10th June, 2014 (Term 2 Week 8)

From the Principal

Well, this term has certainly flown! We are already in week 8 of term. We have welcomed two new families to Merinda this past fortnight. We know they will enjoy their time here at our school. Our Great Results Guarantee is progressing well and we are seeing improvement with our school reading improvement agenda. We do need to maintain our focus clearly on attendance. Remember every day counts and your child needs to be at school every day. Just a reminder that report cards will be handed at a parent teacher interview next term as mentioned in the last newsletter. This allows the teachers and children to complete a full cycle of teaching and learning this semester. It also ensures that children are given a mark that best reflects their effort and achievement for the full 20 weeks of learning. Our booking system for interviews will be the same as last term and information will be sent home early next term.

Make a wonderful fortnight.

Chaplain Report

We are well on our way to term 2 holidays. It has been a great few weeks and I look forward to being here 2 days this week. Here is a continuation of the “Feast Gosford” Strategies that we can all benefit from.

Your vehicle parked outside your house or in your garage consumes fuel when it is driven. Do you take care when refuelling your vehicle? Do you fill your car with petrol if it is a diesel car, or with diesel if it runs on petrol? You know that in order to get performance from your vehicle, you need to fill it with the appropriate fuel.

Food is your body’s fuel. Consider what you are fuelling your body with by considering your diet. Is food high in sugar and salt content really the most appropriate fuel for your body? The fuel (food) you consume daily directly impacts your health, well-being and performance. What you eat contributes significantly to the way you feel about yourself.

By being mindful of what you eat and ensuring your blood sugar levels remain stable, you can be assured your mood will become more stable and positive as a result. However, if you find you are lethargic or your meals need to shift to when eating certain foods, try to avoid these foods as much as possible. It would be helpful also to consult your doctor; as you may have an undiagnosed food intolerance.

Have an awesome week ahead! If you have a need or just want to talk to someone, come chat to Chappy.

Make every day count in 2014

Make 2014 the year where your child doesn’t miss a day of school. Research shows that students who have good patterns of attendance are more likely to achieve at school. If students aren’t at school or don’t stay the whole day, they are missing valuable learning. Check out the new Every Day Counts video live on EDT TV http://www.youtube.com/DETQueensland

Report cards

End of semester report cards will be handed out during week two of term three. Due to the nature of our teaching and learning cycle at Merinda, it is necessary for the children to fully complete their five week cycles of learning so that the teacher can make a fair and balanced judgement of your child’s learning inclusive of all assessments completed for the semester. Report cards will be handed to parents during our parent teacher interviews for term three, during week two of that term. A booking form will be sent home during week one of next term.

Head Lice

We have had several reported cases of head lice lately. Please ensure that if your child’s class does receive a head lice form that it is signed and returned as soon as possible.

P &C

The P & C welcome Roana Nisbet-Roth & Daniel Roth as our new tuckshop convenors. We thank all of you both very much for taking on this important role. We are currently raising funds to purchase a new projector for the library and to assist the 5, 6 & 7s get to their camp towards the end of the year. We will be selling coffee, tea and light snacks from the tuckshop, ortnightly, on Thursday mornings before parade. Please join us this Thursday and help us raise some much needed funds for the school.

Prep

With only three weeks to go, Prep are full steam ahead preparing for their final assessments of the term. We are continuing our work on retells and will be preparing their final piece on the story “Bear and Chuck.” We will be presenting our retells in the last week of the term. Please encourage your child to be a big, clear voice with expression when retelling their stories. In maths we are making repeating patterns and constructing a team with 2D and 3D shapes. Our end of term music piece is to “The Purple People Eater” – it would be very helpful if you have this song to play it at home as your child can practice singing the lyrics and adding in their group moves. Congratulations to all our Prep who have been practicing very hard to learn their: SSP sounds - name the sounds, write them, correctly spell the words, rhyme the words, and write sentences correctly with the words. Mrs P will be handing out SSP certificates at Parade on Thursday.

Yr 1– 2

Our fantastic learning began last week with learning about how we can make our sentence more exciting for the reader and created a story timeline to help us become “Descriptive Writers.” In maths last week we worked on our rainbow facts and completed a variety of addition and subtraction stories using different strategies. Our class will be super busy next week completing our assessments and finishing our rain hats. We will have a special exhibition of our hats on parade next week (Week 9). Keep up your amazing work 1–2! Don’t forget to visit our class blog! (http://mrshobbsreeds.edublogs.org/)

Mrs H

Yr 3- 4

What a huge week we have had with students completing assessment tasks, dreaching in green for World Environment Day and Life Education. We have also been learning about Vincent Van Gogh and students have created their own landscape using texture, line and shades of colour. These artworks are on display in the classroom or if you visit our blog: http://mrshobbsreeds.edublogs.org/. For our next artwork, we will be creating a collage to explore the same Arts elements.

Environmental Day

Is an exciting excursion for Years 3/4 students, Green team leaders and school captains. The day will involve planting trees down at Yasso Point on the last day of the school term. More information will be provided in the excursion notice.

AFL

AFL has commenced for children who have paid their money every Wednesday. If you wouldn’t like your child to participate in this program please see Mrs Harlihy in the office.

Students of the Week & Reading Awards

Ezidra Dunn and Hayley Ward
Devon Esparon, Myrae Clark, Nate Hynes, Lionel Richardson, Beau Murphy, Byron Piggett and Emily Sleeman

Riley Denyer, Ryan Ward, Gideon Prior, Riley Annear, Harrison Harrop, Ethan Gaudio, Makayla Ward, Darcy Cowan and Grylin Collett

Yr 5–7

The children have been working hard in the 5/6/7 room to complete their assessments across all learning areas. In English, the children are required to write a memoir based on an abstract noun. The children have done a pre test assessment for this unit of work and this has then formed the basis for what the children need to work on to achieve a sound assessment for this piece of work. All children have also enjoyed their lesson with Mr Williams for their transition to high school. Mr Williams is a Drama teacher at the high school and the children love the extension work that he is able to provide for them in this learning area. Next term the children will be involved in Matha and English classes at the school taken by Mr Williams. We are just waiting an confirmation however; we are hoping to take the children to camp at Paluma from the 10th to 12th of November. More information to come about this in the next newsletter.

Green Team Update

Last week we received a grant from the bulk ports corporation, this grant will contribute towards some of the costs for the 5-7 camp. Thanks as much to the bulk ports for supporting us! We have also nominated our class “PowerPolicing!” and their job is to reduce the energy we use around the school, by turning off the lights and fans at the end of each session. The representatives for prep are Emily Sleeman, Byron Piggett, Year 1/2 Qynlin Collett, Ethan Jones year 3/4 Malayska Beck, Sydney Short and year 5/6/7 Dylan Bruce and Jessica Allier. We look forward to seeing our police on duty in their classroom.

We also participated in world environment day and raised money to support environmental initiatives. The first of these will be an environmental rehabilitation day at queen beach, involving a green team captains and the year 3/4 class. Congratulations to all of the students who supported world environment day.

Behaviour of the week

The following are the behaviours for the week for the next three weeks:

Week 8
Be Safe – I keep my hands and feet to myself!
FRIENDS Letter – I – I can try

Week 9
Be Respectful – I consider others
FRIENDS Letter – E Encourage Others

Week 10
Be Safe – I follow adult directions
FRIENDS Letter – I – I can try

Students of the Week & Reading Awards

2014… COMING EVENTS

11-06-2014 AFL at 1:30pm
16-06-2014 Bike Education Week
25-06-2014 Murono Gardens
26-06-2014 Athletics Day Carnival
27-06-2014 Environmental Day Excursion
27-06-2014 Last Day of Term
14-07-2014 First Day of Term 3