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Pilton News

Pilton State School

Thursday 18th April 2024

Term 2 Issue 1

What a great start to term we have had. It is hard to believe that we have only had a handful of days since the Easter break because we have had so much happen in that short period of time. Our students have been engaging in their new units of work, learning goals are being developed, Hermitage science projects are continuing, we have hosted the Cross Country for Central Downs, completed school photos for 2024 and we have spent some time preparing for our ANZAC Day next week! This is only possible because of the outstanding commitment to the students at our school that our staff demonstrate. We should never take for granted the discretionary efforts that are made by Miss Ryan, Mr. Ruhle, Mrs. Youngberry and Miss Stewart every day when working with our students. We also would like to welcome our newest enrolment Clayton and his family to our school!

Parent Teacher Interviews

Thanks to those parents that have discussed with us how your student is progressing during first term. Both Miss Ryan and I are available for interviews during Week 3 and we would love to catch up with everyone that can, at a time that suits. Please let us know if you are available and we will do our best to make sure this time works. These interviews will give us a chance to discuss the learning that has been happening during first term and update parents on reading level progress, learning goals and achievement standards across the first units of work for the year. We are currently finishing the production of individual learning goals for term 2, and will be trying to get together with parents to have these signed sometime in week 3 also. We will also be providing parents with an update on how students went in achieving their goals from term one and will be awarding students on parade next week for their successes in achieving their goals!

Cross Country Results

I would like to thank our amazing P&C for the great support they have given to our school hosting the cross-country this week. It was truly surprising to see so many attendees from 10 schools all here for the morning. It is also worth mentioning that we now have 3 students from our small school eligible to move on to the Southern Downs Cross Country trials due to being placed in the top 5 for their age group among the 10 schools. This is a great result for these students who can be very proud of their efforts. It was also great to see our fun run students out on the hill having a go!

ANZAC Commemorative Service – Wednesday Apr 24 9-9:30am

All members of the community are invited to join us for a humble commemoration service for ANZAC Day next Wednesday morning from 9:00 to 9:30am. We will help our students understand the significance of this event on our national calendar and pause to reflect on the freedom we have because of the sacrifice of others. Can I also ask that you talk with your children about the family stories you may have about those who have served our country in the past, as I am sure this helps all of our students understand why this type of event is special in our community.

Play Group is on next Friday Apr 26 9-11am

I would like to open up an invitation to any community members with before-school aged children to come along to school on Friday mornings and join us for playgroup. Miss Stewart does a great job running activities for our Playgroup and it is a great fun morning that has many benefits for the children that attend. Parents are welcome to join us for morning tea also, and we always enjoy the company of parents who can make it to school on these days. If you know anyone in the community who may be interested, please feel free to extend this invitation to them also.

Sporting Schools T2 - Tennis Training & Athletics Training – Week 2-9

Next week on Wednesday 3-4pm, we will be continuing Running Club and will be incorporating some specific Athletics Training into the afternoon also. This will allow students to continue to work on their fitness and give them opportunities to develop their skills in some of the jumping and throwing events that they will participate in during the Athletics carnivals later in the year. We also will be providing Tennis coaching to students on Tuesday mornings from 8-9am. These activities are extra-curricular activities provided by our school free of charge for students and it is wonderful to see so many students volunteering to take part in them each week. We are also looking forward to our Small School's Athletics Carnival in Week 10 of this term.

Pilton Soldier's Memorial Hall Anzac Concert – 6pm Thursday 25 April 2024

Each day this week and next week students will be practicing a song 'The ANZAC' by Adam Brand, that we as a school choir, will be performing at the ANZAC Day Concert at the Pilton Soldiers' Memorial Hall at 6pm on ANZAC Day (25th April). Obviously, this day is a public holiday and families will commemorate ANZAC Day in many different ways. There is no pressure for all families to attend this event, but if we do have enough students available and willing to be in the choir that would be a great support to our local hall committee's event. I will be reaching out to confirm numbers in the coming days. Finally, we are enjoying the wonderful environment that all of the rain last term helped create and I would like to thank Mrs. James for the great work she does in keeping our school and grounds looking so good!

All the best,

Jon Robertson



P-2 Curriculum News

Hello and welcome to Term 2! I hope everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing break. I am looking forward to a fantastic term with the Prep – 2 students.

Prep

English: This term, Prep students are focusing on retelling stories. They will need to recall events from the beginning, middle and end of the story. They will prompt each other by asking, “*What happened next?*” To practise this skill, they will use character and setting props to help them retell stories. They will also act out stories.

Maths: In Mathematics this term, students will continue to practise counting to identify number, oral counting sequences and writing numerals to 20 and beyond. They will use concrete materials to represent teen numbers. We will focus on other strands including patterns, location, two and three dimensional shapes, measurement and data.

Science: Prep students are learning about materials in Science this term. They will describe properties of materials from which objects are made. This unit of work involves many practical activities. Students will conduct investigations to determine suitability of materials for different purposes. Later in the term they will use this knowledge to create a wind ornament.

HASS: In HASS, students will continue to learn about their personal history. They will explore the nature and structure of families, examine diversity within their family and others and investigate familiar ways families commemorate important past events. Students will share stories about their own family events and celebrations.

Health: This term, students will identify actions that keep them healthy such as diet, exercise and personal hygiene. They will explore how their body has grown and changed since they were a baby and how they are now capable of doing more things.

Technology: In Technology, we will introduce the ozobots as an introduction to coding and robotics. Students will learn to program an ozobot to follow a series of directional instructions to get to a destination point on a map, avoiding hazards along the way.

Japanese: All P – 2 students will participate in the online learning: *I can Japan*. Prep students will focus on greetings and counting.



Year 1/2

English: Students will read and listen to a variety of texts to explore how characters are represented. They will identify character qualities in texts. At the end of the term students will read two versions of the same story, choose a similar character from each text and form a written preference for a character.

Maths: This Term Year 1/2 students will be focusing on number and place value, fractions, time and measurement, probability and chance. We will utilise math songs and games to practise skip counting, shapes, time and location. We will continue to work on addition and subtraction speed and accuracy.

Science: Throughout this Science unit students will create various toys and discuss their different movement motions. They will understand how a push or pull affects how an object moves or changes shape and how this knowledge is used in their daily lives. Students will apply this knowledge to explain how pushes and pulls can be used to change the movement of a toy or object they create.

HASS: Students will continue to investigate connections people have to different places. They will continue to learn about our country and states along with the continents of the world. Students will identify places at different scales, such as, personal scale, local scale, regional scale, national scale or international scale.

Health: Students will explore what shapes their identity. They will examine their strengths and achievements, along with ways to include others to make them feel they belong. They will continue to explore the importance of celebrating who they are and respecting each other's differences.

Technology: Year 1/2 students are continuing with the Design Technology Unit: *Spin It*. They will explore the characteristics and properties of materials and components that are used to produce designed solutions. They will design and make a spinning toy.

Japanese: Year 1/2 students will continue to focus on Japanese greetings, colours, body parts, counting and learning the Japanese script hiragana. Year 2 students will work towards making meaning of simple Japanese written texts.

We will send homework home next week. Please complete sight word activities and home reading each night. Our show and tell topic for the entire term is free choice, which means students can bring in anything they choose (preferably not toys). The reason for show and tell is to give students practise at talking to the class and develop their confidence. Some ideas include: drawings, a joke, photos of pets or of students doing something they enjoy, collections, what super powers students would like to have, a mystery object with clues, items found in nature etc.

Thank you,

Amber Ryan



Year 3-6 Curriculum News

English – In English, we will be focussing on persuasion and media texts. Students will listen to, read, view and interpret a range of news articles and reports from journals and newspapers to respond to viewpoints portrayed in media texts. Students apply comprehension strategies, focusing on particular viewpoints portrayed in a range of media texts. They create a digital, multimodal feature article, including written and visual elements, from a particular viewpoint. This will also include looking at persuasive devices and some visual literacy involving packaging for our Year 3/4 students.

Mathematics – In Mathematics, all the Year 3-6 students are working on their understanding of number and operations at their different levels of difficulty. This includes continuing the learning of number facts for some of the Year 3/4 group. We have made steady progress with number facts and I am sure that the students still working on mastering these will continue to improve and succeed at these soon. Students will also be learning about the concepts of shapes, fractions and place value. The Year 5/6 students will be specifically developing their ability to apply their mathematical knowledge to problem solving and developing their understanding of formulas and algebra.

To enhance our Mathematics program, the Year 5/6 students will be competing in the Australasian Mathematics Problem Solving Olympiads and Maths Games. This consists of 4 separate problem-solving competitions that are run one month apart from March to September. The overall aim is to encourage students to develop important mathematical problem-solving skills in an enjoyable, non-threatening environment.



Humanities and Social Science – The Year 3/4 students continue to focus on communities in Australia in their studies for HASS during Semester 1. The Year 5/6 students have two unit for this semester that focuses on Australian history and what citizenship in Australia means.

Science – This term we are looking at biology for the Year 3-6 students. We are working on our Hermitage Schools Plant Science competition reports and posters on Mondays and Fridays. We are investigating the comparison between aquaponics and traditional agriculture, conducting an erosion experiment and we are certain that both these topics will be very interesting for our students!

Technology – Technology this term will include solving a space challenge of producing food on Mars, 3-D printing and coding and robotics lessons. Additionally, students will spend some time involved in a Year 3/4 study of the digital technologies that focuses on the systems that we use to enhance our lives, and a design task for the Year 5/6 students that demonstrates an understanding of security in the modern world. We will also be running a Technology Collaboration Day for our cluster at the Clifton State High School later this term in an attempt to build the Coding and Robotics capability of students throughout the cluster and strengthen ties with our upper years' students and the high school as they move towards transitioning.

The Arts – This semester in the Arts, all the students at school will be undertaking visual and media arts lessons and tasks. This will be linked to existing opportunities that we undertake at school so these tasks serve a second purpose and have a real -life context. We are also continuing Instrumental Music lessons for students and piano tuition for some students in the STEAM Shed on Friday.

Health – This term all students will be learning about healthy habits. In this unit, students recognise that habits and programs influence how people choose to behave and this in turn will affect their health. Students will identify practices that keep themselves and others healthy, safe and well.

Japanese – Japanese lessons for the Year 5/6 students are continuing through the Charters Towers School of Distance Education. This is an excellent chance for students to learn a second language. The Year 3/4 students will have a simple unit later this term with Mr. Robertson as their Japanese teacher. Specifically, the Year 3/4 are looking at describing themselves.

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Coming Events⁵

Running Club/Athletics	Wednesday 3pm - 4pm, Weeks 2-9
Tennis Lessons	Tuesday 8am-9am, Weeks 2-9
Toowoomba Show Holiday	Friday April 19
ANZAC Service	Wednesday April 24
ANZAC Day	Thursday April 25
Gala Day 1 (Yr 3-6)	Friday May 24
Gala Day 2 (Yr 3-6)	Friday June 7
Under 8's Day (Clifton State School)	Friday June 7
Small Schools Athletics	Wednesday June 19
Last Day of Term 2	Friday June 21



We are looking forward to seeing everyone back at playgroup next Friday - April 26

SAVE THE DATES

PILTON SOLDIER'S MEMORIAL HALL

2024 EVENT DATES:

COMMUNITY BBQ & BAR - APRIL 14TH

ANZAC CONCERT - APRIL 25TH

TRIVIA NIGHT - AUGUST 3RD

CHRISTMAS BBQ, BAR & CONCERT
DECEMBER 6TH

The graphic features a decorative background with a large, stylized number '5' in the center, a green megaphone in the bottom left, and various floral and starburst patterns. The text is arranged in a clear, bold font.

Kids Corner

