**Borough Bulletin September 12th 2013**

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<td>Wed 11th – Fri 13th Sept</td>
<td>Grade 3-6 Camp</td>
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<td>Friday 13th September</td>
<td>Stories at School for Pre Schoolers</td>
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<td>Years 1/2 Science Fair</td>
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<td>Grade 5/6 Design Show</td>
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<td>Friday 20th September</td>
<td>Winning Picture Story Books announced</td>
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<td>Last day of Term 3 1:30 Finish</td>
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<td>Monday 7th October</td>
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<td>Wednesday 9th October</td>
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<td>Thursday 10th October</td>
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<td>Wednesday 9th October</td>
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<td>Thursday 17th October</td>
<td>Preps-1 Breakfast 8:00 to 11:00</td>
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<td>Tuesday 29th October</td>
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<td>Report Writing Day (Student Free Day – No OSHC)</td>
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<td>Tuesday 5th November</td>
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**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

Many thanks to all of the students and families for the lovely letters and stories which were presented to me at last Monday’s assembly. It was particularly appreciated when reading yesterday’s news reports on the frightening latest statistics on the levels of verbal and physical assaults on school principals and the call to have CCTV cameras installed in school foyers. This concern about parent behaviour across the state comes hard on the heels of
recent professional briefings on the latest data which shows that 25% of young Australians have mental health issues, primarily high levels of anxiety and depression, with the figures for adults being higher. One of the key causes of children’s difficulties has been identified as low levels of resilience. A child (or adult) who is resilient:

- Has **emotional awareness**, that is, they are able to identify how they are feeling and control those feelings
- Has **impulse control** and can think things through before acting
- Is **optimistic** and can see ‘the light at the end of the tunnel’
- Has **causal analysis**, that is, they can identify the problem and a solution
- Has **empathy** and can think about other people and their feelings
- Has **self-efficacy**, that is they have confidence in their own strengths and ability to solve problems
- Will **reach out** and take a risk even knowing there is chance that it may not be successful.

Across the state supporting students and families to develop and demonstrate these skills of resilience has become a priority and, at Greensborough, we are doing this by Emma Bevan, our Student Welfare Worker, implementing the ‘Bounce Back’ (Resilience) program for grades 3-6 students, running parent information sessions and delivering transitions programs for both parents and students. The Life Education Van will be delivering programs at the school and the focus on health and wellbeing will be at the heart of all work in Term Four. Staff are also currently undertaking Professional Development on Emotional Intelligence which supports staff to effectively manage interactions with both parents and students.

A suggestion from a key note speaker at last week’s principals’ meeting was that parents focus on a positive model when discussing school with a good question at the end of the day being “What was the best thing that happened today?”, to start and build a positive and optimistic view of the world.

If anyone has any ideas of additional programs they would like to see implemented at the school please let us know and we will do our best to cover as many bases as we can on this very important issue.

At last Monday’s School Council meeting preliminary discussions took place regarding the grade structure for next year. We would be very interested in any parent feedback or thoughts on grade structures including whether parents are keen to continue with the straight grade prep model or whether there was any interest or support for also having a Prep/1 composite. At the first meeting of School Council in term four a 2014 draft model will be tabled and will then be circulated for public comment. Once the grade structure is established, staff will be assigned to grades and any staffing vacancies which may occur will be advertised so we are organised and ready for the commencement of the 2014 school year. School Council also agreed to have new carpet laid in the double prep room over the January school holidays and to complete works on the hall extension which will involve laying a floating timber floor at the end of the hall, continuing the panelling on the walls at the end of the hall and removing the broken blinds on the high windows and replacing these with a sun reflecting film. Once these tasks are completed the only remaining item to complete the hall will be the replacement of the curtains and this may have to wait until 2015! After the next School Council meeting we will also be communicating to families the school charge for 2014 so parents who wish to pay in instalments are able to commence before the expenses around Christmas kick in.
Over the school holidays it would be terrific if everyone could take the time to look at home for any ‘home readers’ which have yet to be returned to school. Over the past few years we have spent a significant amount of money updating and improving the quality of the home readers and we want to ensure that they are consistently returned to school so they are available for all students to use.

As I write this newsletter item, the grades 3-6 are having a sensational time at camp. The vast majority of the behind the scenes organisation for this camp was completed by Jen Farley as it is an enormous task and we didn’t want the class programs to be impacted upon by class teachers having to complete all of the organisation as well as teach their grades. Jen has put in countless hours to bring the camp to fruition and doesn’t even have the fun of going so, on behalf of the school community, I would like to extend our thanks to Jen.

Tomorrow is the last of the Stories at School sessions which finalises the transition program before the Prep Orientation Program in November. Prep enrolments are still coming in and we are hopeful that by early next term everyone who is going to enrol has done so and we will be able to finalise our 2014 numbers.

Thank you very much to all the school community for your prompt attention to school accounts. It has been most appreciated. In the first week of fourth term a final account for 2013 will be sent to families in the hope that all of the 2013 charges can be resolved before the 2014 subject contributions are put on the system.

Margaret Hirth
Principal

Assistant Principal’s Report

Athletics

Congratulations to all the students who represented the school at the recent District Athletics Carnival. Our athletes had a great day challenging themselves to achieve their best results and enjoyed cheering their team mates on. As always, our staff who attended commended our students’ behaviour and sportsmanship and we are extremely proud of their efforts. It was great to see our final points score was 675 – a massive improvement of 412 points from last year. Go Greensborough!

A special congratulations to the following students who were placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in their events and will be going on to represent the Watsonia District at the Division Athletics: Ania B 100m and Long Jump; Chloe R 200m; Matt B 200m; Charlotte B Discus; Liam F High Jump; Mercy T Shot Put; Tua T Shot Put and Nina B Triple Jump.

Swimming

A reminder that swimming will begin Friday 11th October which is the first week back next term. An assessment sheet will be sent home with this newsletter today and the information you provide on this form will be used to assist Watermarc staff to place your child in an appropriate swimming group. Each child will also be assessed at the commencement of Swimming and throughout the program to ensure that the needs of each child is meet. Please return the forms to school by next Tuesday 17th September.
If any families have not returned their swimming forms and now wish their child to participate in this program please let me know by next Tuesday 17th September as I will be sending final numbers to the pool on this day. If you have any concerns or queries about the swimming program please don’t hesitate to contact me.

OHSC

A reminder to families that cancellations to Out of Hours School Care need to be made by 5pm the day before to avoid payment of the service. This is to ensure that Jacqui has time to offer the place to other families. At the moment the program is heavily booked on most nights and we want to ensure that families don’t miss out on placement for their children.

Southern Cross Recycling

Thank you to the families who have sent along items to be collected next Tuesday 17th September. Our unwanted items are recycled in communities that will benefit from them and our Grade 6 students also benefit as monetary proceeds are placed in the Grade 6 Graduation Celebration budget.

So clear out your cupboards this weekend and send along manchester, kitchen goods, toys, clothing, shoes, books…in fact anything except electrical goods are acceptable.

Angela Morritt
Assistant Principal

Pupil of the Week

Term Three ~ Week Ending August 30th 2013
Prep ~ Red Group ~ Amihan ~ For excellent cupcake counting. Well done Amihan!

Blue Group ~ Tyler B ~ For being an excellent actor in our “Toy Shop” play.

1/2 A ~ Abigail ~ For showing a great improvement in her maths, especially with division.

1/2 B ~ Hudson ~ For an “Academy Award” performance in our “Toy Story” activity.

3/4 A ~ Brayden ~ For his effort and concentration in all our lessons. You have been working brilliantly, well done!

3/4 B ~ Tara ~ For being the fastest 9 year old on the track at Athletics Day.

5/6 A ~ Mercy ~ Congratulations on throwing a whopping 8 metres in Shot Put and receiving first place!

5/6 B ~ Ania ~ For her outstanding performance at the District Athletics. Well Done!

Library ~ Lachie D ~ For an excellent reflection based on his favourite book for Book Week.

Art ~ Madeline ~ For stunning collage work on her Picture Story Book front cover.
Term Three ~ Week Ending September 6th 2013

Prep ~ Red Group ~ Holly ~ For clever design and building of her “Beach Toy” doll.
      Blue Group ~ Hamish ~ For your brilliant “Tall” buildings in maths. Awesome Hamish!

1/2 A ~ Grace ~ For her outstanding effort in making her project. Your string puppet is amazing!

1/2 B ~ Olivia ~ For a terrific written report on our Lego Land excursion.

3/4 A ~ Ami ~ For her kind nature toward others and for taking on extra responsibilities in the classroom without being asked.

3/4 B ~ Bailey ~ For being the first student to finish both your picture story book and your invention.

5/6 A ~ Britney ~ For always being a kind and hardworking student who is willing to help.

5/6 B ~ Andy ~ For using his mathematical thinking to solve problems.

Library ~ Molly and Madeline ~ For writing an excellent letter to the author Patrick Mullins. It was absolutely fantastic!

PE ~ Corey ~ For showing great catching and throwing skills in our P.E. session.

Library News

Book Fair
Thank you once again to all those who supported the Book Fair. We have raised $450 to be used for library purchases, which is a fantastic result.

Book Club
Once again the school has benefited from the school community purchasing through Book Club. We have recently been able to purchase, through credits acquired, 5 sets of fiction books [36 novels in total] for use in the Grade 3-6 literacy program. All books are by well known authors such as Morris Gleitzman and Jackie French.
Children’s work
As part of a reflection on the shortlisted books I had the children in Preps to Grade 4 write which was their favourite book and give reasons. I thought it would be good to share what some of our children have written.

My favourite book was Peggy because….
I like the illustrations and I also thought that it was funny when she was on camera.
Olivia 1/2

My favourite book was Too many elephants because….
It was interesting. It was also funny. I also liked the bit when Eric made a house for the elephants.
Jamal 1/2

My favourite book was Tanglewood because….
It had a good message at the end. Even if someone is different you can still be friends with them. It was a beautiful book because of the illustrations and the story telling.
Lachie 3/4

My favourite book was Tanglewood because….
of the wonderful illustrations and the underlining message. It had a great storyline. The book brought hope to the life around me.
Annie 3/4

My favourite book was Lightning Jack because….
Lightning Jack was my favourite book because I liked how it reflected on history: Ned Kelly and Phar Lap. The amazing Patricia Mullins shares the same interests as me like when she was ten she drew horses a lot, before she was a graphic designer. The illustrations were amazing with the tissue paper.
Molly 3/4

My favourite book is Lightning Jack because of the wonderful tissue paper illustrations and because it talked about Ned Kelly and Phar Lap. She obviously has great drawing and collage skills too. I hope that she comes to our school again soon and teaches us her beautiful art work.
Maddy 3/4

Happy Reading
Jen Farley

Parents Club Our Election Day second hand book stall was not able to go ahead. Instead we have set up a small second hand book stall in the school foyer: Adult fiction $2 per book, children’s chapter books $1 each and board books 50 cents each. All money raised will go towards purchasing new books for the school library.
Canteen News for September:
The canteen will be open on Friday 13th September for the Preps, Grades 1 and 2 and those not going to camp.
The final day for the canteen this term will be Monday 16th September. The canteen will re-open on Monday 7th October.
A copy of the new Summer menu is included with this newsletter. This menu will be current for term 4 this year and term 1 in 2014.
Have a happy and safe break.
Lisa Geraghty