Week 6  | Monday 3rd March 2015

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Community Members,

We have now reached the halfway mark in Term 1 and I would like to mention how pleased I am with the work and dedication that I am witnessing in our staff, students and parents. Paul Kelly, a great Australian singer, penned the song “From little things, big things grow” and I believe that this year, our little school is doing just that!

Last week I attended the 2015 Principal’s Conference in Brisbane. The conference focussed on equipping principals to be system players who: collaborate to respond to challenges; critique, question and support each other’ and share and scale up new and effective practices”. In essence, principals work together to improve our state school system with a focus on every child succeeding. It was an inspiring couple of days with presenters including Hon. Kate Jones, Minister for Education, Dr Jim Watterston, Director-General for Department of Education and Training (DET) and Patrea Walton, Deputy Director-General (DET). I have come away from the conference with a spring in my step and am eager to transition and lead North Eton from a great school to an outstanding school.
ANTHONY
Outstanding work ethic at all times.

KODYE
Picking up fallen pot plants

I would like to say a big congratulations also to our students for their enthusiasm and willingness to read each day to our volunteers in the classroom. Students are becoming more fluent in their reading each day and I can see some very big improvements happening by the end of the year. I’m sure we will be known as the “REMARKABLE READERS” school in no time!

As most of you are aware, last week the school office was broken into. Although we were exceptionally lucky that more wasn’t taken, it was still a blow to the school and very disappointing. Please pass on any information that you may hear to myself or the Police..

A BIG thankyou to Deanne Brown for producing the template for this wonderful looking newsletter. It looks fantastic and certainly has made Mrs Bell’s job a lot easier.

Geraldine Parkes
Fruit Break

Students in Prep-2 have a fruit break each day at 9:30am. It is important to send along a piece of fruit or vegetable in a container or packet for your child to put in the “fruit break basket”.

What is a fruit break? A short, set break during morning session for students to snack on fruit and/or veg which aids concentration and prevents hunger.

What kinds of fruit and veg can I send?
* Whole fruits such as a banana or small apple, chopped melon etc.
* Fruit canned in water, juice or no added sugar is permitted (e.g. peach slices).
  Don’t forget a spoon!
* Dried fruit (e.g. sultanas)
* All fresh vegetables (e.g. celery, carrot sticks, broccoli bits etc.)

Parking & Front Gate

When arriving at school, Parents are asked to park their vehicles on the road adjacent to the school fence. This is for safety purposes as most mornings there is staff coming and going in the staff car park.

Parking on the road allows for one point of entry and exit. This is the small gate that leads to the concrete path. Please ensure to close the gate behind you.

Thank you for your help and co-operation in this matter.

Mail Boxes

There will be three mail boxes secured to the bench in the office. These three boxes will become the delivery point for all correspondence for the school and P&C. Please encourage your child to come into the office each morning before school when they need to ‘post’ something. All boxes will be clearly labelled.

* SCHOOL - All school mail (e.g. Book club, permission letters)
* P & C - All P & C mail (e.g. uniform money, raffle ticket money)
* TUCKSHOP - All tuckshop orders are to be placed in this box.

Homebake Tuckshop

Sausage Rolls ..........................50c
Blueberry Muffins....................50c
Vege & Cheese Scrolls..........50c
Mini Quiches..........................50c
Hawaiian Pizza.................$1.50
Toasted Sandwiches...........$2.50
(Ham/Cheese, Chicken Cheese)
Milk Poppers.........................$2.50
Juice Poppers.......................$2.00
Paddle Pop.........................$2.00
Zooper Dooper ......................50c

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Student of the week

JORJA
For consistency in excellent work behaviour and leadership.

Great behaviour awards

KODYE
For helping teachers

TAHLI
For helping younger students in art.

Reading Levels

Some helpful hints...(taken from a blog – read the full article at http://creatingalearningenvironment.com/ )

A reading level indicates to the teacher what type of reader the child is. A child could be a beginner reader, emergent (developing) reader or an independent reader. The level is usually displayed at the front or back of the book. A reading level is given by a teacher who has conducted a “running record”, which is a reading assessment tool.

As a parent, it is important not to show your child your interest in the number (level) but focus on the reading skills that your child is developing.

The book that comes home should be easy for your child. Reading at home should be an opportunity for your child to practice a smooth clear reading voice. Reading for them at home needs to be enjoyable and not a time for struggling and arguing. Parents can ask lots of questions while their child is reading to check that they are understanding the story line or facts of the text.

HOMEWORK HELP – Reading Strategy

Look at the picture - Encourage your child to look at the picture to help them work out what the text might be. In simple books, the texts match the pictures exactly. As the books get more complex, the pictures still relate to the text but they do not always show everything that is written in the text.

Do a picture walk through the book with the child before reading the text. This means you talk about each picture with your child and you may focus your child on a particular aspect of the picture that will come up in the text. This will emphasise to your child the importance of pictures in a book.

Attendance Rate

We are currently at 91.6%. Our target is 95% which would bring us in line with high achieving schools around the state and country. Everyday counts.