

The Osborne Observer

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Newsletter 5, Term 2 Week 4

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Dear parents and carers,

I would like to give you all a belated welcome back to term 2. As you are all aware, I was off on paternity leave for the first 3 weeks of this term. I would like to thank all of the staff for their efforts during this time as they have ensured that the students continued to receive an outstanding level of education. Your efforts are very much appreciated by myself and the entire school community. Thank you! I would also like to thank Mr John Gooding and Mrs Emily Nash for filling in for me as principal during this time.

This week has been an extremely busy one for all schools across Australia with all students in grades 3, 5, 7 and 9 sitting the NAPLAN tests. NAPLAN is the measure through which governments, education authorities, schools, teachers and parents can determine whether or not young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. They also provide schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and which areas need to be prioritised for improvement. NAPLAN tests are one aspect of the school's assessment and reporting process, and do not replace the extensive, ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student's performance.

The students from our school who sat these tests were Maddison Jacka, Kyelah Hodgetts, Dixie Gesah, Ryland Palmer and Jahmal Hooker. All students put in a great effort with their NAPLAN and will receive their results in the form of a NAPLAN report card later on this year. Individual student results are strictly confidential. Well done to all of the students who did NAPLAN.

Along with preparing for NAPLAN, we have also been doing plenty of other work in all of our subjects. In maths, students have been learning about the language of chance, consolidating number concepts, such as multiplication and division, and working with money. The Preps and grade ones have been using words like "will", "won't" and "might", counting to 100 (Our preps even new how to count past 100 – HOW CLEVER!) and have been describing Australian coins. The grade 2 and 3 students have been revising multiplication facts and using counters to display them as an array. The grade 3 students have been learning how multiplication and division are inter-related and will be assessed on this next week.

In the upper grades, the students in grade 4 and 5 have been revising how to subtract and add with regrouping and have been learning to apply this knowledge to money situations such as determining total costs and change. They, along with the grade 6 students, have also been learning about chance and how to determine the likelihood of certain events. They year 6 students have used their knowledge of chance to determine fairness in chance games and have also been calculating percentages. This is something that they will continue to study next week as they learn about percentage discounts.

In English, the students in grades 2 – 6 had been learning about narrative and persuasive text structures in preparation for NAPLAN. They are now starting to focus more on their C2C units. The P-2 students are currently reading a variety of short stories. They really enjoyed Mrs Nielsen's reading of "Giraffes Can't Dance". They have been learning about how authors use adverbs and adjectives to create an image in the reader's mind and will be assessed on this learning when they have to perform a retell of a familiar story using a PowerPoint presentation. To do this effectively, they will need to describe characters and settings, be able to link happenings in the book to their

own life experiences, identify the beginning, middle and end of a story and be able to retell the book in sequence. They will also need to be able to give their personal opinion of the book and explain why they have this opinion.

The students in grades 3, 4 and 5 have also been learning about characterisation by interacting with a number of short stories and novels. They have been identifying adjectives, adverbs, direct speech and thoughts and feelings that the authors have used to help the readers form opinions and ideas about characters. These students will need to use their knowledge of these concepts to form an opinion about a character in a book that they have to read for their assessment task. They must also know how to use modal verbs, evaluative language and text connectives to effectively communicate their opinion about the behaviour of their chosen character. They will also need to be proficient with Microsoft PowerPoint to provide visuals for their opinion. A good character for them to practice forming an opinion about would be Goldilocks from fable "Goldilocks and the Three Bears".

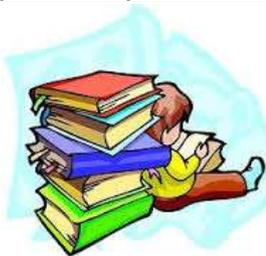
The grade 6 students have been learning about the structure of short stories in the form of comic strips. They are currently in the middle of devising their own comic strip which they will then make into a still-motion picture using Windows MovieMaker or Microsoft PowerPoint. To perform this assessment task effectively, students will need to be proficient at either PowerPoint or MovieMaker. They will also need to make sure that they have included all of the parts of a short story; introduction, rising action, complication, falling action and resolution. They will need to make sure that they know what information needs to go into each of these areas. They will also need to make sure that their story contains an ethical dilemma and that they use picture clues and words to give their characters personality.

Money Owing

Some families still owe money to the school either from their resource scheme or for various expenses from last year. If you owe money to the school, your children will not be able to participate in extra-curricular activities such as camps and excursions until this money is paid in full. Thank you to those families who have paid all of the monies that they owe to the school.



Open Library Afternoon – OLA



remain this way for the rest of this term.

The Open Library Afternoon on Wednesday this week was well attended and many of the students enjoyed the activities such as playing with the blocks, quiet reading and listening to Mr Patti read a story. Don't forget that parents are more than welcome to attend these OLA sessions. This is a great time for you to come and see the many resources that our library has to offer. You can read a book to your child/ren or even have a look at our parent resource section. The days for OLA will change from next week onwards to **3:00 – 3:30 Thursday afternoon** due to staffing changes. It will

ANZAC Day



Unfortunately I was not able to attend the ANZAC Day Services that our school was involved in this year. This year was the first time in my life that I have not been able to attend the an ANZAC Day service. It is one of the most important days of the year on the Australian Calendar.

This year commemorates the centenary of the Gallipoli landing and the students of our school were an active part in these commemorations. Our school held our own ANZAC service on Friday 24 April. This service was attended by members of the RSL who handed out poppies to all of the students. Thank you to the members of the Home Hill RSL who were able to attend this day and assist us in our education about ANZAC Day.

On Saturday April 25, Osborne State School was well represented in the Main Parade in Home Hill when some of our students proudly marched under our school banner. Thank you to all of the students, staff and parents who put in time and effort to make sure that the NAZAC tradition remains as strong as ever here at Osborne State School.
Lest We Forget

P&C Meeting

Our most recent P&C Meeting was held on Monday 2 March. Thank you to those members who attended this meeting. I strongly encourage all of you to become members of our P&C for 2015. Active P&C membership is vitally important to the success of our school so I would encourage you all to come along to our meetings (even if you can't make it to all of them!!!) and see how you can help. All parents, carers and friends of the school are welcome to attend. Our next P&C meeting will be held on **Monday 8 June 2015 at 5:30pm** in the staffroom.



Playgroup

It is with deep regret that I have to inform you that The Osborne Owlets Playgroup will no longer be offered to our community for the remainder of this term. Mrs Belinda McConville has been doing a fantastic job of sourcing and setting up new exciting educational activities for the Osborne Owlets but there have been very few families turning up to take advantage of this. Due to the decrease in numbers attending the Playgroup, it has been decided that the Osborne Owlets will close for the remainder of this term with a possibility of re-opening again next term if more families are interested in attending.



The Osborne Owlets is an integral part of our school community and it's continuation is important for the future of our school. Please watch this space to see if the Osborne Owlets make a return next term. If they do, please let everyone know about our playgroup and support our Osborn Owlets. It is in the best interest of our school and our children.

Attendance, Attendance, Attendance

Our school has a goal of 92% attendance for the year. Currently we are sitting at 85% attendance. A student's attendance rate is directly linked to their academic achievement levels. Although we have not met our yearly goal so far, I am pleased to report that this week's attendance was 93%. I would also like to congratulate the following students:

Lachlan Nagle



Dylan Matthews
Daniel Matthews
Blaize Palmer
Ryland Palmer
Zaine Palmer
Riley Watson
Alex Watson

These students had 98% attendance or better throughout the first term. Well done!

Lunches

Over the past few weeks, it has become apparent that some children have been attending school with unhealthy lunches. This affects their attention span and their ability to learn. In a previous newsletter, examples of healthy lunches were included. Here they are again:



Healthy lunch ideas

Packing a lunch box from home means you can offer your child a range of healthy lunch options from the five food groups:

- vegetables
- fruit
- grain foods – bread, pasta, breakfast cereals, rice, corn and so on
- reduced-fat dairy – milk, cheese, yoghurt and so on
- meat, fish, chicken, eggs and legumes, including peas, beans, lentils, chickpeas, nuts, tofu and so on.

Here are some **healthy lunch ideas** for getting the five food groups into your child's lunch box:

- a sandwich with wholegrain bread and a filling such as salad, cheese, lean meat or falafel
- different breads for extra interest – rye breads, baguettes, seeded rolls, pita bread pockets, flat bread, foccacia, rice cakes or corn thins or turkish bread
- leftover pizza or rice and noodle dishes that can be eaten cold
- yoghurt and fruit or muesli, kept cool in an insulated lunch box or frozen overnight.

Some students have also been swapping and stealing lunches. All of our students have been told not to do this and the reasons why it is not appropriate and why it is unsafe. Could you please reinforce these reasons by talking to your child at home. Please ensure that your child also has sufficient lunch to last them the whole day. Some children eat all of their lunch at first break and have nothing to eat for the rest of the day. This impacts on their learning as they do not have the stamina to maintain the focus they need to learn for the entire day.

Finally, can you please talk to your children about the importance of putting their lunchbox back in the fridge after they have finished. Some students are not doing this and the birds are enjoying their lunch instead!

Yours in Education

Troy Patti

Principal

Wonderful Work from Osborne this week...

In art and technology, the grade 3-6 students were creating animals using various animals from recycled products. The students in grade P – 2 were investigating the use of lines to make 2D shapes look 3D.

In English, all of the children had their reading tested and their results were displayed on our reading wall. Please come and see it to see how your child is performing.

