Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Starting this week each class is going to take a turn including a little blurb in our newsletter, letting you all know what we have been up to in our classrooms. This week it is my turn to tell you all about the escapades in 1/2C.

The children in 1/2C have settled back well into school life after their two week holiday. Everyone is happy and keen to learn and achieve to the best of their ability.

Many things are happening this term, both in and out of the classroom. Here is a snap-shot of what we are currently doing.

Each morning starts with a yarning circle where the children show respect for each other by listening attentively and providing feedback to the speaker with regard to volume and eye-contact, as these are both important skills for school. Both Donna (Goldthorpe, our extremely valuable Student Learning Support Officer) and myself also participate in our yarning circles. It is a very special time where we all connect as a whole group and really sets the mood for our day in a positive way.

In guided reading groups the children are trying to improve their phrasing and fluency, develop their comprehension skills and increase their ability to problem solve when they come to an unknown word using various strategies such as rereading and blending and segmenting sounds.

During writing sessions we are incorporating our spelling focus and trying hard to start each sentence with a capital letter and finish each one with a full stop. The children are also setting their writing pages up with a planning space which they use to record key words. They then use these key words as prompts to write a whole piece of text. When they have finished writing a piece of text they analyse their writing to see if they can find evidence to demonstrate our stated learning intention (e.g. starting each sentence with a capital letter and finishing each sentence with a full stop). The children do this with text written in their books and with iPads.

During Maths the children have been learning about place value with regard to 2 and 3 digit numbers (hundreds, tens and ones) and developing their early arithmetical strategies such as counting on and back, combinations of 10 and 20 and number doubles. Maths is always a very hands-on and engaging session. There are many budding mathematicians in 1/2C that’s for sure.
When the children have Miss Smith on Tuesdays they are currently investigating Transport in Science, learning how to make healthy and safe choices in life and engaging in some creative art, music, dance and drama activities.

It is certainly shaping up to be a very busy term. We have a dance to learn for Beef Week, an Aboriginal dance with Uncle Shane to learn for NAIDOC week and we have started practising our item for our school concert which is in Term 3.

Of course there is always some home learning that needs to occur and the children that engage in these activities certainly show the benefits at school. I am referring to our Home Reading Program and our Magic 100 Word Program. 1/2C children enjoy many rewards for doing their home reading and practising their Magic 100 words and I encourage everyone to help their children with these activities as many evenings as possible.

Finally I would like to thank all the lovely mums, dads and grandparents of the wonderful 1/2C children that I have met so far this year. Thank you for introducing yourselves and supporting myself and your children in all aspects of their school life. When we join forces we form a strong team and together we can help our children ‘Dream, Believe and Achieve’ anything their hearts desire. My Kindest Regards, Mrs Karen Campbell.

HAPPENINGS AT CASINO WEST

Hello to all our parents, friends and community.

It’s great to see the kids back in school and giving it their best in the classroom and playing so well in the lunch and recess breaks.

Lots of kids are playing sport, improving their skills in netball and football and looking ready for the PSSA trials to be held this week.

We held a paper plane competition last Thursday and will hold round two this Thursday recess. Last week’s winner was Maleik K, who edged out Kirk R. Both planes flew the length of the COLA. There were some interesting designs and the kids were very unselfish in helping others to construct their planes. We should have a constructor’s category as well.

Two teachers will be attending the Stronger Smarter Leadership program next week. This is an excellent program and has helped our school enormously. If you would like to learn more about the program please feel free to ask me. Perhaps we could run a parent information session on our experience with Stronger Smarter.

I would like to thanks all the students and parents who attended the ANZAC Day Dawn Service and March. It was great to have parents march with us and it was fantastic to have such a big turnout. Well done kids, you made us very proud. Who will ever forget the jet flying past so low at the RSM?

P&C will hold their meeting tonight at 5:30pm in the school staffroom. We would like to extend a warm welcome to all parents and community members. The school fete is approaching and the P&C has done a great job, as usual, in setting this up. Special thanks go to Mr Noel York and the team for all of your effort in organizing the fete. It is a big job.

That’s all for this week, remember to encourage your kids to read every night, and listen to them if you can. It makes a big difference. Bye for now, Michael Taylor, Principal.
INFANTS ASSEMBLY

We have changed our assembly day to even weeks Thursdays, in the hall commencing at 1.00pm.

First assembly starting in Week 4 this term.

Please feel welcome to come along. We would love to share this wonderful time with you.

Term 2 Infants Assembly Timetable

Week 4 – Thursday 14th May
Week 6 – Thursday 28th May
Week 8 – Thursday 11th June
Week 10 – Thursday 25th June

Of course, as always, we apologise if these dates and times change due to unforeseen circumstances.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Kinds regards, K-2 staff.

BOOKCLUB NEWS

Issue 3 went out last week and is due back Friday 8/5/15. The month of May is National Family Reading Month so hope you can find some books that the whole family can read together.

My favourites would be:

**Lucky**
212 The Cleo Stories
208 Disney Car Readers Pack

**Arrow**
444 The Kaboom Kid

**Wombat**
038 Wombat Stew
039 Pocket Dogs
042 Possum magic

**Star**
741 Adventures of Captain Underpants – Colour Edition

743 Goosebumps – A Nightmare on Clown Street

Keep up the great reading at home.

Regards Judith Bryant, Librarian.

NEW TRACKSUIT FOR CASINO WEST

The school will have available within 6-8 weeks a school tracksuit which will have navy pants and a matching jacket in the same style as the uniform.

If you would like to place an order for them please see the office. New introductory price will be $45.00 for jacket and $25 for pants. Sizes 4 – XL available.

VOLUNTARY SCHOOL FEES

The P&C have set the school fees for the 2015 year and are as follows.

1 child - $30.00
2 children - $50.00
3 or more children - $60.00

MATHS TEXT BOOKS

All students in the school have a maths text book to use in class. The cost for each child is $15.00 each.

Fees can be made by cash or EFTPOS at the front office. Thank you.

A MESSAGE FROM THE AEO

The Aboriginal Medical service will be conducting hearing and dental checks this term. Notes will be sent out this week. Please fill out and send back to school as soon as possible. Thanks Aunty Sue.