

ROOM 14 - CLASS NEWSLETTER – TERM 3 - Mary Muggleton

Dear families,

I am amazed that we are half way through 2017's academic year. I guess that means this term is going to be busy, busy, busy. Before we dive into this term I would like to reflect on some of Term 2's highlights, such as: NAPLAN (Year 5's), volcanic eruptions, excursion to Planetarium (and some amazing oral presentations of our Solar System), SAPSAS girls and boys netball / soccer, rugby clinics and carnival (amazing), Reconciliation Day- where we had a fantastic day learning how to throw a boomerang and spear (thanks Jack), and auditions for our drama production, 'Little Red'.

Homework: There will be a new homework contract organised. Generally the work sent home will be revision, unfinished set tasks or independent research projects. Homework is not designed to keep students from enjoying their family commitments or social engagements. At this age students should be doing between 20 and 40 min of homework (max), unless working on a project. If students have no set homework then they can work towards their Community Service Certificate.

Absences: Last term we had a lot of unexplained absences which just adds more work for both me and leadership if we have to follow up all unexplained absences. I would really appreciate it if we could address this issue – thanks in advance. **If your child is away** from school you can ring or text the front office, leave me a message on DOJO, write a note in their diary or pop in and have a quick chat.

Community Service:
Students will be helping me design a Community Service Commitment Award. There will be a participation, Bronze, Silver or Gold award. Together we will decide which services count and how many points will be needed for each award. Some community services might include: extra chores, reading to siblings, packing up after sporting event, walking dog or helping with tea etc. More info to come 😊

Science: We will be learning more about Biological Science. Each student will be engaged in a scientific inquiry based on either - *Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their environment* (year 5), or *The growth and survival of living things are affected by physical conditions of their environment* (year 6). The inquiry will form part of their independent project and will be completed at school as well as being included in their homework contract.

Class Dojo: In order for this form of communication to be effective I need all families involved - it makes communicating easier. There is a log in password with this newsletter for families who need to sign up. Thank you.

Drama production: This term we will be performing our play, 'Red' to the school communities and to room 14 families. This is a fractured fairy-tale based on the classic story 'Little Red Riding Hood'. We will also make a video production. All students will have a part either acting, chorus or stage hands. I am so excited as we have some budding actors in this class.

Volunteers: Have you considered volunteering to read with a student? Even us big kids love to read with someone. If this is something you are interested in just let me know and I will get more information on volunteer training times.

Excursions and Incursions:



Book Week: As part of the Whole school Celebrations we will be meeting Phil Cummins at School on Thursday, 10th August. Also, at 1.30pm on August 23rd rooms 14 and 15 will be visiting the Ingle farm Public library to meet Australian Author, Kristin Weidenbach. Kristen is the author of the book 'King of the Outback' (no cost).

Wellbeing: This term I would like to arrange an excursion to Latitude. The cost will be \$16pp for a structured 90 min school session, plus public bus ticket cost. My intention is to incorporate this event as a fitting conclusion to our Fitness and Group Dynamics incentive. Throughout this term we will be committing to improving our aerobic fitness as well as becoming more sensitive and empowered in making respectful and powerful decisions in working alongside our classmates.



Science: To further our education in animal and plant adaptation we will visit the Botanical Gardens and the Zoo. Date to be announced (about week 4). Cost will be approx. \$15.



Health: This term's health program will include the topic of relationships and sexual health. Participation in the lessons aims to improve your child's ability to develop respectful relationships, be confident and happy within themselves and their bodies, and make well-informed and safe decisions regarding their body and their relationships. We will be delivering a comprehensive curriculum to students in years 5 and 6. Some of the lessons will be combined, some year level based, and some gender identified based. The program which will be delivered in a safe and supportive environment, builds knowledge, develops life-long skills, and explores attitudes and values. Topics include: communication, relationships, puberty, reproductive systems, gender/power/stereotypes, harassment, diversity, technology, safe behaviours, decision making and places to go for help and support. At all times lessons will be sensitively addressed and relevant to the needs of the students. The program, adapted from SHINE, aims to support and compliment the role of the family in educating young people about relationships and sexual health and for this reason open communication is encouraged at all times. Please let us know if there are particular concerns that we should be aware of.

Don't forget to keep an eye on Class Dojo for upcoming events, work samples, photos and much more. Cheers **Mary**