



OVERPORT NEWS

From the Principal's Desk.

School Council Results:

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Dates to remember:

March

- 12/3 Public Holiday
- 13/3 Pupil Free Day
- 15/3 Term 2 Excursion Levy
notice sent home
Educ. Subcommittee
Meeting @3.45pm
- 16/3 FREE DRESS Day
- 19/3 School Council
Meeting @ 7.00pm
- 21/3 Resilience Project
Student sessions
Meal Deal forms
returned
- 23/3 Whole school Cross
country

We are very pleased to advise that we have the exact number of nominations to fill our School Councils parents vacancies and will not need to go to a ballot. We welcome returning members Kieren Thompson and Jay Johnstone and new member, Holly Hansard. They join our current members: Jenny Sidwell, Catherine Price, Sean Chinnathumby, Kim White and Rohan Burch, together with Department members Marie Yanni and Tess Higgins. As Deborah Madder is resigning from SC this year due to her retirement, we will be seeking a third department representative to be elected prior to our first meeting for the SC year on 19th March, at 7.00 pm, following our Annual General meeting at 6.30 pm. I welcome our parents and friends to attend our AGM, hear about the schools progress over that last year and meet our new council members. If you would like attend, please let the office know thank you.

Garden club:

Thank you to Mr Bill Mallinson who continues to support our students working each Wednesday in our wonderful vegetable garden with groups of students that are in garden club. Our Sustainability coordinator, Ms Miranda Tring, supports Mr Mallinson with the students. There is often great excitement as they find that their work in the garden has harvested delicious vegetables and fruits. We welcome any other parents who may like to assist in this program each week or even occasionally. If you are interested, please email or phone the school to let Ms Tring know and she will contact you.



Our Library in 2018:

Our Library, which has an inquiry learning focus, has undergone some changes this year as Miss Melissa Gleeson, who was our Library specialist, is now teaching Prep. Teachers are now taking their classes each fortnight to this learning space to focus on their current inquiry as well as encouraging a love of reading and books for our students. Miss Gleeson, together with our Library support staff member, Mrs Venetia Hill, will oversee the Library and ensures it continues to be a central learning hub of our school. The library is open every lunchtime from Monday to Thursday for students to engage in the space. We will be having a Book Fair during our Education Week next term, so watch out when we advertise the date!

Thought of the week:

*The more that you read,
the more things you will
know. The more that you
learn, the more places
you'll go.
- Dr Seuss*

The Power of Reading aloud!

A recent study on children's reading found that fewer children are reading for fun. Worse, as children grow up the less they read for fun. Does it matter if children don't read for fun? They are (sort of) reading on devices and mobiles and using social media anyway. And isn't this mostly for fun? I believe it does matter, and reading stuff on social media is not enough. Evidence is growing that sustained reading is important, but not only for the sake of getting better at reading. According to an influential study on reading by researchers at the University of Edinburgh and King's College London, it also impacts education, health, socio-economic status, and creativity. <https://www.ed.ac.uk/news/2014/reading-240714>

The same study concludes:

Since reading is an ability that can be improved, our findings have implications for reading instruction. Early remediation of reading problems might aid not only the growth of literacy, but also more general cognitive abilities that are of critical importance across a person's lifetime.

But children need more than the skills to read; they need the desire to read. A recent report commissioned by Scholastic found that the more children read, the better readers they become, and the better readers they become, the more they enjoy reading.

Parents are role models

So how to encourage reading? It helps if parents are reading role models and have a pile of books on their bedside table, and if teachers give time in class for children to read a book of their choice independently. It also helps if children are encouraged to browse in libraries and bookshops and choose their own books. But one of the best ways to encourage a child to read is very simple and very enjoyable: reading aloud. **So read aloud !**

This is a message for both schoolteachers and parents.



Jett PD, Thalia 2D,
Tilly 4A,
Melodee 1A,
Jack 4A, Jasper 2B,
Lacy 2C, Eve 4A,
Brady 4B, Emma 6C,
Jasmine 3A, Jaidan
3B, Cooper PD,
Nicole 3D,
Erynne 4B, Addi 1C,
Stuart 2C, Ethan 5A,
Danyl 4/5E, Shyan
PC, Lewis 3A, Affrica
6A, Mia 1A, Jamie
6D & Boyd 5A

When should you start reading aloud to your children? As Dorothy Butler said back in 1980 (in her classic *Babies Need Books*), you start when the child is a baby, the younger the better. Reading aloud celebrates words; the sound of them, the melody of them, the flow of them; and syntax, how words fit together, nouns naming and verbs doing. It celebrates rhyme and rhythm and the comfortableness of prediction. Think about lullabies, 'Lula lula lula lula bye bye' Reading aloud with very young children and exposing them to books 'beyond their immediate needs' welcomes and assists children into new knowledge and language. Books are about creative response as much as intellectual comprehension. Read aloud to proficient readers too

Don't underestimate the power of reading aloud to very proficient readers. Children report that they enjoy parents reading with them even when they can read well themselves. Listening well is also a literate and imaginative practice.

Kind Regards,

Julie Gleeson Principal.

Assistant Principals Report

Our school photos days went off very smoothly this week. The photographers were great, and specifically commented on how fabulous all of our students were. They were patient, listened well, and used excellent manners—a credit to you as their parents! All orders will now be processed and printed, then delivered to the school in early term 2.



Tickets are coming home today for our upcoming Easter Raffle. \$5.00 for 5 tickets, with a range of prizes to be won. All prizes will be drawn on the last day of term—Thursday 29th March, at our Easter Hat Parade.

Please remember that Friday 16th March is a Free Dress Day. Students who wear free dress are to bring along a donation for our Easter Raffle. Parent helpers on that morning would be greatly appreciated. Tasks to be done include the collection of donations from all classrooms, then bundling together our raffle prizes. Please meet me in the staffroom straight after school drop off.



If anyone has any unwanted baskets at home that would be suitable for our Easter raffle prizes, and you would like to donate them to the school, please feel free to drop them off at the school office before 16th March.

It's hard to believe that the end of term is just around the corner, but it is! Term 2 excursion and permission notices will be coming home next week, in preparation for a smooth start to the term. These will all be due back at school by the first day of term 2.

An additional fundraising opportunity has recently been added to the calendar, with a Garden Express Fundraising brochure coming home to each family next week too. You may like to take the opportunity of ordering some of the beautiful bulbs on offer to plant in your garden. Please clearly name your order form, and send it back to school by Friday 20th April. This is the end of the first week back. Thanks to Jess, mum of Hannah and Hattie, for taking charge of this fundraiser. The school receives a percentage of the total sales.



Upcoming events to be aware of:

- ◇ Yr 5 Beach Safety day tomorrow
- ◇ PUPIL FREE DAY—next Tuesday 13th March. Staff participating in Big write & VCOP professional development day.
- ◇ Yr 6 Lightning Premiership day Thursday 15th March
- ◇ Free Dress for Easter donation—Friday 16th March
- ◇ Whole school House cross country—Friday 23rd March

Have a great long weekend everyone,

Deborah Madder
Assistant Principal

'OVERPORT CARES' AWARDS

These certificates are awarded at assembly each week for children who have excelled in an academic or social endeavour throughout the previous week.

26/2/2018

Koby 1A, Scarlett 1B, Addi 1C, Vernon 1D, Noah 1E, Ayden 1F, Milla 2A, Daniel 2B, Len 2C, Jess 2D, Zain 3A, Isbelle 3B, Louis 3C, Yasmin 3D, Matthew 4A, Ivy 4B, Ryliegh 4C, Meka 4D, Lena 5A, Thomas 5B, Oliver 5C, Katelyn 6A, Josh 6B, Ethan 6C & Ezra 6D

Assistant Principals Report

RESILIENCE.... The importance of GRATITUDE!

The Resilience Project identifies that practicing gratitude, empathy and mindfulness may contribute to improved resilience.

Since beginning our partnership with The Resilience Project our teachers have been working with their students to learn how to practice gratitude. There are many ways in which teachers are supporting their students to appreciate and be thankful for what is meaningful or valuable. Some students have begun a 'gratitude journal' where by at the end of each day students write a positive thought about the day such as the 'best part of the day' or 'what made them happy'. Other teachers will hold a 'circle time' discussion, through which students will verbally share their favourite part of the day. You may see 'gratitude trees' displayed in some classrooms, students have added leaves with written thanks for others to read.

As a parent you can support your children to practice gratitude by asking them, when you pick them up, or perhaps around the dinner table, "What was the best part of the day?" Hopefully as we spend more time discussing what students are thankful for at school and home, we will notice an improvement in students attention to the positive aspects of their lives.

Hugh Van Cuylenburg from The Resilience Project will teach our students a little more about how to practice gratitude when he visits our school on **March 21st** for our student workshops. If you haven't already done so, please ensure you have returned The Resilience Project incursion form. It would be a shame for your child to miss out on what is sure to be a brilliant presentation by Hugh.

Tess Higgins
Assistant Principal

**THE
RESILIENCE
PROJECT**

SAVE THE DATE

**The Resilience Project
Parent information session**

Monday April 23rd

NEW TIME:

7.00—8.30

Overport PS Hall

Extend OSHC at Overport Primary School

Recap

This past fortnight at extend before and after school care we have been super creative. We have had a blast making clay sculptures and decorating them with paint as well as painting our own self-portraits. Marble run has been a great hit for the young ones daily, as they try to build the biggest towers and race their marbles down the tower to see who's wins. Using beads to make bracelets and 3D pictures has also been a fantastic activity that children have enjoyed doing.

We do have a very active bunch of children who love to go outside and play, so please try to remember to send your children with their hats so they don't miss out on going outside.

Courtney, Team Leader



Our Extend Superstar is:

Nash for being such a great team mate and showing great sportsmanship every time he attends. He is always smiling and willing to help with daily jobs and is a great friend to his peers.

What's on next week?

Monday 26 February:

PUBLIC HOLIDAY (closed)

Tuesday 27 February:

Pupil free day (open: 7am-6pm)

Making play-dough
Obstacle course/ Group skipping
Cooking: pizza bagels

Wednesday 28 February:

Tile painting

Thursday 01 March:

Making cars

Friday 02 March:

Target ball/ 4 square

