Dear Parents and Community Members,

Congratulations to our students this week for improvements in their spelling results. The new program is producing very pleasing outcomes. School improvement is always on our agenda and we teachers have been working through policies to ensure our school is not just the “best in the far south-west”, but anywhere!

The Responsible Behaviour Plan is currently our work in progress. This encompasses behaviour within the classroom, in the playground and transitioning from home to school to ensure a safe and supportive learning environment, and will be based on our school values of “Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be a Learner.” These values are not specific to the school grounds— they are societal values and will ensure our students grow into responsible, socially just and intelligent citizens. The document will be brought to the P and C next term for endorsement. I would invite anyone from the Thargomindah community to join us to discuss this document. The date for this discussion will be published in the newsletter.

POLICE TALK

Many thanks to Vaughan and Bede for the addressing the students about observed behaviours outside of the school grounds. Of greatest concern is the behaviour in the park in the afternoons. Students have been cautioned about going to the park without adult supervision. The children in Thargo are especially fortunate to live in such a safe and harmonious community and it is important that this be retained.

SPORTS CAMP

Sports camp is nearly upon us— please return permission forms to the school. The workshops available for students are rugby league, dance, netball, tennis, indigenous games and swimming. Anyone available to volunteer to assist with lunches would be most welcome. Please fill in the roster attached to the students’ permission form.

BOOK WEEK

Students got into the swing of Book Week last Friday and dressed up as their favourite Australian character. It was a joy to see them enjoying the day and gaining an appreciation for fictional characters. Thanks to those who purchased from the display. The school benefits from every purchase and it looks like we are on target to hit our goal of $1000.

VOLUNTEERS

Anyone interested in volunteering to read with our students, please come to an induction evening on Wednesday, September 7 at 6pm. The induction is a very important part of the process to ensure that volunteers and teachers are consistent in their approach to reading. This meeting was initially to have been last Wednesday.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos will be on September 1. Please ensure students are dressed in full school uniform.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

A letter was sent home last week regarding parent-teacher interviews on September 5th, from 3.15 to 5.15. I would encourage all parents to seek an interview with their child’s teacher.

CONDOLENCES

I would like to offer our condolences to the families of John and Peggy Ferguson for their sad loss this week. Our thoughts are with you.

Finally, we wish our athletes, Libby, Jordy and Charlie all the best as they compete in the Regional Athletics Carnival.

Anja
3-6 CLASSROOM NEWS

Hi all! Wow, only 2 and a bit more teaching weeks to go and then... Sports Camp!!

Curriculum is full steam ahead. Students have completed all maths assessment for the term so lessons from now up until Sports Camp will be revision and making sure concepts have been cemented. Students are pacing well with their English assessment on poetry—although some are lacking motivation as we are getting closer to end of term. Words of encouragement from parents would be extremely appreciated— as I, nor would you want them to receive a ‘bad’ mark this close to the end of the year. All other subjects (Art, Geography and Bounce Back) are running smoothly.

Last week was the Deadly Games sporting day in Cunnamulla. What a day! The games were great, the coaches even better and the kids had a great day! They all worked extremely well in the team they were placed with and I was very happy with how they behaved in a public setting. Hopefully an indication for Sports Camp!

Monday saw the introduction of 2 new students in our classroom—Henry and Kaitlin Collins. They are two lovely students who, having known the rest of the class previous, have settled in very well. I can’t wait to see what the rest of the year has in store for our class.

A friendly reminder for parents who have not signed up to Dojo—if you could, it would be a great investment. As weekly awards are now stemming from Dojo points earned in class, it would be awesome if parents could be encouraging students from home to try their best and follow the school values (be respectful, be responsible, be safe and be a learner) as these are what Dojo points are based on.

That’s all from me this week. Have a great weekend!

Amy

(Students trying to balance the tennis ball on the racket)
**CLASS DOJO**

19th August 2016

26th August 2016

Class Dojos is our positive behaviour awards system within the classrooms. These students have shown 95% or above positive behaviour this week. Keep up the good work everyone!

**BEDE’S ROAD SAFETY AWARD**

19TH AUGUST 2016

JACK GOW

ALWAYS CROSSING THE ROAD CORRECTLY

**P-2 CLASSROOM NEWS**

What a fabulous fortnight we have had in the P-2 classroom. We have been able to complete some real term testing to see how the children are going with SSP. I am very proud of all the students. The gains they have made have blown me away. I am very excited to share these with parents at the upcoming parent teacher interviews.

Our information texts have come to life and I hope the children enjoyed this as much as I did. We are now moving in persuasive writing. The children are to firstly write a persuasive argument about their country and convince me it is worth while visiting. Then we will turn that into an advertisement in week 8.

Our P-2 have been learning about sharing in Maths and working equal groups, we will be moving onto data collection and measurement over the next two weeks. The year 6's and 7's have been looking at giving change to 20c and subtraction. I have also managed to incorporate Khan Academy into our maths programming.

This program is computer based and allows the children to work at their own pace of learning. Should they need a particular concept reinforced, there are videos available to watch and then they practice that skill. This is individualised learning and I think what they do and where they are at each day. Computers need to be used in every subject and the children need to be able to log on quickly and get into the program. All essential skills required for future learning.

This week and next we have a few excursions happening. The Kindy and Prep students are looking at who is in our town. They will be visiting different businesses over the coming weeks. This Friday we visit Foodworks, where we are going to purchase a treat for less than $5 so that the children can work out the change that they will be given back. We will also do a class as we go to the airport and a very big thank you to Janet and Rex for organising the possibility of going on the plane and talking to the pilots and air hostesses. We are very much looking forward to this.

Another busy fortnight in the P-2 classroom, there is lots happening with lots of rich learning!! Thank you for letting me teach your children.

Have a great fortnight everyone!

Teale

**KINDY PILOT NEWS**

The girls have been learning about sharing and counting while working together to make groups of things, from teddies to blocks. We have been working on writing our name and different words, from words, to phrases to sentences. We have been working on counting groups of 5 and practicing keeping rhythm and joined the P-2 students for art. Where we made totems for our unit of work looking at Australia.

We have also been looking at community workers. We discussed their parents jobs titles, what they do and what they bring to the community.

We had an excursion day on Wednesday the 24th, where we visited with Ms Irene at the Library to talk with her about what a librarian does. Thank you Ms Irene for having us, the students loved it! We are hoping to have time to visit a few more work places before the end of term to give the students more of an insight into what our community members do and how they help our town.

**PLAYGROUP:** Please note that we have changed the day in which playgroup will be held from a Thursday to a Wednesday. In doing so our Kindy students will be able to attend and it will also fit the morning after fresh food arrives in town therefore making a tower top more practical for station families. We only have one more session before the end of term because sports camp will be in the last week of the term.

Kitsa Warner

Kindy Teacher Aide