Greetings:

2016

Plans are well underway for 2016, and we can now tell you our proposed class structure. We are anticipating an enrolment of 36 students, which is great, and the staff has spent considerable time discussing the best way of meeting individual student’s needs. We plan to have 3 classes for English and Maths, running 4 mornings a week. These classes will be: R-2 with Lorelle Barton, 3/4/5 with Kathryn Roberts, and 5/6/7 with myself. In the afternoons, we will have two classes: R-2 with Lorelle Barton and 3-7 with Kathryn Roberts. Anne Bond will continue in her role as student support SSO as well, providing both in-class, small group and individual assistance.

REVIEW

As part of our continued planning, we need to review how things have gone this year, and that is why we invited you to complete the opinion surveys. We will now take the information from both the parent and student opinion surveys, and use them as a way of reflecting on the year in a review workshop, to be held on Tuesday 17th November, at 8.45am. Interested families and community members are invited to come and have a look at our survey responses and other data from the year, and share ideas of how we can improve for 2016. This is the time to be creative and dream about possibilities! Please let us know if you plan on coming by Monday 16th November.

TONY PASIN VISIT

We had a great visit with Tony Pasin on Monday. He thoroughly enjoyed meeting our students and parents, and led a great mock parliament session in which the merits of ‘junk-food advertising during children’s television’ was hotly debated!

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Next week on Wednesday 11th, the whole school will be involved in a Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Geranium War Memorial, hosted by the School Captains. Please come and join us if you can.

Regards,
Ruth
A Point to Ponder

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

“They shall grow not old,  
as we that are left grow old;  
Age shall not weary them,  
nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun  
and in the morning  
We will remember them.”

This week our class has been back to 15 students, with Luke in Adelaide to participate in the SAPSASA state cricket carnival as a member of the Murray Mallee team. We wish him and the team well and look forward to hearing all about it when he returns.

On Monday we enjoyed the visit from our local member of federal parliament, Tony Pasin, who entertained and engaged the students with a mock session of parliament. They participated enthusiastically in the roles they were given, while debating a proposed bill to stop the advertising of junk food on television during children’s viewing times. It provided a very rich learning opportunity for our students to gain a greater understanding of how our parliamentary system works.
In PE we have been playing a range of team games designed to improve physical skills such as ball handling and agility while also developing team cooperation and the use of strategies. This week we had a go at Ultimate Frisbee which the students did a great job at despite the gusty winds making accurate passing of the frisbee a challenge.

During our Science lessons on the Earth we have begun investigating the links between the tectonic plates which make up the Earth’s surface and natural disasters such as earthquakes, volcanos and tsunamis. The students were fascinated to discover that we actually have thousands of small earthquakes a year in Australia, with only a few being strong enough to be felt and an occasional one causing damage to buildings and infrastructure.

Our current topic in Design and Technology is looking at the processes involved in the production of natural fibres. Students have chosen a particular fibre to investigate, ranging from wool, cashmere and silk to coir and camel hair. We hope to be able to find some samples of some different natural fibres to have a look at so if you have anything at home to share please send it along.

The students’ Passion Projects all seem to be progressing well and this morning we enjoyed a session of Yoga, which is Olivia’s chosen project. The students all need to be making a small entry in their journal or homework book each week to explain what they have done towards their project, even if it is still in the planning stages. It is very exciting to see their passions taking shape!

Please try to ensure that your child brings their diary to school every day as it is an important communication tool between us. Also if your child is reading at home, even if you don’t have time to sit down and listen to them, you can sign their reading log to indicate they have read.

Kathryn Roberts
In Science, we have continued to learn about forces, including push and pull movements and the idea of gravity. This week we focussed on how our bodies move and the push or pull force used by certain parts of our body to create movements like running, jumping, climbing and so on. We took photos of our partners doing the movements and put them up on the SMART Board to view and discuss as a class. Then students worked on creating their own ‘How do we move?’ posters to display in class. Here are some of our posters:

This week in Maths, we began our venture into the topic – Money – and made our ‘Catalogue of Awesome Things’. It is definitely a great catalogue featuring various items for amazing prices. You can buy a $10 semi-truck, $2 skateboards, $6 laptops, $8 Beanie Boos and $19 motorbikes. Each year level was given a different amount of money and made various shopping lists using the catalogue. They had to add up how much each total would be, ensuring they didn’t go over their small budgets.

For a “sting in the tail” (extension problem), students were asked to calculate change. I enjoyed watching the counting strategies used by students to calculate the cost of their shopping. Some creative ideas included – using counters to represent dollars and giving them to a pretend checkout person each time they spent a certain amount, to work out what was left over. All of this is leading us into our ‘Shop Day’. We are currently hoping to hold our ‘Shop Day’ on the Wednesday of Week 8 – opening up our shop with baked goods and craft items for sale (items costing from 5cents to $2) at Recess and Lunch. All our proceeds will go to a very special charity. Stay tuned for information in our next newsletter!

With only 5 weeks to go we are looking forward to finishing of our year with some more fantastic learning. I have been so impressed with every student putting their best effort into their learning and having such a positive start to Term 4. We are also looking forward to having the Kindy students join us next Wednesday for their first transition to school session. Remember to check out our class blog at jggsstars.edublogs.org where we regularly post reminders, updates and some photos of work we are currently engaging in.

Take Care,

Miss. Lorelle Barton
UNIFORM ORDERS

Now is the time to be checking your children’s wardrobes to see if you need any school clothes for the New Year. There is an LW Reid catalogue in the Front Office to check on styles, sizings and prices. All items in the catalogue can be ordered not just those in our green and gold colours. Please contact Denise by Friday 13th November ongrenise@bigpond.com if you require anything so an order can be placed and hopefully received by the end of term.

I have the following as surplus. Sometimes to make up an order so it is over $100 and therefore we don't pay freight, I buy extras.
New with tags:
- Polar fleece classic jacket - bottle - size 10
- Short sleeved polo - gold (no stripe on collar) - Size 8 x2
- Microfibre track pants - bottle - size 6
- Boys double knee pants - grey - size 10
- Polar fleece half zip jumper
- Burgundy - adult size 12 x2

I also have:
- Worn (in very good condition)
- Boys double knee pants - grey - size 8
- Boys double knee pants - grey - size 10

Student Banking

Last Student Banking for 2015 will be on Tuesday 17th November

PCW CORNER

Relaxation Class is up and running! This is a student-driven initiative under my guidance. We meet on Tuesdays at lunch time in the Yoga Room and have been getting around a dozen keen students coming along. So far, Jasmine, Amy, Olivia and Lilly have all led a session and very competently, I must say! The students have been using “Yoga Pretzels”, cards with simple but fun Yoga moves and positions. I love these times with your children!

Christmas Seminar

Geranium Primary School Students will be joining in with Lameroo Regional Community School to take part in a Christmas seminar presented by Schools Ministry Group on Monday 30th November. More details in the next Newsletter!

Little Heroes fundraiser

Jasmine Knight, our Minister of Activities, is working with Sophie Temby and myself to plan a fundraiser for “Little Heroes”. More Details will be coming soon!

I am currently working through a course called “The Accidental Counsellor” run by Human Connections. This is an 8 Module Course and proving to be really helpful to me. One of the gems I picked up this week was:

“The quality of our lives is in direct proportion with the quality of habits in our lives”

Developing good habits, personally and in families is a big step in the right direction because we won’t always feel motivated but a good habit will keep you going!

I continue in the habit of keeping all families and staff of Geranium Primary School in my prayers.

Margaret Smith (Pastoral Care Worker)
November 13th
Talent Show and Bibles presented to 8 year olds

Children don't have to do anything but if they have something (Joke, Skit, Song, Dance, magic trick etc), they would like to perform in 2 minutes, this is their opportunity! They can practice at school or at home next week!
Talent Show will begin at 4.15 pm and parents are welcome.

Kids’ Club Breakup/ Christmas Party

December 11th Last day of school (early dismissal)
Could each child bring a gift for a needy child (under $10) to be wrapped at Kids’ Club.

Non Perishable Food Items (eg Pasta, canned foods etc) for Uniting Care for distributing to needy families in Adelaide.
They can be left at Marg Smith’s PCW room at school.

More details available from Marg Smith