

3/4/5/6 Class Newsletter No. 1

A very warm welcome back to school to all our families, with a special welcome to Noah in grade 3. We trust you've all had a relaxing holiday and are ready for the term ahead.

This year, 3/4/5M & 5/6M will work closely together, with the grade 5s in Mrs McCracken's grade regularly joining the 5/6 class. Catherine Byatt will be based in 5/6M. Please join us next Tuesday 7th February at 6.30 for an informal information evening where we will talk about the Wilson's Prom camp, our expectations for 2017 and the 3/4/5/6 curriculum. There will also be time for an informal chat with your child's teacher.

Our term focus and **Inquiry Unit** comes from the Geography strand of the curriculum. We will be exploring natural Australian environments, human impact on these environments and sustainability. The camp to Wilson's Prom will form a large part of the term's work for grade 5/6 students.

READING AT HOME

***"The surest road to a richer vocabulary and expanded literacy is wide and sustained reading. Children who read often know the meaning of 4 times as many words as those children who read infrequently. The more words you know, the more you understand what you read."** Richard Allington*

This week we expect all students to begin, or continue, their regular at home reading routine and today all students have selected a book for reading at home. A minimum expectation for grade 4/5/6 students is 20 minutes reading at least 4 times a week. Grade 3s should be reading every day for 10 -15 minutes. Reading aloud for part of that time is encouraged. Grade 4/5/6 students should use their student diary to record their reading. (List the book and pages read each day.) Grade 3 students have a special R.E.A.D I.T Home Reading Record Book. Grade 3 parents, please look carefully through this book. It has many fabulous suggestions and ideas for hearing reading. All parents, please sign each day's reading and comment if you would like. Diaries/record books should come to school every day in the plastic envelope provided. They will be checked each Friday.

DATES FOR THE CALENDAR:

- **3/4/5/6 Information night:** 7th February 6.30 – 7.30 in the classrooms.
- **Wilson's Prom Camp:** 13th – 17th February. Ms Myring, Mrs McCracken, Mr Vass & Veronica will all be attending the camp. Grade 3/4 students will be following their regular program with a relief teacher.
- **Young Leaders Conference:** 27th March. All grade 6 students will attend this highly inspirational conference, with funding partly subsidised by the school. More details later in the term.
- **District Athletics Carnival:** 29th March

REMINDERS:

- Please return 2016 reports. Thank you to those families who returned theirs today.
- Please ensure all personal items are clearly named. That includes jumpers, hats and lunch boxes. While the students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own belongings, it is much easier to find a lost item if it is named!

SPECIALIST TIMETABLE:

- Monday – Jigsaw with Mrs Watson
- Tuesday – Art with Mrs Sharp
- Wednesday – French with Mrs Sharp & PE with Mr Vass
- Friday – Farm with Farmer Rob

Theresa Myring & Jo McCracken

