



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to a wet and flooded Term 4. Walgett town has been isolated for the past 2 weeks with staff either boating, 4-wheel motor biking along rail tracks, chopper flights or hunkering down in town to meet work commitments!

Other staff are simply living on their island with no access to work. Wendy, Michelle and Sal are present in Walgett and all staff are on duty in Bourke for the time being. We are hoping that downstream at Bourke will not suffer the same fate but there is a huge amount of water coming their way, with the Castlereagh, Macquarie, Bogan, Culgoa and Narran rivers joining in along the way. Most probably just in time for Xmas! Start adding a few extras to your stores and don't forget the mozzie spray – outside at dusk is nigh impossible at present!

With this isolation no mail is coming in or out of Walgett at present, so where possible please scan and email, take photos of work, do your audio recording and keep posting them on Google Classroom.

We are planning our end of year Presentation Days as being face to face but we will have to make our final decision at the end of Week 8. We will run a virtual presentation if we cannot meet face to face. More information will be posted in SWAY closer to Week 8. Reports will be finalised in Week 9 and emailed to families with a hard copy posted. If you would like to discuss any aspects of your child's report, please contact staff in Week 10 to schedule a meeting.

Our thoughts go out to those who have lost all their cropping and had infrastructure damage. Perhaps a summer crop is in the future! We started our Tuesday with a quick trip around the Namoi River. Please see below some photos of this, plus some aerials.



Bunker Grain silo north of Walgett





REMEMBERANCE DAY

As the news broke in Australia that the Germans had signed the armistice on 11 November 1918 that ended the fighting between Germany and the Allies, people celebrated in the streets. However, the armistice was also greeted with a great degree of sorrow as people remembered the dead. In Australia and other allied countries, including Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States,

11 November became known as 'Armistice Day'.

The tradition of pausing to reflect at 11am began on the first Armistice Day in 1919. Australian journalist Edward George Honey suggested pausing for 'five silent minutes of national remembrance' to honour the war dead. Taking up the idea, King George V of the United Kingdom proclaimed that:... all locomotion should cease, so that, in perfect stillness, the thoughts of everyone may be concentrated on reverent remembrance of the glorious dead.

The original concept was for a day observed with commemorative parades and a brief suspension of business at 11am. While 5 minutes' silence never eventuated, the 1-minute silent pause has remained a central part of Remembrance Day services.

I hope on the 11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month, you can all spare 1-minute to remember and honour our service personnel who died in service of Australia.



DATES TO REMEMBER

2nd Dec - Whole School Assembly

5-6th – Bourke Mini-School

7th Dec- Bourke Presentation Day

7-8th Dec – Walgett Mini-School

9th Dec – Walgett Presentation Day

16th Dec – Last Day Term 4 for Students

19th - Dec – Staff Development Day- Last day for staff

STUDENT NEWS

Gymnastics

Rafa and Gabe recently competed at the National Club Gymnastics Championships

Rafa placed 4th on floor out of 105 athletes and 18th overall in the individual all round competition.

His team won the TEAM GOLD for vault, TEAM SILVER for floor, 4th for parallel bars and 5th for High Bar



Rafa

Gabe scored a 9.46 on floor and did personal best scores on pommel and rings! His team won SILVER for Floor, BRONZE for vault, 4th on parallel bars, 5th on Rings, 6th on high bar and they placed 5th overall in the team all competition.

Well done boys on these amazing results at the National level.



Rafa's Team



Gabe



Gabe's Team

Moormbilla

Saturday Oct 29th at 6.30 pm saw Moorambilla performing at the Sydney Opera House as part of their 50th Anniversary celebrations, 'Voices at Dusk'.

Children from the Birriili, Birray and Mirray ensembles performed a repertoire from their recent RIVERSONG 22 Gala. The next day over 700 other singers gathered to perform 'Big Heart Sing'.

BWSODE student Alex was in the choir and performed at this once in a lifetime opportunity.

Congratulations Alex!



INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

IT Help Desk - 1800 338 737 or their new landline number is 58526230

(Please note this is a new number 18/05/2022)



Alex

BWSODE Website



The School website is another platform we use to showcase our school and where you can locate important information such as photos, newsletters,

useful educational links and some valuable resources supervisors can utilise in their school rooms.

<http://www.bwsode.schools.nsw.gov.au>

PARENTING IDEAS

Micro Habits to Parent Better every Day

We've all received personal advice that makes us jump through hoops before we see any benefits – *'Get at up at 5.00am and run 10 kilometres to get fit / Fast two days a week to lose weight / Take your children on a two-week holiday to build better bonds'*

So much hard work to implement.



However small changes can become small habits that are easy to do, require no willpower and in time, they become a natural part of what you do and because you're performing better, before you know it, you're parenting better. Following are *five micro-habits* that will impact positively your relationship with your child.

1. Greet your child with a smile every day

"Make a good first impression as first impressions count." There's incredible wisdom in this saying as your first interaction with someone will set the tone for all the interactions that follow. Make your first interaction with your child each day a happy, positive one by greeting them with a smile. Make your eyes light up and not only will you put yourself in a good mood, but you'll establish an atmosphere of warmth for your child at the start of the day.

2. Point your feet toward your child when they have something important to tell you

Next time you are standing with someone at a party, social or networking event, glance down to see where their feet are pointing. If they are pointed your way, then you have their full attention. If they are pointed elsewhere, then you'd better talk quickly as they'll soon be heading in the direction that their feet are pointing. This principle applies doubly to family life. When you know your child has something to say, point your feet toward them and they'll know that you're giving them your full attention

3. When your child is upset, acknowledge their feelings first

When a child is annoyed, angry, or visibly upset, focus on their feelings before their behaviour. Often, we parent down heavily on behaviour (Stop that yelling / Sit down before you hurt

someone etc) as we are programmed to control or bring order to a situation. This focus is often ineffective as it's meeting our needs rather than the immediate needs of the child.

When we focus on feelings first, the behaviour will often improve because you're meeting a child's needs, or they finally feel understood. For example - *I can see you're angry at the moment / You seem very excited / I get it that your annoyed.*

4. Refer to good and bad behaviour as a choice

The advocates of respectful relationships rightfully say that all behaviours are a matter of choice, and aren't driven by others, the environment or substance abuse. Parents can reinforce the idea of choice by consistently referring to a child's positive or negative behaviour as a choice. *Good choice, sharing your toys with your brother / You could make a better choice and come home on time when your visit a friend."*

5. Look away and breathe when you want to yell

We've all experienced it. You're at the end of your tether and you ask your child to clean up / help out / stop annoying a sibling and they flat out refuse.

Before you know it, you've given your child some parenting advice that doesn't come from any parenting books, only to regret it a few minutes later. Yes, you've just turned into a child yourself.

When you are about to get upset with your child, step back, look away, take three or four deep belly breaths through your nose before you speak. These small steps will instantly relax, and help you think from your pre-frontal cortex rather than the reactive brain, which is responsible for the fight/flight response.

Behaviours become habits become patterns. You practise a behaviour once and it's just that – a behaviour. Practise it repeatedly and it becomes a habit, not

easily broken. Keep the habit up for long enough and it becomes a pattern that becomes an entrenched part of the way that you parent.

(Article adapted from a paper by Michael Grose)



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Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia’s leading parenting educators. He’s the author of 10

books for parents including *Thriving and the best-selling Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. His latest release is *Spoonfed Generation: How to Raise Independent Children*.



Annabella
Best Dressed Girl

MELBOURNE CUP ASSEMBLY

HUGE thanks to all students, who logged on for Assembly on Tuesday Nov 1st. The effort everyone went to, and spirit in which it was held was fantastic. It was wonderful to have so many students and great to see everyone dressed up for the occasion.

Winning Categories:



Dominique
Most Unique /
Creative Outfit
(The Jockey)



Maisie – Best Headwear



MERIT AWARDS



Monty – Best Dressed Boy

Aiden - Most interesting and informative answer for the student activity -

Declan and **Maisie** - Prizes for picking the MELBOURNE CUP WINNER - GOLD TRIP!

SWEEP Winners (to be paid out in lollies);

1st - Dominique (Gold Trip)

2nd - Xavion (Emissary)

3rd - Rafa (High Emocean)

Last - Matty (Interpretation)



Mrs Smith

Principal's Awards

Matthew - For his consistent hard work, application and regular work returns from his learning program

Gabe - His unwavering dedication and commitment to his learning whilst juggling his ongoing sporting commitments



Walgett Students

Darcy

- Terrific predicting using clues
- Fantastic results in his Maths Assessment


Monty

- Excellent work recognising equivalent fractions
- Terrific writing from a different point of view
- Excellent results in his Math Assessment
- A fantastic effort completing the Unit Government and Democracy

Maddy

- Terrific fraction and decimal work
- Working hard in Maths
- Brilliant 'More to Explore' writing

Zoe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent work in Patterns and Algebra • Terrific sentence writing 	Oliver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fantastic work completing Maths Units • Taking care and showing perseverance when completing all set learning tasks • Improvement in all areas of Maths
Bradley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvement in handwriting • Improvement in letter/sound recognition 		
Chris	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fantastic work in Maths - Calendars 	Thomas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fantastic engagement in learning activities during Google Meet Lessons
Hugh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Displaying determination and resilience in learning • A great start to Distance Education 	Gabe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unbelievable work in the unit British Colonisation • Informative, funny and interesting historical recount of John Owen (Australia's first wheat farmer) • Pleasing work across handwriting tasks
Danilo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outstanding work in Grammar • Blitzing his 3 & 4 Times Tables 		
Dejan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fantastic work completing Maths Units and recognising patterns and length conversions • Excellent work in Times Tables 6 & 7 • Fantastic use of persuasive language in his writing - Postcard 	Scarlett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great use of positional words giving direction • Fantastic creativity in Music • Showing enthusiasm in completing additional work
Spencer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fantastic improvement in counting forwards and backwards • Completing all work with care 	William	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Super start to Term 4

Hilda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terrific reading recordings and activities • Brilliant additional work on Narratives - Piggy book 	Miles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvement in completing set tasks • A fantastic start to Distance Education 	
Annabelle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wonderful music making • Hilarious comic strip writing • Brilliant work in Maths • An excellent persuasive letter about the dangers of plastic in our environment • Fantastic use of high and low modality words and emotive language 	 Callie	<i>Bourke Students</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining the beat and using rhythmic ostinato to make great music • A fantastic start to Term 4 • Working well to master her Sight Words
Rachel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent work completing the unit 'The Day the Crayons Quit' 	Matthew	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent work with Positional Language • An excellent Piranha poster • Terrific reading and performing of rhythms 	
Rafa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outstanding effort completing the Mechanics Unit 	Annabella	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exceptional work in the Jungle Book unit 	
Tallis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great work completing his Maths Unit on Multiplication and Division 	Kc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An excellent start to Term 4 InitialLit • Working hard on his Jungle Book Unit • Great visualising of the 'Once-ler' 	
Elena	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing descriptive and interesting sentences 			

Nick

- Writing an excellent Newspaper article
- Great work in finishing his Mulan unit
- An excellent informative writing piece on the Diwali Festival
- Writing a great procedural text explaining to an alien how we brush our teeth
- Writing an excellent newspaper article

Maisie

- Excellent analysis of texts and writing from a different point of view
- Wonderful music making

Thorin

- A solid start to Term 4
- Excellent work measuring area

Declan

- Great work in vocab
- Fantastic character creation

Aiden

- Writing a good book review on Dog Day
- Excellent discussions about the difference between 1st person

and 3rd person point of view

Caprhys

- Settling well in to her new school and making a great adjustment to Distant Education schooling

Dominique

- Showing conscientious attitude in completing all of her set tasks to a high standard
- Excellent discussions about the difference between 1st person and 3rd person point of view

Lachlan

- Terrific use of evidence from the text to support ideas and predictions



INTEGRATION DAY

Students attended the Bourke Centre for a Halloween themed evening Integration Day on 28th of October. We had some amazingly creative costumes and our focus for the afternoon was teamwork and visual art. Students worked together to complete a

scavenger hunt in which they needed to solve the clues and complete each activity to earn their treat. The hunt culminated in students learning how to bob for apples which was a lot of fun. Afterwards we completed our cute creature ice-cream artworks, before banding together to make pizza for dinner before heading home.



Kc, Thorin & Callie



LIBRARY REPORT

“If I was a book, I would like to be a library book, so I would be taken home

by all different sorts of kids” - Cornelia Funke

Response Questions

What kind of book would you like to be? Why?

MRS R- I would like to be a picture book. I can feel the child thumbing through my pages looking at all my drawings making them think. Imagine the adventures I will have with that child. The fact they choose me to take home – How special.

I wonder what sort of answer you will get from your child if you pose the above question to them!!

Mrs Robinson

Loretta.robinson@det.nsw.edu.au

CNABERRA EXCURSION

Week 3 saw our Stage 3 students head to Canberra for an amazing excursion with Mrs. Fanning and Mr. Clarke in the Nation’s Capital. Their schedule was jam-packed and there wasn’t a point of interest that wasn’t seen at some stage throughout the week.

Stage 3 children (Aiden and Dominique from Bourke; and Monty, Rafa and Alex from Walgett) participated in the Canberra Excursion as part of their Civics and Citizenship Education Curriculum.

Among the places we visited were Cockington Green miniature gardens; Old Parliament House (we attended the Museum of Australian Democracy and the Electoral education Centre, both very informative and interesting); Government House; The National Arboretum, where we did orienteering and kite making programs - breathtaking scenic views!; New Parliament House, where we attended both Upper and Lower house sittings and saw, first hand, our country's parliamentary processes in action); The National Library of Australia; an interactive tour of the Australian

Institute of Sport; The National Dinosaur Museum; the Royal Australian Mint (fascinating Educational talk and tour); and Questacon (what a place!). Our students did themselves and our school proud with their exemplary standards of behaviour. They conducted themselves just so brilliantly in their interactions with all Education and Admin staff at each and every venue, and with one another. Take a bow kids, such a great week away.





HAPPY BIRTHDAY

*Best wishes to **Callie** who celebrates her birthday on Nov 10th and to **Maisie** who has her birthday on Nov 15th.*

We hope you both have great days.

