

Linton Primary School

Newsletter

9th September 2021

Issue 18 - 2021

Respect Excellence



Connection Responsibility From the Principal:

Principal Newsletter Week 9



Welcome to our last newsletter for term 3, 2021. Remote and flexible learning has been running very well with students and parents being able to navigate tasks and Webex meetings this time with enthusiasm and ease. I would like to thank you all for the wonderful effort you have put into learning during this lockdown, the staff have worked very hard to ensure that tasks are manageable but also aimed at the right level of challenge for each individual child. One more week and we'll all be on holidays and can take a good long break from the computer, IPad's and Webex!

We've had some challenges around students choosing not to turn their video cameras on during class instruction Webex meetings. Why is it necessary to see your teacher during these meetings? Principal from Melton school, Mr. Mitsinikos states that Teachers need to see students face to face virtually, so that it mimics the onsite classroom learning session because it is a core function of the teachers work. Teachers are able to gauge the progress of the students, look for signs of confusion, concern or questions by observations. They are able to read the non-verbal cues and act on them appropriately. Learning is a process that relies on relationships collaboration, smiling faces and connections. It is important that our students have the fullest experience of online learning because just seeing others and having that sense of connection and community is a substantial boost to mental health and wellbeing.

Parents and adults who are supporting our students from home, can you please turn on the videos during Webex lessons with your teacher. We understand that seeing your face on the computer can be a surprise, sometimes pleasant and sometimes making children feel uncomfortable. You can always minimise the child's face on the screen and only see the other students and teacher's face if this a reason for not switching the camera on.

On Monday, we trialled our onsite students logging in virtually with our home learning students to allow them to connect and see each other whilst we were adjusting our wifi connections. The students were laughing and chatting, it was great to see, it felt like we were all onsite.

School

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Important Dates

10 Sept	Linton Has got talent show
17 th Sept	Last day of term – early dismissal 2:30 pm and Footy colours day
7 th Oct	MSP Photographs
15 th Sept	Last Hip Hop Dance session



School Bank Details

Parents wishing to make payments via direct deposit: BSB: 063838 Account: 10018078 Please use student name or family name in reference field.



Our NAPLAN results were very pleasing, the students showed low to medium growth in some areas, medium to high growth in other areas but overall, every child showed growth in Reading, Writing and Numeracy in years 3 and 5. Congratulations to our students, it has proven that learning has been continuous despite interruptions along the way.



Friday the 17th of September is our last day of term. We want to mark the end of the term with a Footy Colours day whether we are onsite or at home. This means, we want families to dress up in their favourite team's colours and share what they love most about their favourite team. It can be any team and any code. School finishes at 2:30 pm for a period of two weeks and returns on Monday the 4th of October, 2021. Let's hope we are all back onsite learning again as it will be the last term for our year 6 students who will only have 50 days of Primary school left not including public holidays. How fast the year has gone.



Fun Maths tip!

Building upgrade works continue to proceed with final plans being submitted to the Victorian Schools Building Authority for final approval. The new building plans look amazing along with the grounds upgrade, when I receive the final plans I will send a picture home for everyone to have a look at. I can tell you that \$1.978 mil does not go far at all – things are very expensive in the building industry.



If your child encounters a fact and they get "stuck" they can access a **tip** and **solve** the problem **easily**. Check out these quick magic tricks! 7X8 is a tough one. So write the problem like this: 5 6= 7X8 The answer is 56! Kids easily see the numbers 5,6, 7, 8 written in order in the problem. 7X8 is now memorized quickly! The same tip can be applied to 3X4. Write this problem: 1 2=3 X 4

Math magic helps kids solve problems more quickly and gain confidence in math.



Professional learning and planning – during the remote and flexible learning periods when we have had few or no students onsite in the afternoons, Miss. Bryce, Ms. Mitchell and I have been deeply engaged in building our practice excellence in Reading and Writing. We have dived into the Education State's FISO model for student success – Framework for improving student learning outcomes focussing on how we this model drives improvement from the Victorian level to Regional level and our school level. We have evaluated our whole school approach to Reading and Writing, documenting this approach so that there is consistency in teaching and learning which is essential when staff come and go at any school. This plan is like a recipe for success on how teachers need to implement the Reading and Writing program throughout the year including the assessment and reporting. Miss. Bryce spent a full day connecting with other first year Graduate teachers to discuss her first 7 weeks of being a classroom teacher, learn some tricks of the trade and build her capacity as a Graduate teacher. Thursday the 16th September, Miss. Bryce and Ms. Mitchell will both be engaged all day in a Regional Graduate Professional learning day. A Relief teacher has been booked to replace these teachers to supervise the children onsite, there will be no formal Webex meetings that day.



Wellbeing has been high on our agenda especially as we are recognising R U OK day on Thursday the 9th of September, 2021 where we encourage everyone to check in with each other to have a laugh, have a chat or just re-connect and remember that some days, it's ok to just not feel Ok. Those are the days we need to reach out and connect, we all have those days!

The most important focus for staff and students will be around mental health and wellbeing of our students when they return to onsite learning, helping them to re-connect with their peers, collaborate and share through specifically targeted activities. Research shows us that students who are happy and resilient will engage deeply with their learning, wellbeing will be our main goal for term 4.

If you really want to make a difference, we need your help to champion the message in your workplace, school and community every day of the year. You don't have to do it alone because we've some amazing resources you can use.

R U OK? resources you can use every day

https://www.ruok.org.au/every-day-resources

Writing competition – Western Plains Marc Van Writer's Festival

Next term, some of the small schools in our Network will again engage in the Writers Festival competition where students are given a stimulus, a picture which they have to create a story about. We have been working very hard on this competition with some very pleasing results so far. Below are some of the stories which are very much in draft form but well on their way to being excellent pieces for the competition:



Aimee: On a bus of animals that came to Linton Primary School for a visit with all the animals on the bus. Then all of the children started to scream with excitement but the next day came and when all the children came into the classroom and all the animals fell asleep on the floor. The children made so much noise to wake the animals up but the teachers didn't show up to teach the children and the animals left, the children are happy.

Campbell: The cool animals

The animals were driving the van into town. The animals stopped the van to buy some lollies and if you were wondering, the van is yellow!

Jye: Kyle the Koala

Crash! Bang! Thud! It was thundering everywhere, left, right and centre. Kyle didn't know what to do, trees were shaking everywhere. Very faintly he heard a voice saying 'over here!" Kylie sprinted over jumping from branch to branch until finally he reached the tree the voice came from. He tried to jump it but missed. "Are you alright?" the same voice called, "Yes, I'll be OK!" he replied. At that very moment a mysterious figure jumped down from the tree, he grabbed Kyle and took him to shelter. "We're going to stay here until it passes." As the figure moved into the light, Kyle recognised that it was a Meerkat that was separated from it's family trying to find them. "What's your name?" asked Kyle. "Morris" he replied. The next morning, he woke up and he went outside to see the damage the storm had caused. It was worse that he expected, the trees he called home were gone. People in the neighbourhood saw the damage, they all went to the shopping centre and returned back later with a heap of new trees. They planted them where the old three were and within months, they were growing more trees for Kyle and Morris to live in again. "Thank you!" said Kyle and Morris to all the neighbours.

Millie: The Zoo came

The zoo came over to be cosy. Cosy in the bus but the gorilla. They loved it!

Amity:

The animals wanted to go to the Country Court house but the workers didn't let the animals in because they are animals but all the animals didn't want to leave. The Lion must have stayed on top of the bus a bit, he needed some air, the manager opened the lid.



THANK YOU!!

A Big shout out to our wonderful staff who went above and beyond each week of remote and flexible learning to drop surprises off to families to brighten up Fun Fridays, for delivering work to front door steps and letter boxes, for daily phone calls and Webex meetings, for creating fun Friday activities that keep us all engaged and connected both onsite and offsite. We thank you for driving all around Linton, for your smiles each day, your endless enthusiasm, your thoughtfulness and for just listening when things just didn't add up. We appreciate you.

Photographs



Don't forget that the first week back is our formal photograph day on Thursday 7th October, 2021. If they are cancelled I will let you know through email. Students will need to bring their envelopes on this day. All students must be in full school uniform.



Term 4 – hats and sun smart policy will be enforced.

Daggy Dude's day

Friday the 3rd of September was our Daggy Dudes celebration day. Students were challenged to dress up in their favourite daggy dudes clothes and join in the online catwalk to show off their new garments. We celebrated the end of the week with a teddy bears picnic sharing our lunch virtually, laughing and enjoying each other's company.



Teddy Bears Picnic



Letter Writing to promote teacher/home connections

Thank you to those students who have returned their letters and to the parents for ensuring we have received them. It has been great fun checking the letterbox with anticipation and has definitely helped keep us all connected. There is a common theme across all the letters we have received, HUMOR it has brought a smile to the teachers faces and we hope it has made you smile too!



Family information forms

Please continue to return the family information update forms to the Office so that Christine, our new Business Manager, can make sure we have up-to-date information about your occupation, where you live etc....