Dear All,

The end of Semester 1 is now upon us! Report cards were distributed on Friday last week. I am really happy with the effort that our students put in over the reporting period, and the semester as a whole. This has resulted in some very good achievements. Many parents took the time to meet with our Teachers for Parent-Teacher Interviews to discuss your child’s progress to date and plans for Semester 2.

Congratulations to those students who participated in the Readers’ Cup at Augathella. From all reports it was a worthwhile trip and our 3-6 class learnt a lot. They will be ready for another tilt at the title next year.

Finally, it is time for me (and Simone, Sonny and Libby) to say Good-bye. I will miss Thargomindah State School and the broader community immensely. We have very fond memories of our time here and thank you for welcoming us so warmly. I will especially remember our Friday parades, Sports Camp and the students, staff and parents. I wish each and every one of our students every success with their future studies. I also thank our tremendous staff for their continued efforts and commitment to our shared vision for the School. I wish you all the very best for the future.

Education Queensland have secured a replacement for the Principal position with it being appointed to Ms. Anja Janosevic. She comes to Thargomindah State School with a wealth of experience and is very excited at the opportunity of leading this great school. I wish Anja every success and continues the great work that is currently happening.

Thank you all and Goodbye!

Steve Bennett
SECONDARY SCHOOL UPDATE

There has been excitement and anticipation mixed with raised stress levels at the secondary centre this week as we close off semester 1. The excitement and anticipation is of course because the winter holiday break is almost here. This has been an 11 week term and the girls have found it to be draining. Most start their school day with an on line lesson at 8.00am and in winter when mornings are still so dark, this puts pressure on them to be here at the centre before login time. Now that we have passed the shortest day of the year things can only get better. A newsletter or two ago, you would have read the biographies Jacinta and Amity wrote - Jacinta’s was on Malala Yousafzai and Amity’s on the brave recovery of Katy Piper. I’m sure you’ve been wondering what mark the girls received - for her work Jacinta received a B and Amity a B+. Well Done Girls. This week has also been a week of assessment tasks and completing these has put some pressure on the girls. For science, Jacinta and Amity had to build a balloon powered vehicle, then test it, modify it, test it again and write up their results. Below is a photo of Amity’s prototype. The ‘fun time’ is the trials, the ‘not so fun’ time is the write ups! I hope the experiences the girls have encountered this week help to educate them to what the expectations of the future will be. They wait now in anticipation of their first semester reports due in the mail next week. Happy holidays everyone. Carmel.

3-6 CLASSROOM NEWS

Semester One done and dusted! I would like to congratulate the students on successfully making it to the end of an 11 week term, and completing the first half of the year. All are tired and exhausted but persevered and now have 2 weeks off.

Last week 7 of our students travelled to and competed in Augathella for Reader’s Cup. Unfortunately we didn’t place, but students worked well and their hard work paid off. A huge congratulations to them. Also a big thankyou to Rob who travelled with us and drove the bus. Your help and time is greatly appreciated.

To finish off, I would like to say a huge thankyou and good luck to Steve and his family moving to Miles over the holidays. Steve has played a major part in our students’ academic achievements and has been a huge support to me during my short time out here so far. I wish him all the best and know the students and staff look forward to hearing of his future endeavours.

I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday and look forward to seeing you all next term!

Amy

P-2 CLASSROOM NEWS

We have made it! What a massive term for all. The students have done great! I hope all parents and students have enjoyed reading their report cards and are happy with their results. Teachers and teacher aides have been doing a lot of planning this week with goals and resources ready for next term.

A key focus for the P-2 next term will be reading with comprehension. I have set up personal goals for each of the students on what their focus will be for the first 5 weeks of next term. We have personalised their learning. I will share this with parents on class dojos.

Next term we will be looking at information reports with a focus on different countries for the Olympics. We have started to look at various aspects of the Olympics this last week. As a school we created an art piece to be sent over to the Olympic village. The students were very proud of their work.

CHISELHURST TOTEMS

Have a great week!

Trish

KINDY PILOT NEWS

As end of Term 2 is here, the Kindy students have now finished their ‘My Family, My Friends’ unit. This unit has explored the differences and similarities between their friends and family members and what makes them all special. With many family drawings and pretend houses made, I am confident the students have a more clearer understanding why our family and friends are important to us.

This week I have been working with the Prep students! They have learnt about the Olympic Torch and even made their own!

The students were very proud of their work.

Next term the Kindy students will be looking at the ‘Let’s Create’ and ‘People and Places’ units. This will be very exciting as the activities are including many art projects and a small excursion to our local Post Office.

Makala Byrne

Kindy Teacher Aide