



METUNG PRIMARY SCHOOL

"THE VILLAGE SCHOOL"

Monday 24th February, 2020

"It Takes a Village to
Educate a Child"

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Acting Principal
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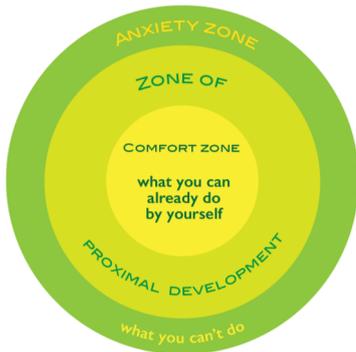
FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Metung Families,

Challenging Learning

Last week I touched on the idea of 'Challenging Learning' and the need to support our students to move outside their comfort zone.

This year, at Metung Primary School, we will continue to work hard to ensure all our students are challenged academically, whilst being supported emotionally, so they can learn and grow.



This morning, the Senior Class talked about 'Zone of Proximal Development' and how it is important to (with support), be pushed out side of our comfort zones with our learning. For many children, this can 'feel' funny and can create some anxiety, because they are being asked to do things they can not yet master. This is normal, and is part of learning.

The upshot is, that we want students to extend what they already know. We don't want students sticking to everything that is already familiar. We want students to know it is okay for things to be tricky. It is okay to make mistakes, or get things wrong, or even fail. That is part of learning. That is how we move out of our comfort zones and progress in life.

I am really pleased to see our teachers and Education Support staff all working to ensure children are being challenged, and regardless of their year level, are providing work that 'raises the bar' and moves our students beyond what they already know. This is good teaching.

Sailing Grades 2-6 - 5th and 6th of March

Super exciting news!!! Thanks to Sporting Schools, Australian Sailing and The Boatshed from Melbourne, our Middle and Senior classes will be involved in an all expenses paid two day sailing experience. We are extremely fortunate that the Metung Yacht Club have agreed to support us also! Please ensure permission forms are returned ASAP.

Kind Regards, Clare Edwards

February

Thurs 27th — Juniors Enviro Performance

Thurs 27th Clean Up Australia Day

March

Thurs 5th—MARC

Thurs 5th—Sailing Grade2-6

Fri 6th—Sailing Grade 2-6

**Mon 9th—Labour Day
Public Holiday**

Wed 11th—Welcome BBQ

Thurs 12th—School Council Meeting 5.30pm

Tues 17th—Pet Education

Thurs 19th—MARC

Fri 20th—National Anti Bully Day

Friday 27th—End of Term

April

Mon 27th—Fri 1st

Camp Coolamatong Grade 5/6

Classroom News

2/3/4 Classroom Report

What a busy week we have had in the 2/3/4 classroom. This week, students have been challenging themselves to extend and expand their literacy and numeracy skills with increasing confidence. Students have also been learning to identify positive and negative emotions that they may experience at school, and developing strategies to respond to them.

During the past week, our reading focus has been on finding the main idea in independent and group reading settings. As such, students have been using the title, photos and other visual clues to find the most important points the author is making, how these points are supported through the use of details (e.g. repeated words, pictures, information, themes and ideas).

Alongside this, over the past month students have been evolving their knowledge and skills about recounts. Students have experimented and established a developing understanding of the structure used to write a recount (orientation, series of events, concluding statements) alongside using personal pronouns (words taking place of names e.g. I, he, she), past tense action verbs (such as played, skipped), descriptive language (adjectives and emotive words) as well as using time connectives to help order the sequence of events (for example, firstly, next, finally).

In numeracy during the past week, our focus on 3,4 and 5 digit place value has continued. This extensive focus, has allowed students to hone their knowledge and skills with particular respects to comparing numbers using the greater and less than symbols, ordering numbers in ascending or descending order and calculating 10, 100, 1000 more or less than numbers which will lead nicely into a body of work on addition. The highlight for students was a whole class vs. Mr Holmes game where students raced Mr Holmes to 10,000 using addition and subtraction of either 10, 100 or 1000 more or less with students coming out on top, much to my disappointment.

Just a reminder that every night students remember to take their independent reading books home and attempt to read for a minimum of 30 minutes per night, whilst also completing their spelling homework tasks.

Classroom News

P/1 Classroom Report

Prep/1 Excursion

On Thursday afternoon the Prep/1 class will be travelling to Nungurner Primary School to attend a performance titled 'The Collectors'. This is an immersive and interactive narrative experience that explores themes of community and environment through the art of storytelling and letter writing. The one hour performance is inspired by 'The Last Tree' - a short story by celebrated local author, Bruce Pascoe.

Peter Robertson, our MARC Van teacher, will be driving the school mini bus to transport the students. All parents are asked to please complete the attached permission form and send their child's car seat to school on Thursday morning.

English Online Assessment Tasks

All Prep/1/2 students are being assessed in the areas of 'Reading', 'Writing' and 'Speaking and Listening' using the 'English Online Assessment' tool. This provides us with the opportunity to track the students' progress over a three year period.

Literacy

Speaking and Listening: The students participate in a wide range of oral language activities each week. These include class discussions, show and tell, rhyming games, identification of sounds in words (initial, middle and ending), syllable activities and the use of story telling cards to develop sentence structure and grammar.

Writing: Over the past four weeks all students have been focusing on developing their hand-writing skills. We are placing emphasis on correct pencil grip and letter formations. The grade one students are also concentrating on letter sizing and placement of writing on lines.

In the area of story writing the Prep students are enjoying writing about personal experiences and illustrating their stories. They have been using photographs and pictures to support them in this area. The grade one students have been exploring the genre of 'recounts'. They are focusing on developing an understanding of the correct structure of a recount. They are using the writing process steps of planning, drafting, revising, editing and publishing. An emphasis is placed on the correct use of capital letters, full stops, sight words, spelling strategies and spacing between words.

Reading: The Prep children are being introduced to 'Concepts about Print' when reading. This includes directionality, use of pictures and correct pointing to words. Sight words and letter names/sounds are being sent home each week in a plastic pocket. Could the children please practise reading these each night. The grade one students are working well in guided reading groups where we are developing their skills of fluency and comprehension (literal and inferential). They are also provided with activities to strengthen their knowledge of grammar (nouns and verbs). 'Coloured Words' are being sent home each week for the students to read and spell.

MARC Library



The junior class read a Fiction book called **Neon Leon** and a Non-Fiction book called the **Illustrated Encyclopaedia of Ugly Animals**. The first book was about a chameleon that had trouble changing colour apart from being a bright neon orange. The second book had information about some fascinating and yet strange looking creatures. Students coloured in and named their own chameleons which we then made into a book called 'A Bunch of Metung Chameleons'. The students also made creative and strange creatures with playdough and craft materials.

Peter Robertson

Awards

Dan, has had an amazing week during our mathematics rotations. Dan has demonstrated increasing knowledge and skills in understanding the use of greater than and less than symbols, ordering numbers in ascending and descending order. This knowledge has been demonstrated through exceptional results within the teacher group where he was able to demonstrate this knowledge beyond 4 digit numbers.

Cassidy, although unable to use her predominant hand has showed great resilience and persistence this week. For many, having a broken arm would be an excuse, but for Cassidy she has showed great braveness, and pride in continuing to strive to reach her best. This was best demonstrated when she completed the Handwriting for Victoria activity for letters 'c' and 'k' with great starting points, size and joins.

Eden, has been a great team member, and a valued commodity in the classroom. Eden, consistently, is a quiet achiever, however, Eden always makes the right choices, treats other people with respect and equality and always has a vibrant smile on her face.

Zara, has been challenging herself to stay on task and remain focused with her learning. During this time, Zara has developed an improved control over her learning, particularly during our spelling unit 'k', 'c', 'q', 'ck', 'x (ks)', 'ch' with fantastic results.

To Sam for excellent 'Pattern Work' this week. He created bead threading patterns, block patterns and sequenced numbers. He also achieved wonderful results on a Mathematics pattern activity.

Kaiabelle is to be commended for raising her hand in science sessions and contributing with enthusiasm to group discussions.



LEIGH HOBBS

MR CHICKEN GOES TO BAIRNSDALE

28 FEB - 04 APRIL 2020
EAST GIPPSLAND ART GALLERY

Opening event 5.30pm Friday 28 February
Book-signing and Children's Workshop
11am Saturday 29 February
All welcome | FREE

East Gippsland Art Gallery
2 Nicholson Street Bairnsdale VIC 3875
03 5153 1988 | eastgippslandartgallery.org.au
Tue to Fri 10am-4pm Sat 10am-2pm | Free entry

