

Friday 3 April 2009

Dear Parents and Carers,

End of Term: This has been a long term of 11 weeks. School will finish next Thursday 9 April and resume on Tuesday 21 April. Tuckshop will be open for both these days. I take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and safe Easter break.

Clean School: I want to thank the children for their commitment to keeping the school clean and tidy. It is a pleasure to walk into our school grounds and see no rubbish. The improvement from last year is tremendous. I also want to take this opportunity to thank our cleaners, Janet and Linda, and also our groundsman, Chris Potter, for their continued efforts in cleaning rooms and maintaining our school grounds. Thanks for all your hard work.

Lexile Framework: It has come to our attention that a letter regarding Lexile Framework registration and payment was sent to all parents on 24 July 2006 which advised parents that a once-off fee of \$4.00 would be charged for each child in Years 2-7 to access the Lexile Framework for the rest of their academic career. Inadvertently a fee of \$4.00 was incorrectly charged for Years 3-7 for Lexile Framework in 2007 and 2008. Should you wish to receive an \$8.00 credit relating to this error please contact the office. This year we have also charged \$5.00 on the Term 1 invoice for all students from Years 2-7. We are currently in the process of rectifying this situation by either placing credits onto the Term 2 invoices for students in Years 3 - 7 from whom we have already received payment, or returning money home before receipting, and deleting this incorrect charge from the Term 1 invoice. Should you wish to receive a copy of this original Lexile letter from 2006, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Cross Country: Teachers have been helping the children with some practice for this and hopefully all children will have been training a little bit for this at home. On Wednesday we will be walking down to Wests Bulldog Rugby field at 9:00am and should commence the running at 9:30. Please join us.

Anzac Day: We will be commemorating Anzac Day during the first week back on Friday 24 April. We will hold a special assembly at 9am to which all parents and carers are invited. Then throughout the day Captain Catts (Adele Horsburgh) will be taking half hour sessions with each class to explain the significance and importance of this yearly ceremony.

Auslan Classes: Classes for parents and other members of the community are held on Tuesday nights from 6 to 7.30pm. Please RSVP to the office or email mocon12@eq.edu.au for further questions.

Active School Travel Results: This week the honour goes to 4/5DH with 100% of children in the morning and 87% in the afternoon using a form of active travel. Congratulations!

Regards: Brendon Madden

For Your Diary

Wed	8 April	Cross Country 9:30am
Wed	8 April	4/5 Kite Flying and Afternoon Tea
Thurs	9 April	Last day of term
Tues	21 April	First day back
Fri	24 April	Anzac Day Ceremony
Mon	27 April	P&C Meeting 7.00pm

Information Headquarter News

Book Club: Thank you for waiting patiently for your orders to return. We had such a large order that it had taken longer than usual to come back. Some orders have been sent home and the remainder will be distributed next week.

Many thanks: Thank you to the Cardell-Rees and Neville families for their generous donations of books – it is much appreciated!

New books: Ms Kimber and I had lots of fun attending the Scholastic book sales recently. All of the new books are on display in the library for the next week. If you would like to borrow these books please add your name to the list.

Leigh Hobart

How many shoes can we collect?

Sneakers, Trainers, Runners, Joggers

It doesn't matter what you call them, we are collecting them! The 'Marching into Africa' shoe appeal is to help orphans in Livingstone, Zambia. ABC radio is trying to collect 30,000 pairs of shoes across South-East Queensland. Donated shoes must be clean and wearable. Tie the shoelaces together, place in a plastic bag and write the shoe size clearly on the bag. Shoes can be given to the office or your child's class teacher.



For more information about the collection, visit:

<http://www.abc.net.au/local/stories/2009/03/20/2521915.htm?site=brisbane>

Netball

Congratulations to all of the teams on their winning form last week. This week's games were cancelled due to weather.

Leigh Hobart

Tuckshop News

Tuckshop will be open as usual next week and again beginning on the first Tuesday of next term. There is a new menu and price list included with this newsletter. We have a couple of new choices and some items have gone up so please check before you order.

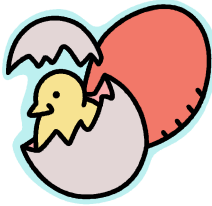
Bonnie Brown

Tues Homebake:	7 Apr:	Liz Freeman, Caitlin Neville
Tues Helper:		Thuy
Thurs Homebake:	9 Apr:	Susie Byrnes, Melissa Freeman
Thurs Helper:		Thuy
Tues Homebake:	21 Apr:	Meagan Roberts, Caitlin Neville
Tues Helper:		Thuy
Thurs Homebake:	23 Apr:	Susie Byrnes, Nic Mahler
Thurs Helper:		Thuy

Prep

Nerida Swetman

This week in Prep we had a special delivery of chicken eggs. It has been very 'eggs'iting watching them hatch each day. Our baby chickens have provided us with opportunities to talk about baby animals, the needs of living things and how we grow and change.



P/1CS

Michelle Coleman/Amanda Stewart

Our students have been very 'eggcited' by the arrival of our chickens and eggs. So far we have 9 chickens and more hatching as we speak! We have been learning about chickens and roosters and have even been looking at different ways of cooking eggs. We even know where chickens come from – do you? Please remember to return your homework book, readers and experience readers next week.

1/2B

Elitia Brennan

Thank you parents for helping to select appropriate toys for our investigations which have been going really well. Next term we will continue with our toy theme including looking at different types of puppets and how they are made. Hopefully we will get to make some of our own. We will also look at advertising. Preparation for Year 2 net will commence early next term. I wish everyone a safe and wonderful holiday.

2/3OK

Bronwyn Kelly/Elaine O'Dea

This week the children have been working hard on their Shelter project every afternoon. The results are amazing and it has been wonderful to see them using their confidence, persistence, organisation, and getting-along skills as they have undertaken this task. Next week they will be giving an oral and/or signing presentation about their shelter and the reasons they chose their particular design and materials. This may involve some practice at home. We have also been building up our fitness levels in readiness for the school cross country next Wednesday morning and hope to see many 2/3 OK supporters there on the day! This will be our last newsletter for the term so we'd like to wish you all a safe, happy and restful Easter break with your wonderful children.

3/4MN Mary Anne McIntyre/Tracey-Lee Nicholas

The long busy term is nearly over. We have been preparing for Year 3 Naplan and Year 4 QCAT assessment. Next week the Year 4 children will complete their English QCAT test. It will be broken into small sections so as not to overwhelm them. We have been preparing for the cross-country race on Wednesday. This will be great fun. Also during this last week we'll be finishing off and correcting all our activities. This week we have made our Easter baskets. It was messy but fun and we have beautiful lacy baskets to admire and hang in our tree. Thank you to all the parents who have helped in special ways and for always supervising homework and encouraging your children.

4/5D

Emma Dixon/Olivetta Harris

Only one week left of Term 1 and what a term we have had. Our *Flight* unit has been a lot of fun. We have learnt so many interesting facts and also the mechanics and forces involved in flight. To finish off on a high we are having a kite flying afternoon next Wednesday with 4/5FM. Parents are invited to attend and we ask that children bring a small plate of food to

share for afternoon tea. We have made sled kites and are going to attempt to fly them. Wish us luck and hope for some wind. The students have just completed another maths investigation. Year 4 children had to create an image out of irregular shapes and then measure the perimeter. Year 5 children had to halve, double and triple recipes to make pikelets for different numbers of people. They then had to use the internet to price items required to make the pikelets. We then finished the investigation by cooking them. Would you believe that during our cooking we had a blackout! Happy Easter to everyone and I hope the Easter Bunny visits.

4/5FM

Elizabeth Fletcher/Cameron Miller

We each made our own kites with 4/5DH. We tried them out on the oval and it was a big success although a couple of them got twisted and caught up with others. We have been playing language games on the computers where you have to answer questions and if you get them wrong a man gets dumped in slime. Some questions are about apostrophes, spelling and grammar. We are excited about the disco tonight.

by Natasha and Quang

6/7A

Keiran Abel

This week we have been testing mouse-trap cars going down ramps, across the floor and pushing objects for our science unit. We have had to change a variable of the mousetrap car, such as the wheels, and have started making our own car in groups. Next week we are going to test our cars and have a competition. This Thursday we had a lot of fun and learned lots of valuable teamwork skills at Leadership Day. Although it was raining we still participated in many activities, such as the ball and bucket challenge, which also helped us to practise our timetables and communicate with our group.

6/7BN

Saleigh Noble/Leah Barnett

On Thursday of last week, our class along with 6/7A went to the Think Do Tank Big Idea Festival. Everyone enjoyed it. In class we have been making mouse-trap cars for our integrated unit. This week Thursday we had Leadership Day. It was very fun. We played lots of team-building games. Tonight is the school disco and remember to wear your favourite beach gear. Next week Wednesday will be our cross country so try to have time for practising running.

by Alex and Angelika

Thought for the week

The hardest arithmetic to master is that which enables us to count our blessings.

Eric Hoffer

School for Parents

Why is it important for your child to read? Nagy and Anderson (1984) estimated that, as regards in-school reading, the least motivated students in the middle grades might read 100,000 words a year while the average students at this level might read 1,000,000. The figure for the voracious middle grade reader might be 10,000,000 or even as high as 50,000,000. If these guesses are anywhere near the mark, there are staggering individual differences in the volume of language experienced, and therefore, opportunity to learn new words. There are also differences in the volume of reading outside of the classroom that are linked to reading ability (Fielding et al. 1986) and these probably become increasingly large as schooling progresses. (From Strategies from Teacher Aide Professional Development Program)

Leigh Hobart