



Executive News

It is hard to believe we are up to Week 4 of Term 2 already. The mornings have turned quite cool so it's 'back on' with the layers and jumpers. Please ensure your child has a warm article of clothing in their bag just in case they need it throughout the day. Also a reminder that until the 30th May, students need to have their hats on whilst playing outside or when they are in PE sessions.

Over the past two weeks teachers have been engaged in some professional learning around best practice in how to teach and assess the Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS). Having a leading expert to guide us with our planning and creation of rich learning programs is both exciting and rewarding. The most important outcome of this is that we are able to plan to meet the individual needs of all the students within our school.

A few reminders of events coming up.....

- On Thursday the 24th May we are having a community pancake breakfast so please come along to this ever popular event
- Friday 25th May, the whole school is involved in an incursion (performance at school) titled 'Kadul'. This is performed by an indigenous dancer from Northern Australia. Notes about this went out last week
- On Thursday the 31st May we have school photos being taken. Please ensure your little person is in school uniform for these.

Corinne Follett (Junior Executive Teacher)



Dates to Remember

24 May	Public Education Week- Pancake Breakfast
29 May	ICAS Science
29 May	Photo Day Possums & Bilbies
29 May	Preschool Music Man
30 May	Hats off Day
31 May	Photo Day Whole School
1 June	Yr3 Assembly 12:20pm
1 June	Preschool Music Man
22 June	Christian Education @ Theodore Primary
27 June	Yr 3/4 Canberra Theatre Excursion
27 June	Pizza & Problems
29 June	Year 6 Assembly
2 July	Athletics Carnival

Notes sent home with this issue

23 May	Band Selected Students
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Pancake Day 24 May



24th May 2018

Pancake Breakfast

From 8:00am to 8:45am
outside the Kitchen

Cupcake Day 30 May



Please help Mingari raise funds for outside equipment. Cupcakes will be for sale on the 30 May.

School News

Learning for Life provides families with opportunities to increase their children's success at school. The *Learning for Life* program helps each child to reach their potential by supporting their education from primary through to post-school studies.

Learning for Life provides:

- Support from a *Learning for Life* team member who can help your child improve their attendance, change smoothly from primary to high school and give you information on services available
- Access to educational programs that can further support your children
- Financial support to help with costs related to education such as books, uniforms and excursions

Am I eligible for Learning for Life?

To be eligible, you must:

- Have a child/children in Kindergarten to Year 6, who attend Theodore Primary School
- Have a current Health Care or Pension Concession Card
- Demonstrate a strong commitment to education through regular school attendance

How do I apply for Learning for Life?

If you meet all of the above criteria and would like to apply for the *Learning for Life* program, please speak to our Deputy Principal, Tracey Stewart.





Preschool News

It's unbelievable that it is already Week 4 in Term 2. Try to enjoy every moment of your Preschool year as the time flies fast.

Week 1 began with a Bush Wash excursion for the Koalas and Possums and the Bilbies had their excursion yesterday. The Bush Wash is always a huge hit. The excursion was a fun, interactive educational session on bus use and safety. The Action Bus team do an amazing job of entertaining the children while also educating them about buses. We also had our working bee which was AMAZING. Thank you so much to all the wonderful families that helped – it was a HUGE success.

In Week 3 we had our Walkathon. This was a great success. The children thoroughly enjoyed their outing which included an iceblock for their hard work. Thank you so much for all your support and to the parents who participated in the Walkathon. The class that raises the most money will receive a pizza party kindly sponsored by Dominoes. The money raised will go towards our new outside mud kitchen.

In Week 5, we have Declan the Music Man's performance for all preschool groups. In his highly entertaining and educational show he uses a variety of instruments from many cultures to introduce basic musical concepts to the children. Declan's shows are approximately one hour in duration and involve the children participating in singing, dancing, clapping and playing some of the simpler instruments.

In Week 6, Kenny Koala will visit again to talk about keeping safe while walking, in the car and what to do when we get lost.

We have been learning about the seasons, deciduous and evergreen trees and doing some wonderful Autumn art. We constantly review shapes, positioning, patterning, number concepts, size etc. Every fortnight we concentrate on a couple of letters and what words begin with these sounds or letters and how to write them. As we read stories every day and discuss who the author is, the title and the illustrator some of the children have then produced their own story books which they are very proud of. We are always working on their names, cutting, fine motor and gross motor skills. Over the last few weeks we have been concentrating on galloping. The children are encouraged to keep writing their name and practising using scissors at home as much as they can.

On Wednesdays, the children continue to participate in a Fundamental Motor Skill Program with the help of some of our lovely Mums and Grandmas. We work on a range of different skills. For example, skipping, catching, hitting a ball, kicking a ball, throwing a ball, running, army crawl, crab crawl, crossing our midline, writing letters while also learning about beginning sounds, rhyming words or syllables while doing the rotations. A big thank you goes to those parents/grandparents who help us with our rotations. If you would ever like to stay and help please put your name down on the roster sheet outside the classroom or let your teacher know as our helpers would appreciate a break every now and then.



Thank you also to those families that bring in 'fruito' for our 'fruito' basket, do our washing, help out at the Preschool, donate items or collect items for our Preschool. We really appreciate it. Please keep bringing in the 'fruito' as the children really look forward to a lovely platter of fruit.

Thank you to our wonderful Preschool committee. Please feel free to attend any meetings on a Wednesday at 11.45 am, twice a term and have a say in what is happening at your child's Preschool.

Reports will be coming home near the end of term. Please try not to stress too much about the reports and remember that they are only pre-schoolers. If you have any concerns please come and talk to us.

Reminders:

Please remember:

- a named warm jacket or coat EVERYDAY as we will investigate the outdoor environment unless it is really bad weather.
- to put at least 1 set of spare clothes in your child's bag including socks and undies to use for messy play or toileting accidents.
- healthy food and water bottles.
- fruit for 'fruito'
- Please ensure that names are on EVERYTHING and regularly check the lost property box.

Dates to Remember:

Tuesday 22 May

Friday 25 May

Tuesday 29 May, 9.30 am

Thursday 31 May

Friday 1 June, 9.30 am

Tuesday 5 June

Friday 8 June

Wednesday 27 June

Kindergarten Information Night – School library

Indigenous Performance (Koalas at the Primary School)

Declan the Music Man Performance (Possums/Bilbies)

Koalas photo day

Declan the Music Man Performance (Koalas)

Kenny Koala (Possums/Bilbies)

Kenny Koala (Koalas)

Pizza and Problems Night (School Hall – Whole School)

Thank you everyone again for all your assistance. We hope you are enjoying your preschool year. Please remember if you have any concerns, come and talk to us or make a time to have a chat.

Susie, Leigh, Jayne & Janene





Kindergarten News

What a busy start to 2018 we have had! It is hard to believe that your little Kindergarten person has already been at school for 14 weeks. We started this term by helping all the Kindergarten children to become familiar with others, to try new things and to be part of the larger group in Chipala. So far we have all had a visit from a dirty dog (as part of our study into letters and sounds), been to and borrowed books from the library, enjoyed several Science and PE lessons, become familiar with our surroundings and have shared a family BBQ. We have also been engaged in lots of cheering and running at the school cross country and got ourselves wet during the swimming carnival. We are looking forward to our first school Athletics carnival at the end of this term.

Mrs Leheny, Miss Blewitt and Mrs Swift have been blown away by the enthusiasm and ideas students have displayed during morning investigations. It has been rewarding to see the students trying new things and working as problem solvers. We have really enjoyed getting to know our Foxes, our Turtles and our Starfish.

It is with sadness that we approach the halfway mark of Term 2 – our thoughtful, talented and enthusiastic teacher, marvellous Mrs Bart, is leaving. Her presence in the Kindergarten area will be greatly missed. The Kindergarten teachers, parents and children wish her all the best for the arrival of her little bundle. When asked about Mrs Bart the children's responses were ...

Carolyn, Cassie & Sharon

What I love about Mrs Bart is when we play Friendship Hi 5 because I love being a tipper. (McKaylee)

I like how she is nice to me. (Isaac)

I like it that she's LOUD! (Dixie Lee)

I like Mrs Bart because she teaches me sport. (Sam)

I like Mrs Bart because she's the best. (Mitch)

She gives us 10 out of 10. (Nathan)

I like her because she's beautiful. (Hannah)







Understanding and Responding to Feelings and Behaviours

UR FaB

Program in Schools

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

Hello from the UR FaB Team,

In our last newsletter, we talked about “Together Time” and how this helps to develop a strong relationship with your child. This happens when children feel that their parents are interested in them and in what they are doing and spend time with them. Today we are going to look at descriptive commenting and specific praise, as ways of communication which continues to build and strengthen your relationship with your child.

Descriptive commenting is a way you can show interest in your child’s play by simply describing what they are doing and by providing supportive comments. As adults we have a tendency to ask children questions while they are playing: What animal is that? What are you making? This often stops children from playing and prevents them from exploring their ideas. Descriptive commenting is a running commentary of your child’s play. For example: “You’re putting the bed in the dollhouse. Now baby is going to bed.”

Praise is another way to build your relationship with your child, and share a deeper intimacy. It is also a way to encourage the behaviour we want our children to do more of. Most parents use general praise such as, “well done, good girl, clever boy, marvellous, fantastic, super, brilliant, ace or cool”. This type of praise is called evaluative praise. Most adults will have received this kind of praise themselves as children and it is familiar to us so it is not surprising that we should use it with our own children. Research shows that descriptive praise helps children know what exactly is liked and is more encouraging for children.

Specific or descriptive praise is a different kind of praise. It is about noticing and mentioning exactly what the child has done well or what you liked about what they did. Descriptive praise improves the general atmosphere of the home. It is very effective in getting children to be more co-operative. When we point out what they’re doing right it motivates our children to do more of it. Describe the positive behaviours you see, “You remembered to bring home your reading book,” “You looked at Miss March when she was talking to you then –that was polite.” “You got on your bike again even though you fell off just now –you’re being brave.” Praise effort and improvement: “You’ve remembered to underline the title and put the date on the page.” “You kept on trying with these sums even though you didn’t find it easy.”

Specific or descriptive praise can feel hard to do. It does take time and practice. Don’t give up!

The UR FaB Team



P&C News



Entertainment books can be purchased online by following the link www.entbook.com.au/2t4019 you can either receiving an electronic copy of the book or a hard copy (picked up from school).

If you wish to receive a hardcopy of the book and pay with cash please contact Jemima on 0422064597.

Theodore Preschool

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Uniform Stall

A preschool uniform stall will be held next Wednesday 23 May from 11.30am to 12.30pm. Please try and have correct change as we can only accept cash, sorry for the inconvenience.

Shirts are \$15 and Hoodies \$25

School Photos

A discount applies for families with 3 or more children. After purchasing individual packs for EACH child a sibling's presentation pack of your choice will be free.

Only children who present a siblings presentation order form to the photographer on photo day will have their family/ sibling photo taken. Envelopes for sibling photos are available at the School Office.