



LOWER PLENTY PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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NUMBER 3
4th March 2022

Principal's Report

During the last fortnight a number of our Grade 3 to 6 students competed in the District Swimming Carnival. The school did extremely well with two students going through to the Division. It was great to see the team spirit on the day, and so while small in number we were loudly cheering each other on. Thankyou to the parents that helped by transporting students to compete.

Facilities

The school has a grant that will be going ahead to build a gazebo in the area next to the library. We are currently getting building permits and hopefully this will be built by the start of Term 2.

The department have also approved for the school to install solar power on the roof of the main building. There is an offset cost to the school where we pay the normal electricity bill back, so this will need to be assessed by school council first to see if it is viable to proceed.

School Council

School Council will conduct its AGM on Monday 7th March. During this we will present the Annual Report as well as elect the office bearers for school council.

Fundraising for Nepal

We have set up a MyCause fundraising page for the students project to build a library for Shree Janajagriti School in Nepal. <https://www.mycase.com.au/p/277584/lower-plenty-primary-school-is-building-a-library-in-nepal>

I think it is important for families to know that we are not asking for our school community to be the fundraisers for this project. The project is a learning experience for children to see how they can make a difference in the world. We don't have a set time to achieve the amount.

At the moment our grade 3-6 students are writing persuasive letters to a number of different companies looking for support. They are doing research into the companies and then tailoring the letters to match the company and their values. Eventually that may or may not work so they will learn that it is often better to call a company and make a personal link first. This is great skill to learn and something that is quite hard to do.

We are arranging for some guest speakers that work in the community fundraising to come out and talk to the students specifically focussing on how to engage with companies and strategies they can use to be more successful.

Our Juniors are looking at other things that we can do within the school such as sausage sizzles and free dress days. In terms of parent help, you may get asked to by your child to man a BBQ during the election, but hopefully that will be as much as we need.

2022 Term Dates

T1—31st Jan to 8th April
T2—26th April to 24th June
T3—11th July to 16th Sept
T4—3rd Oct to 20th Dec

Calendar

7th March
School Council
*
8th March
Tennis at Yallambie
10:45
*
14th Mar
Labour Day
*
8th April
Last day of term—1:45 pm
Finish
*
25th April
ANZAC Day
*
26th April
First Day Term 2
*
26th April
P-6 Swimming
*
28th April
P-6 Swimming
*
3rd May
P-6 Swimming
*
5th May
P-6 Swimming
*
10th May
P-6 Swimming
*
12th May
P-6 Swimming

Principal's Report (cont)

Tennis

On Tuesday the school will be walking down to Yallambie Tennis Club to do a tennis session. We will be leaving the school at 10:15 to arrive by 10:45 and then walking back at 12:45. Students are covered by the walking permission given on Compass at the beginning of the year.

If you would like to join us for the walk and watch the students playing please feel free to come to school ready to leave by 10:15.

The children will be in hats and we will have them apply sunscreen before they leave. If your child has an allergy or has specific sunscreen please let your child's teacher know and make sure they have it on the day.

Write to Read

Last Friday Jacqui and Alison began their Write to Read training. This training runs over three weeks with the last session on Friday 11th.

Write to Read is a total language approach that uses explicit instruction to teach ALL students the skills essential for success in listening, speaking, spelling, writing and reading. The Write To Read method consists of instruction in the three elements of Spelling, Writing and Comprehension.

Spelling instruction consists of three parts: phonograms, vocabulary and spelling/language concepts. Students learn the 70 symbols called phonograms, which represent 45 common English speech sounds, by hearing, saying, seeing and writing them, until this reaches automatic recall. Students are taught to analyse each word using a marking system and to articulate any rules encouraging higher level thinking skills. Rules are essential to aid spelling and/or correct pronunciation of words. Students understand 'how words work'.

In writing instruction, students learn the critical attributes of sentences and by teacher modelling come to appreciate what makes quality sentences. They learn about related sentences, and then build sentences into paragraphs and passages composing both narrative and informative paragraphs.

During comprehension instruction, students learn to enjoy quality literature and analyse the characteristics that make a piece of writing exemplary. They learn that authors write for different purposes and organise their passages differently according to their purposes. They also learn five specific mental actions that are necessary for comprehension of any type of writing.

Fruit and Breakfast Club

In grades 2-6 we are encouraging students to bring in a piece of fruit and place it in a communal basket near the entrance to their room. Rather than having a set time for students to have brain food, we are encouraging students to go the table and cut up their fruit when they are hungry. They can then take it back to their table on a plate and continue their work.

All students have been shown how to cut fruit correctly and safely, though we will most likely have some little cuts here and there as they learn these skills. If this happens then we will put on a band-aid and they will learn to be a little more careful.

Each morning we have Breakfast Club running. The school is open from 7:30 and there is no need to book in, just show up. Students that would like breakfast have all been shown how to make their cereal or toast and are responsible for preparing it and cleaning up for themselves. We do have some older students that provide support. Students have a choice from Nutella, Honey or Vegemite, and then Nutrigrain or Sultana Bran.

Student of the Week

21st to 25th Feb

Congratulations to:

Remy—Prep/1

James—2/3/4

Samuel—5/6

Student of the Week

28th to 4th Mar

Congratulations to:

Kade—Prep/1

Lexi—2/3/4

Sebastian—5/6

Grade 2 to 4

NEWS

Change Making Project

Over the past couple of weeks, the 2's, 3's and 4's have been working on their change making project. They have started to write letters to news stations to try and get them to help get us more donations. They have also been working with the 5 and 6's in different groups, organising different ways we can raise money.

Reading and Writing

In reading and writing, the 2's, 3's and 4's have been working on their syllables and sounding them out. They also did activities focusing on how to split words up into syllables and watched videos on it as well. They have also been working on a presentation on African animals and doing lots of research and having fun doing so.

Maths

In Maths, the 2-4 students have been doing length. They have been measuring different items inside the classroom and estimating how long they are before-hand. They also watched videos on length to help them understand better.

Specialists

In Art the 2's to 4's have been making clay masks and working on their skills. They also made an animal of their choice out of clay as well. I

n Music, they are working on rhythm. They have been having loads of fun practising their music skills.

In PE, they have been practising basketball, working on their shots, dribbling skills and much more.

Finally, in STEM, they have been making bean booklets, writing how different plants grow faster and better than others do at certain times of the year.

By Cleo and Josh



Prep and Grade 1

NEWS

Today the prep ones practiced handwriting and went to the library to read books.

They learnt about compromise, played math bingo and are continuing to practice their reading codes.

On Thursday they wrote the letter A 100 times, did biology in STEM and painted on their clay animals

On Wednesday, students made robots for the letter R with their BIG buddies

On Tuesday they did P.E and P.M.P as well as music

On Monday, the prep ones made paper apples

By Samuel + Mitchell

Grade 5/6

NEWS

Lately in the grade 5 and 6 class they have...

In P.E they have been focusing on their basketball skills they did relay races where they dribble through cones and had three attempts at trying to get the ball in the hoop. They were also playing half court games against other teams.

We have been doing Art with clay. We have made and painted masks and made animals and learned more Italian 'e tu' which means 'and you' and 'grazie' which means 'thank you' and 'il' and 'la' depending if it is in front of a masculine or feminine singular noun.

In STEM they have been dissecting white beans and looking at the embryo baby leaves cotyledon and the seed coat of the bean. We also made a bean journal we got seed packs and learned when they grow how long it takes to grow.

In Writing we have been writing letters to businesses (like Bunnings, Aumans, Hoyts, BHP, Qantas, Optus and Sun-corp) for money and young citrus plants.

Maths we have been learning the grid method for multiplication and Mr Hewat's old way he learned multiplication .

In Music we have been learning beat with cups and Bongo drums and a clapping name game .

And every day we have been doing a daily Wordle and Nerdle.

By Ryan and Zac W