



# School and Community Newsletter

Term 4, Week 3, 2021

## From the Principal

Welcome back to Term 4. The children have settled back into school routine comfortably and have enjoyed developing friendships with our new students.

I would like to warmly welcome Jessica and Ash, parents of Lilly (Year 3) and Charlotte (Year 4) and Lee and Keith, parents of Marley (Kinder) to our wonderful small school community. We look forward to when we can welcome all our parents back onto the school grounds so we can enjoy some time altogether.

Our minor works project is now complete. I'm sure you've seen our new flag poles, proudly flying the Australian National Flag, Aboriginal Flag and Torres Strait Islander Flag. The students have been learning about flag protocols, including the order the flags should be raised and lowered and also how to care for the flags. Our weathershed has also been restored, with the removal of the front wall and door. The children are loving the space, especially on those cold and windy days when it protects them from the wind and rain. Our fly screens were replaced in the classroom this week, hopefully keeping out all the little flying insects.

I had a meeting with Assets Management this week as our maintenance program moves forward with a contractor now appointed. I will continue to update you as these maintenance tasks are scheduled.

Finally, all students Yr 3-6 will complete a Check-In Assessment next week. These assessments are brief check-in points designed to assist us in seeing growth since NAPLAN and also determine where to next with our learning programs. There is one numeracy assessment and one reading assessment. These assessments are completed online and the results are available for us within 48 hours, making them very useful data for us moving forward.

We've pencilled in a date for our Presentation Evening if all goes well and restrictions are eased as expected in early December. Keep Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December free and we hope to see you then!

Please browse through the remainder of our newsletter to see some of the wonderful programs and activities happening around the school at the moment.

Have a  
great  
weekend!

Miss Laura  
Chaffey



## SPORT – Striking Skills

This term we are focusing on further developing our striking skills. We will be playing games using a variety of equipment to develop our hand-eye coordination skills.

So far we've played handball, table tennis and French cricket and look forward to bringing out the badminton sets in the near future.



## English

This term we have a strong focus on narrative texts. Children are exploring graphic novels as a genre and how images can be used to convey stories. With Mrs Groves they are investigating different poetry styles and the creative language features found in these texts. One activity students completed was to read a wordless comic strip and then retell the story to a partner based on their interpretations of the images.



## STEAM

As we did not complete our unit last term, we are continuing our investigation of energy this term. Students tested out their solar ovens this week and have started designing rocket noses using the 3D printing software, Tinkiercad.

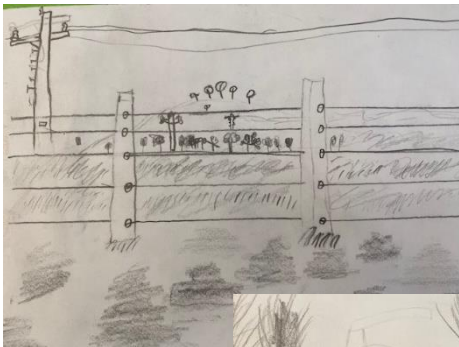
Last week we explored electrical circuits and investigated to find out which materials were conductive and which ones were non-conductive. We used the Makey Makey circuit boards to test out our predictions.





## CAPA

We started this term off with a wonderful outside sketching activity. Mrs Melmeth introduced the students to frames and how these could be used to help them keep their focus on a particular area of the landscape and represent it in their drawing.



## Smiling Mind

This fortnight we are focusing on the skill of **Recognising Emotions**. We discussed how there is a whole range of emotions and how our emotions can change throughout the day. We talked about how our body can feel when our mind is thinking sad, angry, frustrated, happy or excited thoughts.

During our mindfulness meditation we noticed what emotions were in our bodies right at that moment. We compared our emotions to the weather. Pleasant emotions like joy and excitement might feel like a warm, sunny day and difficult feelings like anger or frustration can feel like a dark, stormy night.

We finished by discussing how it is important to recognise that our emotions, just like the weather, change all the time. We also considered how we can help other students as well as ourselves to push away the black clouds and feel the joy of the sun again.

Have you downloaded the Smiling Mind app onto your phone or your child's ipad? It's a free app and all the students are responding positively to how just a few moments of mindfulness can help them think clearly and get the brain to think about the present and notice distractions but quickly return their focus to the present time and task. There are some terrific mindful meditations that children can use just before bedtime also.

