Dear Parents,

Term 1 will come to a close next week and students will have received their holiday homework. Please assist your child with homework and projects. A good idea for the children is to take them to the library. Bear in mind that in order for children to enjoy the library experience, they must visit the library occasionally.

The swimming program will run into second term finishing in May. Please notify the teacher if you are going to assist your child in getting changed.

The Grade five and sixes will be going to camp next week, please fill out the necessary forms and make sure your child has the necessary items for the camp.

Please put your child's name on their uniform as the lost property box has already filled up.

We will be holding Parent Teacher Interviews next Friday, please make sure you attend in order to find out how your child is performing. If you have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to contact me. I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday.

Regards,
Ali Goru - Principal

Key Dates

Thursday 29th March, 2007—Last day of Term 1

Wednesday 28th March, 2007—Grade 5 / 6 Camp

Friday 30th March, 2007—Parent Teacher Interviews—No school & Grade 5 / 6 return from camp

Friday 6th April, 2007—Good Friday

Monday 9th of April—Easter Monday

Monday 16th April, 2007—Curriculum Day—No school

Tuesday 17th April, 2007—First day of Term 2

Friday 20th April—Anzac Day

Monday 23rd April, 2007—Children's Festival

Monday 30th April, 2007—School Photos

Sunday 6th May, 2007—Open Day

Tuesday 8th May, 2007—Last day of Swimming
Dear Parents,

We have almost finished first term now and the children are well established in our daily school routine. In our Integrated Studies Program the children are learning about how they are similar to other people in some ways and different in other ways. We recently had fun making popcorn in Science. The children used their 5 senses to identify changes that took place as the popcorn was being made. All agreed the best part was the tasting at the end!

Swimming lessons are going well even though the children are very tired by the end of the day. It is great to see them becoming more confident each week. Swimming is an excellent form of exercise for health and fitness. The lessons also are very important for the development of water safety awareness. As we have swimming on Tuesday the children do not need to wear their Sports Uniform on Friday when we would normally have P.E. Please make sure all clothing is clearly marked with your child's name.

Art Smocks are still needed by some children.

This week we have our first excursion for the year to The Poppykettle Festival in Geelong. This should be an interesting day for the children and provide them with new experiences.

A reminder to parents that they should not allow their children to bring toys to school of a violent nature such as guns, swords etc. We have discussed and made rules as a class about behaviour at school and all children are aware of these. If children have a problem in the playground they should go to the Yard Duty teacher for assistance.

Learning to write is "hard work" for young children. Holding a pencil correctly makes this process much easier. Please keep a check on how your child is holding their pencil when they are doing their homework and encourage them to use the correct grip. Encourage writing at home; shopping lists are fun to write together.

Swimming lesson comments:

Kenan - "I like to float, go under the water and swim".

Goksu - "I like to play in the water".

Adelina - "I like floating and playing in the water".

Atakan - "At swimming I picked up the weights from the bottom and I like using the kickboards".

Yasemine - "I like using the kickboards and learning to swim".

Nisa - "I like getting the blue shells from the bottom of the pool, doing the torpedo and floating".

This will be my last newsletter as Ms. Gocmen will be back next term. I would like to thank the Staff, Parents and Students for making me feel very welcome here and for all your support over the term. Best wishes to you all for the rest of the year.

Regards,

Mrs. Leanne Balchin

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Dear Parents

We are over half way through term 1. The students have been working hard to complete all of their work. They have been doing a great fantastic job at getting used to the new routine.

As you know the swimming program has began. Unlike last year it is once a week rather then everyday for two weeks. This has been much more successful as students are still able to be in a routine. The students are enjoying their swimming lessons and this can be seen from their swimming journal entries they write when they arrive back to school. Even though the students have only been doing the journal for a few weeks their expression in the journal is improving every week. Well done everyone.

In regards to the spelling program it has been nice to see some students improving each week, both with their test results and their nightly sentences. But unfortunately at times students are practicing the words at the last minute. For a student to know how to spell the words they need to practice them nightly not the night before and improvements will be seen. Even if they are only getting one word extra right a week it is a great improvement and they should be praised for the words they spelt correctly. Keep trying everyone.

Students have been eagerly learning about Australia. They have been completing simple mapping techniques, learning about the settlement, natural disasters, landmarks, internet research skills along with many other aspects. In science students made recycled paper, unfortunately they turned out more like cardboard but they enjoyed this experiment. From this students discussed how they would change their experiment so that it would be more successful. They came up with some excellent ideas, which have been displayed in the classroom.

Finally I was recently reading an article on how to make reading fun at home, I found some points in particular interesting. I thought that I would share them with you.

Don't rent a movie until after you and your child have read the book together

Make time each and everyday for quiet book time where the focus is off the TV and on the bookshelf

Give a story a new ending. Instead of reading a book to the end, stop halfway and make up your own ending together

Take advantage of your local library. Lots of libraries offer programs that encourage kids to read and make it enjoyable for them

Make one corner of your home a "reading and writing" area. Fill it with magazines, newspapers, papers, pencils etc. Encourage your child to spend time there.

Don't forget about signing your child's diary daily. It is very important as messages are sent home in the diaries and it helps us to know if they have been read.

Kind Regards

Ms Natalie Todeschini
Grade Three / Four

This term has continued to progress very positively and rather quickly. Students have shown a lot of interest in our theme topic and will present their mini "keeping safe in Australia" projects next week.

We are looking forward to going on our excursion on a couple of weeks which should be very educational (language and arts based) and fun too.

We have been practicing and focusing on writing narratives this term. Here is one example by Esrin Aydin Grade 4.

"The man with the funny nose" - I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I did.

Bye for now, Mrs. K

The man with the funny nose

There was once a man named Harrold. Harrold was a great inventor, Zan (Harrold's enemy) was creating a potion to turn Harrold bad.

Then the next day Harrold created a robot he named George. George was programmed to do good. Harrold was afraid that if Zan got his hands on George he would make George bad.

One day George ran off into the forest and he was poor. Little did he know that in Lillysville you couldn't pick flowers from the ground. George picked flowers and made daisy chains to sell and make money. He was soon caught by an officer named Leanne. She was nice and did not wish to arrest him but had to. Meanwhile Harrold had been looking for George, he searched everywhere he asked the police "May I search the prison cells?" "Of course" "George!" He said in relief. He was so glad that Zen didn't kidnap him. Meanwhile Zan was finished making the potion he now had to put it in Harold's tea. Zan thought he could make it to Harrold's home and back. Zan did it but Harrold "I don't feel like tea today, perhaps water would be good for me" "George get me that tube" Zan had taped the whole scene he did not like it one bit.

"What's this?" said Harrold feeling puzzled. "Analyze this for me" said Harrold "It appears to be a potion put in your tea to make you bad" said George "Zan did this" Harrold was bad tempered. He broke everything glass.

Meanwhile Zan was planning more evil ideas Zan came up with. Zan got ready. George and Harrold went on a walk to the park. Soon they were heading back and bumped into a man named Dan, he was a nice man and went home with them. From now on wherever George went, Dan went.

Zan's plan was destroyed. Later the next day Zan needed fresh air and plans. Zan went for a walk at the same time as Harrold.

"Ahahaha you're a girl" screamed Harrold. "Okay I wanted it to be a secret between me and the town" said Zan.

The End

By Esrin Aydin

Grade 4

Grade Five / Six

Dear Parents,

We have reached the end of our first term. The students have worked challenging activities which required them to start using a variety of thinking skills. They have written a persuasive essay on why water should be saved, and majority had a really good grasp of the task at hand; others required further scaffolding in order to complete the task. At this level of primary school, it is important to expose your children to a variety of texts and subject matter.

When at home, instead of them playing playstation or watching cartoons, they should be perhaps watching documentaries about all different subject matter to broaden their knowledge of the world around them. SBS and the ABC usually have really good documentaries. Also If you are a Foxtel subscriber, the Discovery, History and Geographic channels have fantastic documentaries.

On Friday, students will get their holiday homework. They will need to complete a project. Along with the project students will get a criteria of what should be included in the project. If you want your child to get a good mark in their project, then they should include everything indicated in the criteria; as that is how students will be assessed. On Monday and Tuesday, students will be having end of Term tests, since on Wednesday we will be leaving for camp.

In regards to camp, please make sure that your child takes all the things indicated in the list. Please have a look at what the weather might be like for Wednesday on Tuesday. If showers are expected, please pack a waterproof jacket, as then we will still be able to go out and do the activities.

For the grade 5 + 6 students, interim reports and Parent-Teacher interviews will be held on Monday 16th of April. A note will go in the diary this week. Could you please indicate whether you are coming and what time it will be most suitable.

I hope that you all have a wonderful break with your children, and for those who celebrate Easter, have a happy Easter with family and friends.

Regards,

Sandra Presa