Grade 1 & 2
Bulletin
Week 8

Important!
As was mentioned last week we would love the students to bring in an item that celebrates something about their family. The item may relate to their country of birth or that of their parents or grandparents, a photo of a family celebration, or perhaps even a book or information read in a language they speak at home. These items provide a springboard for us to discuss and celebrate the differences and similarities in our school community.

Handwriting: Your child will bring home a Victorian Cursive handwriting sheet today. The sheet highlights the starting point for both capital and lower case letters as well as the numerals 0-9.

Handwriting is an important part of our writing program. Being able to quickly recall and form each letter correctly will give your child greater confidence when tackling writing tasks.

At home it’s important to provide a range of writing materials – textas, crayons, pencils, paint and chalk for your child to explore. Providing paper, a black board and a whiteboard enables your child to explore their handwriting with different materials.

Similarly, we encourage you to continue activities at home that strengthen your child’s fine motor skills. Providing fun activities at home that develop finger strength is essential for formal handwriting. Here is a list of ideas you may wish to explore:

*Playdough – rolling coils or ‘sausages’
*Threading/Beading – putting beads on strings, making necklaces,
*Pegs – help hang out washing
*Shoelaces – tying knots, bows or using loom bands
*Sewing – explore different stitches
*Fine Motor Games e.g. Peg Art, Pick up sticks, Lego

Grade 2: After one of the Drama Workshops the Grade 2’s were inspired and responded by writing a letter to one of the characters, Chimp, encouraging him to visit our school. As you will see, the reasons they give to come to our school quite varied. Please enjoy reading below some of their persuasive texts!
Experiencing ‘Disappointment’: The following section from the Prep Bulletin highlights the importance of how we can develop more resilient children.

Disappointment is something that we all feel from time to time and it is learning to manage it and bounce back from it that is important. A little disappointment can actually benefit your child - as long as you teach him/her how to bounce back from it and cope with failure. This is what we call resilience. The ‘Kids Matter’ website has an article on how to build your child’s resilience. Right click to open the link:

https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/families/enewsletter/how-build-your-child%E2%80%99s-resilience

Footy and disappointment: In a 2015 article in a South Australian newspaper, child psychologist Dr Michael Carr-Gregg addresses the disappointment many fans felt at Patrick Dangerfield leaving the Adelaide Crows. Carr-Gregg says Dangerfield’s defection is a valuable lesson for children in dealing with loss.

“The number one lesson any parent should teach their kids is if in life you can’t change something, you can always change the way you think about it”.

“This isn’t going to be the first disappointment they’re going to have and it’s a relatively minor one.”

The footy example above, also helps teach children that even if they had wanted the football star to stay, you can’t always get what you want. Dr Carr-Gregg suggested parents say something like: “This is the best thing for Patrick. We can sit back and think about all the great memories and wonderful contribution he made to the club. We wish him the best as a person. He needs to do this for his own mental health and there’s no point in him staying if he’s unhappy.”

Developing a positive mindset that allows us to bounce back from adversity or disappointment is something that we as teachers and parents should develop in our children.

When your child is feeling disappointed for whatever reason, you should talk about any feelings of sadness, because this helps validate and legitimise your child’s feelings. You can share a time when you felt disappointed and how you coped with that situation to allow yourself to ‘move on.’

Help Required: Are there any parents who could do some sewing for us over the holidays? Please let Pippa know and she will provide all the materials for the school holidays.

Upcoming Events:

Footy Day: Tomorrow
Odd ‘Sox’ Day: Monday 21 March
Parent Helpers Session: Tuesday 22 March, 2.45-3.20pm
Harmony Day: Wednesday 23 March
Last Day of Term: Thursday 24 March, 2.30pm finish
Student Free Day: Monday 11 April
First Day of Term 2: Tuesday 12 April

Thank you, The Grade 1 & 2 Teachers
Dear Chimp,
You’re missing out!!
You have to visit our school!!! It’s so much fun.
First we have the monkey bars. You can swing on it.
Second, we have high quality bananas, they’re great.
Lastly, we have the DOME. It’s amazing. You can climb and swing and it’s so much fun.
From your best friend,
Nik

Dear Chimp,
You should come to Armadale Primary School because there are monkey bars. I think you would really like them.
If you are creative you will love our school.
Also, you will learn a lot and you will have buddies (if you’re in Prep).
You will have rules which will keep you safe and you will have lots of persistence by the time you’re done.
Your friend,
Izzie

Dear Chimp,
You should really come to our school because it is very creative and there is icy pole day. They teach you to behave and you will love the monkey bars,
Your friend,
Peter

Dear Chimp,
I think you should come to school because you can learn good things. You can also make friends, get creative and we can show you around the school!!
We all felt a little sorry for you when you wanted to help with the food.
Maths is quite fun. Books are fun too.
We hope you love school.
Your friend,
Olivia

Hi Chimp,
You would want to come to our school to use the monkey bars.
You will like our school because it’s cool and fabulous!
Your friend,
Imogen