



Ross Park Primary School

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Week 9, Term 1

30th March, 2017

From the Principal

One week of school left and there are lots of tired people around after such a hot term. I hope you have some quiet relaxing time planned for the break, including Easter weekend. We're getting to the best time of year in Alice – as I keep telling our new staff! Perfect timing for our first school camp for the year, when Year 4 /5 head to the Telegraph Station next week for 3 days. They are implementing part of the local history program called Alice on the Line, experiencing life as the original Bradshaw family lived it.

All our Preschool to Year 2 students had a wonderful experience today when they went along to the performance at Araluen, to see 'Emily Loves to Bounce'. We know that for some children, it's their first visit to Araluen, a fabulous facility in our town. Make sure you ask them what they liked best – and I hope they don't say it was the bus trip although that's quite novel for many of our students too!

As a coincidence, coming on the back of this week's cyclone in Queensland, two classes have the chance to learn about the importance of disaster preparedness in a fun and constructive way. The Pillowcase Project includes a presentation and discussion on the importance of being prepared and each student receives a pillowcase and fabric markers to start their own personalised disaster kit/preparedness plan. There is an activity to demonstrate how to prepare your mind for the feelings and emotions that may arise before, during and after an emergency, as well as an art activity, decorating personal emergency kits (the pillowcases). Year 3/4 will be able to share their learning with us all.

I received an article this week from education expert Michael Grose, with 6 helpful rules to help parents manage

and monitor digital technology. He suggests that each family makes up their own rules to suit their circumstance but has the following hints:

Hold off as long as you can
The age when a child first gets a mobile phone is getting younger. Don't give in to being pestered!

Be prepared to learn
Learn about new games and social media with them.

Put rules in place first
Put restrictions on first and loosen them later.

Change rules if need be
Be prepared to change if they're not working.

Keep digital technology out of bedrooms

If there was one rule that you should stay firm on, then this is the one.

Have a digital detox one day a week.
They will probably not like it, and neither will you, but engage in other forms of communication and entertainment.

To read the full article, go to parentingideas.com.au.

Mr Anthony Pilkington leaves us next Friday, to join his family in Bendigo, Victoria. We will miss his teaching and his crazy sense of humour! Thank you Anthony.

Mrs Suzi Burgess is away on leave at the moment, as sadly, her mother passed away at the weekend. We extend the sympathy of the school community to Suzi.

KAREN BLANCHFIELD
Principal



CAKE STALL Monday 3rd April

PCCJ will have some goodies for sale at recess, from 50c—\$2. Funds raised go to the RSPCA.

Dates to Remember

- **Back to School Vouchers expire on Friday 7th April**
- Cake stall Monday 3rd April at recess
- Writing Exhibition in the Hall Tuesday 4th April
- Crazy Hair and Free Dress Day Tuesday 4th April
- Wet'n'Wild afternoon Friday 7th April from 1.30pm for T-2 students
- End of Term 1 Friday 7th April; start of Term 2 Tuesday 18th April
- NAPLAN 9-11 May



CRAZY HAIR & FREE DRESS DAY

This is the SRC's first fundraiser

for the year! Next Tuesday 4th April, we are raising money for the RSPCA! Please bring a gold coin donation. We will be providing hair spray for another gold coin. THANK YOU!



CHANGE TO SCHOOL FINISHING TIME

Commencing Term 2, Tuesday 18th April, the school day will be shortened, from 3.00pm to 2.50pm. This is to ensure that our school hours meet the regulations. Of course, there will be a teacher on duty at the kiss'n'go zone until all the students have been collected.

SCHOOL TIMES from TERM 2

8.30am—2.50pm



HAPPY 
MOTHER'S
DAY! 

Your School Council will conduct a raffle this year, to be drawn at assembly on Friday 12th May. Donations of prizes are needed: vouchers, cosmetics, goods and/or services—anything at all that mums would like! Donations from our families with businesses would be most welcome. If you plan to ask a local business for a donation, please collect a letter from our office, so that several people don't ask the same businesses. We hope to have about ten prizes for our lucky mums! We do not intend to hold a Mothers Day stall this year so the raffle will be our feature event—thanks to those families who have already donated. Look for raffle tickets early in Term 2.

NEW BABY!



Macy (3/4S) and Archie (T/Hi) have a new baby sister, Leni. Congratulations!

WRITING EXHIBITION

Years 3-6 students will exhibit their writing in our hall next Tuesday 4th April from 9.00am until 5.00pm. Everyone is welcome to visit—don't miss it!



WET'N'WILD

Next Friday April 7th is Wet'n'Wild afternoon for our junior students. Watch for more information to come!

BACK TO SCHOOL VOUCHERS expire next Friday 7th April. Next week will be your last opportunity to allocate your subsidy—please text, phone or email your intentions.

MATHS IN THE REAL WORLD

Mrs Stevenson and Mr Adami's students were working out how far Michael, our maintenance officer, pushes the sweeper machine every second Friday to clean the soft fall before assembly.

The answers they came up with :
920m each time
4.6km per term
18.4 km p/year.

That's a lot of walking Michael!



LEADERSHIP DAY

Last Friday, our Team Leaders and Student Representative Councillors took part in a day of activities to develop their skills. Alli Polin, a parent at our school, talked to them about what it takes to be a leader, they enjoyed a healthy lunch together and Josh Mapstone, our Bluearth co-ordinator, took them through some leadership building activities. Thanks to Mrs Mapstone and Ms Kaye for organizing such a great program.



TRANSITION VISITS

The 2017 Centralian Middle School transition program has begun. The first visit involved former Ross Park students participating in a Q and A forum about life at CMS. Some great questions were asked: everything from, "What's your favourite subject?" to "Did you find the learning challenging, going from Primary to Middle School?". If you would like to chat about enrolling your child at CMS, please email Kristi at kristi.beynon@ntschoools.net.

STEAM

This week in the STEAM lab we have been learning about the different states of matter and how they react. In one class we made our own vessels to test how vinegar (a liquid) and baking soda (a solid) would behave when they were added together. Some people experimented with the order that the matter was added to see what would cause more of a reaction! Everyone loved observing the bubble (gas) reaction and for some it's been the highlight of the term!



COMMUNITY NOTICES

ALEC Green Cleaning Workshop April 8th from 9.30am at the Arid Lands Environment Centre. You will be making healthy detergent and green cleaners! RSVP to community@alec.org.au.

Lil'Antz Vacation Care Program includes excursions, craft and Easter activities. Phone 89530015 to book.

Bunnings Warehouse Easter Family Night 6th April from 6.00pm includes a disco, jumping castle and giant maze! Go to www.bunnings.com.au for more details.



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