



HopeTown Newsletter

Term 4— 2011

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Greetings,

Hopetown School has been a hive activity over the past few weeks in terms of assessment and reporting. In reading the reports it is evident that many students have worked incredibly hard to achieve their personal best not only academically but socially and emotionally. They are to be congratulated on their due diligence and effort. It is pleasing to see that sheer hard work has paid off for many students and they are to feel proud of their achievement.

Students have enjoyed a variety of end of year outings to celebrate their achievements over 2011. They have deserved the recognition for showing the resilience to make it through an often challenging year.

At this time of year we say farewell to some students. We look forward to hearing positive news about John and Jake as they begin post school life. Billy, Jack M, Jeffery, Ryan, Jack D, Lachlan, Jamie, Stephen and Caleb will transition to Year 7 and begin the next phase of their schooling. We wish all these boys the best of luck.

It has been encouraging to see that the vast majority of students are wearing their full school uniform and they look terrific. Our aim is have all students in uniform for the start of 2012.

Students have compiled a photo book to commemorate the opening of the new library. The book is to be presented to our local MP Craig Thompson as a record of our appreciation of the library which was built as a part of the Building the Education Revolution scheme.

The staff at Hopetown would like to thank our school community for their support during the year. We trust all will have a relaxing Christmas break and sincerely look forward to an exciting and challenging new year.

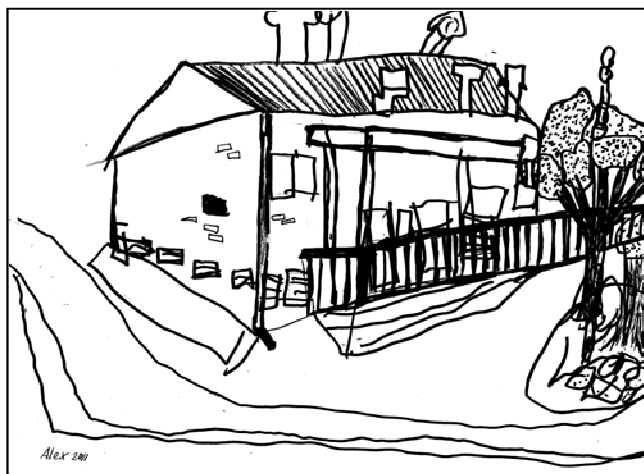
Vince Malone
Relieving Principal

Dates to remember

First day back for students 2012, Wednesday 1st February.
BER morning tea & presentation 7th March.
Secondary Swim Carnival Friday 9th March.
Basin Camp dates to be advised.

Our New Library

The initiative known as Building the Education Revolution was responsible for the construction and furnishing of our new library. The modern and functional building has proven to be a valuable asset to our school community. As a thank you to the Federal Government the students have compiled a book which includes poems, illustrations, photos, and reports related to our new library. A copy of the photo book will be presented to the local federal member Mr Craig Thompson early in 2012, and there will also be a copy kept in our school library.



Orientation Days

On Wednesday 30th November and Friday 2nd December primary staff offered an orientation to new students and their families. Students from our intake for 2012 experienced taster lessons in the classrooms which included Christmas activities, cooking and PE, while their parents spent time in the new library where they were given relevant information regarding their child's enrolment at Hopetown. Parents were reminded that the school can not work alone to reshape the students lives in this environment, we must have parental support to achieve any level of success. A delicious morning tea was provided by the secondary school catering team.

Some of our local fauna that
safety hatched over a very hot
weekend in November.



Saunders Class

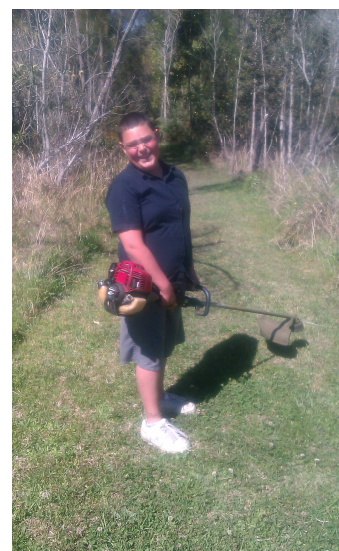


This term Saunders class has continued their enthusiasm and commitment to the Hopetown in-school work experience program. Students are improving their skills in many areas of outdoor maintenance. Areas covered include whipper snipping, leaf blowing, mowing, painting and gardening. Keep up the great work boys.

Saunders class have been attending Ten Pin Bowling and Mingara Aquatic Centre this term. It has been encouraging to see that on most occasions the boys have been demonstrating appropriate social behaviour when outside the school grounds. All the boys should be proud of their efforts.

The students have also been participating in the Australian Surf Life Saving program being conducted at the school's pool. In this program, students have been instructed on different skills or techniques that are common around and in pool environments.

We hope all the boys and their families have a safe and happy holiday period. See you all next year.



Primary Lunch Program

<http://www.bigbrothermouse.com/>

The primary lunch program has again made a profit thanks to the support of our school community.

Last year we supported several local organisations including Gosford Children's Ward, Westpac Helicopters, and Toowoyn Bay Surf Life Saving Club.

We are going global in 2011, and making a donation to a program called "Big Brother Mouse" in Laos. This organisation provides books for remote village schools. The children in these villages may not have had a book before.

With our donations, they will receive a book to take home along with 80 books for their school library. The organisation holds a book party at the school to celebrate and raise awareness in the village.



NAIDOC Week project at our Sorry Garden (above)



Boardies Day Primary

Rain washed out our planned water activities, but we wore our boardies and had a sausage sizzle. Thank you for your "gold coins". Your generosity has allowed us to donate \$50 to Surf Life Saving on the coast.

The planned activities were held on Friday 9/12/11. It was a beautiful sunny day and the students had great fun throwing water bombs, playing noodle games and sliding down the water slide.



Puppets on Tour



Year 8 students from Narara Valley High School came to entertain the Hopetown boys on Monday afternoon. The visitors had made their puppets and written some short skits with Christmas themes. The Hopetown students were entertained by the colourful puppets, witty scripts and a few Christmas Carols.

Without a curtain for this performance the boys were asked to cover their eyes between acts.



The puppets were rod puppets with flip-top heads. They were similar to "The Muppets".

Everyone enjoyed the performance.



Woodbury Class

The students of Woodberry this term have had the opportunity to obtain their boating licence. For three consecutive Fridays, the students gained knowledge and experience in driving the school boat at various locations such as travelling down Wyong River to The Entrance, Tuggerah Lake and Lake Macquarie. The students enjoyed the outings whilst gaining practical skills in navigating the different waterways.



Distance Education

Congratulations to Damien Rigby in Year 10 who completed his School Certificate exams this term. Damien has worked hard all year to accomplish this.

Two Year 9 students, David Creaton and Joshua Stevenson-Howard, also travelled to Sydney Distance Education High School at Woolloomooloo, to receive academic awards. The effort and persistence that they have put into their work this year has been formally acknowledged at a Sydney Distance Education High School presentation day.

Thank you to all the students completing Distance Education for the effort you have made this year in completing work and supporting each other in class.

Sandbar Camp

A number of students from Secondary and Primary classes visited Sandbar for the annual school camp. Sandbar is located 2.5 hours north of the Central Coast and is situated between the ocean and Smith's Lake.

Wet weather did not discourage the enthusiastic group of campers who participated in fishing, swimming, surfing, boating, snorkelling and bushwalking activities. Students also made day trips into Forster and Seal Rocks. After 4 days of rain however, the campsite was inundated with water and most tents were leaking. A decision was made to return to school one day early as the forecast continued to look grim. The camp was still a great success with students enjoying their stay, the BBQ dinners and the local wildlife including dingoes and bush turkeys.

A big thank you must go out to all staff and students for their efforts during the camp.



2012 TVET Start Date

Parents are reminded that all TVET / courses for Year 11 and Year 12 start the week of the 30th January.

Computer Aided Drafting (Gosford) Tuesday 31st January
Construction (Ourimbah) Tuesday 31st January
Furniture (Ourimbah) Tuesday 31st January
Sport and recreation (Wyong) Tuesday 31st January
Electrotechnology (Wyong) Tuesday 31st January
Metal and Engineering (Gosford) Tuesday 31st January
Animal Care (Gosford) Thursday 2nd February
Hairdressing (Access Gosford) Thursday 2nd February
Animal Care (Wyong) Tuesday 31st January

Parents and students are reminded that they will be required to check their start times and will be required to travel to TAFE on the allocated day.

V8 Telstra 500 in Sydney

Nine secondary students attended the Sydney Telstra 500 Students on Track day on Friday 2nd of December. The students had the opportunity to gain an insight into the motorsport industries and the importance of safety whilst driving. The students watched a variety of cars practising on the circuit including V8 super cars, Porsche and V8's utes.



I baked blueberry muffins in our food tech room. I brought some over to share with the office staff. If I wanted to I could make them at home.
Michael (to the left)

Primary Reward Excursion at Camp Toukley

It is very pleasing that a majority of our primary students were able to attend the reward excursion in week 9 of Term 4. This reward was based upon students receiving at least 75% of their stickers. These stickers are awarded to students for achieving success in areas such as showing respect to others and completing their school work each day.

Our day did not go exactly as planned. The colder weather led to the cancellation of canoeing. The students still had a great day doing a variety of activities. Quad bike riding was very popular and exciting to watch.



Most children also tried archery while some students tested their skills on the BMX track.

After a sausage sizzle lunch, our students were able to use the trampolines and try out the challenging obstacle course in the adventure playground.



I'm making a model car out of sheet metal. I use an oxyacetylene cutter, rivets and tinsnips.
Adam (to the left)

Parent Line 1300 1300 52
Www.parentline.org.au This useful website has printable parent information sheets.