The Nobby Link

Term 3 Week 5
Thursday 8th August 2013

Calendar

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Activities

- **Book Week**
  - **Reader’s Cup**: Tuesday 13th August
  - **Possum Magic Excursion**: 19.08.13
  - **Character Day**: 20.08.13
  - **Book Trail**: 21.08.13

**Possum Magic**

In 2 weeks we are off to see the magical story “Possum Magic” as a stage play. These annual presentations have been a stunning way to introduce children to high quality live theatre. Children will need to be dressed in their full school uniform.

We will leave school just after 8am: stop for morning tea on the way; watch the performance and then return to school in the early afternoon (1 pm – ish).

Children will need hats, water bottles and food suitable to travel.

**Skipping**

We are really getting into our practice. Children are starting to work on routines now and music can be heard every day at playtime as they practice.

For presentations children are encouraged to consider costume and accessories to enhance their performance. You may be asked for some help with this. Costumes need to be practical for skipping.

**Old Fire and Rescue Visit**

We will have some visitors from the QFR next Thursday who will spend some time with our Prep and Year 1 students. They will be teaching our little ones about fire safety.

**Southern Downs Athletics Carnival**

Congratulations to Bailey, Jack G and Tom who have qualified to represent Central Downs at the Southern Downs athletics carnival next Friday at Allora. Good luck boys!!

**Reader’s Cup**

As part of our reading comprehension learning priority we will host a Reader’s Cup for the Clifton Cluster this year. A Reader’s Cup is essentially an athletics carnival - but focused on academics and not sport. It gives our academic students a chance to excel and push themselves, as well as to gain recognition for things they excel at. We have a year 3/4 Reader’s Cup team consisting of 4 players, and a 5/6 team consisting of 4 players.

The participating students are currently reading a selection of 4 books each. On the day of the Reader’s Cup, the teams of 4 will work together to complete an open book reading comprehension exam against teams from other nearby schools.

The Reader’s Cup will be held on Monday 19th August at our school.

**Year 6 Transition Day** - Clifton SHS

The high school will hold a **INTERSCHOOL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING COMPETITION** for year 6 students, next Tuesday 15th August, from 9:30am – 2:30pm at Clifton State High School. All year 6 students are invited to attend.

Please return the attached permission form ASAP so that teams can be formed.

I have attached a program to this week’s newsletter for all year 6 students.

**Father’s Day Stail**

**Breakfast Club...**

is on again tomorrow. This is a great chance to build relationships, chat and to generally start the day in a very positive way. Any and all volunteers welcome!

**Enrolments for 2014**

are now being taken. Please contact the school office if you would like to enrol your child.

Thanks to all of our school sponsors!!!!
Our classroom focus moves to plenty of work to ‘automate’ our learning around sight words and spelling, fluency of reading and number facts. In English we are looking at poetry and innovation on the texts to make them our own. We practice our class reading using an ‘I read, we read, you read’ method. The children learn to hear and see the story as a coherent story and it makes learning the ‘little’ words like the, is, it, easier to learn, while encouraging predicting what makes sense and understanding the story. We have reading groups at 10:30 each day for half an hour. If anyone wants to help out at this time please see me. We will be doing work around the Mem Fox story ‘Possum Magic’ in class prior to and after the Possum Magic Theatre visit.

Learning and learning priorities

With the introduction of what we call the C2C, we now have a very clear direction of WHAT we need to teach- day in day out. This is the Australian Curriculum. This year, while continuing to implement the C2C curriculum units in Maths, English, Science and History, we have changed our focus slightly to HOW we teach.

Research shows that in countries, or education systems, that are producing excellent academic results, the system focussed on the HOW, in order to move students towards their greatest academic potential. Countries, or education systems, that stop at WHAT, and don’t focus on HOW, are basically limiting the potential of their students. We are in the process of working with the cluster to produce a pedagogical framework (this will be a document detailing HOW we teach our students). This framework that we create is based on research, and will follow a model called explicit instruction.

A lot of the strategies used to teach under the explicit instruction model align with what we already do, and a lot of the strategies are how teachers used to teach.

Rest assured, the staff (teachers and teacher aides), are working extremely hard to ensure that explicit instruction is being utilised in our classrooms.

A belated write up of the great afternoon of ten-pin bowling on Sunday 21st July. There was a good turnout of family and friends of the school and along with the sponsorship of more than 20 lanes, over $3,000 was raised by the P&C. A big thank you to all of the organisers of the event, but specifically; Rose Hopper, Wendy Noller, Mel Wilson and Kylie Ellis. The P&C have organised a working bee at the school for Sunday August 18th. Please come along from 9am for a couple of hours of work followed by a BBQ lunch.

PIZZA!!!! Don’t forget that we have Eagle Boys deliver pizza here for every P&C meeting. Please get your orders through to the school office before 12 noon on the day of the meeting. The next meeting is next Tuesday, 13th August.

Central Downs Athletics Carnival

Well done to all students for their participation and success during the 2 days at Allora last week.