



# NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2014

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August**

Book Week Book Character Parade  
9.30 am

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August**

First Kinder Orientation Day  
9.30 - 11.30

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

School Council Meeting 6 pm  
P & C Meeting 7 pm

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September**

Last Day of Term 3

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October**

Labour Day Holiday

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October**

First day of Term 4



### CSU Student

The school welcomes Miss Rebecca Bensted, who began her five week practicum placement with the 4/5/6 class this week. Miss Bensted is in her final year of her degree and we all look forward to having her join our school community.

### Book Week Parade

Students and staff (and hopefully some parents) are geared up for our Book Week parade tomorrow. Students are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character for the parade which will be held under the COLA from 9.30am. This is a fabulous way to share our love of books and the importance of reading. Students will also need to pack their uniform to change into after the parade.

### Kindergarten Orientation

The first of our Kindergarten Orientation Days will be held next Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> of August. Please get the word out around the local community about this important opportunity to introduce new people to our wonderful school.

### Scripture Puppet Show

Students who attend Scripture classes each Friday will enjoy a Quizworks Puppet Show this Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> August instead of their regular Scripture lesson. Non-Scripture students will

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### Creative Art Projects

All ten of our beautiful murals have been completed and, wow, don't they look fantastic! Thanks to all of our students, staff, community members who assisted, and especially to Mrs McEachern for the time and effort invested in them. They will certainly put a sparkle to our weather-shed walls!

The focus has now moved onto the garden totem poles. The design for the first pole was completed yesterday and the first mosaic tiles have been applied. They are shaping up to be another wonderful addition to our school grounds.

be supervised by a staff member in the 4/5/6 room.

### **NSLC Student Leadership Breakfast**

Our Year 6 students have been invited to attend the Northern Spirit Learning Community Leaders Breakfast and Forum to be held on Friday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the Glenroy Neighbourhood Centre from 8am. On the day students will listen to a number of community leaders talk about their views on leadership and the qualities they feel contribute to quality leadership. Students will also be involved in three workshops which aim to assist them make decisions about their own view of leadership. A permission note for Year 6 students is attached to this newsletter.

### **SRC Friday Fund Raiser**

This Friday is your child's last chance to guess the number of stones in the SRC guessing competition. Whoever guesses the correct number of stones (or has the closest guess) will win a fantastic child's voucher for the Cinema Centre! It is 50c a guess or three guesses for \$1. Guesses can be made during Friday recess. The winner will be announced next week.

### **PSSA Friday Sport**

A reminder that the cost for the PSSA soccer bus is \$3 per week. Please pay any outstanding money by Friday please. If you are not sure if you have paid please contact the office.

Unless it is raining, PSSA netball and soccer will continue this Friday. No matter the weather, Gymnastics for the K/1 students will go ahead. The Junior Girls Netball side has a bye this week. Students not engaged in PSSA activities will play school-based sports.

### **Premier's Spelling Bee**

Our school Premier's Spelling Bee Competition will be held in the 4/5/6 classroom on Monday and Tuesday next week. Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 will compete for a chance to represent our school at the regional final, which this year will be held at Deniliquin North PS on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Help Needed**

On a wet and rainy night, not so very long ago, some naughty people drove a car into our school grounds and did burn-outs on the oval causing significant damage to its grassed surface. Mr Elworthy is in the process of repairing the damage, but needs a trailer load of clean soil to fill the tyre ruts. If anyone can donate a load of soil, it would be most appreciated.

### **Thanks**

Thank you to Tom Harrington who donated and spread a load of urea onto our school oval last weekend. Hopefully this will set the grass off for lush growth over the coming months.

### **School Counsellor**

The school counsellor, Michele Dupe will be at our school on 27<sup>th</sup> August. If you would like to make an appointment for yourself or your child please contact the office.

### **School Assembly**

The whole school assembly will be held in the library this Friday at 12.00pm. The class presenting the item this week is 2/3.

### **Newsletter Changes**

From Term 4, our newsletter will be published fortnightly rather than weekly. It will be sent home via email, published on our school website ([www.tabletop-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.tabletop-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)), posted on our school Facebook page and also on our Twitter account (see below). As is the normal practice, special notices will be sent home as they are needed. Paper copies will still be sent home.

### **School Facebook and Twitter Accounts**

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/TableTopPublicSchool>

Twitter: @TabletopPS

### **School Council/P&C**

The P&C will be hosting a BBQ and bonfire night on the evening of Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August where we will farewell winter as a school community. Parents, students, staff and friends are invited to gather together as a school community for this event.

Our next meeting will be 3<sup>rd</sup> September - 6pm School Council and 7pm P&C.

Andrew McEachern - Principal

### KINDER SOUND

The Kinder sound this week is "qu" for Queen



### K/1 NEWS

In Literacy we are learning about *Information Reports*. So far we've done information reports about fire, frogs, ladybeetles, mossies and tadpoles. In Week Seven (Monday 25<sup>th</sup> August - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August) I would like the children to take turns to give a spoken information report about a creature's life cycle. This could be about frogs, butterflies, mossies, ladybeetles or another creature your child would like to talk about.

The children can come prepared to give their spoken information report on any day or they can use their News time.

Their information report needs:

An introduction (tell us what creature they are going to talk about) **Three** pieces of information about the creature's life cycle

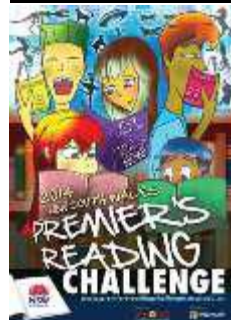
It can be as simple or as involved as your child is comfortable with. If your child wants to tell us more than three pieces of information that's fine. They may like to use props like pictures etc.

I will send home a planning page that they might like to use. The planning page can have photos, writing or drawings on it for your child to use as clues.

Please ring me if you have any questions.

Thank you  
Elaine

### It's almost time!!



The 2014 Premier's Reading Challenge finishes this Friday. All students need to have completed their online reading log **before 5pm this Friday 22nd August**.

It has been fantastic to see so many students accept the challenge and read as much and as often as they can!

Please take the time with your child or children to list the books they have read over the last 12 months. To add them online use the following prompts -

1. Go to <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>
2. On the left hand side of the website is a box with links. Third from the bottom is a link 'Logon'. Click on that link.
3. You will be taken to the Portal Login page for NSW Dept of Education and Training. Your child/children need to log in using their username and password they use to log on to the computers at school. The teachers have a copy of these if your child has forgotten.
4. You will be taken back to the Premier's Reading Challenge website. The menu of links on the left hand side will now have extra links. Click on Student Reading Record close to the top.

Books can be added at the bottom of that page. Use the titles and it should automatically complete the rest of the details for you.

If you are unable to access the website, or are having difficulty navigating the website, please send the book list in with your child and I will add the books for you.

Thanks for your support.  
Mrs Gaukroger




## HEALTHY LUNCHBOX COMPETITION

Specialist Integrated Community Engagement (SpICE) students from Charles Sturt University are searching for the healthiest lunchbox. Photos of the children's lunchboxes will be taken on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August. The winner will be announced in the newsletter the following week.

The winning photo will be included in a pamphlet about healthy lunchbox ideas. This pamphlet will be handed out on the Indigenous Literacy Day Book Sale event on the 17<sup>th</sup> September.

Any questions please contact Rachel Gaukroger.

## HOW2Learn



**Learning about libraries**  
Nowadays, most libraries are like friendly learning centres. Whatever you want to know about – Internet access, photocopying, children's story tapes or videos, music CDs and tapes, how to find specific books – the librarians will be delighted to help. They'll also tell you about book clubs and activities.

Many libraries run activities for children.

Many have extra school-holiday activities. Authors read their stories.

Joining your local library is easy: pick up information to take home to read or join on the spot. Most libraries need to see a household bill or something similar as proof of your name and address, and proof of your signature, such as a driver's licence.

**Tips for getting the best out of your library**

- Establish a routine for library visits, perhaps after school once a week or every Saturday morning. Take time to browse with your child, helping them to choose books. If appropriate, make sure both parents are involved.
- Remember that libraries have much more than books to offer.
- Show your enthusiasm for books by choosing some for yourself, too.

## AQUILA OPEN GARDEN

Thank you Table Top School bakers, brewers (tea), barista's (coffee), stall servers and supporters for all your work and generous donations to the cuppa & cake stall over the

Open Garden Weekend. We also really appreciated the help of a number of the school students over the 2 days. They were so good at ferrying drinks and food to other volunteers and collecting cups and plates and then cleaning as well.

We had approximately 400 (adults and children) come through the garden over the 2 days - despite Sunday's weather. We particularly loved the interaction of our cherished Table

Top School community with everyone that came through. We enjoyed seeing people sit with a cuppa and plate of yummy treats throughout the garden.

There are many talented cooks in our school and you were all so incredibly generous. Only a small collection of cake and scones went back to school which I hope the staff enjoyed for their morning tea on Monday.

The P&C made \$654 from the stall. Funds for the school garden will also come through via the Open Gardens Australia scheme from gate takings - I think this will be around \$700 which is very exciting.

*Lou, Emmo, Bella, Tilly and Gibb*

## P & C NEWS

Thank you to all our families who helped out at Lou Bull's Open Garden or donated cakes etc. We raised \$654 for the weekend.

There were a pair of metal tongs left behind please let Gayle know and she will send them home. All containers should be sent home this week.

If you would like to pay any accounts by direct debit

### **School bank details:**

Account Name: Table Top Public School

Account Number: 157014

BSB: 032-001

Reference: *Surname and item/s being paid*

## SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Congratulations to the following award winners from last week's School Assembly:

### Student of the Week



### Special Encouragement Awards:



### Teacher Merit Cards (Green cards)

#### K/1

Anthea, Audrey, Eliah, Hope, Brideh, Mia M, Clifton, Zoe, Jett.

#### 2-3

Gibb, Callie, Ned, Jake, Thomas.

#### 4-6

Natalie, Rupert, Caleb, Dylan, Toby, Tilly, Charlie, Isabella.

### SRC Kindness Award: Sheya

Class Awards: Library - 2/3

Classroom- 2/3

Assembly - K/1





# Parenting *ideas* INSIGHTS

*Building parent-school partnerships*

## Get your developmental match right

WORDS Michael Grose

Parents of large families tend to have seen it all before. But if you have only one or two kids, you're pretty much learning it all on the run. Here are some ideas for matching your parenting style to your kids' development.

**If you're the parent of a small family (two children or less), your learning curve is steep as there are so many firsts: first steps, first time at preschool, first experience of school camp, first transition from childhood to adolescence.**

The extensive list of 'first' experiences means you constantly need to acquire **new knowledge** ("Now, how does this toilet-training work?") and **new skillsets** ("Hmm. How do I persuade a reluctant toilet trainer?").

The other challenge, of course, is matching your **parenting with the developmental needs** of each stage in your child's young life.

You know how it goes: Just as you finally learn how to successfully tackle an **independent-minded toddler**, he suddenly moves into a more compliant but far more inquisitive stage. You think, "What's with all the questions? Do I have to answer them all?"

### NEW STAGES, NEW OPPORTUNITIES, NEW CHALLENGES!

Parents of large families can draw on their previous experiences, but when you lead a small crew it's largely trial and error. **Here are some ideas for matching your parenting with your child's developmental stage:**

- 1 **Follow** your child's lead. Kids will let you know in many and varied ways what they require from you.
- 2 **Learn** from other parents who have been down the parenting track before you. Ask questions: "Does your six-year-old...?" "Is it normal that...?"

3 When a previously successful strategy no longer serves its purpose, this is evidence that your child has **moved** to a new developmental stage. Now you need to ask yourself whether you have too.

4 **Follow** the lead of professionals such as child care workers, teachers and parent educators who have broader experience of specific age groups.

5 Learn more about **developmental stages** and their parenting requirements. Each stage brings new challenges and new opportunities. Understanding the developmental needs of children helps you match your parenting to their age and stage.

**Eleanor Roosevelt once said: "Learn from the mistakes of others. You can't live long enough to make them all yourself". This wisdom definitely applies to parenting, especially in smaller families. So if it's a struggle to get it right, don't be too hard on yourself. See it as an opportunity to learn.**

*Michael Grose*



Want to know more about your child's age and developmental stage? Join Parentingideas Club and receive a Life Stage Developmental Map and a Year Ahead Planner on your child's birthday. Find out more at [parentingideasclub.com.au](http://parentingideasclub.com.au).

