Dear Parents and Carers

At our Ten Year Celebration of the opening of Amaroo school this week we dug up the time capsule placed when the school opened. It was a great event and nice to acknowledge the contributions to our community of Ms Anne Huard and past and present students, staff and parents. Anne, as first Principal of our school, played a key role in establishing a positive culture and an outstanding learning environment. Over the next few months we will put together a new time capsule to be buried for the next celebration. Special thanks to the Amaroo School P&C Association who sponsored and organised this important event in the life of our school.

Community Feedback

Last week we received terrific feedback from the Principal of Canberra High School. He said the Canberra HS students and staff involved in the Year 7/8 ACT Touch Zone Competition were extremely impressed by the sportpersonship and participative nature of the way the students from Amaroo School conducted themselves. This is great feedback and it is a fabulous compliment for our students and staff.

Student Achievements

Sapeeda, Jake, Jessica and Chloe during buddies this week have worked together to create some great poems. They have combined ideas and worked together to write some of the cleverest lines I have had the pleasure to read. Great buddy work.

Cody from Ms Di Donna’s Year 4 class has drawn and labelled an excellent example of his exercise program. Cody, a keen sportsperson, has combined his area of interest, sport, with his learning requirements and produced outstanding work. Well done.

Sam, Daniel and Danilo from Ms Ross’ Year 3 class have produced quality reports on the benefits they found from using the ‘Bump it up Wall’. It was terrific to hear about the ways the ‘Bump it up Wall’ had helped them to improve their writing.

Melinhh from Ms Ward’s Year 5 class wrote the following poem:

Meilinh from Ms Ward’s Year 5 class wrote the following poem:

The Little Moon
When the suns light has gone away
My dad would come out and shine
But now he has gone,
So it is my job to shine
I show my eyes with deep sadness
My father is gone
His cloak now mine
With stars that shine
As now I am the little moon.

Early Childhood Portables in progress

Calendar Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 28 May 2014</td>
<td>Language Perfect World Championships-Monday 19 May to Thursday 29 May 2014. Fast and Fresh Drama Performances - Canberra Theatre.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 29 May 2014</td>
<td>Raiders workshop for year 8 students on building resilience.</td>
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<td>Friday 30 May 2014</td>
<td>Performing Arts-Fast and Fresh – Short play competition, Canberra Theatre. Gungahlin College -Applications for 2015 close</td>
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<td>Monday 2 June 2014</td>
<td>ACT Cross Country (Stromlo) - Yrs 7-10 P &amp; C Meeting-7pm.</td>
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<td>Tuesday 3 June 2014</td>
<td>Business and Economics Market Day. Year 10 Gungahlin College Orientation Visit: 8.15 – 11.00am. Year 5 Band Combined Practise – 9:15 – 1:30pm Harrison School.</td>
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Kody, Amber and Eesh from Ms Sandeman’s Kindergarten class have produced quality work. They have each written terrific sentences about a picture they were given. What a great effort.

Kyan and Jasmine from Ms Meddley’s Year 4 class have completed excellent homework assignments. They have researched the thymus and the heart and produced a quality report. Excellent work.

Jevishaa, Jinan and Bree from Ms Pummeroy’s Year 4 class have written excellent letters. Jevishaa has described what a great school we have and how it would be even better if everyone put their litter in the bin. Jinan also focused on removing litter and Bree wants us to do more for charities. It is great to see these students making terrific suggestions. Excellent work.

Alexis and Lucy from Ms Di Donna’s Year 4 class have produced excellent paragraphs capturing the main idea of the chapter they had just read in their novels. The girls both identified the key ideas of the chapter and reported them neatly and concisely. Great work.

Class Visits
In Ms Ross’ Year 3 class the students are using the ‘Bump it up Wall’. The ‘Bump it up Wall’ helps students to improve their persuasive writing by providing them with a framework and strategies to improve their writing. The students shared their experiences of using the ‘Bump it up Wall’ and the differences it has made to their writing. They also use the wall to help them assist each other to improve their writing. Students use the criteria from the ‘Bump it up Wall’ to assess either their own or another students work. They also provide feedback on what level the work is currently at and what needs to be done to move the work into a higher level or make it better. It was fabulous to see students helping others to improve their learning. The research clearly shows we learn more when we take the role of a teacher in the learning process.

In Ms Pummeroy’s Year 4 class the students are using ‘Popplets’ as part of their length and estimating work. While learning mathematics in regards to length and estimation the students have been using this great new application called ‘Popplets’. The students use a class set of iPads to work in groups and complete a range of estimating exercises. They estimated the length of items in their classroom, the playground and the surrounding environments. They also had access to a range of different measuring devices to assist their work. This great new application ‘Popplets’ has really helped motivate the students to produce some of their best work. The students were able to include some visual images in their work as well as written inputs. They allowed the students to present their finding in a creative and exciting way. A very exciting lesson.

In Ms Hewat’s Year 6 music class the students are learning about the use of single quavers. The quavers are normally used in pairs in beginner music but this lesson was aimed at assisting the students to identify and understand a quaver as half a beat. The students found examples of single quavers used in different ways and identified them. They took the music from ‘Sound of Music’ and found all sorts of examples. Next the students used a practical example of speaking in a round to help their learning and understandings of single quavers and how they are used. It was terrific to see the students putting the names of the characters from Harry Potter to music. It was a real ‘up beat’ lesson that had the students in a good rhythm.

Commonwealth Bank Foundation visitor
Wendy Mason from the Commonwealth Bank Foundation visited our school recently to see how one of our teachers Grant Smith has developed the financial literacy grant he won into a terrific learning resource for our students. Pictured right.

Cancer Council Merchandise For Sale - LAST WEEK
Therese in the canteen still has a few Mugs and Tea Towels from the Cancer Council available for this week only at $10 each. If you wish to make a tax deductible donation or make a purchase, please see Therese in canteen from 8:45am- 3pm.

As always, please contact the Deputy Principals; Benjamin Hall, Gail Taylor, Sam Beattie, Tiffany Mahon or myself, to clarify any issue of concern to you. The whole school team at Amaroo School are committed to working with our community to ensure our students have the very best opportunities to learn.

Richard Powell
Principal
Amaroo School