Dear Parents/ Caregivers,

District Swimming
On Wednesday 10th February students of Thargomindah State School, born 2004-2007 competed in Cunnamulla at the district Swimming Carnival. Thankyou to Thargo Motors for kindly donating the fuel to travel away to this event. As always our students have done the school and community proud in the way they conduct themselves and compete to the best of their ability. From all reports all students did extremely well. We have three students - Amity Warner, Libby Otaola and Charlie Roberts, who will be heading to the Regional trials in Miles next week. We wish these students all the best and hope all of their hard work pays off.

Parent Information Night
Thargomindah State School is hosting a parent information night Tuesday 23rd February. This is a great opportunity to meet your child’s teacher, and find out more about the units of work and assessment tasks students will be completing this term. Teachers will also discuss communication and how they can keep you informed and actively involved in supporting your child’s learning. The session will take place in the assembly area from 5:30pm.

Homework Club
Homework Club will commence for 2016 starting next Monday 15th February. This is a service that is kindly supported by the Bulloo Shire Council and aims to provide extra support to students and their families with regards to homework. Homework Club will be staffed by Mrs Carmel Beresford and Miss Makala Byrne on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 3:00-5:00pm. Afternoon Tea will be supplied and it is intended that if students complete set tasks that opportunities to engage in games, sport and other activities such as cooking and gardening will be offered. We hope to see many of our students take advantage of this opportunity.

Student Council
Students in years 4,5 and 6 are invited to attend a meeting next Friday 19th February to elect some student councilors to assist in planning forDiscos, Movie nights and other fundraising opportunities for the school. The meeting will be held in the upstairs classroom at 1:00pm. We invite all interested students to attend.

Running Club
We are hoping to get students prepared for the upcoming Cross Country Carnival by providing some fitness training on a yet to be determined day. It will require the students to have a signed permission slip and be at the school ready to go at 7:30 am. We will on some occasions run sections of the river walk and utilize the footy grounds for different sessions. We hope to be back at school by 8:15am where students will be able to get ready for the regular school day. Any students interested should have their parents complete and return the permission slip found on the back page of this newsletter.

Steve Bennett
HELLO FROM THE P – 2 CLASS!

The last two weeks have been the best two weeks. Getting to see all the children and get into our schooling year. It is great to see their smiles each morning. I hope you are all seeing the same thing at home.

Our English unit is progressing well and the children are really enjoying exploring the book and movie “Inside Out”. We have learnt about the 5 emotions and will start to pull it together over the next few weeks. I am looking forward to their assessment piece where they adopt a character of choice and bring it to life. Very exciting times ahead!

Numbers, numbers, numbers is what we are doing in Maths. Where do we see numbers in our environment? What do they mean? We have adopted a hand on approach with lots of games which include computer games.

We are getting into the swing of things. Homework has been sent home for the first time. I ask for feedback from parents on how they felt about this. The sight word program is taking off again with even the prep children starting with the basic ones. The idea of sight words is that the children learn these to assist with reading. Some ideas for practicing at home are as follows;

Bingo – write sight words on a card and call out those words and add some random ones as well.

Fridge – write the words on the fridge and get the students to point to the different words.

Run and jump – write the words on scrap paper and lay them on the floor. Get the students to start at a point and run and jump on the word.

Playing games helps the children not think that they are learning. There are so many more games you could do. These three are just suggestions. If you have any questions please make contact with me.

Class dojo is a behavioural tool that we use within our classroom. It allows the children to own their behaviour as they get to put the points up (electronically). They also lose points for bad behaviour. All parents are kept up to date with what is happening within the class and can see pictures of classwork. New features are being added weekly to the program. At some point I hope to load videos so you can see your children doing their work.

Another busy fortnight ahead!

Thanks

Trish

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
FRIDAY 12th FEBRUARY

Kain – Great bookwork

David – Working hard and trying his best all week

Georgia – Using the school crossing safely

BEDE’S ROAD SAFETY AWARD

This week the Ekindy students have been exploring:

- Letters in their name
- Numbers 0-10
- Counting
- Colours

Done with many different recognition games and activities. Including name tracing, letter circle races, painting, letter egg flip and coloured bendable wax crafting.

Reminder: Our next Playgroup session will be at the school on Thursday 18th February. Please bring a plate of shared food for morning tea.

Makala Byrne
Thargomindah Ekindy Teacher Aide

E-KINDY NEWS

Australia Post

Easter Coloring in Competition

Where: Thargomindah Post Office
When: 14th March 2016 till the 24th March 2016

Categories:

- E-Kindy: 1st prize and 2nd price
- Prep to Grade 2: 1st prize and 2nd Prize
- Grade 3 to Grade 6: 1st Prize and 2nd Prize

All prizes drawn on last day of term 1 before the Easter holidays!!!

All the hard work will be on display at the Post office throughout the Easter Holidays!!!
3-6 CLASS NEWS

It has been a very busy week for the kids upstairs in year 3-6! We are all into the swing of things now and learning a lot in all subject areas. The students are especially excited about their Aboriginal Art they have been working on for the past fortnight. We plan to have them finished this week and on display throughout the classroom.

Swimming at Cunnamulla was on Wednesday this week. The kids all did a fantastic job! Craig won overall for his age group, and we had a few runner up’s! I am really proud of everyone’s achievement and their encouragement! It was wonderful to see 😊 (see photos on next page)

I am really proud of the work the students are doing so far. Hopefully an indication of what the year ahead will bring!

Have a great weekend!
Amy Hollis

Whole School Reading Strategy

As a whole school we will continue to look closely at one comprehension strategy each week. Our school has 12 comprehension strategies that we use to help us to understand the texts that we read. All of the students have been exposed to these strategies over the last two terms and will now continue to practice using them when they read. Our 12 comprehension strategies are:

- Activating prior knowledge
- Summarising
- Skimming
- Synthesising
- Scanning
- Vocabulary
- Making connections
- Self-monitoring
- Predicting
- Questioning
- Inferring
- Visualising
- Visualising

This week our school focus is on Activating Prior Knowledge. This is helping our students to understand that they bring a certain amount of knowledge to a text before reading. This strategy helps students to learn how to then reflect after reading as to the extra information they learnt by reading the text.

If you would like any more information around this strategy, please come and see your class teacher or myself.

P&C News

We have our AGM on the 25th of February, 6pm at Thargomindah State School. We encourage all parents to come and join in.

Let’s make 2016 a great year with Thargo P&C

More information is available from the ABS website. Apply online at abs.gov.au/careers
Here we are in week three and most students have settled into their routine. Some students begin their on-line learning at 8.00am so this has them up early and organised for their day. Attendance since the start of the school year has been excellent. These days secondary school learning can seem a bit daunting so I thought I would give you a summary of the work they are doing at present.

Amity and Jacinta (yr 7)

English – The girl’s unit looks persuasion in different media texts finding out how different texts such as advertisements and news reports work to make you think and feel a certain way about a topic.

Maths – Unit one is about number – index notation, square numbers and perfect square numbers, square roots and factors.

Geography – This unit is called ‘Water in the World’ and they are discovering the value of water as a resource, the water cycle, rain shadows and they have had to critically look at their own water usage.

Science – Also about water and it works in partnership with the geography work. This week the girls have undertaken experiments to determine the colour, odour and turbidity of three water samples from their environment.

Akasha (yr 8)

English – In her unit, Akasha is using evaluative language to give readers an emotional snapshot of a character. Some of her work centres round a text titled ‘Don’t Call Me Ishmael’.

Maths – Integers (negative & positive numbers), fractions and decimals and the order of operations has been Akasha’s maths this fortnight.

History – Medieval Europe and its society, feudalism, roles and relationships is her unit at present.

Science – There was some experimentation going on this week testing fabrics for strength and elasticity.

Reece & Cody (yr 10)

English – This unit is called ‘understanding and analysing satire in texts.’ They have been exposed to and expected to think about how language is used to influence audiences and challenge values and beliefs and how satire does this.

Maths – Cody & Reece’s work this fortnight has centred round Pythagoras’ theorem and solving problems using trigonometry.

Science – Exploring genetics and investigating DNA is their science topic at the moment.

History – History lessons for Cody and Reece are giving them some insight and understanding of World War 11 and the Australian experiences.

I hope this gives you some idea of the work the students in the secondary centre are undertaking at the moment.

Carmel Beresford

Students Details

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AGREEMENT BY PARENT/GUARDIAN

As a parent/guardian of ____________________________, I ____________________________ give my consent for him/her to attend Running Club each week and acknowledge that the students will on occasions leave the school grounds and agree to delegate my authority to the teacher in charge.

The teacher in charge may take whatever disciplinary action deemed necessary for the safety and successful conduct of the students.

I am aware of the program and the type of activities that my child will be participating in.

Signed: ____________________________ Date: ____________

Cunnamulla Swimming Carnival Photos

Jordan and Blair spent the day building a Greenhouse for the school

[Image of students and teacher with a sign]

RUNNING CLUB PERMISSION FORM

[Table with columns for Students Details, AGREEMENT BY PARENT/GUARDIAN]