



HARMONY EXCELLENCE RESPECT OPTIMISM



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NEWSLETTER

Principals Report

Principal's word of the week: *Confidence*

Hi all and welcome back to our first week this term with full time classroom teaching for some of our students. Pre-schoolers, Kindergarten, Year 1, 2 and 7 have all been enjoying having their regular classes and teachers this week. The positive vibe and change in mood has been palatable in the classrooms and playground. I have been getting around to classes to see the students and staff and it is lovely to be present when the learning is clearly evident. I was fortunate enough to be invited to read to the Kindy Seahorses this week and after a tongue twisting "Fox in Socks" I may not be invited back again!

Next week our Year 3, 4 and 10 students return and I look forward to how they settle back into the school routine.

In more practical matters I want to thank the families at drop off and pick up for adhering to our guidelines to keep everyone safe. The adults in our families have been keeping back a safe distance from the staff and each other and I have hardly had to remind anyone to not enter the buildings. Could I ask that this continues at least till the end of term. I remind families that will be bringing the next group of students to school about keeping social distance, not sending sick children to school and to reinforce personal hygiene with all the family. This will ensure all members in our

community have confidence that our school is a safe and healthy place for even vulnerable people.

To support families with learning from home the school lent a significant amount of equipment to students at the end of Term 2 and the start of Term 3. As more students return to school we now need that equipment at the school to continue to meet student needs as we have a significant shortfall of some resources, particularly chrome books. When your child returns to school we ask that they return any borrowed equipment to their teacher and / or take it to the library if it has been borrowed out through the library system (typically books and ChromeBooks). We discourage parents from dropping off borrowed equipment unless absolutely necessary.

If there are reasons for adults to attend the school to speak with staff please call ahead to have this meeting prearranged. This will enable us to set up spaces for meetings that meet guidelines for health and safety.

Lastly I want to say thank you for all the kind words and thanks to the staff being passed on in this difficult time. I know the staff really appreciate this acknowledgment and it builds quite a rapport with our community.

Preschool

Things have been going along nicely for the pre-schoolers with many children using the weekly grid to guide their learning from home. They've also learnt lots of new ICT skills as they use an app called Seesaw to share their learning with their teachers. Our pre-schoolers have been investigating living things, watching seeds grow over their time at home. We have been innovating texts, recreating and participating in bear hunts and discovering colours of birds through our bird watching experiences. The preschool children are extremely excited about returning to learning at school. The teachers are all set to engage in socially distanced face-to-face teaching again.



Year 1

We are very excited to welcome back Year 1 students this week. It has been lovely to get back into a routine of learning and catching up with our students. Year 1 have discussed their Positive Behaviour for Learning values of being a Safe, Respectful Learner in the classroom. Students demonstrate these values in a variety of ways, through their learning and interactions with their teachers and peers. We are focusing on skip counting 2s, 5s and 10s in mathematics this week. The students participate in a range of activities using concrete materials to show their knowledge of skip counting numbers. In writing, students are writing narratives, and create imaginative stories full of adventures with interesting characters. We look forward to continued learning over the next few weeks and sharing our ideas with others.

Miss Meg, Miss Christine and Miss Taylor

Year 3

Although it has been a different start to Term 2, our students and their families have done an amazing job at adapting to online learning. The year 3 teachers have definitely missed you all and are very excited to be back in Week 5 to continue our learning face-to-face.

To begin the term, year 3 students have been learning how to summarise, question and make connections when reading to improve comprehension. For writing, Year 3 have been looking at narrative structure and will begin to write their own narratives in the weeks to come. Students have also been completing a weekly 'lightning writing' activity by writing about an image or video. The year 3 teachers have enjoyed reading the students' creative responses which range from poems, to narratives, to recipes.

For Maths this term, students will be learning addition and subtraction facts and practising different strategies to build mental computation skills. So far, year 3 have looked at fact families, bridging to ten and using number lines for the jump strategy. Students have also been exploring symmetry in the environment by finding examples of symmetry in their homes and in nature.

Our Inquiry unit, 'Then and Now' focuses on how the Canberra community has changed over time. Students have begun to explore the changes to transport and housing over time by talking to their families about how Canberra has developed and by thinking about what Canberra will look like in the future. In Science, year 3 have been learning about how different materials can change states between a solid and a liquid. This has involved experimenting with heating and cooling different objects, making predictions and observing how the objects change.

The year 3 teachers are so impressed with how students have embraced learning at home and would like to share some of the amazing work and learning that has taken place beyond the classroom.



Thank you to our students and their families for all of your support and hard work during a difficult time. We look forward to getting back into the classroom!

Aniya, Taylor, Ellie and Maree

By Mikale, By Anthony, By Radwa, By Ady, By Brodie

Some examples of visual art;



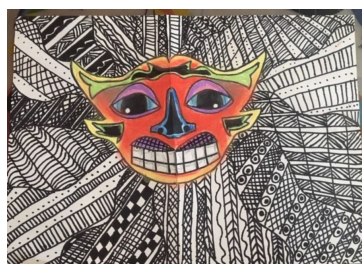
By Cooper



By Brodie C



By Saskia B



By Finn

A Snapshot from English

It's been an extraordinary beginning to the term presenting challenges and much change. With the shift to online learning students, families and teachers have worked together in support of the English program. Students have engaged with their online classes mostly through the google platform where they have utilized google classrooms and a variety of approaches from listening to lesson recordings, working on quizzes, attending google-hangouts, sending messages, and drafting and editing their writing online. Now we are transitioning to face-to-face learning and adapting the teaching where needed. Below is a snapshot of this term's English courses.

Year 6

Students have been studying *Playing Beatie Bow* by Ruth Park, which is a classic novel set in the Rocks area of Sydney. The novel study has been combined with their HaSS program to delve deeper into the location and its historical setting and events. Students are completing a creative response and rationale in response to the book.

Year 7

The focus in Year 7 has been on poetry. Students have been learning about various poetic techniques and genres. Different types of poetry have included 'everyday' poetry, traditional narrative poems and bush ballads. Students are producing poetry anthologies.

Year 8

In Year 8, students have been studying current issues: the problems associated with single-use plastics and other waste. The students will be writing feature articles (opinion pieces) which explore the pros and cons of various actions or inactions on waste and recycling.

Year 9

The fairy tale genre has been the focus for Year 9s. A comparative approach is being taken as students explore various versions of fairy tale texts from historical and modern perspectives. Students have been working on a range of activities to develop their knowledge of the genre, themes, comparisons and symbolism. Assessment is cumulative with weekly requirements that involve creative and analytical responses.

Year 10

The Year 10 English course was featured in the previous newsletter. The article reported on the types of poetry being studied and some of the students' poems were published. The poetry assignment is ongoing and involves students producing various styles of poetry such as haiku and sonnets while also sharpening their observation skills and knowledge of poetic forms.

Library News

I know for sure that the books in the library are lonely. Only the other day, I overheard several of them lamenting the fact they hadn't been borrowed lately.

"It's alright for those of us that are online," I heard one miserable paperback say. "But what about the rest of us - we're falling to pieces here all alone and unloved?"

So how about it everyone. A big shout out to all students to return the library for borrowing as soon as you can.

Ms Andrews on behalf of the books.

News from Tik

Yaama you mob!

Hope everyone is keeping safe and well in these times, please don't hesitate to contact me if you need anything at all.

I wanted to touch base as we are quickly approaching National Reconciliation Week which commences on the 27th of May with a theme of 'In this Together' which I think suits the theme of this whole year. To celebrate meaningfully our celebrations for this will be occurring in Term 3 to ensure that we have enough time to credit such an important week. As it will be online we will send parents a full program of our celebrations closer to the date.

I would also just like to let everyone know that this is going to be my last term here at KSS and I now only work Mondays and Fridays, I will be super sad to leave everyone but excited for my new venture!

I will keep everyone posted on when our celebrations will commence.