

Principal Report to the P&F Term Two 2017

SIP tie in – to authentically engage students in their learning

- Trying to create working partnerships with parents around learning is important. This is why we have supported the idea of tonight's Maths workshop and involved our teachers and parents in working together. If we have some common understandings about how children learn and we support them together in this, the learning results for our children will be improved.
- We therefore encourage both feedback from parents and engagement through home tasks, attendance at the games afternoon or by accessing 'Maths and Me' via the weebly and homework pages as effective ways of connecting about Maths learning. This linked to a timely meeting with parents at mid-year interviews will be helpful.
- We aim to evaluate our homework policy and procedures with a view to developing something that is in tune with the needs and views of our community.
- Miss Dunk has worked with the Advisory Council on developing a survey for parents and children. The information will be collected prior to the next Advisory Council meeting on June 13th. We would love to have a good number of responses in order to get some reliable data.
- I would like to share a video aimed at Yr 3 learning which is located on the Year 3 Weebly. This way of learning addresses a local issue - our waste collection system; gets the children involved in asking questions about the issue then working in teams to develop an action plan for making a real change in their school. It is relevant; meaningful and very engaging. 2G will be busy finding ways to encourage care for creation through care of the Eco Garden; Yr 5 & 6 is using their study of Australian History to promote an understanding of others within the community.

Strengthening student resilience and wellbeing:

- Two focus groups have been held with parents regarding our Anti-bullying procedures and processes. The groups identified a need for clearer communication of procedures to parents and children; introduction of the policy in Kinder and Year One then in a regular way along with encouragement of parents to support the principles behind the policy.
- There was encouragement of the use of Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) as a key factor in building student resilience and wellbeing. Staff have begun work in using an SEL tracking tool to identify SEL needs in their classroom - more work needs to be done in this area and professional learning is planned for staff.

Inspire faith through relevant and meaningful experiences.

- Confirmation preparation feedback has been positive overall. The Parish is to run facilitators meetings aimed at receiving feedback from the group leaders.

- We will be encouraging the new Parish Priest or Administrator to support the progress and processes that are being made in this area and will be encouraging parents to take on the facilitator role with support for upcoming programs to do with the Eucharist in September

Farewell to Fr Tiziano

- Father Tiziano will be leaving us June 11th after four years as Administrator of Warringah Parish. He will be returning to Italy for a break before being assigned to another role. He has worked hard during his time with us and has especially supported initiatives aimed at creating strong links with our parents as parishioners of Warringah. Our sincere best wishes to Father Tiziano for this next phase in his life. The International Food Fair this Saturday evening will be his farewell event from the Parish.
- Information has still not been received from the Bishop's Office in relation to any of our building plans further to the car park being approved. Requests have regularly been made for more information to be sent.

Concluding points:

- Sincere thanks to our class parents in Year 4 and Year 1. We have raised just over \$6000 from the colour run to be put toward the playground construction project. Mother's Day breakfast was a great success.
- Parent - Teacher and Child interviews will take place in the final two weeks of term to discuss mid-year progress for each child. Grades are given to students from Years 1-6. Kindergarten receives an effort rating on their report. It is expected an interview is held with at least one parent or carer of each child in our school.

Best wishes for the Term ahead,

Mark Bateman - Principal