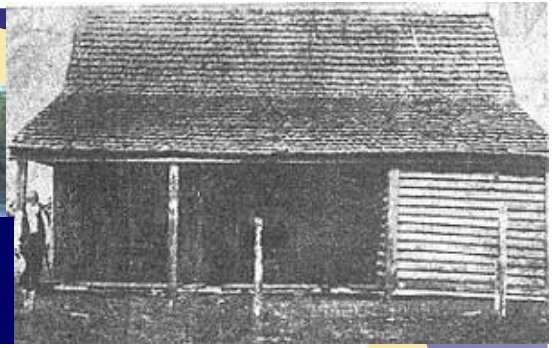


CREEKSIDE NEWS

November 6, 2020



Term 4 News

With the “Blink and you’ll Miss it” nature of 2020, it comes as no surprise that we are very close to the pointy end of the year and things are getting very busy VERY quickly. For us as a staff, we cannot believe how much progress our students have made in such a disrupted year and we just could not be happier with the way in which our students have gone about the business of learning and improving. They truly have demonstrated tremendous skills in being safe, respectful and engaged learners. So from us, as a staff, congratulations to our fantastic and awesome students, for your efforts over the course of the year thus far. You have all improved so much and we are all very proud of you. Well Done!

Speaking of learning, our teachers are currently very heavily involved in finalising assessments for 2020 and have begun report writing for second semester. You will recall that the Semester One reports were modified versions of our usual reports and did not require grading for students using the A-E scale, due to COVID and the “learning from home” period. Reports for second semester will return to our usual format, complete with grading for students in years 1-6 and application descriptors for students in Kindergarten. These reports will include comments that provide an overall picture of achievement and application, along with comments regarding a child’s strengths; as well as any areas for development. Reports will be made available for students on presentation day.

Presentation Day and Year 6 Farewell Update

Last term, we mentioned that we were hoping to see you all at our annual **Presentation Day Assembly** on Monday, December 14 and that the school had tentatively booked the Workers Club in the hope that restrictions around school gatherings would be eased prior to the end of the school year. Unfortunately, due to the 4 square metre per person rule required at indoor venues, this, at this point, does not look as if it’s going to happen. The Workers Club currently has a “gathering” limit of 100 people in its auditorium and, as you can appreciate, we will have 115 students and at least 8 staff present; which clearly doesn’t fit in to 100. This means that our annual presentation day may have to be moved to our top COLA; again, with a very limited number of guests. We appreciate that you may have heard on the commercial news networks recently that school presentations etc. can now go ahead; however, there is a caveat- they may only be conducted under strict COVID guidelines. As much as possible, we would like to have as many guests as we can but the repercussions for us and our school community are that there will have to be a modified version of how this event is conducted. Some alternatives currently being considered are live streaming/ recording of a whole school presentation, or two separate presentation assemblies (K-2 and 3-6) either on the same day, or possibly on different dates. We will keep you updated via the *School Stream* app and the P and C Facebook page as the date draws nearer. Watch this space.

As far as the Year 6 Farewell goes, we are at this point unable to use the community hall as a venue, which again means that this event will have to be held outdoors at the school and, again, under strict COVID guidelines. Mrs Michalak and Miss Todd have been working very hard to source catering and activities that meet COVID-safe guidelines to ensure that we can provide your children with a fitting end to their time at Dora Creek Public School. Rest assured, we will do our best to ensure that it is a night to remember for our Year 6, as they leave our school as Dora Creek students for the very last time. Thank you for your understanding in tricky circumstances.

Kindergarten Artworks

Check out these fantastic drawings of owls, completed by our amazing Kindergarten students while learning with Ms Bretreger. As stated above, we are so very proud of our students in 2020. This is just another example which shows us why!!!! :-)



School Raffle

2020 has brought many changes in schools and across the world, which has severely restricted the opportunities available to experience something new. With that in mind, we as a school have decided that we would introduce a raffle with a difference. In this raffle, which will be conducted by the school to assist with Year 6 fundraising, all of the items available as prizes have been donated by Mr Wilson's mum. For those of you unaware, Mr Wilson is our General Assistant and we wish to extend our heartfelt thanks him and his mother, who have kindly provided us with some beautiful crocheted rugs and some fantastic hand-made carry bags, which make great gifts for the people you care about. Raffle tickets for these items will soon be arriving home with students, so keep an eye out. Thanks in advance for your kind support of this initiative.



3/4H Writing Samples

Once again, 3/4 have been working very hard to build upon their writing skills; this time with a focus upon poetry that includes onomatopoeia, rhyming and the use of imagery. Some of their examples of cinquains, rhyming couplets and alliteration are simply stupendously stunning!

Snowflakes

By Jason, Tommy, Trey & Ryan

Happily floating from the sky
Melting on the snow
Whoosh, wish, wash
It makes me glow

As silent as a smile
Flapping through the breeze
Flap, flip, flap
It's as cool as cheese

Falling like a leaf
Soft bed underneath
Pitter, patter, pitter
What a relief

Falling into snow
Making a puddle
Splish, splosh, splash
Like a teddy bear cuddle

Wind

By Matilda Sams

As wild as a beast
Rushing through the trees
Radly, rushing, racing
It's what we call a breeze

As loud as a storm
The wind blows around
Whish, whoosh, whoosh
Goes the wind above the ground

Blowing past the trees
Whooshing past the ground
Flip, flap, flop
The leaves fall all around

Blowing past the houses
To rest around the trees
Swish, swash, sway
The breeze has stopped with ease

Cinquain

Crocodile
mean, vicious
swimming, stomping, eating
hidden in the water
Carnivore

By Kapri

A Snowy Day

By Charlee and Isaac

As slow as a sloth
Falling from the sky
Smooth, soft, silky
The snows up so high

As quiet as a rock
Floating from the sky
Crash, crackle, crack
The snows goes by

As fast as a flash
Dropping from the sky
boom, bang, bash
The snow's so shy

2021 Places Remain Available

In 2021, the school currently has projected enrolments of 122 students. At this point in time, we have room for non-local students in years 4, 5 and 6, whilst Kindergarten-Year 3 have space for local students only. If you, or anyone you know, has a child who is zoned for Dora Creek PS, and they are seeking a spot in Kindergarten for 2021, we encourage the enrolment process to be completed as soon as possible.

If you are aware of any children in the community whose families might be seeking a change of schooling next year, please suggest that their parents contact our school office as soon as possible.

Gymnastics at Dora Creek Public School

During this term, our students have so far bent, stretched and flexed themselves into many different shapes and forms as part of learning in our 8 week gymnastics program; delivered by Activated Sports Group. The school has used school equity funds of \$2500, along with a grant of \$3200 from *Sporting Schools*, to allow students to participate in this initiative **free of charge** to our families. At Dora Creek Public School, we take great pride in providing our students with engaging, rewarding and meaningful participation in physical activity, as we move towards further cementing our place as a school that places a significant emphasis upon educating the whole child; academically, socially, physically and emotionally. Have a look at our budding gymnasts in action, they're doing great!



Information for applicants

Thinking of applying for a government selective high school for Year 7 in 2022?

You must apply online at:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7>



Key Dates

Application website opens:
13 October 2020

Application website closes:
16 November 2020
You must apply before this date.

Test centre and test authority advice released:
25 February 2021

Selective High School placement test:
11 March 2021

Placement outcome information released:
2 July 2021

Please read this booklet carefully before applying.

From this year, you will be able to log into your application to send and receive messages and notices.

There may be changes to the procedures in this document. Check the website at education.nsw.gov.au/shs-oc regularly for updates throughout the application and placement process.

Please check the website for information before you contact the Team.

P and C News



Next Meeting– 6.30pm, Monday 7th December (Includes AGM) via Zoom.

UPCOMING EVENTS

10/ 11 K-2 Oakvale Farm Excursion

11/ 11 Kinder Orientation 2

13/ 11 Crazy Hair Day

Half Price ice creams/ ice blocks at Canteen

Leadership CVs due to Ms Breteger

25/ 11 Kinder Orientation 3

27/ 11 GOLD and SILVER Reward

30/ 11 Swim School Begins

01/ 12 2021 Leadership Speeches

Yr 7 2021 MHS Orientation

11/ 12 Swim School Ends

14/ 12 Presentation Day

Year 6 Farewell

15/ 12 Sapphire Reward (TBC)

16/ 12 Final School Day for 2020

Year 6 Excursion

29/ 01 **Students in Years 1-6 Return for 2021**

Best Start– Kindergarten (by appointment)

01/ 02 *Best Start*– Kindergarten (by appointment)

02/ 02 Kindergarten begins

NOTES HOME

Swim School

Oakvale Farm

Stage 3 Gala Days

Crazy Hair/ Hat