It has been a very excited and emotion filled week with the children’s kindergarten teachers coming and visiting us as part of our celebration. The children have managed their feelings wonderfully throughout these sessions, with some experiencing disappointment because their teachers were not able to come while others experienced joy and excitement when showing their teachers around their learning areas, explaining what they enjoy doing during Investigations sessions and introducing them to their new friends. It was very encouraging to hear the kinder teachers speak about the differences they can see in the students including how settled and confident they are in the schooling environment. We are always extremely proud of our students but seeing the way they handled themselves, the way they spoke to their kinder teachers and the growth they have shown was definitely a moment of immense pride for everyone.

**Upcoming events:**
Next week (week 3), the children will be participating in a writing workshop on Thursday or Friday depending on what class they are in with Beth Cregan. Beth will be exploring a storytelling and writing workshop with our students. She is a wonderful storyteller and a magnificent writer who in 2010, combined her passion for writing, storytelling and creative thinking to launch her own business - *Write Away With Me*. She now develops and presents creative writing and philosophy programs for students in Prep to Year 7. She offers incursions in both Early Childhood and Primary School settings. If you would like to find out more about Beth and her work, please visit her website: [http://www.writeawaywithme.com/about/](http://www.writeawaywithme.com/about/)

**Parent Helpers:**
The English Helper timetables have been posted on the communication board outside of the Infant Hall. If there is something written on a particular date, for example ‘Prep Excursion’ please do not write a name on this date as this is a day that no assistance is required. We will be asking for volunteers for our excursion at a later date.

**Health Nurse Questionnaire:**
A confidential health questionnaire will be sent home with your children tomorrow, Friday 22nd August. Please read the questionnaire carefully and all attached instructions. Once completed, please return to your classroom teacher who will complete the final step of the process. The questionnaire is beneficial as it allows access to hearing tests, eye test and a speech pathologist assessment. However, if you do not wish to participate you can decline but you still need to return your completed form.

**Language used at home:**
We have noticed that some children have been discussing how children are ‘naughty’ in the classroom. This is not language that we use in the classroom as we endeavour to develop the whole child in their learning environment which includes the opportunity to make mistakes. When making a mistake, the child may not be exhibiting the expected behaviour at a particular time. However, each time an unexpected behaviour is shown, a learning opportunity is experienced and the student will get the necessary support from their teacher. If you have discussions with your children at home regarding behaviour in the classroom, please reiterate that all children learn differently and require different support from their teacher. Please remind them that making mistakes is an integral part of our learning and does not only relate to our reading, writing and mathematics but also to our behaviour. We want all children to feel comfortable and confident to make mistakes and also to learn from them.

**Saying goodbye in the morning:**
Please ensure that once your child is standing with their class on their dots that you step to the side and allow the children to get themselves sorted for the day. It is very important that all children walk into the Infant Hall unassisted with their classroom teacher. If you are facing difficulties with your child not feeling confident about entering the building or beginning the day, please speak with your classroom teacher about helpful strategies for starting the day confidently. It is very important that we continue to develop all students’ independence, confidence and resilience when starting the day.

*Connie, Angela, Steph, Nikita and Amanda*