THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:
“Kindness is more important than wisdom; and the recognition of this is the beginning of wisdom.”

Theodore Isaac Rubin

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

STAFF STAR OF THE WEEK
Jane Palfreyman
I was born in Canberra, where I went to University. My first teaching job was in a Preschool, which I loved because I was able to sing, dance, paint and draw every day! Then I transferred into primary school and taught kindergarten and year 1. I wanted to travel so I went to England and taught in a school in London for a year. When I came back to Australia I lived in Sydney for 8 years (had 3 children!) and then moved to beautiful Armidale. I love living in Armidale and I love teaching at Sandon! My favourite things to do are gardening, listening to music, bushwalking and dancing! I get a buzz out of coming to school every day and helping children learn! I love making learning fun and exciting and hope to teach for many years to come.

LIBRARY UPDATE
Thank you to Roger, Mrs Schmude and the wonderful band of volunteers who came to the library working bee on Wednesday afternoon. Our ‘new look’ library is going to be up and running for Book Week and the Book Fair next week. Please call in and have a look next time you are visiting the school.

CALENDAR – 2015
General School Contributions are now due: $45.00 per family
Art & Craft fee $10.00 per student (maximum $30.00 per family)

August
Tuesday 25th August
5/6R Thalgarrah Creative Arts day

Wednesday 26th August
Stage 3 Sports Leadership day

Thursday 27th August
Years 3 & 4 Point Lookout excursion
Duval High School Taster lesson
1-3pm

Friday 28th August
☞ Last day for Permission note for St. Mary’s chess tournament
Book Week character parade 9:30am
Regional Athletics Carnival Tamworth
3-6 Assembly 2:20pm

September
Wednesday 2nd September
St. Mary’s chess tournament

Armidale Community of Schools Creative Arts extravaganza

Friday 4th September
Education Week & Literacy and Numeracy Week Assembly 9:30am followed by morning tea.

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

Friday 30th October
Grandparents Day
BOOK WEEK IS HERE!!!!!!!
Just a final reminder to parents / carers that Book Week and our Book Fair is next week. The Book Fair will be in the Library and open to students, parents and grandparents at the following times:

**Thursday 27th August & Friday 28th August 8.30am – 12noon.**
This year our Book Week Character Parade will be held on **Friday 28th August commencing at 9:30am.** Children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character for the parade and bring along a copy of the book from which their character was taken. Parents are most welcome to join us for the Book Character Parade as usual. This event is always a highlight of our Sandon calendar.

AN EVENING WITH ACOS
Don’t forget to purchase your tickets for the Armidale Community of Schools Creative Arts Concert on **Tuesday 2nd September.** These are available at Readers Companion Book Store in the Armidale Mall. Tickets are $15:00 for adults and $10:00 for children.

We have Sandon students performing in the *Stage 1 dance group*, in *Mrs Fabian’s drama group*, in the *Community of Schools Choir and Orchestra* as well as in the *Welcome to Country Dance Group*. It will be a wonderful evening showcasing the creative talents of children in Armidale.

PARKING OUTSIDE SANDON
**Please DO NOT park your car across people’s driveways** just up from school as there is a resident with a medical condition who needs to be able to exit their driveway at all times. Please do the right thing by our neighbours. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

CHANGE OF ASSEMBLY TIME
Commencing today until the end of the year, our normal **Friday Assemblies will begin a little earlier at 2:20pm** so that we are not rushed when presenting our awards. We hope to see you there!

DAFFODIL DAY
We have a limited number of pens ($1.00) and key rings ($8.00) for sale at the Office for those wishing to support this very worthwhile charity.

CLASS NEWS

**KC**
We are very pleased that most of our class have escaped the terrible bugs that are going around at present. Maybe all the fruit that is being eaten during ‘Crunch and Sip’ and our discussions about healthy habits are paying off. Thank you to those parents who have sent in extra boxes of tissues recently.

At the beginning of the term we asked for photos, of places of special interest to the children, to be brought in for our work in HSIE. It is not too late for them to come in.

Writing is starting to go ahead in leaps and bounds for most children. The attitude towards writing is very positive and Mrs Fabian and I are delighted to see the children attempting tricky words by saying the words that they need slowly, and recording the sounds that they can hear. Many children have developed a useful writing vocab and others are working hard to learn how to spell the words that they use a lot. Please encourage writing at home.

Carolyn Gadd and Kia Fabian
With winter almost finished we are approaching the halfway point for your child’s kindergarten year! The weeks seem to have flown by and I know it has been a difficult time for illnes for both the children and teachers. I have been away for almost 2 weeks but fortunately the children have had Miss Lewis working with them during this time and this has helped to keep them settled and working well.

In visual art this term we are experimenting with collages. We have shared the text Crocodile Beat with tissue paper collages by artist Patricia Mullins. The children are now creating their own animal collages using the layering of paper to create patterns and textures. We look forward to sharing them with you in assembly in week 8.

Our unit this term in Science is ‘What’s it made of?’ In this unit the children are exploring the materials in the playground and in the school, discussing the different properties of materials and their uses.

We have quite a few children in our class who are arriving late. As we establish our daily timetable and begin our English work in the morning block this is resulting in your child missing valuable learning time. Please have your child at school by 9:00am at the latest to make sure they have a settled and productive day.

Michele Thomas

1T has continued its investigations into what happens when different household substances are mixed together. We wanted to know what would happen if we mixed cornflour, water and food colouring together, so we split into teams to find out. In our groups we took turns following a procedure to create slime. The slime was runny when we put our fingers in it, but when we tried to poke it, the slime was hard. How Cool!!!!

This week we started our own fairy tale themed grass heads. We created our own grass heads and decorated them like characters from fairy tales. We had princesses, trolls and princes. They look fantastic and as we look after them they will grow and look even better.

Tom McLean

1/2P

1/2J has been having a lot of fun reading, writing and analysing Traditional Tales and modern day rewrites. We wrote an official Police Report about the crime scene at the Three Bears House. We also discovered the truth about the Three Little Pigs story. We have our own bean stalks growing up to our castles in the clouds and we are discovering the role that wolves play in Fairy tales – they always seem to be the bad character!

In Maths the students have been creating their own number patterns, both increasing and decreasing. We learnt how to make patterns using calculators and how to describe what our patterns are doing. The students have made a class supermarket to help us learn our combinations to 10 and 20. Each buyer has $10 or $20 and can buy two products that add up to this amount. The shopkeeper then helps to check the total on the cash register calculator.

We love being creative, and in keeping with our Fairy Tale theme we learnt how to draw castles. Every castle is different, as is every artist, and our pictures look amazing. Well done 1/2J.

Jane Palfreyman

2/3D

Earlier in the term 2/3D had a wonderful time planting the three garden beds outside our room. Thanks to Bunnings, who donated plants and expertise, we now have some lovely plants that are happy in the shade. The students have become proficient at testing the soil to determine if it needs watering.

In HSIE, an artefact, which the students predicted was for washing clothes or making soup, was put to use. After pouring cream into the bowl, the predictions changed almost unanimously to cheese making. Experiencing turning the handle again and again, discovering how life was years ago, made the students thankful it wasn't a chore they had to do. What was the final result? Butter! What a great way to end the day, butter on crackers!

Darlene Erieau
3/4L
It has been a challenging few weeks for the class with a lot of students and teachers struck down by a nasty cold / flu bug. We are all back on deck and working hard in class. All the students are looking forward to next Thursday’s excursion to Point Lookout. We’re hoping for beautiful, sunny, bushwalking weather, fantastic views and lots of new and interesting things to discover.

In Science we are exploring heat sources and how humans use heat to do necessary jobs, such as cooking and keeping warm. Pretty low temperatures have been recorded lately inside and out!

We have very motivated students in 3/4L. Some Year 4 students are very close to entering into the ‘Handwriting Castle’ gates to receive their pen licence. Tamora Griffiths will be taking the class for the next four weeks. Due to family commitments I must take these weeks off. I’m sure the students will enjoy their time with Mrs Griffiths and show her their best learning behaviours. I will be looking forward to seeing the students in Term 4.

Linda Frizell

3/4P
Week 6 already and we have had a busy term learning new concepts and reinforcing old ones. We have continued to look at language features to make our writing more interesting. This week we looked at collective nouns and then we had fun making up some of our own, which we published on the computer and presented as a book. Some examples that the class came up with were:


I am very pleased with the classes’ progress in spelling. We have had some tricky words and the children are doing well to apply their skills to spell them.

In mathematics we have been learning about multiplication and division and how these can be represented in different ways. We also learnt about chance and the likelihood of something happening. We rolled some dice to see the chances of certain combinations coming up. The students were then able to plot this data onto a graph.

3/4P is looking forward to our Point Lookout excursion as this will reinforce much of what we have discussed about National Parks this term. Last Friday we had a talk from Mr Trent Bull who works for the National Parks. He was able to tell us why National Parks are important and the many other roles the National Parks play in protecting our heritage. Thank you Trent, the children really enjoyed the talk.

Linda Frizell

4/5/6H
The last fortnight in 4/5/6H has been far from dull! We have had two excursions, one to Thalgarrah for creative arts and one to Uralla to learn about Thunderbolt and gold panning. The students had such a wonderful time on both of these excursions and learnt so much - particularly how to detect fool’s gold. 4/5/6H would like to thank all the parents, helpers and teachers who made these excursions possible.

We have recently started a new HSIE unit, Global Connections. In this unit we have been learning about products that we use every day and how these products have made their way to Australia. These products are called imports. We have also started reading a new novel written by Morris Gleitzman called Boy Overboard. We can’t wait to further read and learn about Jamal and Bibi’s experiences as refugees making their journey to Australia.

In 4/5/6H we always show our SHINE values in everything we do. On Friday, we used an iPad app called Book Creator to create an audio-visual book showing how we demonstrate our SHINE values throughout our school. We had so much fun and made wonderful creative pieces of work that we can’t wait to share!

Paul Earl

Green
I have been thoroughly enjoying my time with Green Class and look forward to working with them for two more weeks. We are continuing our literacy unit ‘Colours’. The students have created a big book of edible colours about fruit and vegetables as well as their own alien based on the book ‘The Colour Thief’.

In HSIE the students have been learning about the Need for Shelter. They have looked at animals and the reason why they have different types of shelter and we have started to discover different types of shelter that people need around the world based on their climate.

Green Class has been busy comparing things that are taller and shorter and measuring the length of different objects using teddy bear counters in mathematics. The students have really enjoyed the hands on lessons!

Samantha Floyd
5/6R
Over the last three weeks 5/6R has had the pleasure of Mrs Angela Harris joining us in the classroom as a pre-service teacher. Mrs Harris is with us for a couple more weeks and we already know that we are going to miss her when she finishes her time with us.

Last week 5/6R learnt about the cultural importance of drumming around the world, with a focus on Japanese Haiku drumming. Mrs April Kelson volunteered her time to join us and teach the students a little about dynamics, beat and rhythm. The students performed a percussive piece using buckets and paintbrushes at assembly; this was accompanied by a small student choreographed martial arts demonstration. It was a lot of fun and I was really proud of all the students in 5/6R who performed the piece together with excellent timing and rhythm. Well Done!

5/6R is enjoying reading the novel ‘Boy Overboard’ and have been analysing how the author uses Figurative language to describe different scenarios within the book. The students have been very engaged in discovering more about how we have global connections as individuals, through the media, the internet, the technology we use and what we eat and wear. It has led to some very surprising and interesting discussions.

This week students from Stage 3 had the opportunity to visit both Armidale High school and Duval High school as part of their ‘taster’ days. The students enjoyed a Japanese experience at Armidale High School, tasting Japanese sushi and seaweed, creating origami hats and learning how to count in the Japanese language through singing a tune. At Duval High school, the students were broken up into groups. They played games such as ‘Pacman’ in Physical Education, studied atlases in Geography, created yummy ‘Lion’ cupcakes in Food technology and played the song ‘Riptide’ on ukuleles in the Music lesson. All of the students had a fabulous time and are looking forward to the next lot of taster lessons coming up soon.

Just a reminder that next week, on Tuesday, we will be going to Thalgarrah for our Creative Arts day. Students may wear casual, sensible clothes and shoes. Remember hats, sunscreen, packed recess/lunch and water bottles. It is going to be a fantastic day of learning outdoors and I know that all the students are looking forward to it.

Renee Thomas

Purple
It is lovely to see some warmer weather. Unfortunately we continue to have staff and some children away that have been extremely sick. Thank you for keeping your child at home when they are unwell. We have been encouraging the class to wash their hands regularly and to cover their mouths when coughing and sneezing. We would appreciate it if you could also encourage your child to use these hygienic measures at home as well.

Next week we will be going on the National Parks excursion with Stage 2. We will be studying this unit next term as part of our HSIE unit.

Michael and Maielle have started going to Armidale High School for transition. Both students demonstrate our ‘Shine’ values and are wonderful representatives of our class and school.

In class we have been looking at procedures. We have made some fruit jelly and pizza. We had to write down the steps to make each one. We have some master chefs in the making!

Lindy, Julie and Kate
Concerns have been raised regarding the ‘Cosmic Light Beam Torch’ reward item due to the inclusion of four button batteries that can be accessed by unscrewing the back of the torch. Whilst this reward has been independently tested and deemed to meet relevant product standards the Commonwealth Bank have made the decision to proactively withdraw this item from the School Banking Rewards Program. Parents/Guardians are requested to dispose of any ‘Cosmic Light Beam Torches’ their child may have already received as part of the Rewards Program. Students who have previously received a ‘Cosmic Light Beam Torch’ are welcome to redeem an alternative reward item.