th December</td>
<td>Last day for students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2016</td>
<td>Thursday 28th January Students return to school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 1st February</td>
<td>Kindergarten commence school</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**SEMESTER TWO REPORTS**

Next Friday 11th December, parents/carers will be receiving your child’s Semester Two Report for 2015. Once again, this will be using the report format which provides parents/carers with information regarding your child’s achievement as compared to stage outcomes and what has been taught this semester. Student achievement will be indicated in the form of a five-sale terminology (*Limited to Outstanding*) and an effort rating scale (1 – 5) as well. Kindergarten will be slightly different.

We appreciate that parents/carers recognise the considerable amount of work that goes into the preparation of these reports. Should you wish to clarify any information regarding your child’s report, please don’t hesitate to speak with your child’s teacher.

---

**CLASS NEWS**

**KC**

Thank you to everyone who has supported KC in anyway this year. We have an energetic group of children who have embraced Sandon’s SHINE values right from the start and we can tell that they are ready to move on to Year 1 next year. Reading has been an important part of every day at school and we hope that parents will continue to read to their children every day during the school holidays - if you haven’t joined the Town Library yet do so now - it is a great resource and has some wonderful books for borrowing.

While on the topic of books...please make sure that all Home Readers and Library books are returned early next week. We are about to start sorting and counting our readers so that they will be ready for next year’s kindergarten classes.

We would like to thank Catherine, Eva, Chrissy and Linda for their work in KC this year. The support of these SLSOs and the wonderful Admin team at Sandon has kept our class running smoothly all year and has meant that every child has had the care that they need.

Best wishes to all our families for the Christmas season and a safe and happy holiday.

Carolyn Gadd and Kia Fabian

**KM**

With their kindergarten year almost over the children in KM have gained independence, self-confidence, made wonderful progress in their learning and are ready for their transition to year one! They will have three visits to the year one rooms on Mondays. Their first visit last week was a great success with the children coming back excited and keen to share what they had done. This transition experience should lessen any worries they may have about moving on next year. If you have any questions regarding next year please come and have a chat. As we have now had to return our library resources and books the children may like to bring a favourite book from home to share with the class. They can keep their books in our reading corner for a few days. During these last weeks we will be continuing with our L3 reading and writing activities and include some fun Christmas themed activities and craft.

I would like to take this opportunity to say what a privilege it has been to work with your child this year. Thank you to those who have participated in home reading and been part of their child’s learning.

Have a safe and relaxing holiday with your family.

Michele Thomas

**1T**

I would like to thank all the students from 1T for the fantastic year we have had together. We have learnt a lot and had a lot of fun along the way. I will miss seeing your smiling faces every day and your enthusiasm for learning new things. Thank you 1T for your hard work every day and for all the hard work that you put into practicing our ‘Spaghetti’ song for Grandparents’ day. We have had many fantastic experiences this year including, our trip to Thalgarrah, all the awesome science experiments we have completed, reading together in our castle and dressing up to celebrate book week. I wish all the students from 1T a happy and safe holiday break and all the very best for next year.

Tom McLean
1/2P
It has been a great pleasure to teach all students in 1/2J this year. We have all learnt so much together and I know everyone will continue their growing and learning next year in grades 2 and 3.

As I have been writing reports and marking student assessments and work, I am blown away by how far everyone has come and how hard they have worked all year. Thankyou to all the parents who have helped students complete their homework, projects and reading throughout the year, this means a great deal to your child and to me.

Over these last few weeks we are celebrating all our hard work by having lots of fun. We have redecorated our classroom and are making lots of decorations and things to share with our families.

I hope everyone has a safe and fun holiday with their families. I look forward to seeing everyone around school again next year.

Jane Palfreyman

2/3D
The year is quickly coming to a close. Thank you for your support throughout the year. It has been an exciting year with lots of growth and development and I have felt privileged to teach your children.

We are beginning to finish up some of our units now. Our science unit, ‘Schoolyard Safari’, has come to an end. The children created a great book with their own investigations of a variety of insects. It has been an enjoyable unit for everyone. The habitats they have made for an insect have been great and I have been impressed with the information the children have provided about their insect.

I would like to remind parents that all readers need to be returned to the classroom. There are a few readers still outstanding and we need those back ready for the class next year. If you could scout around your house for any that you still have, that would be great.

To help your child retain the information they have learned this year, holiday reading will ensure they will be ready for next year. Children often lose some knowledge over this longer holiday period. The simple act of reading makes a significant difference to this loss of knowledge. People are generally attracted to one of four different styles of books. The website, http://books.readkiddoread.com/index.php/great-pageturners, is a great website to visit to determine what type of book your child enjoys. Once you have discovered that, you will have a motivated reader on your hands.

I would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a great holiday period.

Darlene Erieau
3/4L
Our class is busy and enjoying the end of term activities. A large number of our class have been performing in the ‘S Factor’. Proudly, several students from 3/4 L have made it through to the final. Yes we are a talented bunch.
The students are engaging in our science lessons, investigating different materials. We have found out how plastic and paper are made. We have also discussed the benefits and disadvantages of their use on our environment.
The students have been enjoying art with some fantastic portraits being created. We have studied the realistic proportions of a human face and understand how to draw facial features in the right places and the right sizes.

There are a number of important events coming up. The Stage Two classes are working very hard to prepare a song for Presentation Day, next week.

Linda Frizell

3/4P
Here we are at the end of another busy year. This is the last class news for 2015 from 3/4P.
I want to say a big thank you to all the children in the class. It has been fabulous and you have all come such a long way.
As we wind down to the end of the year we are going to remain busy. We have studied Charlotte's Web this term and the children have really enjoyed looking at both of the movies.
We are still working on our unit of work on People and their beliefs. This looks at different cultures, religions and celebrations.

In maths we have been looking at fractions and decimals. Part of this has been looking at equivalent fractions and decimals. We have also been looking at algorithms for addition, subtraction and multiplication.
I want to take this opportunity to say the best of luck to all the children in 3/4P for 2016. You are another year older and wiser.
I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and safe holiday.

Linda Frizell

4/5/6H
Wow, what a year! To state that better - what a GREAT year! We have covered a lot of material and participated in many fun and exciting projects. We made many new friends along the way too.
Each of your children has brought such joy and happiness to our classroom. I was so fortunate to have such a wonderful group of children this past year. My friends and family often laugh at me when I refer to your children as “my kids”. They are like my own children. They have all touched my life, this school year, in very positive and rewarding ways.
I hope as the years go by that they keep in touch.
Farewell to our Year 6 students as they make their journey to high school. Please remember that you will always be part of our ‘Sandon Family’ and we love hearing about your exciting endeavours.
Finally, I wish you all a happy and safe holiday season and look forward to seeing our new school leaders ‘SHINE’ in 2016.

Helen Bull

5/6R
5/6R has been learning about government and we participated in role-play to help us learn about politics and the senate. You might have seen our performance at an assembly. We all sat in the correct positions within the horseshoe. We had the Leader of the Government and Leader of the Opposition, as well as Senators.
We also held elections. There were four parties: The # Unicorns, the Aussie Ranga-Roos, the People Party and the Fabulous Party. The # Unicorns won the election, the Aussie Ranga-Roos came in second place and the People Party was third. We held a secret ballot and counted the votes just as you would in a real election.
The Year 6 students are looking forward to starting high school next year and the Year 5 students are looking forward to their leadership role next year.

Bailey and Cooper

As the term draws to an end, we are starting to wind down in the classroom. We have almost completed our unit on Local, State and Federal government, and have learnt many new concepts in maths using decimals in problem solving. We have been busy preparing for the end of year events including the Year 6 Pool Party, the Year 6 Farewell dinner, the International Day of Disability special assembly and Presentation day. It is an exciting time in Stage 3.

It has been an absolute pleasure to teach 5/6R this year. Such a wonderful, creative and enthusiastic class of students, who made me smile daily with their special brand of humour. We wish the Year 6 students all the best in their new adventures next year as they enter high school and we look forward to seeing the Year 5 students take up their new roles as leaders of the school in 2016. I would like to take this opportunity to say ‘Thank you’ to the students, parents and carers of 5/6R for the past 12 months, and to wish you all a safe and happy holiday.

Renee Thomas

Green

As the year draws to an end, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Hermione, Kory, Carly, Wade and Andy on a fantastic academic year. All of the students have worked extremely hard this year, and as a result, have successfully achieved a variety of individual and class learning goals. I would like to thank the parents and carers of the students in Green class for their ongoing support throughout the year. It has been an absolute pleasure teaching your children and sharing with them some exciting learning experiences. Despite the impending end of the year, our calendar is still extremely full until the end of the term. The class are all looking forward to performing their play at Friday’s International Day of People with a Disability assembly. We then move forward to the 2015 Presentation Day on Tuesday and the SHINE picnic day on the following Friday. On behalf of Chriissy, myself and the students of Green class, we would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday.

Lea Mulrooney

Purple

Congratulations to all the students in Purple and Green classes for their efforts in the play rehearsals and the final performance of ‘A very noisy bear’ to celebrate International Day of People with a Disability. It has been a big commitment for all the students at this time of the year when everyone is getting very tired, but their ‘never give up’ attitude is what made the performance so special. I would like to say a very big thanks to Kate McCulloch for her planning, patience and willingness to take on this big job. The students have really enjoyed it and have certainly learnt many skills along the way. It is almost that time where we are starting to pack up and start sending home workbooks. We have begun to do a Christmas work book which the students are enjoying.

Congratulations to Michael and Maielle who will be going to high school next year. Although we will miss them terribly, we know that they are both ready to embrace their new journey into high school. Also I would like to say a very big thank you to all our wonderful parents who are always very supportive. It has been a pleasure working with your children and we are extremely proud of the significant gains that each and every one of them has made.

Lastly I would like to acknowledge the amazing job that Julie and Kate do in Purple class. It has been a fantastic year and it has been wonderful working with these two very dedicated and special people. We wish everyone a happy and safe holiday and look forward to seeing everyone in 2016.

Lindy
SCHOOL BANKING VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED FOR 2016
We urgently need some parents/carers to volunteer to help with school banking at Sandon next year, as the current volunteers are unable to continue.
School banking is a very valuable program for our students - not only are they learning to save money, but at the same time, funds are being raised for our school, from commission received from the Commonwealth Bank, which is then be used for purchasing resources. The day on which school banking is conducted is flexible. Please contact Courtney Ryan 0424 038 203 if you are able to help.

LAST DAY FOR CANTEEN 2015
The final day for canteen this year will be Monday 7th December. A special menu will be sent out for Monday 14th December, when left over stock will be on sale. Thank you,
Courtney Ryan
Canteen Coordinator

FOR SALE
2009 VE COMMODORE
12 months rego
117 500 kms
IN GOOD CONDITION
Phone: 0447 417 763

FOOTBALL ACHIEVEMENT
Congratulations to Cooper Heagney in 5/6R, who has been invited to attend a Junior Academy Program to develop his football skills.