Spring has sprung

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Have you seen our new promotional video on facebook?
Welcome to Term 2! It's great to see everyone back at school again. We hope you had a wonderful holiday. Congratulations to Riley who celebrated his birthday during the holiday break.

Even though we’ve only been here for four days this week, it has been a busy time filled with lots of activities. We have been studying a new book in English and discovering the adventures of a girl named Emily. We plan to take good care of these special reminders of what others have done for our country.

We have begun to study a new book in English and we are having lots of fun finding out all about the adventures of a girl named Emily. We plan to take good care of these special reminders of what others have done for our country.

We are trying really hard to fulfil our homework requirements for the new term. We need to remember to complete our new spelling test! We are working hard on our spelling and we are looking forward to sharing our work with others. Well done everyone for a fantastic effort in our spelling test!

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We Value Resilience

Father's Day Stall - Tuesday 30 August

Our students have been discussing our value both in chapel and in their classroom experiences this week. Some have even been watching video clips that emphasise the value. Resilience is more than just coping. When you’re resilient, you’re more prepared to seek new experiences and opportunities and take reasonable risks to achieve your goals. Risk-taking might mean some setbacks, but it also creates opportunities for success and greater self-confidence.

Resilience was defined by most as the ability to recover from setbacks, adapt well to change, and keep going in the face of adversity. Resilience is about being realistic, thinking rationally, looking on the bright side, finding the positives, expecting things to go well and move forward, even when things seem bad.

When your child is upset, you can help them keep things in perspective by focusing on facts and reality. For example, you could try gently asking, ‘Does this really matter as much as you think it does? On a scale from 1-10, how bad is it really?’

You can also help your child understand that a bad thing in one part of his life doesn’t have to flow over into all parts. For example, if your child gets a poor test result, you could point out that it won’t stop him playing his weekend sport, or going out to play with his friends.

A sense of humour can also help you both keep things in perspective and stay calm.

Enjoy News for this week.

Dr David Faull
Principal

Fundraising

You have another opportunity to make a difference at Toronto Campus. By ordering yummy vanilla slices, plain lamingtons and cream lamingtons you will be supporting our school. Please encourage your friends and family to place an order! Order forms and pre-payment of order need to be returned to school by Friday 9 September. Delivery arranged for 21 September - just in time for the school holidays!

Thank you!

Art Show

Toronto Campus students have the opportunity to participate in this year’s Avondale School Art Show. The event will take place on 10 September at 6:30pm in the Collaborative Learning Centre, Cooranbong Campus. The theme is “My Family” and students can enter by completing a form and attaching it to their artwork. Artworks need to be dropped off to the Cooranbong Campus office by Monday 5 September 2016.

Sports Day

The K-2 class will be participating in a sports day at our Cooranbong Campus on Friday 9 September. Parents are asked to look out for a letter providing further information about this event.

Thank You

We would like to extend a very big thank you to Mr Drury, Mr Crawford and Mr Coverdale for erecting the mini fence on either side of the garden at the entrance of the school. It looks great and we are very thankful for their generosity. Much appreciated, gentlemen!

Avondale Family Festival

A reminder of the Family Festival to be held on the Cooranbong Campus on Sunday 11th September. There will be lots of fun to be had so check out the Avondale School website for details.

Awards

Students of the Week
Pre-Kindy - Grace
K-2 - Isaac
3-6 - Riley

Values Award
Pre-Kindy - Ben
K-2 - Katie
3-6 - Nicholas
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K-2

During Maths this week our focus has been on 2D shapes. The theme for show and tell for this week has been: Interesting information about a nocturnal animal or bird. Darius spoke about the Tawny Frogmouth; which happens to be one of my favourite birds.

Next week the topic for show and tell is: favourite toy to show and tell about.

Group 4 Garden
Group 3 Garden hunt
Group 1 and 2 Science experiment

Our garden group planted the last of our potatoes, moved some mulch using our new wheelbarrows and shovels and put some old plants from the garden into the compost. They came in quite tired but very pleased with themselves. We are keeping a bean journal at the moment and the students are excited about watching the roots start to emerge from their bean seeds.

Congratulations to the following students:

Star of the Week – Isaac
Value of the Week Award – Katie
Speedy Maths – Georgia, Daniel, Mikayla, Katie, Eden, Isobel and Darius.

Thank you for supporting our Fathers Day stall. I hope all the fathers have a great Sunday.

3-6

We participated in some great activities in 3-6 this week. On Monday Mr Cameron from our Cooranbong Campus visited our class. We had a special STEM lesson with him. (STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) He brought along some great things and we were allowed to use them to make something to solve a given problem. We ended up with a range of very interesting solutions. It was great fun!

We really enjoyed learning about two dimensional space in Maths. On Wednesday we even had a go at making 2 dimensional shapes using craft sticks. Years 3 and 4 created a range of shapes and Years 5 and 6 made four different types of triangles.

We worked on writing an explanation about how waves move. We really enjoyed researching this topic and sharing our work with each other.

We have included a photo of our special artworks with Mrs Ryan from a previous week. We thought you would enjoy seeing our outstanding pictures.

We want to wish our fathers a very happy Father’s Day for Sunday. We love you and we hope you have a wonderful day!
Chaplain’s Message

Jesus often gives teaching that is hard to hear and accept. One such teaching is found in the book of Luke: “If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple.” - Luke 14:26. This is one of those teaching that seems ridiculous - “So God wants me to hate my whole family, and so that I can follow Him?” On face value, that is what the text says. This is a hard teaching - Who can accept it? When we come to verses such as this that appear to contradict other core parts of the Bible (for example the fifth commandment “Honour your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.” - Exodus 20:12), there is usually something more going on than what first appears. The great thing about the first four books of the Bible (also known as The Gospels) is that they sometimes tell the same story from different perspectives. This in turn can help us understand what is happening in the tricky passages. For example, in the book of Matthew, the author writes about the same teaching of Jesus, but tells it a little differently: “Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me” - Matthew 10:37. We can see that when Jesus uses the word ‘hate’, what He is actually calling His followers to love their fathers and mother less than God. Now, this deals with the hate part, but it’s still a hard teaching - why should we care less for our family if we want to follow God? That seems bizarre? If we keep reading Matthew’s account of this teaching of Jesus, we find something that may help us: “Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it” - Matthew 10:39. Jesus is challenging those who want to follow Him. Firstly, He let’s people know that following Him is a sacrifice - literally. In the time Jesus was speaking, to follow Him would mean that you’d need to sacrifice your family connections. This was due to the fact that your family would most likely disown you. Living in a modern world, it can be difficult for some of us to understand what this would have been like. But in the time when the New Testament was written, being a Christian - following Jesus - was a real life threatening choice. Not only would your family disown you, but you may in fact be killed by the State. So Jesus, in this hard teaching, shares openly and honestly about the realities of following Him. However, Jesus doesn’t leave it there. He continues to drive home the point as to why you’d follow Him. He does this when He says, "Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it” (Matthew 10:39). Jesus speaks to those who concentrate on their own interests, those who live life for themselves. Jesus teaches that those who try to live this kind of life will lose it. When Jesus states that you’ll ‘lose’ your life, this word can actually be translated as ‘destroy’. In other words, Jesus is saying that by living a life focused around yourself, you’ll actually destroy your life - not strengthen it. Jesus drives his point further saying that those who lose themselves in the service of others and God ultimately find themselves. This teaching - the hating of family and giving up your life - is written intentionally as a paradox - as a riddle. Jesus does this to show that by giving up a life where you are in control, actually gives you the life that you were wanting. By putting God first in our lives, Jesus teaches, we’re actually able to love our families more. By sacrifices our lives, we gain a greater life as guided by the Divine. It’s a paradox because it requires faith to believe it. Have you ever lost something and spent ages trying to find it? Like keys or your wallet? Sometimes, the best thing we can do is to stop looking. It’s at that moment when what we’ve been looking for shows up again.

Pastor Brock

Campus Information

Prayer Requests
We would like to encourage our school community to come together in prayer.

If you have any prayer requests, please feel free to let the staff know, so that we can include your request in our prayers.

Office Hours

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Uniform Shop Hours (Cooranbong Campus)

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Calendar - Term 3

National Literacy and Numeracy Week...Aug 29 - Sept 4
End of Term 3...................................................Sept 23

School Term Dates 2016

Term 1 Wednesday January 27 - Friday April 8
Term 2 Tuesday April 26 - Friday July 1
Term 3 Monday July 25 - Friday September 23
Term 4 Monday October 10 - Tuesday December 13