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 through out the Easter Holidays!!!

Dear Parent/Caregivers,

We are well into Term 1 now and I am very pleased with the dedication that our students are showing to their schoolwork. We have commenced our reporting period now so I encourage all students to keep up the great work and continue to do their best at School each and every day.

Next week the P&C Committee will meet and hold the AGM. As always, the Committee, parents and community members do a wonderful job and are a highly valued part of Thargomindah State School. We encourage all parents to be active contributors to this committee and offer support where possible. A very big thank you to our dedicated team who helped organise and deliver many events throughout the year.

The District Cross Country will be held in Thargomindah this year and as such we have started training at 7:30am Thursday Mornings. This morning saw a very dedicated group of Students, Staff and Community Members head out for a game of Tiggy, a jog by the river, before ending up at the Footy fields for some individuals times for 500m. We even had Dave the visiting Personal Trainer come down for an extra layer of expertise. Anyone interested in coming along is welcome to meet at the school 7:30am Thursday next week.

Steve Bennett
Principal
Reading

Each fortnight we will be providing some details about two of the reading strategies we teach the students to assist with their reading comprehension. We want all of our parents to see what the teachers will be focusing on and why the strategies are important for students to know and be able to use. We will also be publishing examples of the types of questions students can ask themselves when using the particular strategy. This fortnight we will be looking at Activating Prior Knowledge and Inference.

Activating Prior Knowledge.

Activating prior knowledge is the unique set of knowledge each student brings to the reading experience. It is a combination of the student’s attitudes, experiences, and knowledge. By knowledge we mean:

- What the student already knows about the reading process
- Vocabulary knowledge
- Topic knowledge
- Concept knowledge
- Text types or genres and the language features of these.

By activating prior knowledge students are able to connect with what they already know. This gives them a base on which to build further knowledge. For new learners of English and struggling readers it is especially important to spend time building the students prior knowledge to give them a ‘head start’ to comprehending the text. This could be content or vocabulary knowledge, or a combination of both.

Some students may have knowledge but not make connections to the text so it is important to help students make those links. There may be opportunities for students to build each other’s background knowledge by sharing their own knowledge and experiences.

Language we use when Activating Prior Knowledge:

- What do I already know about this topic?
- What have I read that seems similar to this text?
- Do I recognise the author’s name?
- What of text/genre is this text – article, narrative, letter, poem?
- What sort of language features would I expect to find in this type of text?
  - Based on my prior knowledge of _______________ , my question/s is/are _______________.
  - When I hear the word (or phrase) _______________ , it makes me think about _______________.
  - The illustrations tell me _______________ about the text.

As a school we would encourage you to use this language with your child during home reading time and assist them with activating their prior knowledge, before, during and after reading.

Dear Members, Families & Supporters,

Funding available under the “Jobs for Families Child Care Package” will not come anywhere near funding our Service. Additional funding will have to be applied for annually on a competitive basis, against ALL other child care services. Please ask yourself “how will my family be effected by the closure of Paroo Contact Children’s Mobile?”

Think about the service we provide, or could provide, to meet your needs, or the needs of your community. What element(s) are important to you/your community?

1. Early childhood education
2. Childcare
3. Preschool
4. School room support
5. Socialisation for children
6. Socialisation for adults/families
7. Peer support for children
8. Peer support for adults/families
9. Social welfare for children
10. Social welfare for families
11. Social welfare for communities
12. Activities for young children at community events
13. Reference and referral to other community, health & education services
14. All of the above

If you believe the service is worth fighting for please:

1. Ensure your local ICPA Branch is advocating for us by submitting motions at the Griffith Conference 16th & 17th March (NSW). QLD ICPA Branches can also start lobbying.
2. Seriously consider attending the ICPA Conference (NSW) to deliver or support motions advocating for our Service and other mobile children’s services.
3. Write to your local Federal Members stating why the continuation of our mobile Service is so important and why funding through childcare fees will not be enough for remote mobile children’s services to continue.
4. Write to us expressing your concerns and how/why you value our Service, so that we can pass your letters on as appropriate.

Regards,

Debra Leigo
Acting Director
Paroo Contact Children’s Mobile Inc.
Lot 2 Vicary St Wanaaring NSW 2840
Ph: (02) 6874 7774
Home: (02) 6874 7637
Mobile: 0407 499 126 (when in service)
Email: admin@paroomobile.com.au

PCCM Vision Statement

Geographically isolated and remote families within the Service region, benefit from inspired learning experiences while fostering friendships through social opportunities, in an inclusive environment.

*The Australian Government provides financial support for this Budget Based Funded Child Care service under the Community Support Programme*
Do you require a Vehicle Roadworthy Inspection, but don’t want to travel??

**GOOD NEWS,** Turnouts Mechanical Services are now qualified & registered as an “Approved Inspection Station.” Roadworthy inspections can be carried out on:

- Light Vehicles up to 4.5 tonne (GVM)
- Light Trailers over 0.75 tonne to 3.5 tonne (ATM)
- Heavy Vehicles 4.5 tonne to 16.0 tonne (GVM)
- Heavy Trailers over 3.5 tonne to 10.0 tonne (GVM)

**Reduced Prices**

- Gorilla Grip Tie Down straps
- TYRES—750/16 MRF & Westlake

Drop into Turnouts Mechanical to purchase these products at **REDUCED PRICES** for a limited time only.

**FOR ALL MECHANICAL & TYRE NEEDS, OR TO BROWSE OUR MERCHANDISE STORE CALL IN AND SEE ROB & BILLY AT TURNOUTS MECHANICAL SERVICES**

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**Reading Tips**

As a parent, you have an important role in the development of your child’s reading and literacy skills. The following tips are easy ways that you can use to engage your child through reading:

1. **Read aloud every day**
   10 minutes of reading aloud every day makes an important difference to your child’s language and literacy development.

2. **Make reading fun**
   Read stories with enthusiasm! Change voices for different characters and alter the volume of your voice to build excitement.

3. **Talk, play and tell stories to your children**
   Tell your child stories every day about your day, their family, exciting things you’ve seen or done. Reading, storytelling, talking and play helps your child listen and develop social and language skills.

4. **Read anywhere**
   Read in a variety of places to your child. Read outdoors - in the park, at the river and in the yard. Just like adults, children enjoy reading in different contexts and times of the day.

5. **Read anything!**
   Storybooks and picture books stimulate imaginations and foster a love of literature. But read recipes, newspapers, brochures, maps and other texts to support your child’s literacy levels in all aspects of their life.

6. **Listen to and praise your child reading aloud**
   Listen to your child read. Consistent reading aloud improves children’s reading and confidence. Wait patiently and let your child work out more difficult words. Praise them when they succeed and for their reading effort.

7. **Ask questions**
   Encourage your child to ask questions about what they are reading before, during and after reading. Ask them what happens next, why something stated is important, and discuss their feelings about events and opinions in the texts.

8. **Discuss the language in the texts**
   Move your finger under the words from left to right as you’re reading. Encourage your child to do the same when they are reading. Stop now and again and discuss a particular word. Ask what it means and what other words are like it.

9. **Don’t forget the pictures!**
   Focus on, celebrate and explore the visuals that go along with the text. These can be illustrations, maps, photographs or graphics and often help your child understand the book or text being read.

10. **Be seen reading!**
    Model reading to your child. Let them see you reading for entertainment and information. Ask them to join in when reading the newspaper, measuring something from a recipe, or viewing a text message.
Attendance

This year we will be aiming to have 94% attendance across the school. There is a proven link between attendance and achievement. We will be recognizing student attendance each term with regular awards and prizes for students with attendance above the target of 94% and also recognizing individual year levels for achieving excellent attendance rates.

Each week we will be handing out an attendance trophy on assembly for the year level with the highest attendance for that week.

Our attendance rate for 2015 had improved from the previous years and as a community we continue to work together to make every day count for our students. Currently we have 11 students who, according to my records have 100% attendance. These students are leading the way in attendance and should be congratulated on their efforts.

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>0.75 school days or almost 1 day/week</th>
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<tr>
<td>Month</td>
<td>3 school days per school month</td>
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<tr>
<td>Semester</td>
<td>15 school days or 3 school weeks per semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>30 school days or 1 ½ school months per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By the END of Year 7</td>
<td>240 school days or 1 school year, 2 school months</td>
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<tr>
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<td>390 School days or almost 2 Years after 13 years of school</td>
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Students attending 85% of the time will miss...

Did you know

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 Unless your child is ill, it is expected that your child will be at school learning every day of the school year.

Early Departure from School

If for some reason you need your child to leave early please come to the office so that you can sign your child out.

Unexplained Absences

You may receive a “Student Absence Letter” for unexplained absences that appear on our system for your child. State Government policy states an authorized officer at the school must enter a reasonable excuse for every day a student is absent.

If you receive one of these letters simply fill in a reason for the unexplained absence and return the letter to the office: OR email the students name, date/s of absence and reasons to Admin@thargomindahss.edq.edu.au OR phone the school on 07 46553132 and leave a message with the students name, date/s of absence and reasons.

If you have already informed us of an absence and still receive the letter, please accept our apologies, as they don’t appear to be on our system.
3-6 CLASS NEWS

Only 20 days left of term 1! How time flies. Expectations and class rules are sinking in, assessment has already started, and the kids are so looking forward to the holidays already! The beginning of the year was a big transition for all students - a new teacher, a new school leader, as well as our grade 3 students moving to the upstairs classroom. However, the term is nearly over, and we still have a lot of work to get through before holidays. I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents to make sure students are still doing their homework and reading every night. All work sent home is information they have learnt at school.

Our classroom has a new seating arrangement, which all students were quite surprised about when they arrived at school Monday morning. We are also doing a lot more rotational work during lessons, which is working extremely well. Students are able to get up, move around and stretch their legs during sessions.

I am very much looking forward to seeing the hard work all students will put in, and seeing it pay off for them!

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me, or pop in for a chat before or after school.

Amy Hollis

SECONDARY SCHOOL UPDATE……..

As well as being the building in which the secondary students in Thargomindah undertake their learning, the primary school students also come across here two afternoons a week from 3pm to 5pm. This gives the centre a use and purpose by all Thargomindah children and is a real community asset. These sessions are being supervised by myself and Makala Byrne this year. Although homework is the priority during this time, the children also do other activities while they are here. This year we are hoping to do some cooking each week, perhaps have some time in the garden area and other games and activities as well.

When the children arrive they sit on the carpet until we see how many are coming. Usually after that we split the students into the upper and lower levels and we work with them in these groups. The expectation is that they will do half their homework on Monday afternoon and the other half on Wednesday afternoon. This usually means writing their spelling out each day and completing one worksheet at each homework session as well.

During the first week, eight children came across and this figure has grown to ten at the moment. Here are a few photos Jacinta took during homework club on Monday.

Carmel Beresford

HELLO FROM THE P – 2 CLASS!

I would like to start by thanking the parents who attended our information session. The main point taken from the session was that the communication lines remain open and that you feel comfortable making contact with me about your child’s education. Class dojo is a perfect way to send me a message or to request a meeting if you wish.

We have had a very exciting two weeks in the Prep to year 2 classroom. The children are progressing well and our focus on reading is seeing some great results. The preps are starting to recognise more and more sounds every day and relate them to the letters. The year 1’s and 2’s are focusing on those more complex sounds and putting them to practice in their everyday reading and writing.

In maths we have started to look at time. To assist with this the children have created a lady bird clock. We are making all sorts of different time using the clock they have made.

Our indigenous paintings are coming along nicely and the children love it. I hope to have them on display by the end of next week.

Thank you to Kitas, Amity and Akasha who have been coming to assist us with our reading groups each day. We appreciate all your assistance.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs G (Gerda) for all the hard work over the past 12 months. I wish the Glasson’s all the best for the future.

Trish Smith

Hello Parents,

Just a little note to let you all know that Friday the 4th of March will be my last day at the school. Even though it was my intention to stay for the long term, I have come to the conclusion that my time will be best spent at home at “Picarillit”. It has been a fantastic experience working with your children. I have thoroughly enjoyed it and have picked up a few new skills along the way.

For me now, it will be back to the schoolroom at Picarilli through Distance Ed and hopefully a few more social and sporting outings into town.

Mist G.

E-KINDY NEWS

Over the past fortnight, our focus has been on exploring Letters ‘A’ and ‘B’. With that, they have:
• Made Paper Mache Apples
• Decorated Angels
• Played with Bubbles
• Made a picture Bingo card game
• Done lots of excellent letter tracing
• Enjoyed a variety of Letter and Sound recognition games

Along with striving to fill up their sticker charts by always following the school routine, sharing, using wonderful manners and keeping our classroom tidy. We also had an extra Ekindy who joined us from Quilpie this week and without fail, she was made to feel welcome and joined into our school routine with the comfort of our two lovely students.

Reminder: Our next Playgroup session will be at the school on Thursday 3rd March. We will be exploring things to do with the colour RED! Please bring a plate of shared food for morning tea.

Makala Byrne
Thargomindah Ekindy Teacher Aide