Newsletter: Issue 18
Thursday 11th November 2010

The weather has been kind to us this week while children have participated in water safety and swimming lessons at the Valleys Lifestyle Centre in Clare. We are now half way through the term and draft plans have been made for continued improvement. As we review individual student progress during the year and the Site Learning Plan 2008-2010, we have much to celebrate. All students have made progress - some exceptional progress, and most of the targets we set three years ago have been achieved.

A draft site improvement plan for next year has been developed and will have the following priorities
1. Focus on Learning - Whole school effectiveness in teaching and learning, with a focus on the Australian Curriculum.
2. Set Direction - Active inclusion of more stakeholders, with a focus on those new to our community
3. Shared Leadership - Improved Student Voice, with a focus on healthy eating and physical activity.

I am looking forward to accompanying the Year 7 students on the Small Schools Canberra Camp next week and hope that the good weather follows us.

Cheers, Dzintra

The Rec - Year 6 students and staff wish Mrs Richards and the Year 7 students a very happy and safe trip to Canberra. We hope you all learn lots and bring back some great photos to show us.

Editor

Remembrance Day
A short ceremony was held today at the Blyth War Memorial to honour the fallen and to remember them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diary Dates</th>
<th>Swimming Lessons</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 8th Nov - Fri 12th Nov</td>
<td>Year 7 Canberra Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 14th Nov - Sat 20th Nov</td>
<td>Gov Council Dinner Meeting, 7pm</td>
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<td>Mon 15th Nov</td>
<td>Parent Club AGM, 12 noon</td>
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<td>Tues 16th Nov</td>
<td>PUPIL FREE DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 22nd Nov</td>
<td>Piano Concert, 2.45pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 24th Nov</td>
<td>Parent Information Night for students in transition to Clare HS</td>
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<td>Thur 25th Nov</td>
<td>Year 7 Transition Day, Clare HS</td>
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<td>Fri 26th Nov</td>
<td>Year 7 Transition Day, Clare HS</td>
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<td>Fri 26th Nov</td>
<td>Christian Options Seminar</td>
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<td>Tues 30th Nov</td>
<td>Year 5/6/7 End of Year Excursion</td>
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<td>Wed 1st Dec</td>
<td>R- 5 End of Year Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 2nd Dec</td>
<td>OSHC Christmas Party, 5.30pm</td>
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<td>Tues 7th Dec</td>
<td>End of Year Concert</td>
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SAPSASA Cricket
Congratulations to Will Pratt who did very well when representing the Mid North in Adelaide last week. He was awarded the Game Ball for an exceptional effort on Wednesday when the team played Southern Yorke Peninsula.

Piano Concert
Please note that the Piano Concert has now been rescheduled for a week earlier than in the note that went home to Mrs Eime’s piano students. It will be held on Wednesday 24th November at 2.45 pm.

Solar Power Generation
Since our solar panels were installed in June 4,435KWh has been generated.

Attachments with this newsletter
- Parenting with the Brain in Mind
- Maths Challenge
- Minutes of Parent Club meeting 19/10/10
- Book Club Brochure - orders due 23/11/10
School Photos
The School photos are available for collection by parents/caregivers. We will not be sending them home with students unless requested by phone or in writing. Envelopes for ordering whole school photos or SRC photos are available at the front office. Cost is $17.00 per photo.

Sensational Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shelby Toholke</td>
<td>☺ for settling into their new class very well</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tara Walkley</td>
<td>☺ for being a good helper in class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brayden Eime</td>
<td>☺ for choosing to have a more positive attitude</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gage Milic</td>
<td>☺ for choosing to have a more positive attitude</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maddison Ciardiello</td>
<td>☺ for choosing to have a more positive attitude</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aussie Fox</td>
<td>☺ for choosing to have a more positive attitude</td>
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<th>Week 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rory Nutt</td>
<td>☺ for consistent hard work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will Pratt</td>
<td>☺ for outstanding work in Maths all term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barnaby Toholke</td>
<td>☺ for a fantastic effort to complete work</td>
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Pupil Free Day
The next Pupil Free Day will be on Monday 22nd November when Kerry Hugo from the DECS Curriculum Review Team will update teachers with progress on the Australian Curriculum, provide information about the Teaching For Effective Learning Framework and facilitate planning for the introduction of the Australian Curriculum during the coming years.

German News
As we approach the end of the year, it is fun to experience the traditions of the German speaking countries, for example St Martin and the lantern festival, St Nicholas and der Weihnachtsmann.

Something we must be very careful of is stereotyping.

All families in Australia are different and celebrate in different ways. People overseas see stereotyped images of Australians having Christmas at the beach or prawns on the barbie. We all know that not all Australians do this. We must then be careful not to assume that all German people celebrate as the books tell us - but we can make generalisations and talk about them, with eyes open to individual differences.

This week, in parts of Germany, many children make lanterns which they carry in processions to re-enact the good works of a soldier, called Martin, who offered his cloak to a freezing beggar many hundreds of years ago.

Take care of each other, Cheers, Judy

Parent Club
The AGM (Election of Officers) of the Parent Club will be held next Tuesday 16th November at 12 noon with a luncheon at the Blyth Hotel. Please let Lyn or Valerie know if you intend to be there (for catering purposes). Everyone is welcome to attend.

The minutes of the last meeting are attached to this newsletter.

Parent Club will be organising a Christmas Raffle again to be drawn at the School Concert. If families could donate one or two items for the raffle it would be much appreciated. Also we will be asking each family to provide approximately a dozen biscuits (homemade or bought) or packets of nuts or chocolates to prepare small gifts for each member of the staff.

We would also appreciate it if each family could provide two plates of supper for the school concert. Although the concert is just under four weeks away, we are giving plenty of notice so that parents have time to organise these requests.

Valerie Carling
(President of Parent Club)

Canberra Trip
The Year 7s will be leaving on Sunday 14th November to travel to Canberra to visit many places of interest including Parliament House, Old Parliament House, the War Memorial, the High Court, the National Gallery of Australia, The Royal Australian Mint and the National Museum of Australia.

We acknowledge the funding of $60 per student that is provided by the Federal Government to help subsidise our children visiting our national capital for this wonderful educational week of activities.
Hello everyone,

Christmas Hampers
Christmas is always a special time for giving and receiving. Each year Clare Valley Christian Outreach Financial Counselling Service distributes hampers in the area. If you would like to donate non perishable items to be included, please leave them under the Christmas tree in the front office area.

Christian Options Seminar
A seminar with a Christmas theme will be presented by the local Christian Options team on Friday morning 26th November.

Adventures and Moving On
Good wishes to our Upper Primary students for their Canberra adventure and for transition days at Clare High School. We hope you have a great time and all goes well for you over the next two weeks.
Take care families,
Cheers, Mignon

OSHc News
Some activities at OSHC have been mosaics, sewing felt animals, building pasta and marshmallow towers, cooking, sandpit play, colouring velvet pictures.
Welcome to Leah who has attended OSHC for the first time, great to see another new face.
Our new space is being enjoyed and our pinboard decorations and photos are growing very quickly.
The OSHC Christmas Party will be held on Thursday 2nd December at 5.30 pm all OSHC families welcome. Please bring a plate of food to share. Hope to see you there.
Cheers, Deb Tobin,
OSHc Director

Rec - Year 2 Class News
This week we have been busy with swimming lessons. We have been learning how to kick our legs properly, how to put our faces in and breathe, and how to do strokes. We have also learnt about water safety and how to use life jackets. Chances are, you may have noticed them sleeping better this week.
We have also been working on our end of year celebration piece. If any of you can lend us the following, please let me know - it would be greatly appreciated.
- pretend toy bbq and/or gas bottle
- deck chairs (children’s size preferred)

None of the students will need a special costume for the concert - neat, casual clothes will be perfect!
We are planning a combined JP & MP end of year excursion for possibly Wednesday 1st December - more details to follow.

Cheers, Cheryl

Year 3-5 Class News
Swimming lessons have been in full swing this week. It is fantastic to see everyone learning about water safety and I must say it brings back memories of my own swimming lessons (especially shivering and being told not to run near the pool!) The class has held a brainstorming session to come up with ideas for our end of year performance. We had to decide which ideas were achievable for us given the amount of time we have before our performance.
Unfortunately this means that some of our ideas will have to wait for another time. We simply don’t have enough time to write SHREK the musical (this was one of the more adventurous ideas). We do have an alternative and the kids are busy practising at the moment.
Cheryl, Brendan and Lesley are planning a combined Junior and Middle Primary excursion. At the moment this has been pencilled in for Wednesday the 1st of December. We will have more details for you soon.

Regards, Brendan Ackland

And a few words from Lesley........
Hello everyone! This week we are working on an amended programme to facilitate swimming in the afternoons. I am pleased to report that the Middle Primary Class performed admirably on the first two days of swimming, (my days in the MP class) thanks, in part to the nice weather.
I would like to ask parents and caregivers to ensure they sight their child’s spelling homework, diaries and take-home book every weekend, and also to sign them please.

Cheers, Lesley Bray
Year 6-7 Class News
The next two weeks are going to be a little different with the Year 7s on Canberra Camp and Transition in Week 7. They will have a wonderful experience in Canberra. We will finish off our topic on Explorers and present the information to the rest of the class.
We have started revising decimals in Maths and will continue this over the next week weeks.
We have started concert rehearsals and the children are excited about their performance.
Our Go Karts are looking great and the children are working well in their teams. They are learning a lot of new skills.
On Monday of Week 8 we will be selling our Enterprise goods and singing at Ennis Park. Once again transport by parents is vital to the success of our Enterprise. All money will be donated to the family in Uganda.
On the 5th December Blyth’s Senior Citizens get together for a Christmas show. The MP class will be singing on the day and our class are making small bags of fudge to give to each person. It is a great way to do something for others at this time of the year when family is so important.
We are seeking donations of condensed milk, white chocolate buds, butter and sugar. We would appreciate anything that you can donate.
Thanks, Regards, Jillian & the UP Class

COMMUNITY NOTICES
Blyth Cinema
Fri 29th Oct 8.00 Prince of Persia – Sands of Time (M) Action/Adventure
Sat 30th Oct 6.00 pm How to Train Your Dragon (PG) Animated - $5.00 tickets
Sat 30th Oct 8.00 pm I Love You Too (M)
Fri 5th Nov 8.00 pm I Love You (M)
Sat 6th Nov 8.00 pm The A-Team (M)
Fri 12th Nov 8.00 pm The A-Team (M)

Youth Mental Health First Aid
A course will be held at the Clare Medical Centre, Clare on Tues and Wed 23-24th November from 9.00 am - 5.00 pm. For further information or to book your place please call 88413777 or email Lynne:
lanlezark@claremedical.com.au