Geography Excursion

Friday, 28th October 2016

Acting Principal
Mr Ryan Trama

Teachers
Mrs Libby Johnson
Mrs Louise Fulwood
Mrs Annette McLean

Student Support Teacher
Mrs Louise Cowley

Support Staff
Ms Jane Trevethan
Mrs Brenda Stahlhut
Ms Lorraine Lewis
Mrs Jenna Morris
Mrs Mel Kelly

Grounds Officer
Mr Ray Stahlhut

Cleaner
Mrs Donna Bennett

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“Living & Learning Together”

The Thallon SS way is to be at school every day, always do your best, live and learn together, be safe, responsible, respectful and an active learner!

Students of the week

Don’t forget to ‘like’ Thallon SS on facebook
https://www.facebook.com/pages/Thallon-State-School/812063525540326
PRINCIPAL’S NOTE

Principal’s Award
Congratulations to Brieyce Vallerant for being awarded with the Principal’s Award for week 2. Brieyce is a happy and courteous student, who puts a great effort into learning at school.

Swimming
Swimming lessons are being held at the Dirranbandi pool on Monday, 31st October and Monday, 7th November. We will depart school at approximately 9.30am each day and arrive back at school at 2.00pm for the afternoon session. Please ensure your child has suitable swimming clothes, a towel, sunscreen, thongs, goggles, a water bottle and a healthy morning tea and lunch.

Balonne Swimming Carnival
The Balonne Small School’s Swim Carnival is being hosted by Thallon, and held in St George, on Friday, 11th November. This is a whole-school event from Prep to Year 6. Thallon, Bollon, Begonia and Hebel will be taking part. It will be an awesome day for our students to get involved and have fun in the water! You don’t need to be a great swimmer to take part, as there will be novelty races for less confident swimmers.

School Photos
Please ensure your child is wearing their full school uniform for school photos on Thursday, 10th November.

Absentee
Notifying the school of a child’s absence must be done ASAP on the day of the absence, prior to 9.00am if possible. Please ensure you also notify the school if there is a change of afternoon travel arrangements for your child, by phoning the school, or messaging 0428 348 958.

Stradbroke Island Camp
Our school camp is fast approaching, with less than three weeks to go! Remember, all payments must be finalised by next Wednesday, 2nd November.

Focused School Improvement Priorities, 2016:
- Reading and Comprehension
- Number Facts and Problem Solving

Awards Night
Our awards night will take place on Friday, 2nd December (week 9). Please mark the date on your calendar!

Tennis Competition
Our Tennis competition concluded on Friday, 14th October, with two enthralling matches being played! Clancy Wright won the boy’s competition, narrowly edging out John Murphy. Hannah Johnson won the girl’s competition, after a spirited fight-back from Lauren Earle. Well done to all students who took part in the competition!

Transition to Prep 2017
Our first Prep 2017 Orientation morning was a success, with 8 future Prep students attending. Our remaining Prep Orientation mornings will be held on Thursday, 10th November, and Thursday, 24th November. These sessions will run from 9.00am - 11.45am, and it is strongly advised that all students starting Prep in 2017 attend.

Focused School Improvement Priority: Reading
Our students have been enjoying and fantastically engaging within our new Reading Program. Each fortnight, a new reading comprehension strategy is introduced and explicitly taught. Students have also been taking part in focused grammar and punctuation sessions with our Teacher Aides as part of the reading rotations. Our comprehension focus for the past fortnight has been ‘Finding the Main Idea’ of a text.

Acting Principal: Mr Ryan Trama
Remember, the Thallon SS way is to be at school every day, always do your best, live and learn together, be safe, responsible, respectful, and an active learner!

Whole-School Attendance - Semester Two
Remember - At Thallon State School, Every Day Counts!
3-4 News
Year 3/4 had a wonderful field trip to Thallon Park. The purpose of the excursion was to see significant places in our area. We discussed the use of the park and discovered that it has many uses. The park has historical significance with the War Memorial and it has natural beauty. It is used to celebrate events, by both families and community groups. We think it is a place that should be protected. We completed a field sketch and observed many features: Natural, managed and constructed. We decided it was a place for tourists to visit and find out about our region. Tourists can discover other places to visit by reading the map on the information board. The legend on the map helped us to find out where camping and fishing places are in our region and also the main roads and river systems.

Thank you to the students for their enthusiasm and exemplary behaviour on the excursion. Thanks also to Mrs Libby for attending with us.

In Geography, Year 5/6 are learning about trade and the interconnections Australia has with Asia. Unfortunately, I was unable to organise a field trip to Asia for them!

Mrs McLean (Year 3/4 Geography Teacher)

We are in a very busy time of Term 4, with assessment tasks for English, Maths, and History underway!

In English, students are beginning to plan for their multimodal story about a character who faces a fear.

In Maths, Year 3 students are being assessed on Multiplication and Fractions, and Year 4 students are being assessed on Fractions and Decimals.

In History, Year 3 students are posing and answering questions about the continuities and changes of a place over time, and Year 4 students are posing and answering questions about Sabai Islander peoples before and after contact with Europeans.

Regards,
Mr Trama

P-2 Catch up
Term 4 is a busy time for the Prep students. They start spelling homework and are implementing their letter and sound knowledge and their sight word recall to help them to read. The Prep children are doing a great job combining everything that they have learnt. Thank you to the parents for all the support that is required during this journey, we can’t do it without you.

In Maths, the Year 1 and 2 students have been revising basic facts strategies and developing their recall. The children are expected to be able to instantly recall most basic addition and subtraction facts. The use of fingers is discouraged. We have been learning about extending these skills to 2 digit numbers and the children are doing a great job with this. The ability to recall basic facts instantly, is a skill that is required throughout our lives. It is wonderful to see how confident some of our children are already.

On Monday, we are commencing our swimming lessons. Please make sure that your child has a swim shirt, or a t-shirt to swim in. We also find that the students get very hungry and thirsty on these days so please pack a water bottle and plenty of healthy food.

Mrs McLean & Mrs Libby

5-6 News
This week in English, we moved onto looking at websites that provide information and how they compare to narratives and information brochures. We are all enjoying our guided reading lessons, where predicting and locating main ideas have been our comprehension focuses over these first few weeks.

Maths has seen us revisit place value, order of operations and converting between different measurement units. It has been pleasing to see so many students working on improving their speed and accuracy with number facts. This makes many areas of operations and problem solving so much easier and quicker.

Regards,
Mrs Fulwood
Thallon PBL Expectations

Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful, and Be an Active Learner!

PBL Focus:

Week 5  Be Responsible
Return to class promptly

Week 6  Be Safe
Play by the rules
Be Respectful
Demonstrate good sportsmanship

Playgroup
Where: Thallon State School
When: Tuesday 1st November
Time: 9:00am - 10:30am
What to bring: Yourself + Child/children aged from birth to 5 years, a drink and a snack.
Cost: No cost

Come along and enjoy a social morning out in a safe and friendly environment.

Important Dates

October
Monday 31st  Swimming

November
Tuesday 1st  P & C Meeting
Monday 7th  Swimming
Thursday 10th  School photos
Friday 11th  Balonne Swim Carnival
Monday 14th to North Stradbroke Island
Friday 18th  Camp

December
Friday 2nd  Award’s Night
Friday 9th  Last day of Term 4

P & C News

Jag the Joker

Our nights to sell tickets for Jag the Joker at the Francis Hotel are 28th Oct and 25th Nov. Please contact Darren on 0475 880 053 if you can help out.

Next Meeting

Tuesday 22nd November
This will be the last meeting for 2016

Reading Comprehension Focus: Week 3 & 4

Finding Main Idea

- Sometimes the main idea is found in the first sentence of the story.
- Sometimes the main idea is found in the last sentence of the story.
- Ask yourself, “What is the story mostly about?”
**Prep Orientation**

We had 8 pre-Prep children and their parents join us on Thursday, 27th November for a morning of activities. All children had a great time playing with playdough, making a pig mask, listening to stories and having lunch with the P-6 students.

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**Thallon Progress Association**

**MEETING**

**When:** Tuesday, 1st November  
**Time:** 7.00pm  
**Where:** Thallon State School
Community News

Tennis News

School Tennis

The tennis singles finals were played last week. Congratulations to our winners Hannah Johnson and Clancy Wright.

Commiserations to Lauren Earle and John Murphy, who tried hard.

All players are to be commended on their sportsmanship throughout the tennis competition. For those who have never played before, it was great to see you have a go and try your best.

A big thank you to Doug Murphy for giving up his time to introduce some elementary tennis skills to those enthusiastic students who have been able to attend.

Student Council News

Free Dress Day
Wednesday 9th November
Gold Coin Donation
Wicked Wednesday
Come dressed as a spooky character!
Earning the right and not assuming a sense of entitlement is a life lesson parents, teachers and coaches must instil in children.

On talk-back radio recently I heard a caller tell a timely story about how as a child she was lucky enough to receive riding lessons from a renowned horse expert.

He had one condition. She had to earn the right to be taught to ride a horse. That meant she had to muck out the stables; brush and feed the horse; look after the gear and do everything else required to look after a horse. Only when she'd proved herself could she earn the right to ride a horse under his tutelage.

This caller said this powerful lesson shaped her entire life. It taught her that there were no entitlements in life; to work hard and value her achievements. She never took anything for granted.

Contrast this with the extraordinary sense of entitlement of Australian tennis players Nick Kyrgios and Bernard Tomic who routinely treat the public, players and the game that serves them well, with utter disdain. Their attitude of entitlement is mind-boggling, not to say embarrassing to reasonable-minded, hard-working people.

Our kids should earn the right
The talk-back caller’s earning the right story is a fabulous lesson for all parents and teachers. If we want to raise a generation to appreciate what they have, then we shouldn’t give children or young people everything on a platter. In an era of small families, child pester power and relative affluence it’s tempting to simply give kids what they want.

“Dad, can I have a...?”

“Sure!”

The Rolling Stones were right four decades ago when they sang, “You can’t always get what you want!” Those words form a great child-rearing lesson. That is, just because you can provide something for your kids, doesn’t mean that you do.

They need to earn the right to have something by saving, working for or simply waiting until they are old enough to appreciate it.

Similarly, kids don’t automatically have a right to greater freedoms such as going out at night; those rights need to be earned by proving they are trustworthy.

Also, kids who think they are entitled to use a part of the house such as a living room without cleaning up mess are acting with a false sense of entitlement.

In fact, there are no entitlements, only rights. And rights are earned by being responsible.

A child has a right to use the living room but they also have a responsibility to clean up a rather than leave it a pigsty. A night banished to their room is a reminder that spending time in the living room is not an entitlement. It’s a right that comes with conditions.

Earning the right! A simple phrase with so much complexity.

I suspect it’s a phrase that neither Nick Kyrgios or Bernard Tomic heard much when they were growing up. Maybe their parents thought their prodigious talents excused them from having conditions placed upon them. If so, they did them no favours as good manners, gratitude and graciousness appear to be lacking in their social repertoires.

It usually takes a parent, teacher or coach to remind kids that they have to earn the right to have things, to do things and ultimately be respected. That’s a lesson that stays for life.

Michael Grose

Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter, my FREE weekly email parenting guide at parentingideas.com.au. You’ll be so glad you did.

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