PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

A blog is a discussion or information site published on the World Wide Web. Mrs John and Mrs Twyford launched their class blogs last week in front of a room full of excited students and very impressed parents. These two very clever teachers have enabled their students to enjoy high levels of learning and to develop & deepen their understanding of 21st century learning. Well done 5/6J and 2T on your awesome blogs!

This Friday 5/6J will be leading the celebrations for Harmony Day. Harmony Day (21 March) celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity. It’s about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. In 2015 we celebrate 15 amazing years of Harmony Day. Join the birthday festivities by joining us on Friday in the school hall at 2.15.

Last week 8 of our Stage 3 students travelled to Edgeworth with Mrs Green and Mrs John to attend a debating workshop. Having the confidence to express your ideas and feelings and to respect the opinions of others in a formal contest, is valuable training Tia, Ruby, Ashleigh, Lachlan, Cohen, Thomas, Paige and Izac had opportunity to learn from. I look forward to hearing them put their new found skills into practice.

Over the last few weeks there has been an influx of toys onto the playground with students bringing toys from home. Teachers are always happy to have special toys and ‘precious things’ brought to the classroom to share with friends during news. Once these toys go out onto the playground we have no way to supervise and monitor their use and ensure they are returned home at the end of the day. At lunch and recess our students have a variety of activities and toys provided by the school to choose from. Can I ask that parents encourage their children to keep their toys at home and only bring them into the classroom when requested by the teacher. Thank you for supporting this request.

With warm regards

Nancye Farley
Principal
Last week students had a rocking time at the Disco. Everybody had their AUSSIE 5 MANNERS!! (Therefore everybody had a fantastic time at the Disco). This week we had 8 lucky debaters that went to Edgeworth Public School for a debating workshop. There were some debates that made us laugh and some that made us cry, but in the end we had a great time. This is a reminder not to hang around the water tank, this area is out of bounds.

From the best leaders Eden and Izac

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This week we have been learning how to write a persuasive text using PEEL paragraphs.

- P – stating the point
- E – explaining the argument
- E – giving an example
- L – linking back to the topic

Clever Readers

5/6J love DEAR time and getting to relax and enjoy an interesting book or magazine. Some of our favourite stories are about: animated creatures, dirt bikes, ‘Did you know’ books and animal stories.

Debating

On Monday 9th March, eight students from Stage 3 travelled to Edgeworth Public School to attend a debating workshop. Paige P, Ash M, Lachlan, Izac, Ruby, Tia, Thomas and Cohan represented Irrawang Public School with pride. They joined in every activity and contributed to discussions and role plays with enthusiasm. Well done and keep an eye out for these Aussie 5 superstar debaters later in the year!

Our highlight for the week is our class website and blog. Our technology toolkit is expanding as we learn about cybersafety and social media. We will be updating regularly and adding interesting stories every week.
Congratulations to our new Library monitors for 2015.
They are:

- Tavis Armstrong
- James Walker
- Tahleah Manton-Ralph
- Jessica Bertram
- Jacob Wilkinson
- Lena Nobbs-Rayfield
- Chelsea Terranova
- Tia Hocroft
- Jayme Bertram
- Shennai White
- Michael Nguyen
- Jack Burke
- Jay-Lee Hilzinger-Geise

They are very keen to commence duties and I am sure they will be excellent helpers to everyone in the Library at lunchtime on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Latest Scholastic Book Club orders are due back to me or the Office by this coming Wednesday 18th March 2015. As always, thank you for your support of the Library through this Book Club.

It belongs to Jackie French, a wonderful Australian author who has written over 140 books and received more than 60 awards for her writing. Earlier this year, she was named 2015’s Senior Australian of The Year, and last year she gained the title of the Australian National Children's Laureate ... which simply means she was recognised for the outstanding children's writing she has done. She answers lots of questions on this webpage. You can also go to her home page from here and watch her receive those special awards.

Our kindergarten students are reading in comfort on the Library's new floor cushions. Thank you very much Mrs Begley for organising these fabulous nests!

Happy reading (and viewing) everyone

Chris Berry
Teacher Librarian

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Please don’t forget Mr Bertram is in the Library at lunchtime on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday to pass on his extensive skills and knowledge of the game. A reminder … there is no cost whatsoever associated with joining the Chess squad at Irrawang Public School. See you there!

Chris Berry
Chess Co-Ordinator
PBL Week 6

Irrawang Public School Community are safe, responsible learners who show respect in all settings

PBL is a data driven program or system. We look at our data to establish a focus for our lessons. Over the last few weeks our data has shown that the children still need reminders about keeping our hands and feet to ourselves. Therefore, during Week 7 we are revisiting this focus. As was written in the last newsletter: “Sometimes our emotions and our reactions can force us to intentionally harm others. Controlling our actions and emotions is an important tool in making sure we do not physically harm others. Our Aussie 5 rule “I can control what I do and say” reminds us to respect other people’s personal space and to “KEEP OUR HANDS AND FEET TO OURSELVES.”

Our data has also shown that some children are not following instructions properly and are forgetting to make ‘Gold Face Choices’. It is important for all of us as a school community to remember that following instructions is a part of everyday life. While some instructions are easy, some are challenging, we all need to be able to follow them so that we all are safe, respectable learners not only at school but everywhere, everytime. Following instructions is simple really. All we need to do is make the right choice. So during Week 8 we will once again focus on the Aussie 5 rule ‘I can follow instructions’.

Our School Cross-Country will be held on Friday March 20th (week 8) Races will commence at 9:30 with K/1 then Year 2. After that, races will be held in age groups- 8/9, 10, 11, 12/13 year olds. The first three place getters from each age group (boys and girls) will represent our school at the Zone Carnival in Week 9. In case of wet weather the Cross Country will be held on the following Friday 27th March.

Come along and cheer the runners on.

Mr Jones

SCHOOL BANKING

School banking is every THURSDAY.

Please remember to hand your bank books to your teacher and they will be taken to the office. If you don’t receive your bank book back by Friday please check at the office.
WHO AM I—Family

We are a family of 3 with 1 child attending Irrawang Public and the other child attending Day care and Thou-Walla play groups. We have 1 pet dog, 1 cat and 4 kittens. As a family we like to go to the beach, fly kites and gardening. We have always enjoyed the programs run through Thou-Walla. My eldest child attended Arvo club. We all attended the family nights and events and I have attended most of the courses and programs. My eldest child enjoys attending Dynamite at Raymond Terrace Community Church and I am looking forward to helping in the classrooms soon (I have attended the training day and am waiting for my Working with Children check number).
I enjoy getting involved in my children’s learning by attending the parent teacher interviews, workshops and Forum’s which are held once or twice a year.
Who am I?
Please write your answer on the tear off slip at the bottom of the page. Place in the foyer at the office by the morning of Tuesday week 9 (24\textsuperscript{th} March).
The winner is the first correct answer drawn out of the box which will be published in the newsletter Week 8.
Good luck!

Melissa Beasley
Community Liaison Officer

5 Things you don't know about me- Staff

There is no winner of our guessing competition in the “5 things you don’t know about me” feature of the Newsletter.
The correct answer was Miss Vautin.
Thank you to Makenzi Lyons for entering.

Better Luck next time.

Melissa Beasley
Community Liaison Officer

Guessing Competition Answer.

Name: ...........................................................................................................

Class: ............................................

Answer: ........................................................................................................
Dear Parents and Carers,

On Thursday 26th March, 2015 (Term 1 Week 9), our school will be holding our annual Careers Fun Day. The day is part of a school wide program with the purpose of helping students discover the many possibilities when regarding careers of their future.

This is an invitation to any parent or member of the community who would be willing to spend a small amount of time to share their job experiences, past or present, with the students.

You would be briefly speaking about your career to several small, rotating groups of students (accompanied by a teacher) and sharing your real life experiences with them.

If you could possibly help contribute to this fun and educational day, please fill in your details on the slip below and return it to the front office before Friday 20th February, 2015 (Week 4)

If you have any questions regarding your participation in the Careers Day please contact your child’s class teacher or Mrs Mathieson at the school.

Thank you.
Mrs Mathieson

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**Careers Fun Day Volunteer**

(Please return this slip to the front office by Friday 20th February, 2015)

Yes! I am able to help with the Careers Fun Day on Thursday 26th March, 2015.

Your name: ________________________________________

Your child's name and class: __________________________

I work(ed) as a _____________________________________

and can be contacted during the day on (Ph) ________________.
“Special Meal Deal Day”

Our “Special Meal Deal Day” is fast approaching.

Hamburgers are the go for this special day. Thank you to those who have already handed in their order forms. If you haven’t already ordered please complete this form and return it with your money to the Canteen or Office No later than Wednesday 18th March.
HAS YOUR CHILD ENROLLED FOR SCHOOL NEXT YEAR?

WILL YOUR CHILD BE STARTING KINDERGARTEN OR PRESCHOOL NEXT YEAR?

ENROL NOW FOR THE BEST START TO YOUR CHILD’S EDUCATION!!!

ENQUIRE NOW!

Please ask at the office or phone 02 4987 2403

CAUTION:
Please remember that if you are putting photos from school events on your personal Facebook page that other children should not be in the photos unless you have permission from their parents or carers.
### Irrawang Public School: Absentee Note

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| **Reason for leave:** (Please circle) |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| *Sick*           | *Urgent Family Business* | *Other:*________ |

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***************Please return with your child to class teacher. Thankyou***************