

Welcome to Week 5 Term 2 2020

Wednesday 27th May 2020

Reconciliation

Yesterday marked the beginning of [National Reconciliation Week](#), which runs 27 May to 3 June each year. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the Reconciliation journey - the 1967 Referendum, and the High Court decision in Mabo. Reconciliation Week is a time for us to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to reconciliation in our workplaces, schools and communities.

Significantly, this year marks the 20th anniversary of the Bridge Walk for Reconciliation, when people came together to walk across the nation to show support for a more reconciled Australia.

This year's theme, ***In This Together***, is now resonating in ways which could not have been foreseen when it was announced last year. It reminds us whether we are in crisis or in reconciliation, we are all in this together.



To recognise National Sorry Day and National Reconciliation Week, the Australian Aboriginal Flag and the Torres Strait Islander Flag are being flown in our garden courtyard from Tuesday, 26 May to Wednesday, 3 June 2020.



Shade Sails

Well we got our shade sails down just in time! The sails were removed for the Winter on Friday before the big storm earlier this week. The sails will be cleaned, repaired and stored safely before being reinstalled in Spring.



Reporting Semester 1

Due to students learning from home at the end of last term, the breadth and depth of the curriculum covered throughout Semester One has been reduced. For this reason, schools are not required to include A to E grades on this year's Semester One student reports. It also means that your child's attendance will not be formally reported, and any written comments may provide less information on their progress than usual.

Our attendance rates have been very poor over the last two weeks. Some families have not returned to school on a regular basis. School is really hard for children if they do not attend regularly as they miss out on so much important learning and feel left behind. This leads to a negative attitude towards school. Please send your child to school every day unless they are sick. If you are having trouble getting your child to school please call your child's teacher to discuss this. When the COVID restrictions lift later in the year we will ensure parents get an opportunity to come for a parent teacher meeting to discuss their child's progress.

National Simultaneous Storytime 2020



Our students participated in National Simultaneous Storytime today. Thank you to our classroom teachers for embracing this national event that promotes reading and the value of storytime. You can view the reading of the book Whitney and Britney Chicken Divas by Lucinda Gifford.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vCKoS9vkYjw>

A reminder to all parents that reading to your children every day makes a huge difference in how well they achieve at school. So I do encourage you to turn off the devices in the evening and establish a storytime routine before bed.



Community and Faction Assemblies

Thanks to Mr R and his team of Year 6 leaders all our assemblies are digital and students will watch them in their classrooms. The community assembly link will be shared with parents on Connect. Tomorrow is a faction assembly.

Annual Report

At last week's Board meeting the Board endorsed the 2019 Annual Report which is attached to this Connect notice. This report reflects on 2019 and our school's achievements towards the targets contained in our Business Plan. You will see our students have made exceptional progress. This is due to the exceptional and exemplary teaching of our staff. I hope you take the time to read this report and celebrate our school's success.

Packaged Snacks

Tomorrow in the faction assembly I will talk to the children about the increasing amount of rubbish floating around our school grounds. Parents you can help us by trying to reduce the amount of packaging in lunchboxes. These small packets of snacks provide very little nutritional value and they do not sustain the children like a sandwich, a wrap, fruit, meat or cheese. We are finding our children are hungry and the rubbish is increasing. It is hard to teach sustainable practices when there is so much rubbish at recess and lunchtime. Can you help us by reducing packaging in lunch boxes?

Bookclub

Hi Parents!

Bookclub is back! Catalogues are sorted and will be going home with students this week. There is SO much on offer at fantastic prices whether it's something new to learn, a good book to curl up with in cold weather or a BFF necklace to share with a friend it's all available in issue #4. Orders are due on Wednesday 17th June at 5pm. If you have any questions regarding Bookclub please don't hesitate to contact me

Kind Regards
Brooke Paskin

Subway

Subway is happening this Friday 29th May. Great to see so many orders come in for this special lunchtime.

Additional Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 14th April was one of our designated pupil free days. As this day became a pupil free day for all students across the state to allow staff to prepare online learning, we are now permitted to select another pupil free day in addition to our Term 3 (July 20th) and Term 4 (12th October) dates.

Parents please note the school Board has endorsed our additional pupil free day to be on Tuesday 13th October. This will mean students will not return for fourth term until Wednesday 14th October. Please note this in your diary and consider when planning your October holidays and day care requirements.

Cross Country Event

Our faction cross country events will take place later this term. Unfortunately, due to the COVID restrictions at this point in time parents will not be able to attend. Presentations to the medal winners will be done through our digital community assembly so parents will be able to watch the presentations. Should the restrictions ease we may be able to invite parents to this school event. Students are training hard for this event under the watchful eye of Mr G, and they have been invited to nominate for this event. Not all students are required to participate in this event as for some children this event is very taxing and they feel very self conscious.

I am delighted to say recently I have had many children sent to my office to share their achievements. It is my joy and privilege to share with these students and celebrate their progress. I do hope your children share these achievements with you. My staff and I are very proud of your children and I hope you are too!

Have a great long weekend shared with your family!

Kind regards

Jayne
Jayne Ebsworthy
Principal