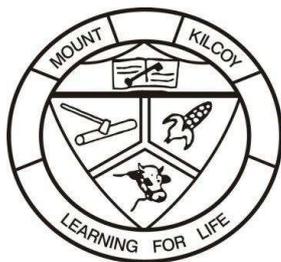


Mount Kilcoy State School



Mount Kilcoy State School Newsletter

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22 May 2013

Issue 3

Term 2 Calendar: Wks 6 & 7 2013

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 6	20 District Cross Country Bookfair	21 Parade 2.45-3.10 Bookfair	22 Breakfast Club Newsletter Bookfair	23 Bookfair	24 School Spelling Bee
Week 7	27 History Showcase 2-3pm	28 Parade 2.45-3.10	29 Breakfast Club School Photos	30	31 Tuckshop

From the Principal

Naplan

I would like to congratulate the Mount Kilcoy teaching staff on their hard work and professionalism in ensuring that our students were well prepared to sit the NAPLAN tests this year. Throughout the year, students have had many opportunities to engage in test preparation activities to assist them to achieve to the best of their ability. Well done students and teachers.

Showcase

We will be holding a Showcase afternoon next Monday 27th May from 2pm-3pm. We will be showcasing students work in History this term. History is a new key learning area this year and is part of the Australian Curriculum. This is a great opportunity for parents and caregivers to see what their children have been working on in this subject. The students are keen to show off their work and we hope you are able to attend this event.

Report Cards

Report Cards will be sent home on Wednesday 19th June. This will be the first year our Prep students will also receive a formalised report card. As you are aware, students and teachers continue to work under the new Australian Curriculum, as interpreted through Queensland's C2C resources. Whilst the Australian Curriculum is similar in many respects to the previous Queensland curriculum, there are some differences which have required adjustments. For example, some concepts are covered earlier than previously expected, there is a stronger focus on specific areas and in some cases a different standard of work is expected of students. For Semester 1 report cards, teachers are evaluating student work based on our new C2C units and assessment tasks for Term 1 and 2 in English, Maths, Science and History. As this is only our second year implementing the new curriculum, report card results may continue to reflect students' 'learning curve' in terms of the change in expectations for learning in their year level. This is not cause for concern, as teachers are adapting and adjusting their teaching/learning to ensure students have an opportunity to engage in prior knowledge and are supported through the learning tasks. Please keep this in mind when reflecting on your child's report card. If you would like further information on the Australian Curriculum, please visit the online curriculum <http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/>

Thank You to Our P&C

I would like to acknowledge the effort of our P&C throughout this term. Recently, they hosted a very successful Mother's Day Stall, provided an ice block for every child and sold frozen poppers at our Cross Country and continue to provide a fortnightly tuckshop (Fridays). These events are thoroughly supported by our students, staff and parents and we would like to thank them for doing a terrific job!

Attendance

As we reach the end of Term 1, parents are reminded of the importance of sending children to school every day. Being at school every day counts, with one day absent each week quickly adding up to two months of missed lessons in a year. Currently our schools attendance percentage is 90.6. The State target for attendance is 92%. To support student attendance, we will be implementing awards on parade at the end of each term to congratulate students with high attendance rates. Your support in helping our school improve the attendance data is appreciated.

Religious Education

In last month's newsletter, a survey was sent home seeking interest in our school offering a Religious Education Program. There was not enough supportive responses from this survey to go ahead with the program. An opportunity may be available again next year if the program is better supported.

Selina Barry

Prep News

The Preps are looking forward to showing everyone their Art Gallery during the History Showcase on Monday. They are also looking forward to Under 8s Day on Friday, 31 May. Any parents willing to help on Friday would be appreciated as we need a ratio of three Prep children to one adult. More information will be sent home next week.

WANTED: sandpit toys for our school sandpit. Any donations would be appreciated.

1/2 News

End of term two is approaching and we are busy in the 1/2 classroom. The students are almost finished their Science unit, creating fantastic collage displays of their night time landscape. For History final items are being added to their time capsules ready for our classroom showcase next week. If you have not already done so, please complete the two sheets sent home with your child last week as well as sending along objects of personal significance (please do not send along items of value) and a photo of your child as a baby and of themselves now. In Maths we continue to strengthen our counting, addition and subtraction strategies. For English students are exploring texts with animal characters and how they reflect human qualities.

To those of you who are parents/caregivers of a year 1 student, would you kindly provide a named A4 Year 1 lined book for homework.

Above is a picture of those students awarded 100% spelling award.

2/3 News

The end of term Two is in full swing! Year 2/3 is looking forward to our showcase afternoon and we are busy preparing for that. We are working on how things have changed over time. In English we will be preparing oral presentations that will allow a lot of creative opportunities for the children. In Maths the year threes are looking at place value and fractions while the year twos are developing problem solving skills.

By far the highlight for the children this term has been Science and our exploration of GOO. The class was fascinated that sometimes it acted as a solid and sometimes it acted as a liquid. It's so easy to make. You simply mix cornflour with water and add in some food colouring. If it's too runny, just add more cornflour. It's a great activity to entertain the children on the holidays too, though it can be a little messy. I would like to thank all parents who support their children in their homework endeavours. Regular reading practice is essential to build fluency and comprehension. Reading a book more than one time also allows skills in expression to develop.

Number fact recall is also very important and you may notice that we practise our number facts more than once.

We look forward to seeing lots of our parents at our showcase afternoon!

4/5 News

Well done to all Year 5s for all your great effort in completing the NAPLAN tasks last week. Also, congratulations to Blake, Angel, Lacey, Mark and Shaylee, who represented our school at the District Cross Country on Monday. Good luck to our class representatives who will compete in the school Spelling Bee on Friday.

We are just completing our English unit which involved comparing novels and films, in particular 'The Lorax' by Dr Seuss and 'Storm Boy' by Colin Thiele. Students will be writing a comparison as an assessment task. Weekly spelling words, related grammar activities and writing opportunities are directly related to the Australian Curriculum, which is being implemented in Science, English, Maths and History this year. Our Science unit, Matter Matters, is all about solids, liquids and gases and involves several experiments to demonstrate fair testing.

In History, students are learning about early sea explorers who visited Australia before 1788 and then reasons for the first settlement, including details of the journey of the First Fleet.

Thank you parents for your diligence in checking and signing homework reading and monitoring your child's homework. A reminder that some homework readers need to be Accelerated Readers so that children can take the relevant quizzes to check understanding and earn points for the term. The minimum requirement has been set at 10 points for Year 4 and 15 points for Year 5.

The Art/Technology task this term will be to design a wrapping paper using knowledge of colour, shapes, patterns and symmetry.

Our Maths focus for Year 4 for the next 5 weeks will be reading graphs and tables, shopping activities involving giving change and reading maps. Year 5 will be continuing investigations into multiplication strategies, problem solving and recording of decimal fractions to hundredths. A major focus needs to be on learning number facts and times tables, as proficiency in quick recall is essential in all areas of maths.

Year 4/5s will be very busy in the next few weeks as Report Cards will be issued at the end of this term.

6/7 News

Here in the 6/7 classroom, our feverish start to Term 2 has become even more frantic. Thankfully, our major external event of the Term, NAPLAN testing, is now behind us and we can get back to focussing on our Key Learning Areas and associated units of work. Hopefully all of our hard work will pay-off with some great results!

During this term, we have also been focused heavily on improving our spelling, with Spelling Bee tests occurring across the school over the last week. Generally, I have been fairly pleased with our class' results, but many students, especially in Year 6, have much greater potential for improvement (students in 6/7 completed a 75 word test- our top Year 7 student was Alec who scored 70, whilst our top Year 6 was Khi who scored 73. Well done also to Hannah, Tyler, Jessica and Jack, who, along with Alec and Khi, made the top 3 for the final on Friday!)

School Photos

Our major KLA units are also progressing nicely as we speak. In History, we have now moved from investigating early Australian history, into researching an historical artefact from an ancient civilisation. Students have been provided research time in class to find out more about their chosen artefact and will need to present 2 paragraphs and an oral presentation for assessment (They all have task and criteria sheets and some work will need to be done for homework). This is due to be submitted in 2 weeks' time.

On the topic of assessment, we have a number of assessment tasks occurring over the next week or so. It is highly important that students attend school during this period so they can complete assessments and not be disadvantaged from missing relevant work. Finally, I would just like to reinforce a continued concern relating to the completion of homework tasks and reading. Far too many students have not been completing the required homework in relation to the writing out of spelling words each school night and are also failing to meet Accelerated Reader goals in reading. The application of effort in these areas generally correlates directly with students' results in English and literacy tasks. Those students who don't practise their spelling words during the week, are often those who fail the test on Monday. If parents could assist by monitoring your child's reading and spelling on a daily basis, this would be greatly appreciated.

If you have any other concerns or questions regarding your child's progress, please feel free to contact me at school on 54981777 or email me at atrig3@eq.edu.au

Thanks

Andrew Triggs

Cross Country

A big congratulations to all of our students for completing this year's cross country course. It is always a challenging course, with plenty of bush terrain and hills. This year, Yuranga Sports House has taken out the perpetual trophy. Well done Yuranga. We would like to thank our teachers for organising this event and our parents for supporting it. Congratulations to the students that have placed in their races.

Age	Girls	Boys
5 years	Charlotte	Beau
	Sienna	Kaleb
	Nicole	Angus
6 Years	Joanna	Gus
	Daneeka	Bailey
	Cade	Joshua
7 Years	Brandy	Jaxon
	Shari	Riley
	Heidi	Cooper
8 Years	Leah	Lindsay
	Madeline	Luke T
	Hannah	Jye Thorne
9 Years	Abbey	Bannor
	Olivia	Joshua
	Trista	Luke B
10 Years	Lacey	Mark
	Shaylee	Blake
	Sophie	Hayden
11 Years	Khi	Connor
	Angel	Ayden
	Jessica	Kody
12 Years	Amanda	Kolby
	Kim	Angus
	Camille	Jack

School Photos are coming up this term on 29 May. Please ensure all students have full school uniform for this day. Photo packs have been sent home. Please return all money to the office as soon as possible.

District Cross Country

Last Monday, 9 of our students travelled to the Glasshouse District Cross Country at St Michael's College. A great effort was put in by all students who attended. Congratulations to Amanda, Kolby, Angus, Angel, Khi, Blake, Mark, Shaylee, and Lacey. Well done!

Under 8's afternoon

Next Friday 31 May, our P-2 students will be visiting Kilcoy State School to celebrate Under 8s afternoon. A range of activities will be provided for our students, including a disco after lunch. Students will need to bring along their lunch for a picnic on the Kilcoy SS oval. **We will also be collecting disposable water bottles to use as musical instruments for one of the activities. If you have any, please bring them to the office.** Parents/Caregivers are invited to join us. Children will need to be picked up from Kilcoy Primary School, unless they catch the usual school bus.

Uniforms

The weather is starting to get cooler and students are wearing jumpers and track pants to school. Please remember that Mount Kilcoy School has a uniform dress code which has been endorsed by our P&C. All jumpers and track pants need to be royal blue in colour. Jumpers can be purchased from the P&C uniform shop. Please make sure they are clearly marked with the child's name so that they can be readily returned if lost. In the event that a child needs to wear a non-school coloured jumper, please provide a note explaining the circumstance. Thank you in advance for your support.

Spelling Bee

This Friday, we will be holding an in-school Spelling Bee. Students have been practising spelling words and will be competing against each other to take the title of 'Mt Kilcoy Champion Speller!'

S.E.A.T. visit

Next Friday, 31 May, we will be having a visit from S.E.A.T. (Spinal Education Awareness Team). Students and staff always enjoy this visit, learning awareness about spinal injuries. It is important for the students to be aware of the dangers that can relate to spinal injuries.

Mount Kilcoy State School

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Administration

- Please ensure that when you visit the school grounds, you sign in at the office first. This is to ensure that we are complying with Education Queensland Policy and our Critical Incident Policy.
- As you are aware, schooling every day is most important. Please contact Kylie in the office to record your child's absence. If you are sending a note, please ask your child to take it to the office.
- Please remember when collecting children, they are not to cross the road unless accompanied by an adult. Students are to remain within school grounds until collected. Please do not walk behind the staff car park. Use the personal gate on the lower side of the car park.
- Students are not to arrive at school before 8.15am, as no supervision is available before then.

P & C News

Tuckshop

Tuckshop will be held again next Friday 31 May. Menus will be sent home on Monday. This is a great way to help support your P&C committee.

Uniform Shop

To purchase school uniforms, please contact Vicki Higgins (our new uniform convenor). As our uniforms are purchased and paid for by our P&C, all purchases need to go through our uniform convenor. Vicki can be contacted on 0488 081 243

Next Meeting

The next P&C meeting will be held in the School Staffroom on Wednesday 19 June at 3.30pm. All welcome.

Aka the Fire Ant tracker

Last Friday, we were lucky enough to have a visit from AKA the Fire Ant tracker. Aka is a dog that tracks fire ants and leads his trainer to them. The students enjoyed learning about him immensely and now have some new information on how to track fire ants! The students were given information booklets on fire ants to take home and share with you.

Book Fair

Book Fair has been very successful this week for the school and will continue until Thursday at morning tea. If your child/children would like to purchase books or novelties, tomorrow morning will be your last chance. Thank you for your support.

Pink Day

On Tuesday 4 June, we will be supporting 'Pink Day'. This is to raise money for the Kilcoy Cancer Support Group 'Breast & the Rest'. Students and staff will be wearing pink on this day and there will be a gold coin donation collected that morning. We will then be donating all funds to 'Breast & the Rest.'