

Connect

Child Side Update

Create

Term 2– May 2014

Human beings are active learners. We learn by doing, by interacting with others, by experiencing life first hand. Samuel Halperin

What's Up: Health Awareness: Keep on checking for those hair nits and eggs. Remember combing through with conditioner needs to be repeated a number of times over a number of weeks IF eggs are found. Please take home water bottles regularly for a wash and refill. Whilst hats are not regulation for schools during the winter months, sunscreen on faces is still recommended for periods outdoors longer than 15 minutes at a stretch.

Quick Kids Speed Skating Programme— Middle Childhood Cluster Lisa's Mob + FLA: This programme is on again THIS Thursday, BUT next Thursday and Friday 29th and 30th are pupil free days so no school, skating or enterprise days.

Duty Of Care: Please can we all keep our eyes open for younger siblings and for all children on the school site—including both before and after school. Younger siblings need to be inside during morning work sessions or supervised by a parent for duty of care, please see staff if you need our help., we understand that you only have one pair of eyes, ears and hands! We are trying to establish safety routines and respect for resources with all children regardless of age. Older children have been reminded not to tackle each other, playing chasey in or around the HUB and to be responsible for RETURNING the sports equipment, even IF not asked. We are trying to develop organisation routines, in particular with outside resources. Our calves (CCC) are an authentic reason to be organised and keep things ready for the next feeding team on roster. We have purchased some new sports equipment which will have to last many years so **has** to be returned and stored in its place (rather than lobbed from afar). Please remind children to keep off the netball ring bases and nets, use the verandas safely and TAKE HOME their personal belongings. **Professional learning:** Staff will be in and out again for required professional learning, meetings and reporting writing.

Written Reports: It is that time of the year again where educators are beginning to prepare written individual reports in the coming weeks. Reports are mandated by the Federal Government and have elements that are mandated for all schools. However Child Side chooses to Child Side sections of the reports, which is an extremely time consuming but worthwhile exercise for educators' to reflect on each learner as an individual **within** (not separate to) a community of learners. As the National curriculum is rolled out expectations change and understandings become refined, which means our reports may always be transforming and can appear confusing for parents. For example literacy/English is an extremely complex set of skills and understandings and while a child maybe competent according to year level expectations in oral communication, they may not be in spelling or grammar. So giving one 'grade' for the area of English is not entirely accurate or beneficial for understanding exactly where an individual is 'at'.

We recommend that you catch up with your child's educator through out the year to find out the progress being made and to exchange ideas and strategies. Please feel free to ask your child's educator to talk through their written report at an LTD meeting, Wednesday afternoons, if you require further clarification.

Living Books— We are always on the lookout for 'living books' to share their skills and passions with the children. Aside from 'one-off' conversations we also are seeking longer term work—shop sessions on Monday afternoons. We have had sewing and woodwork sessions and are on the lookout for anyone who is willing to mentor small groups of the older children with practical skills (for example: baking, scrapheap challenges—engineering, bush craft, tying knots, gardening...) so they can become competent and confident. Please see Lisa.

Important Dates: *Please check our website calendar and the whiteboard up on the middle building regularly.*

Wheelathon—Friday 23rd. P and F fundraiser. See Clair

Enterprise Afternoons — will be on a school development day, so postponed until next time..

School Development days— Thursday and Friday 29th and 30th. Staff only.

Farmers Market Set up— 6:30 and 12 noon— PLEASE see whiteboard for your name. Please collect signs from either end of town to return to the sea container, including the posts as they can get stolen or run over.

June— See Dan about a free Saturday to help relocate raised garden beds for our school.

Public Holiday early June.