Mackenzie River News

Principal’s Messages

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been so friendly and welcoming on my arrival at Mackenzie River. I have had a lovely first few weeks and am so excited to be here for the rest of the term. I have already had some exciting country experiences that are completely new to me, and am looking forward to enjoying more of what this beautiful area has to offer.

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an everyday part of the school calendar since 2008.

NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling and numeracy. The assessments are undertaken nationwide, every year, in the second full week in May.

NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four areas (or ‘domains’) of:

- Reading
- Writing
- Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation)
- Numeracy

Some important things for our year 3 and 5 students to remember:

- Get a good night’s sleep
- Eat a healthy breakfast
- Don’t Stress!

Winchester Camp & Sports Camp

Thank you to everyone who was timely in returning their Winchester shirt order form. Sports camp forms also went out last week. Please return these straight to the ICPA.

School Focus Areas

- Australian Curriculum
- Reading Comprehension
- Spelling

5 Keys to Success

- Organisation
- Confidence
- Getting Along
- Resilience
- Persistence

Date Claimers

- 9th May: P&C Meeting,
- 13th-15th May: NAPLAN tests for Yr3, 5 and 7 students
- 23rd May: Discipline Audit
- 26th May: Book Fair
- 6th June: Show Holiday
- 9th June: Queen’s Birthday Holiday
- 20th June: Athletics Carnival
Friday Afternoon Art

Last Friday afternoon we sat outside to do some observational paintings of trees. We were exploring the colours used to create different shades in the foreground and background, and different textures we could create with the paint to represent different textures on the trees.
Athletics Carnival Preparation
As the athletics carnival is approaching this term, every morning the students (and myself) have been going for a jog, twice around the school oval. We hope to increase our fitness levels so that we can show how great we are at athletics! We are also planning to arrange some times where we can practice other athletic events such as high jump, long jump, shot put, etc.

Word of The Week
Each week this term, we will have 3 focus words for our vocabulary development. This week’s words are:

- Hectic – full of rush, confusion and excitement
- Grateful – feeling or showing appreciation for thoughtfulness
- Genuine – real; sincere

Next week’s words will be:

- Hideous – horribly ugly and revolting
- Hybrid – made from a variety of different things
- Ignorant – not having knowledge about something

Encourage your children to use these words in sentences and at home in their everyday language. The more extended and complex children’s vocabularies are, the higher the rates for reading success.

Library Bags
Library day is on Thursday. As we are borrowing books on this day to take home, and we care greatly about the condition of resources at our school, please help your children remember their library bags.

Weekly You Can Do It Value
Learning social and emotional skills in an important part of childhood. While it might often be assumed that children pick up these skills on their own (and sometimes they can), often children’s social emotional development is extended and improved through the explicit teaching of these concepts. Each week we will have a specific social/emotional focus skill. This week’s ‘You Can Do It’ value focus is on confidence. It is important at school, and in life, to believe in yourself. Have the confidence to give it a go, and think to yourself ‘I can do it’.

Regards,

Leah Mullane
(Acting Principal)
Spelling Awards
Week 2 — Congratulations Lachlan, Grady and Sara

Number Fact Awards
Week 2 — Congratulations Grady, Miranda, Carter, Lachlan, Sara

You Can Do It Awards
Caden Torrisi — For having a go during sports and working hard in class.
Joe Schottelius — For confident reading in class and a positive attitude towards learning