From the Principal Desk.

Yulmburral

Since our last Newsletter the school has undergone its ‘3 Year Review’. This important audit is a process that contributes to ensuring the school is meeting compliance and keeping on track with its stated improvement agenda. I am pleased to report to the school community that the external panel comprising of a CES representative and a peer principal was very affirming of the strategic direction the school is taking and the way in which a Christ centred curriculum is being delivered. I thank all staff and parents who contribute their efforts ensuring our school is a better learning ecosystem every day.

In maintaining our commitment to improving learning and teaching, this Friday will be our analysis of Naplan results. This exhaustive forensic investigation into our data gives greater insight into our strengths and weaknesses in delivering curriculum outcomes. Unfortunately media and often ill-informed individuals are quick to make erroneous judgements based upon headline data without having the knowledge or skill level to carefully unpack and interpret such data. Days such as these permit our Curriculum Team led by Miss Newell, to carefully and thoughtfully find meaning in our data that is relevant for each teacher and child.

Some important reminders:
Prep enrolments are almost complete and application for enrolments will close at the end of this month. A Prep Information Night will occur on Wednesday 25th October. Details will be forwarded to all applicants.
From the new students to those that will soon be exiting. Yr 6 parents have been sent details regarding the Farewell Assembly. A copy of this letter will be available through the Parent Portal. Yr 6 Low Isles excursion is occurring on Friday 27th October.
World Teacher Day occurs next Friday. This important day allows us to recognise, affirm and celebrate the great work teachers undertake in contribute to the lives of children in our care.
Head lice have made an unwelcome appearance. I urge all parents to inspect their children’s scalps and take the necessary action to treat and eradicate the lice.

Innovative learning environments

Space, whether physical or virtual, can have an impact on learning. It not only brings people together – it can encourage and facilitate exploration, collaboration, and discussion.
"Innovative Learning Environments" (ILE) is a term and educational innovation that has international recognition.

What is an innovative learning environment?

An innovative environment is one that is capable of evolving and adapting as educational practices evolve and change – thus remaining future focused.
A learning environment includes the physical, social, and pedagogical context in which learning occurs. An innovative environment supports strengths-based teaching and learning. It offers students and teachers flexibility, agency, ubiquity, and connectedness.

Working in an innovative learning environment where teaching and learning is collaborative, reflections and inquiries are shared, and communities engaged leads to a more robust, continuously improving community of practice.

In keeping pace with advancements in the delivery of quality education that is well researched and evidence based St Augustine’s school will implement an ILE for Yr 3 in 2018. This exciting evolution in delivering the curriculum will be well resourced and supported. Staff will be provided with professional learning to ensure that every child in Yr 3 benefits from this new direction in education. We adopted information technology into our classrooms and adapted our teaching pedagogies. The same courage is required here. It is important that our school is not left behind nor our students miss out on new opportunities in learning because of the fear of change and the anxiety of adopting new processes. I encourage all to delve into this by accessing the following link: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/support/Pages/innovativelearn.aspx

Have a peaceful week
Paul
Catholic Parish Mossman and Port Douglas | Co-responsible in faith and development
---|---
St Augustine Church 24 Grogan Street, Mossman | St Mary Church 2 Endeavour Street, Port Douglas
Saturday 6:30pm, Mossman Sunday 7:00am, Mossman | Sunday 9:00am, Port Douglas

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Kuku Yalanji and Kubirri-Warra peoples, and pay our respect to the elders, both past, present and future.

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<td>This Week Special Macaroni &amp; Cheese</td>
<td>Prep 2018 Information Evening 6pm</td>
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<td>Tuckshop Helpers Michelle Pamela Mel Jones</td>
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<td>School Board Meeting 5:30pm</td>
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All orders due back by Friday 20th October 2017
No cash orders please

Term 4 Week 1 Catherine McAuley Awards
Happy Birthday
Week 3 is upon us and already we find ourselves amidst the hectic-ness of a short, sharp term! Academically, the students are immersed in the final stages of learning for the year and undertaking Formal Diagnostic Testing that assists in driving forward goals for both the students and the school in 2018.

Having said this, let’s be mindful that this term will be an incredibly furious one and our children will start to feel drained, tired (and even irritable).

What a great time to focus on **RESILIENCE**! According to Dr Michael Bernard (YCDI Program Achieve 3), **EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE** means knowing how to stay calm and being able to stop yourself from getting extremely angry, down or worried when something ‘bad’ happens. It means being able to calm down and feel better when you get very upset. It also means being able to control your behaviour when you are very upset so that you bounce back from difficulty and return to work or play.

At a child’s level, this could mean not crumbling into tears when they lose a pencil, or when being teased/put down by another. It could mean bouncing back from a lower mark on a test/assignment or managing their anxiety or frustrations leading up to an event they may feel nervous about.

Dr Bernard identifies **6 Negative Habits of the Mind** that lead to poor **EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE**-

1. **Self Downing**- thinking that I am useless or a failure when I have been rejected or not achieved.
2. **Needing to be Perfect**- thinking that I have to be perfect/successful in everything I do.
3. **Needing Approval**- thinking that I need people to approve of me and when they don’t, it’s the worst thing in the world.
4. **I Can’t Do It**- thinking that when I have not been successful, I am not good at anything and never will be.
5. **I Can’t Be Bothered**- thinking that life should always be fun and exciting and that I can’t stand it when things are frustrating or boring.
6. **Being Intolerant of Others**- thinking that people should always treat me fairly, considerately and the way I want and that, when they are not, they are often rotten people and I have a right to get back at them.

7. Over the coming weeks we will explore ways to flip these **Negative Habits** to **Positive Habits of the Mind** that help us build our **EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE**.

How powerful then, that we have just promoted Mental Health Week and identified areas that we can invest our energies to improve our wellbeing (Body, Mind, Spirit, People, Place, Planet).

Last term I started introducing the practice of **Mindfulness** as a means of becoming aware and present in the moment in order to better manage our emotions, interactions and our ways of ‘being’. Try this **Mindfulness** practice this week with your child as a way to be more **EMOTIONALLY RESILIENT**.

Yours in SEL
Mrs Gayle Duncan
(SEL Coordinator)

**Mindfulness Thought**-

*An ethical act is one which does not harm others experiences or expectation of happiness.*

(Dalia Lama)

**Mindfulness Practice**-

- **3 Hugs, 3 Big Breaths Exercise**
  - Hug someone—really hug them and take 3 big breaths together.
  - *Even if they don’t breathe with you, your breathing will ground them.*
This week across Australia marks Anti Poverty week. I encourage all parents to have a go at Catholic Mission’s quiz, as the following text is directly from Catholic Mission Australia’s website:

**Anti Poverty Week**

We invite you to get involved with World Mission Month 2017 by exploring our resources and using some or all the suggested activities


**REMINDER: This Friday is Crazy Sock Day at school. All students are encouraged to wear different socks for a gold coin donation. Help us to SOCK IT to poverty in Uganda!**

Please keep in your prayers our families, students and staff members that are experiencing loss and hardship, especially at the moment in our school, parish and local community. Prayer can be used for all moments of life!

**Cath (Catholic) Family Online~ This Sunday’s scripture link ~ 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

A great way to stay connected to Church during ordinary time of the Church Season Just click on the link, listen to the scripture and discuss the wonderings! Art to do too!


God’s blessings,

Josh Mullane
Welcome back to a busy Term 4 in the STEM lab.

It’s all hands on deck to learn about the wonderful world of Weather.

The Preps-2’s have been introduced to the mystery of clouds. How they form, what they are made of and how on earth do they stay up in the air, if one cloud can weigh more than a 100 elephants!!!!!!!

To finish off our cloud episode the children used their fine motor skills to create 3D representations of the 3 major types of cloud-cumulus, stratus and cirrus. We also made a cloud in a jar, which was really awesome.

Continuing on with our weather investigation in Week 2, we brainstormed how we think Tornadoes develop and then students watched how tornadoes are formed and actual footage of these dangerous systems in action. The children were absolutely fascinated and everyone was able to watch the ‘tornado in a bottle or jar’ demonstration I had prepared and have a go too. These fun experiments can easily be done at home!

The Years 3–6 students are all involved in an Inquiry-based Research Task which culminates in week 8 with a presentation of their work. All parents are invited to come, we hope you can!

Each class has been divided into groups of 3 or 4 with whom they will work for the remainder of STEM sessions. Using prepared task sheets to guide them, each group must develop a question about Weather that interests them as well as being linked to real world issues or problems.

For example- How is global warming impacting the frequency of tornadoes in American communities or Tsunamis, and Cyclones in Australia? This is just one of many questions the children have come up with. They are all engaged and it is inspiring to see so many young minds learning about issues that are directly related to their future.

Students are provided with devices to research and support to guide their inquiries. Their presentations can be in many different forms and I am really looking forward to seeing the end results of their study and imaginations. Look out for any memos that might be sent home to help with recyclable resources to use to create scale models, sculptures, dioramas etc.

All final presentations must show evidence of the 4 components of STEM-Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

Until next time.....
MOSSMAN MOPPETS
PLAYGROUP
FRIDAY
27 October 2017
9am-11am
Wildlife Habitat
presentation starts @ 9:30am
*face painting
*Krysta the clown
*messy play
*story time
We are hosting an
Open Day for our playgroup!
Come along and see what we do,
Lots of fun for parents and children!
Morning tea provided
ALL WELCOME!