Dear Parents/ Caregivers,

Cross Country

Last Friday we held the school Cross Country. We ran three races - Junior, Intermediate and Senior in which all Students ran incredibly well. The Juniors ran a distance of 1 kilometre and all of them had a great time in doing so. The Intermediate students ran a distance of 2 kilometers and the seniors ran a distance of 3 kilometres. All showed an extraordinary effort and many fantastic results were attained. It was great to see the students who had been regular attendees over the last 9 weeks of running club perform at their best!

Our Junior Champions for 2016 were Grace W. and Dean W. The Intermediate Champions for 2016 were Stevie B. and James P. Our Senior Champions for 2016 were Libby O. and Blair B. Congratulations to everyone for the way they competed. It was great to hear the stories about how students were encouraging and looking out for each other out on the track.

The Cancer Council Rally

Again last weekend the efforts of many people showcased the Thargomindah community spirit and its ongoing support of Thargomindah State School. The way that so many people from our small community can work together to cater for such a large group of visitors is nothing short of amazing. We had 220+ cars with 450+ people roll in to Thargomindah late Sunday afternoon. The locals involved in all aspects of catering for this group are to be congratulated on the efforts. The Student Council showed great commitment by washing all the cars that would stop and were able to raise an astonishing amount of money. Coupled with the movie night earlier in the week they banked $877.10! It was a great effort and this money will no doubt be put to a very worthwhile use.

It doesn’t stop there though because this weekend, many will back up again for another group of 130 or more are due to arrive early next week. It is these efforts that go along way to subsidizing the cost of camps, computers and other resources for all students that attend Thargomindah State School.

NAPLAN

NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. Increasingly, NAPLAN Tests will be based on the Australian Curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how students are progressing in literacy and numeracy skills against national standards for all Australian students. Included questions range in complexity from easy to very difficult. Generally, students are not expected to be able to accurately complete all questions. This data is used both to profile students, their class group, year level, school, state, nation, etc. This data may be used by schools to better target effort and support to assist all students improve and acquire the skills necessary for further achievement.

All students are generally expected to participate in the tests.

For information about NAPLAN, parents can go to: http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support.html NAPLAN tests fundamental skills rather than specific content, and as such is not a test for which students can study.

An individual student NAPLAN Report will be received by the school and issued later this year. Parents must know that NAPLAN is but a “snapshot” view of how their child achieved on one test, on one day. By the time that parents receive this Report, some 6 months of further learning and achievement will have been achieved. The class teacher will retain a wealth of quality information about a child’s academic progress and achievement. NAPLAN is but one indicator of achievement within a much larger context that can be discussed during parent / teacher interview. More information is available at www.nap.edu.au

Steve Bennett
Principal

DATE CLAIMERS:

18th May
District Cross Country

26th May
Speech Pathologist

27th May
Regional Cross Country

17th June
Under 8's Day Quilpie

27th June
Readers Cup

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
FRIDAY 6TH MAY

Thank you Kay!!!

2016 CROSS COUNTRY WINNING TEAM WILLS

THANK YOU KAY!!!
STUDENT OF THE WEEK
FRIDAY 13TH

Hailey—
Getting her first Sightwords

Stevie—
Staying focused all week on her own work.

Hailey

BEDIE’S ROAD SAFETY
AWARD

Mistique—
Crossing the road safely

Students at the Rally Car Wash

P-2 CLASSROOM NEWS

It is hard to believe that we are half way through the term. Time just flies by when you are having fun.

We are working hard on writing our own story with most children just about finished with their plan and ready to start writing. I am very excited to see the end result.

Some of the children have progressed up a level with their reading. This is a wonderful outcome as they will now get to move their bikes on the tracker in the parade area. Our focus is still on reading and comprehending what they are reading. When your child reads with you ask them questions like Why do you think that? What was happening in the story? How did you know that?

This week I attended a workshop in Cunnamulla on the importance of literacy in the 0-5 years. One of the messages that I took from the workshop was: “Stop and listen to your child and hold those conversations there and then”. We are all busy people and we all give our children our time but with technology in our hands, we can let technology take over.

Next week the upstairs classroom will be starting guided reading groups. I hope this has a positive effect on the level of reading and comprehension produced by the students.

Students have almost completed their English assessment for the first unit this term. Students have come to understand how authors develop characters and setting in a text and how to form an opinion about the effect certain words and phrases have in a text. Most children are developing a story. Our next English unit for the remainder of the term is historical recounts, focusing on the First Fleet.

Assessment and report cards will be coming out at the end of this term. It is important for students to be more focused on school work and completing homework. This is a long term, but putting in the hard work now will be off! :) I hope you have a great week. Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. :) Amy Hollis

3-6 CLASSROOM NEWS

Almost half way through the term! I would like to congratulate the students on their hard work this far :) Last weekend we had the rally come through, with our student councillors putting on a car wash. All students who participated did a wonderful job and all customers were very impressed! I would like to say a huge congratulations to those students who put in the effort to organise the event and turned up on the day to see the success of all the hard work they put in.

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SECONDARY SCHOOL UPDATE

As we end week 3 of term 2, Jacinta, Amity and Akasha are approaching their mid term assessments in all their subject areas. With a couple of Monday holidays and some technical issues coming out of the schools the girls have had to work extra hard to keep up to their unit planners. At the moment Jacinta and Amity are working on a draft of a biography for English. Jacinta is writing a biography on the life of Malala Yousafzai while Amity has chosen Katie Piper. Akasha has been analysing the language features to the song lyrics, ‘Change the Game’. Their upcoming maths assessments will be around algebraic equations and plotting points on a Cartesian graph. It can be quite mind blowing to see the expectation of work in yrs 7 and 8 these days.

In the last fortnight, the girls and I have planted gardens at the bottom of the centre stairs. I have planted one side while Jacinta and Amity did the other side. We have a healthy completion going at the moment to see which garden thrives best.

To finish today, here is an algebraic equation Akasha has had this week. See if you can solve it.

The area of a rectangle is 4h + 10. What is the length and the width of this rectangle.

Good Luck!
Carmel Bercesford

In 2015, Jacinta was the chosen winner of a young talent competition by Toyota’s Star Maker Winner Jared Porter. As an excellent result of this, Jacinta won a Guitar proudly sponsored, along with a Cap, T-Shirt and his very own signed CD.

E-KINDY NEWS

This week the Ekindy students spent most of the school day with the Prep-2 Class doing letter and number recognition. Wednesday was the final day of their ‘All about Me’ unit which is displayed in our Kindy Classroom.

For the remainder of Term 2, we will be looking at Unit 4 — ‘My Family, My Friends’

• Learning about the similarities and differences between their family members.
• Crafting a pretend house with family member stick characters.
• Family Tree Display
• Explore Friendship
• How we Communicate—Technology

Reminder: Playgroup session at the School is next Thursday 19th May. Please come along for some fun and interactive play from 9.00—11.00

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Thargomindah Ekindy Teacher Aide

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