



Building strong foundations for life.

Newsletter

Term 1 – Issue 05

Wednesday, 27th February, 2019

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RESPECT – Build and maintain respectful relationships with students, staff and the school community.

HONESTY – Be a responsible and trustworthy school community member.

CARING – Be accepting, helpful and cooperative of others to create a safe and supportive learning environment.

WILLING TO LEARN – Have high expectations for academic learning, have positive involvement in all school activities and willingly take on challenges.

TERM 1 CALENDAR 2019

Ecolinc Excursion— Thursday, 7th March

Labour Day Public Holiday—Monday, 11th March

Fun Run — Tuesday, 12th March

3 Way Conferences—Thursday 28th March

End of term 1—Friday, 5th April—Casual dress school finishes @ 2.30 pm.

'We may be small but we have it all!'

CROSS COUNTRY COLOUR RUN

We're three weeks out from our *School Fun-Run*! We hope students are working hard towards their fundraising goals!

Currently we have students signing in to the online account. We are just waiting to get the all clear from the account staff, then we're on our way! You can start raising money by collecting cash. All students have received a sponsorship form with all the prizes they can win as well as a form to fill in when any cash is given. Remember, the money raised will be going towards new flagpoles, new shelving for the bottle house and iPads and keyboards for all students at school. Let's all try our best and get colourful!

Did you know that you can WIN a \$20,000 Ultimate Family Experience by setting up your student profile online and raising \$1 online? Just head over to schoolfundraising.com.au. Once you've created your page there are some great things you can do. You can sign up for online fundraising, pick your target prize and even become a fundraising superstar!

If you're having any trouble setting up your student profile, please get in touch with the Fun-Run team on 1800 FUN RUN.

Thanks for supporting us with your fundraising efforts, we look forward to celebrating with an amazing day!

Remember, if we receive donations from 5 different countries, Mr Boxall will be water bombed by the students!

PARENT NOTIFICATIONS THROUGH UEDUCATEUS

Last year we implemented the uEducateUs student management system in order to give parents another line of communication and be better connected. uEducateUs allows parents to track their child's attendance, view upcoming events, view student tasks and communicate directly with the teachers. If the application is installed on your smart phone, you will receive notifications and updates.

Notes regarding information about uEducateUs will be sent home today.

FOUNDATION STUDENTS

Next week our foundation students will start full time at school. We are very proud of the way these students have settled into school and have already made some good friendships. Well done NATAHLIA, REUBEN, RASK, DECLAN, BENTLEY, CHRISTOPHER & CHRISTIAN.

THANKYOU

Noel Petersen for completing the Job of the Week and getting rid of the fallen tree branch and to Jack's Grandpa for fixing the sports shed door. MUCH APPRECIATED!

MEET THOMAS —OUR ICT TECHNICIAN



Thomas Jackson works at our school every Wednesday morning dealing with our technical needs. Even though he is quite young, he comes with a wealth of knowledge in his field. He has been a welcome new staff member who makes a mean cream sponge!!

"Strength and growth come through continuous effort and struggle." Cheers Carol

STUDENT AWARDS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Aidan — for working very hard to learn his SMART spelling words.

Jude — for using trial & error to help himself in Maths.

PRINCIPALS AWARD

Katie — for being an extremely caring student.

'JOB for the week'



Can anyone make one of these?

UNIFORM ORDERS

All orders must be back at school by Friday, 1st March. Thank you.

AUTISM—HOW CAN WE HELP?

Autism, or *autism* spectrum disorder (ASD), refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviours, speech and nonverbal communication. The range and severity of symptoms can vary widely.

It is important that as a school community we recognise that we can do things to help students with Autism feel safe and included at school. Friendships are very important to students with Autism as they help by boosting their confidence and self-esteem.

Girls on the autism spectrum

One of the most striking features of autism is the fact that it is diagnosed around four times more often in boys than in girls. However, over the last decade, researchers have started to question whether autism may be more common amongst females than has previously been thought. Research has found that in the absence of significant intellectual or behavioural problems, girls with autism-like traits are more likely than boys to have a missed diagnosis of autism. So although autism has historically been considered a predominantly 'male' condition, researchers are now also investigating the possibility that autism may manifest differently in females

BEING A GOOD FRIEND:

All people want to feel included and have friendships. For children with autism, Asperger's or "on the autism spectrum"... sometimes it is more difficult to make friends. Here are some ideas to help you begin, build and keep a friendship with a kid on the autism spectrum.

- **Accept** your friend's differences and respect strengths the way that you would with any friend. We all have abilities and special traits that make us different.
- **Learn** about your friend's interests to find out what you have in common. **Hang out** and see what he or she likes to talk about or do. It is easier to get to know someone when you share an activity, video game, a book or TV show you both like.
- **Understand** that sometimes your friend may want to play alone or may be so focused on a specific game or topic, it might be difficult to get and keep his or her attention.
- **Invite and include** your friend to join you and other friends in games and activities. – Your friend may want to be included but may not know how to ask or may not understand the rules.
- **Don't be afraid** to ask questions. We all have things that we dislike or that are hard for us to do. A good friend offers understanding, help and encouragement for things that are difficult.
- **Talk clearly** and use hand gestures, facial expressions and pictures to help you communicate. With some friends, you may need to use shorter sentences, use pictures or write down what you say to help your friend understand.
- **Be Patient and Kind** if your friend does not respond right away if you ask a question. Sometimes your friend might not understand what you mean, and you need to ask in a different way. Sometimes your friend needs extra thinking time to share his or her thoughts with you.
- **Look for Sensory Sensitivity** – Your friend with autism may sometimes feel overwhelmed by crowds, noise, smells, bright lights and busy activities. If you notice your friend acting differently, he or she might need a break away from activity. These breaks may help your friend feel calmer.
- **Provide helpful feedback** – Sometimes your friend may seem awkward and not understand the right thing to do in social situations. Give advice privately without trying to embarrass your friend.
- **Take A Stand** – If you see someone teasing, making fun of or bullying someone with autism, let them know that is not cool or kind. Tell a trusted adult if someone is being hurt.



IN THE CLASSROOM

KITCHEN GARDEN

In our cooking sessions this week, the junior students peeled pears from my garden and made a sugar syrup with lemon to poach the fruit whole. These were served with some Greek yogurt and a drizzle of the syrup. We also prepared pasta dough using eggs from our chooks. The senior students prepared a light tomato sauce, learning how to peel and de-seed tomatoes, used the pasta machine to make the tagliatelle and made a simple carrot salad with carrots from our garden. Every morsel was snaffled up by the students with enthusiastic delight. A big thanks to Kellie Williams who was an absolute star in the kitchen.



In our Junior Classroom this week:

This week in reading we have been practising building our reading stamina, with the goal of being able to read continuously for 5 minutes. We have been doing a similar thing in writing, as well as getting to know ourselves as writers and setting our own writing goals in grades one and two. Foundation students have been working on the letters m and d and the sounds they make – they now have a solid little bank of known letters that they are practising making and reading words from, at the same time as they are working on learning their golden words.

In mathematics we have been familiarising ourselves with the days of the week, and the structure of calendars.

HOME READING

Just a reminder that children should be reading each night. In the lower grades it is imperative that families listen to and assist children to read at least 5 times a week. As the children become independent readers they should be reading and talking to you about their books. Reading diaries should also be filled out each day by families and returned to school in the reader bag.

“Runners become good runners by running regularly, readers become good readers by reading regularly.”

In our Senior Classroom this week:

We have been doing many activities within the senior class! From preparing to get fit and partake in the Colour run to making clocks in Maths.

Students have been making buildings and number expanders for our unit on Place Value. They have also made some clocks to assist them in telling the time!

In Reading, all students have been able to retell what they have read to improve their comprehension. Students have also started using the comprehension cards to assist with their understanding. A big thanks to all the parent helpers I've had in the room this week. You've been amazing!

All students' narratives are now starting to get a bit longer with their ideas flowing.

In sport we are learning the skills of volleyball and a much easier version that involves catching, called Newcomb'. I have urged all students to 'Pick Up 3 For The Sea' - which is a program to make sure we don't litter in our oceans. Students from Prep- Year 6 are always happy to share that they've done their daily 3.

Feel free to visit and say Hi!

