



*We learn. We show respect.
We are safe.*

Thursday 22nd February 2018

"Golden Past, Bright Futures"

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Clunes Primary School Newsletter

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please see Term 1 #draft 3 Calendar on back page

2018 Prep/ Foundation students Rest/ Assessment Days- each Wednesday after that for the first 6-7 Weeks of Term 1, 2018

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

A couple of housekeeping items to address this Newsletter ☺:

Have you noticed on official 'Cases' Office documentation sent home: P/1C, 1/2C, 2/3C, 3/4C, 4/5C, 5/6C instead of our usual P/1B, 1/2H, 2/3D, 3/4LM, 4/5T & 5/6A D? No need to be concerned, it is just a state-wide DET office administration change in the naming conventions area. Please still think of your class in the usual format eg. P/1B and think of the 'C' as in Clunes. ☺



Bus travel

Do you think that you may be eligible for the free School Bus to attend Clunes PS? (we currently have 35 regular bus travellers) Please visit our Office for further discussion with Sonia.

Welcome BBQ & STEM Family Focus Evening



Thank you for attending and participating. A fun and engaging evening! More photos and an article in our next Newsletter. ☺

Best wishes to you all for a positive fortnight ahead! Kind regards, Sonia & the staff of CPS.



STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS FOR TERM 1



Our Term 4 You Can Do It is:
Getting Along

Prep/ 1B - Brock, Pepper	1/2H – Crystal
Year 2/ 3D- Charlie E, Zeb, Daniel, Max F	3/ 4LM- Eve, Declan
4/5 T- Benji, Kate	5/ 6 A- Oli, Campbell, Henry
Chaplain's Award- School Captains & Vic-Captains, Lillian	Mrs Laurie's Award-

Bus Traveller's Awards- all bus travellers!

CHAPLAIN'S CHAT

It can be hard and very frustrating sometimes to believe that we really are making a difference in our children's lives whether we're teachers, parents, grandparents, aides etc. They may not respond to something in the way we would want, like or expect them to. Sometimes with children they may have trouble verbally expressing exactly how they feel, so they may do it through a changed behaviour. But be encouraged because you are important to your child for all the little things you do for them.

- You thought you were spending a few minutes of your time kicking the ball in the backyard or baking some biscuits; but your child, who realised that your time is precious, knew you were investing it in him.
- You thought that the fridge was as good a place as any for hanging all the art work and the achievement awards that came home from school; but your child felt important when she came home from school each day with something to show you and put up on her personal hall of fame.
- You thought you were helping a troubled restless child get some sleep by sitting with them and rubbing their back; but your child felt that you were opening your heart and making all the worries a lot smaller.
- You thought you were just giving him a little kiss on the cheek to tell him goodbye as he left for school; but your child felt warm and loved because he knew there would be another one waiting for him when he got home.

I hope that this week your appreciation of each other grows a little.
Have a great week! Blessings,

Julie McDowell Chaplain

Volunteers STILL required for our Friday Lunch Order delivery please (Roster at the Office)

This year we have slightly altered our School Timetable to positively influence our Mathematics lessons. This has meant a timetable restructure that has Maths begin in all classrooms straight after Recess and SRA (Spelling & Prep- Letters & Sounds) beginning after the bell at 12.30pm. As you know, we utilise every single member of staff during this SRA time to keep our learning groups small and matched to their specific spelling learning needs. (I teach the Preps whilst Mrs B teaches Reading Recovery).
Lunch eating will now be 15 minutes later at 1pm. (Lunch eating 1-1:10pm)

This poses a new challenge for us as in 2016 and 2017 the staff have been 'back-up' Lunch Order delivery people for Mark Field when he has been unavailable. This year Mark is unable to deliver the Lunch Orders due to work commitments. Staff are now also unable to collect and deliver the Lunches as we are all teaching. We need your help! Are you available to put your name on a Roster for Friday Lunch Order collection from the Top Shop and delivery to school? Please see the Office if you are able to help. Our collection /delivery system will now be totally reliant on Volunteer help.

Thanking you in advance, Sonia ☺ PS Rebecca Impey✓ for this week Fri 23/2 and Tamara Hayes✓ Fri 28/2.

Library 2018

Library borrowing will be starting on the following days-

MONDAY- 2/3D

TUESDAY- P/1B

WEDNESDAY- 3/4LM

THURSDAY- 4/5T & 5/6A

FRIDAY- 1/ 2H

ALL students require a library bag or reader bag for borrowing.

Thank you, Jan. ☺



A lovely photo of Oscar from Prep/1B using his 'paddle' to mark his borrowed book placement during his Library session.



Our Junior School Council is collecting Vouchers. Please send to the Office.



Beckworth House~ Winners of the 2018 Senior School Swimming Sports

Congratulations to all participants and helpers for such a terrific Sports! More photos in our next Newsletter.



PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN
GRADES 4, 5 AND 6 ARE WARMLY
INVITED TO ATTEND OUR

INFORMATION EVENING

Wednesday 7 March 2018

Information session at 5.30pm
in the Senior Centre

School Tours – at 4pm and 6pm
(Starting from the Senior Centre)

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MOVING BEYOND CYBER SAFETY FOR HAPPY, RESILIENT DIGITAL KIDS

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FEB

BY *MARTINE OGLETHORPE*

As digital devices becoming increasingly immersed into our lives, it is certainly clear they will continue to play a major role in the education, learning, entertainment and socialization of our children's lives.

This can be a scary prospect for a parent today as we are saturated with news about predators, pornography, cyber-bullying and sexting. And certainly these are real concerns, as is the safety of our children on these devices.

But these devices are not going anywhere and so we need to be smarter when it comes to helping our kids navigate this world. And for me, that means moving away from a fear

based approach, toward one that helps our kids get the skills, behaviours and thinking to become not only safe, but happy and resilient users of digital technologies.

Our kids are getting pretty good at keeping their passwords safe, not sharing private information, and thinking about talking to strangers online. All important lessons we need to continue to teach.

But being immersed in this world requires skills and behaviours well beyond safety measures. It needs to be an ongoing lesson in critical thinking, resilience, self-esteem, empathy and the promotion of good habits that they can carry with them throughout life.

Digital Resilience

The online world opens us up to comments, judgements and even abuse from people known and unknown, all coming from different backgrounds and situations, all with different beliefs, and all with a little extra keyboard courage or anonymity. Whilst we would like to be promoting kindness and respect online, this is not always the reality. We need our kids to be able to recognize and move on from the people whose opinions do not matter. The greater audience and the permanence of the online world also means the effects of mistakes are magnified. They need to be able to withstand the very permanent and public nature of this world. There may always be a party they are not invited to, or a sleepover they were excluded from, so how will they deal with the constant flow of images appearing in their social media feeds?

Self esteem away from the screens

There will always be comparison online. With access to so much and so many, there will always be someone prettier, smarter, skinnier, with more friends, more likes or more followers. We need to be constantly working on the self esteem of our kids, both online and off. Conversations about our self worth, where that comes from, whose opinion matters, what success and happiness really looks like. These all need to form part of the equation, not just how many likes you get on your latest selfie.

Digital skills

Our kids need skills to know how to handle different situations that arise online. Do they know how to abort a conversation that is going badly? How do they speak up in a group chat when someone is being excluded or spoken about in a nasty way? How do they deal

with unwanted attention online? Do they have the words to respond to a nasty comment? Should they respond? As so much of their social life and connection to others will be based around online conversations, these are just some of the skills our kids need to have in order to keep those interactions positive.

Good habits

The earlier we start with good habits, the greater chance we have of them becoming behaviours they adopt throughout adolescents and beyond. So start out with your own rules to ensure these habits are formed. Maybe it is no devices an hour before bed, no devices in the bedroom, no devices at the dinner table, asking permission before sharing pictures of others. Making sure there is plenty of time for friends, extra curricula activities, outside play, chores, homework and good sleep. These all help us be in charge of our time management and the control we have over our devices, so they don't end up controlling us.

Critical thinking

There is so much content online, so our kids need to be really good at determining that which is real, fake, relevant, helpful and worthwhile. This can be a difficult task (even for adults), but a crucial skill. Critical thinking must be an ongoing process every time they watch a video, look at a photo, read an article or connect with someone. Why was this written or produced? Is the language bias? Are they trying to sell me something? Is there research to back up their claims? Would this video have a warning if it was on TV? Is this worth my time? These are just some of the critical thinking questions kids need to be asking of themselves every time they consume content online.

So whilst keeping our kids safe and giving them the skills to do this is of utmost importance, there is so much more to cyber safety than avoiding predators. The emotional and social well-being of our kids and the ability for them to be in the best position possible to learn, grow and thrive are imperative, and will help them become resilient and happy both online and off.

Martine Oglethorpe is a mother to 5 boys with a background in secondary education and a Masters in Counselling.

2018 Prep/ Foundation students Rest/ Assessment Day- Week 1 - Friday 2nd February, after that each Wednesday for the first 6-7 Weeks of Term 1, 2018- final Wednesday date TBC

Week 4: 19 – 23 February

Wednesday 21 February: 2018 Welcome BBQ- followed by STEM Family focus evening led by our staff & our students

Week 5: 26 February – 2 March

Monday February 26: Choir Group 9.30-10.30am Session 1 participating students Years 3-6

Thursday March 1: Closing Date for School Council elections

Friday 2 March: Sovereign & Eureka Division Swimming Sports 9.30am start Ballarat Aquatic Centre 9yrs +

Week 6: 5 - *11 March

Monday 5 March: Choir Group 9.30-10.30am Session 2 participating students Years 3-6

Wednesday 7 March:

Friday 9 March: after school preparation for the Vintage Truck Show

***Sunday 11 March: School fundraising -Clunes Community Vintage Truck Show- helpers required please**

Week 7: 12- 16 March

Monday 12 March: Labour Day public holiday

Tuesday 13 March: Junior School Council Meeting 1.10pm

Wednesday 14 March: Last Foundation Year (Prep) Assessments/ Rest Day TBC

9 yrs old and under, Aquatic Centre Swimming Challenge (evening event)

Week 8: 19 – 23 March

Monday 19 March: Choir Group 9.30-10.30am Session 3 participating students Years 3-6

Wednesday 21 March: School Council Meeting- AGM and General Meeting

Thursday 22 March: Term 1 Disco – theme to be decided by JSC

Friday 23 March: TBC Harmony Day?- Focus Day ? Families/ mixed groupings & optional dress up theme Regional Swimming Event?

Sunday 25th March: Clunes Family Fun Day- Clunes Primary School involvement 10am-2pm

Week 9: 26 – Thursday 29 March

Monday 26 March: Life Education Program

Tuesday 27 March: Life Education Program

Thursday 29 March: Last Day Term 1 1pm finish (casual dress day)

Friday 30th March: Good Friday

Term 2 resumes: Monday 16th April, 2018

To be confirmed: (all items in Red)