THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:
“Life isn’t about getting and having, it’s about giving and being.”
– Kevin Kruse

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

SEMESTER ONE STUDENT REPORTS

Today the Semester One student reports have been sent home to parents/carers. The Semester One report is a summary of your child’s progress based on what has been taught this semester. Except for students in Kindergarten and in each of our special education classes, student achievement will be indicated using a five-point scale (Limited, Basic, Sound, High, and Outstanding). This is not new to most parents/carers and following is a reminder of the definition/meaning of each of these.

Student achievement has been determined as a result of both, in-class assessments and observations, as well as stage-based moderated assessment tasks designed to indicate how well a student is progressing as compared to the stage syllabus outcomes (learning content) for each subject.

Teachers will then use all of the assessment data that has been collected to make a judgement regarding the extent of each child’s achievement against the outcomes covered so far this semester and according to where they are up to in their journey towards the completion of stage outcomes.

If your child is in Year 3 for example, the 2015 Semester 1 report represents the first quarter of the journey towards achieving Stage 2 outcomes. If your child is in Year 4, this report represents the third quarter of the journey towards the achievement of Stage 2 outcomes.

It is also important to reflect on the fact that some children will require less time to achieve the stage outcomes and some children will require longer. As we know each child progresses according to their own individual stage of development.

Please read your child’s report and if you have any questions or require further clarification, please don’t hesitate to contact your child’s teacher at a conveniently mutual time so that you can discuss these.

CALENDER – 2015

General School Contributions are now due: $45.00 per family
Art & Craft fee $10.00 per student (maximum $30.00 per family)

July____________________
Monday 13th July
Staff Development Day – No school for students
Tuesday 14th July
Students return to school
Friday 17th July
Whole School Assembly – NAIDOC Week celebration.

August____________________
Wednesday 26th August
Newcastle Permanent Mathematics Competition

October____________________
Monday 19th – Friday 23rd
Stage 3 Major Excursion: Lake Keepit


E-GATS AND ‘THE WORLD AROUND US’
On Monday the 22nd of June, we travelled to Thalgarrah for the e-GATs camp. We attended a course that focused on ‘The World around us’. A few days before we arrived, Matt Mackenzie, our mentor, sent us an e-mail with our first assignment. We had to research a natural phenomenon and put our research into five simple sentences, accompanied by two labelled diagrams. Once we were at Thalgarrah we used our prepared research information to make a stop motion movie on the iPads together. Although the movie was about 40 seconds long, it took us more than 5 hours to make it!
On the second day of the camp, we performed two experiments. The first experiment involved yabbies and their preferences for different things. The second experiment involved researching cars and determining how differing colours directly affect the temperature inside the car. We finished off our trip with a look at smoke. We had to make our own fires with matchsticks and the natural environment. Although it took us some time, we managed to start a fire. Camp was amazing!
Niamh and Jasmine – 5/6R

Limited: The student has an elementary knowledge and understanding in few areas of the content and has achieved very limited competence in some of the processes and skills.
Basic: The student has a basic knowledge and understanding of the content and has achieved a limited level of competence in the processes and skills.
Sound: The student has a sound knowledge and understanding of the main areas of content and has achieved an adequate level of competence in the processes and skills.
High: The student has a thorough knowledge and understanding of the content and a high level of competence in the processes and skills. In addition, the student is able to apply this knowledge and these skills to most situations.
Outstanding: The student has an extensive knowledge and understanding of the content and can readily apply this knowledge. In addition, the student has achieved a very high level of competence in the processes and skills and can apply these skills to new situations.

I would like to sincerely thank all parents and carers, students and staff for a most successful and productive Term 2, 2015. We deeply value and appreciate the contribution of everyone (large or small) who has assisted in supporting our school, students and staff this term. The partnership we share with you is wonderful.

We wish you a relaxing and safe holiday.

**Students return to school on Tuesday 14th July.**

Sue McCulloch
Principal

**Holiday Art workshops!**

I will be running art workshops during the school holidays to encourage resilience and reduce anxiety in children and teenagers. Workshops include topics such as ‘being mindful with art’ and ‘the world is in my hands’. Teenage only workshops (ages 14-18) include ‘art as journaling’ and ‘inside out’ also aimed at encouraging resilience and reducing anxiety.

All workshops run for 3 hours and all materials are included.

If you would like to know more, please visit my website (www.creativecounsellingsolutions.com.au).

**Julie Nicholson - Creative Counselling Solutions.**

**MUFTI DAY & DISCO**

The gold coin donations raised a grand total of $282.65. These funds will now be used to buy new toys for our new sandpits. Thank you for your kind donations.
'COLOUR THE WORLD' VISUAL ARTS CAMP
On Monday the 15th of June Joe, Braith, Bailey, Jessica and Ella-rose went to Thalgarrah for the ‘Colour the Earth Visual Arts’ camp. At first, we got to meet a well-known artist Nicky, she told us how she became an artist and showed us one of her original art works. For a warm up game we played Pictionary and broke up into nine different groups with five in each one. The warm up game was fun but the real art was just getting started.
The first artwork we did was landscape. We had to find a shadow of leaves and branches and trace the shadow of the leaves onto paper. Then we traced over the pencil with oil pastels. We used watercolours to paint the leaves and background in warm and cold colours.
For our next activity we gathered supplies such as sticks, bark, rock, leaves and grass. We sat our supplies on a light piece of blue paper for two minutes and then put the paper in some water for two minutes. After the two minutes we let the paper dry and where we had put our supplies it left a white shape on the blue paper.
These are examples of a few activities. We completed lots of other tasks using many different mediums and artistic techniques.
We all had a wonderful time and made lots of new friends, as well as learning more about visual arts. We would like to go again.
On returning back to school, Mrs Bull allowed us to teach the rest of 4/5/6H our ‘shadow art watercolour’ technique. We loved passing on our new knowledge to our classmates. We have included some class photographs of this lesson.
Braith and Josiah– 4/5/6H

SANDON ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
Last Thursday the whole school attended our annual athletics carnival. Even though the weather was not perfect, the students had a wonderful day. Thankyou to all the parents who came to support their children, especially those who helped time keep. Ribbons for first, second and third place in each event have been given to the children. Next term, students who were placed first or second will be given a note about the Zone Athletics Trials which will be held early next term. We have to complete our field event trials here at school before final results of house points and Age Champions can be decided.
Linda Frizell