

THE TAYLOR TIMES



Newsletter No 6
Week 6 Term 2
Date: 6 June, 2018
Taylor Primary School
Marconi Crescent
Kambah ACT 2902

SCHOOL CONTACTS

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Principal Belinda Fenn	Business Manager Sharyn Widdowson	Board Chair Melanie Selems
Deputy Principal Alison Williams	Psychologist Sue Schulz (Tues /Wed /alternate Friday)	P&C President Shahna Smith
Executive Annie McAppion Leanne Davis Helen Wilson		PPA President: Amy Clark

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
7 June 2018	Rainbows	Dental Hygienist visiting Preschool Rainbows
8 June 2018	Assembly	5/6 Assembly 9.10am Assembly Hall
11 June 2018	Public Holiday	Queen's Birthday – all ACT schools closed
13 June 2018	Football	5/6 Sullivan Shield Round 1 (TBC)
13 June 2018	Cross Country	ACT Cross Country
18 June 2018	Health Checks	Kinder Health Checks

Principal Message

Dear parents and carers,

We are now officially into the Winter months and almost half way through the year. Teaching staff are currently very busy writing semester one reports, that will be sent home in week 9. Interviews are scheduled for week 10, please submit your preferred times as soon as possible to ensure you and your child's class teacher can find times that are mutually suitable. Notes will be sent home with available times next week.

Assessment and Reporting

This semester, for the first time, teachers are using the education directorate template to report on student achievement. You will find that this template is quite generic as it includes all key learning areas and corresponding strands of the Australian Curriculum. However, information is provided under English and Mathematics in the form of dot points that will communicate areas of strength and strategies for development. The idea is that teachers will then unpack this in more detail at interview.

A general comment is also provided on the final page of the report that will also include comments about how your child is progressing against other areas of the curriculum.

Below I have outlined some key points for your information in regards to A-E grades that will accompany school-based reports. A-E grades are required for all children, with the exception of kindergarten students and those that may be exempt. If you would prefer the A-E grades not to be sent home please discuss this with your child's class teacher or a member of the leadership team and this can be arranged.

- A-E grades are given for each key learning area that students have participated in each semester
- The grade is determined by each child's progress against the **Australian Curriculum Achievement Standards**
- Not all of the content within the standard can be covered in a semester. So teacher's work together in teaching teams to moderate student achievement against the parts of the standard that **have been taught**
- Each learning area standard refers to '**by the end of the year**'
- This means, **in semester one**, teachers make a professional on balance judgment supported by various student work samples to determine a grade
- This gives important information about **how a student is progressing towards achieving the standard by the end of the year**
- In the ACT, children who are **achieving the standard satisfactorily** will receive a **C grade**
- Children who are demonstrating **above satisfactory** skills, knowledge and understanding of the standard may receive an **A or B grade**
- Please note this does not necessarily indicate that a child is a certain amount of years beyond their grade level. **An A or B grade refer to a greater depth of knowledge, skill and understanding of their year level** achievement standard
- Children participating in a specialised learning program (the **learning support centre** or the **learning support unit**) will have a different report template. Classroom teachers report against the individual learning plan goals for these students.

If you require any further information or have questions about assessment and reporting please contact your child's class teacher or a member of the leadership team.

Positive Behaviours for Learning (PBL)

Earlier this term Miss Wilson and I announced some exciting new PBL initiatives. PBL refers to a whole school approach that encourages and explicitly teaches children to behave in positive ways. At Taylor Primary we are:

Safe, Respectful, Responsible Learners

The PBL team met earlier this week to look over the entries for the Taylor mascot. We were absolutely thrilled by the quality of entries and we have narrowed it down, with the winner being announced this Friday at the 5/6 assembly.

The other exciting new process to acknowledge children demonstrating these values is some modifications around the 'gotcha' tickets. Children will now receive a raffle ticket when they demonstrate any one or a combination of our values. They then write their name on the ticket, and post the ticket in their house coloured letterbox. At each assembly the House Captains will announce the running tally of the House Points, and a ticket will be drawn from each box. Four children will

then choose a prize from a selection of pre-wrapped PBL items. The first draw will happen this Friday. What a way to build school spirit and a positive way to encourage children to behave in positive ways.

Principal morning tea will also continue and I am so grateful to have the opportunity to spend these special times with children in our school who are going above and beyond to be safe, respectful, responsible learners. Principal morning tea is scheduled for week 3 and 9 of each term. Thank you again to Miss Clark and K6A for the delicious food you prepare for these special morning teas.

Attendance and Absences

It is timely that I provide a friendly reminder to parent/carers about the need to explain any absences to your child’s classroom teacher or to the front office. On the semester report total days absent from school will be communicated. When children are unwell we always encourage families to keep children at home to allow recovery and prevent others from becoming unwell. As with any other absence I ask that if you have not already provided information around absences that any unexplained absence is communicated as soon as possible.

Kind regards

Belinda Fenn
Principal

Merit Awards - Week 6

KB Harry Carr Jesse Abel	KH Charlie Gane Cooper Rehwinkel	KS Lewis Irwin Cayleb Payne	1B Unique Botha Evie Klau	1R Lachlan Keenan Lachlan Rhodes
1F Khloe Duthie Harry Van Meurs	2V Summer Geysen Jett Ryan	2M Maya Lambert Francine Martin	3T Alice Lonsdale Teyah Ryan	3W Jemima Binoji Liam Kelly
4S Jack Donenfeld TJ Price	5/6T Leah McArdle Brody Zwiers	5/6S Bob Watkin Abby Osborne	LSC Dylan Rentmeester	LSUA Gurdeep Singh

What’s been happening in Preschool?





Taylor Games Last term the Preschool finished with our Taylor Preschool Games. The children completed 10 circuits comprising of about 12 different sport related activities. We arranged this to coincide with the Commonwealth Games which were being held on the Gold Coast at the time. A fun time was had by all with the children earning participation medals and ice blocks at the end

Buddies This term has also seen the children involved in a wide variety of activities. All classes now have regular catch-ups with the older school buddies. The Comets had a practise cross country run with 2M, the Rainbows ran the cross country with K/6A and the Stars enjoyed outside games with 2V. The older children love reconnecting with the younger children in the school and it is wonderful to see how caring and nurturing they are to each other. The Preschoolers are always excited when it is buddy time.

Bus Wash The children enjoyed the Bus Wash excursion! It was a completely new experience for some, stepping onto the bus for the first time. Playing 'SPOTTO', watching the water and bubbles on the windows and calling out to the driver to turn left or right, was the highlight for most. Mr Chris went along with the Rainbows which was an added bonus. He joined in singing 'The Wheels on the Bus' and won the model bus making contest!

Class focuses this term are all a little different.

Stars The Stars are inquiring into what makes a Healthy body and how we can look after it to achieve the best results. They are investigating food nutrition and the impact of different foods on the essential organs in their bodies.

Comets The Comets also have a *Healthy Me* inquiry focus with *How can I care for my body?* and *What makes my body work?* guiding questions at the centre of their learning. More specifically they have been learning about fitness, body organs, 5 senses, body structure, hygiene and healthy eating.

Rainbows The Rainbows are developing their understanding of 3D construction through provocations that challenge their thinking and provide opportunities for problem solving. Students are enjoying fact finding opportunities around dinosaurs and participating in a lot of dramatic play, which is a wonderful medium for supporting their understandings around sharing, negotiation, consideration of others and friendship.

STEM & Japanese The Stars and Comets have also been fortunate to have the schools STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) teacher Mrs Matthews work with the children once a week. They have been investigating aspects of the body's 5 senses in a fun and interactive way. The Rainbows have had the opportunity to learn about different aspects of the Japanese culture and language in lessons with Ishihara Sensei. They love the songs and are beginning to understand greetings and simple instructions. The children are also learning about the differences in the seasons across the globe, and some of the Japanese traditions.

Housekeeping As the weather is changing please ensure that all clothing worn to preschool is clearly labelled. We have had some items that have either been left behind or gone missing and many of the children don't always recognise what belongs to them. The children are not required to wear their sun hats from June through to the beginning of August, so beanies are a good alternative for the cold winter days.

Kindergarten News

This term the Kindergarten students have been learning about what living things need to grow and stay healthy. We planted sunflower seeds in cups. We had some seeds in the light with and without water and the other seeds were in the dark with or without water. The seeds in the cupboards that had water started to grow quickly as they were searching for light, but they were very pale. The seeds with light and water grew strong and were very green. The children also noticed that the plants needed space to grow and not too much water. We looked at the root structures of a seedling and watched as stalks of celery changed colour when placed into cups of coloured water.



We will now move on to a unit of work about how things move. This looks at how the size and shape of objects affect whether it moves and how it moves. We use bubble wrap on ramps and look at the effect of friction on moving objects. Using toys we determine what makes them move, for instance wheels and axles on cars.

Throughout the term we have been looking at the different food groups and which foods are healthy foods and which are sometimes foods.

The children have participated well in the cross country and sports carnivals. It was good to see some of our little ones attempting the 800 metre race. We have continued to work closely with our buddies from Years Three and Four. For the start of winter the children decorated snowmen together.

In week ten there will be the opportunity to meet with your child's teacher for a midyear interview to discuss progress this far and make goals for the second semester.

Please keep an eye on your class Google community page as we share information and photos there.

Regards,

Melissa Beckmann, Elizabeth Sheils and Kathryn Hope

Year 3 News

It's hard to believe we are over halfway through term 2 already! Students have been working hard in all areas of the curriculum. In science we are finding out all about night and day, why it occurs and how the earth's rotation makes our seasons. We are also looking at how to write an information report and its purpose. Students have also continued learning how to enhance their creative writing and have tried their hand at similes and metaphors. We have been blown away with their amazing imaginations and would like to share some of their writing with you.

The early morning sun sparkles on the frost like a prismatic amethyst.

Anthony

Her fingernails were as long as a roller coaster, twisty and turny.

The early morning sun sparkled on the frost like an ice golem getting ready to wake up.

Tenzin

The ant is a thorny rose bush of anger.

The dog is like a ferocious chicken, angry, yet harmless.

Alice

The ant is a black diamond coming out of the ground.

Ashlee

The early morning sun sparkled on the frost like a bunch of diamonds shining through the reflection of the sea.

Holly

The reindeer sounds like a train stuck in the rain.

Jetson

The ants look like tiny bullets crawling for survival.

Benji

The ant looks like a tiny dot on a piece of paper.

Chantel

Lee-Anne Turvey, Miss White, Toni Wallington and the Year 3 Unit

Year 5/6 News

Students have had a great start to term 2. We have had lots of different events in the first 5 weeks. At each event our 5/6 students have managed themselves responsibly and represented Taylor with pride.

We recently had some of our 5/6 students participate in Rostrum. We would like to congratulate Abby Osborne as she will be representing Taylor at the Rostrum Quarter Finals. Well done to all students that presented speeches in front of the school.

This term students have been learning about Volcanoes and the effect these and other natural disasters have on our landscape. We have also researched why people choose to live in places that are prone to natural disasters.

During one of our science investigations students looked at different viscosities of lava flow and determined if this could affect the shape of a volcano. Here are some photos of the different outcomes.

High Viscosity



Medium Viscosity



Low Viscosity



Have a great week!

Angela Southwell and Jenny Thomas

Taylor P&C Reminders



Movie Day notes and money are due back by 3:00pm Monday 11 June, so please remember to bring them back to the front office, or your child's teacher to ensure you don't miss out on tickets! We are **INCREDIBLY** excited and hope to see you all there!!



We still have a number of chocolate boxes to sell, so please see Maree in the front office if you are able to sell some more for us! This **SWEET** fundraiser is a great one and we are aiming to sell them all for a huge profit!