



HopeTown Newsletter

Term 4— 2012

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As another school year closes it is time to reflect and put the year's events into perspective. There has been no shortage of 'dramas', large and small that have required skilled responses by staff and the understanding and support of parents and carers to resolve. We have always encouraged open communication between school and home and see this as essential for the effective and positive support of our students.

It is accurate and pleasing to note that although times can be tumultuous, steady progress has been made. Our assessments have shown that most of our students have achieved gains in their literacy and numeracy skills and have shown improvement in their social and emotional capacities. These capacities are assessed in the domains of self-awareness, self-regulation, empathy, social skills and motivation.

As well as achievements in the classroom, students have had opportunities to gain skills and experience in other environments. During this term, students have been; on overnight treks, doing volunteer work in the wider community, undergoing travel training, camping and participating in a wide and interesting range of excursions. One lucky group was even invited by the Cruising Yacht Club of Sydney and shown how to crew yachts around the harbour.

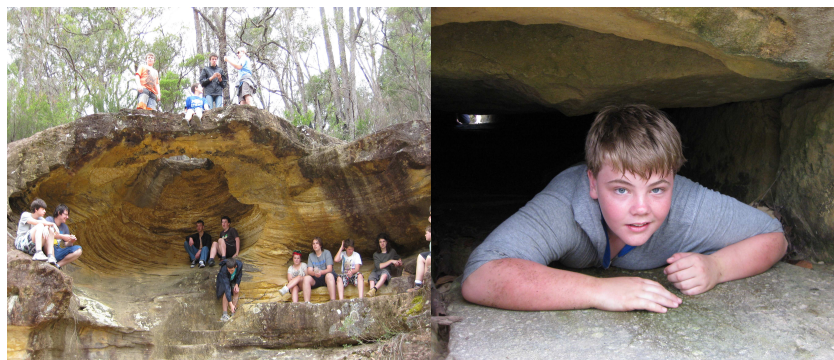
One of our aims is to broaden our students' horizons by opening their minds to an expanding range of possibilities as we provide enriching experiences and introduce visions of a future that may not have been considered.

I hope that everyone's immediate future is a bright one and wish you all an enjoyable and safe festive season.

Terry Taylor PRINCIPAL

Del Rio Camp

With the warmer months upon us it was time for our annual school camp which this year was located at Del Rio Resort. The camp grounds are situated on the Hawkesbury River near Wisemans Ferry. Students enjoyed a variety of activities including fishing, boating, swimming, bushwalking, canoeing, bike riding, golf, cooking marshmallows around a campfire and everyone's favourite, aerobics on the giant inflatable pillow. While the camp is physically demanding, for many it is emotionally challenging as well as some students have spent little time away from home. After very active days, most students overcame initial anxieties to have a good night's sleep. It was a pleasure to see students having a good time at camp while showing respect towards each other, staff and other campers at the campgrounds.



Thank you

Hoptown School received a donation of two Rescue Boards from the Avoca Beach Surf Lifesaving Club. The boards can be used by staff and students for lifesaving and training purposes. Student confidence and personal safety has improved as they enjoy water based programs with rescue boards on standby. Please support your local Surf Life Saving Club as they have supported Hoptown School.

Dates to remember

Easter holidays - Good Friday 29th March 2013 Easter Monday 1st April 2013

Schools resumes Tuesday 2nd April 2013

Secondary Swimming Carnival Friday 8th March 2013

End of first term— Friday 12th April 2013

Senior Café

It has been a very creative and positive year in Senior Café. The boys that have staffed the café have worked extremely hard. They have helped create a new menu for the school which has been well received. They have shown great understanding of food preparation and safety. Their improvement in confidence and their ability to get along has made the café a great success in 2012.



Woodbury Class



The students in Woodbury class have worked steadily during Term Four completing work for their respective subjects provided through Distance Education.

Joshua Stevenson-Howard received an academic award. Joshua came first in the Year 10 Electronics course. The effort and persistence that he put into his work this year have been formally acknowledged by Sydney Distance Education High School.

Michael Ford received 18 Achievement Awards this term, from Distance Education, for his responses, effort and consistency in submitting work.

On Thursday 29th November Woodbury class went on a reward outing to Wamberal Lagoon. All students had a fun day canoeing, swimming and paddling on the lagoon.

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

Wednesday's Food Technology with Saunders Class

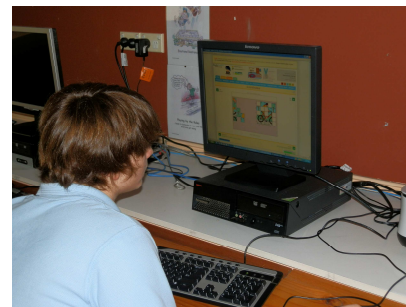
This term Keian, from Saunders Class, has been enjoying the finer things in life as he has whipped up meal after meal every Wednesday in Food Technology. From Ham, Harvati and Spinach Salad to Hamburgers with Tomato Relish, Keian's skills in using fresh produce, cooking healthy food, using measuring spoons and presentation have been progressively developing. Every week Keian has been taking risks by trying new skills such as slicing, dicing, whisking, kneading and rolling. He has been playing by the rules by setting the table for a friendly lunch with his teachers and helping to clean up afterwards.



Flinders Class

The students from Flinders class have been learning about aspects of Primary Production as part of their program this term. Students have shown a great interest in the types and uses of agriculture in Australia. During their studies, the students have explored the regions of Australia that are best suited for particular types of farming and the transport systems that support this industry.

Throughout this term, Flinders class have been studying the Vietnam War as part of their history program. Students have enjoyed learning about the tactics used during the war and the impact it had on both civilians and soldiers. A few weeks ago, we were very lucky to have school visit from the Nam Bus. This was a mobile museum of war artillery, photos and several Vietnam Veterans. Students enjoyed listening to the Veterans experiences and gained a great insight into the war.



All students should be extremely proud of their efforts in the classroom this semester.

Primary Fishing Term 4

Primary students were fortunate to have fine weather on Fridays this term and were able to attend fishing for sport. Some of the younger students had little experience with fishing before but their fishing skills are developing quickly. The students have been very enthusiastic and well behaved when on the excursions. A few students have had the thrill of catching a fish but have had to let them go as they were too small.



Primary Room 3 Acrostic Poems

Australia is a cool place
Uluru is home to many different things
Sea is good for swimming
Too many snakes,
Right across the country
Lucky there's no anaconda
In Australia is lots of sunshine
And now you see why Australia is the best!

by Cameron Gore



Australia
Use our miners to collect opals
Sink in a bath after finding opals
Tie your ties for executive jobs
Ride slide to have fun
Australia has great parks
Lick ice-cream because it's hot
I will have an office job when I grow up
Australia!

by Aaron Todd



Recount: Del Rio by Kane

Last week I went to Del Rio for the school camp. It took about one and a half hours drive to get there. The drive was boring and noisy.

When we got there we put up our tents and put our stuff in them. Then we went for a ride on the bikes to the jetty. Then we went back to the campsite and I got something to eat.

We went in the pool and in the boat. We also went in the canoe, jumped on the big pillow and went on a bushwalk. I had the best time of my life.

Primary Swimming

During 2012, Hopetown primary students benefited from swimming lessons in Term 1 and Term 4. There was also a 2 week Special Swimming Program in Term 1. We made good use of our swimming pool for both swimming lessons and recreational swimming.

SLSO Kevin Reed was our swimming instructor. Kevin planned and taught weekly training sessions that focused on survival skills and safety, as well as stroke improvement.



These lessons also helped children to improve their fitness and be more confident in their own abilities.

Safety and awareness of pool dangers were key elements of the program. We have observed impressive improvements in all these areas.

Transport Excursion to Newcastle by Primary 1

On Wednesday we went to Fighter World. We hopped on the train to Newcastle, then we caught a ferry to Stockton where the school van picked us up and took us to Fighter World.

First we went on a train. We went in different carriages and we played our DS's. We saw lots of buildings that looked like Lego. Then we got off the train and we walked to one of the tables to have our recess. On the way to the ferry we saw some crabs. The crabs were black. Next we went on the ferry. The ferry went from Newcastle to Stockton. Ken was waiting with the van. Later we all got to Fighter World. There were heaps of planes everywhere and some bombs and guns. At times we took turns on the jets in Fighter World. There were games. Alex and I saw a cardboard jet. Then we saw the radar. We went up stairs and saw the jets take off. When I looked down I saw an army man. Finally we hopped into the plane. We saw jets flying over the roof. Dae-Han and I saw a rocket. The rocket was big.

On the way home we had an ice cream each at McDonalds. Then we had a play in the playground. Following this we went home in the van. It was a fun day.



This recount was written in sections by the students.



Nambus Visit

The Nambus and veterans from the Vietnam War visited Hopetown as part of the school's history program. The Nambus is a mobile museum which is literally a decommissioned Sydney City bus fitted out with displays and memorabilia from the Vietnam War. The veterans spoke to secondary students about their experiences in the war. After the talk, students viewed the displays on the bus, tried on uniforms and radio packs worn in battle and handled a number of weapons including grenades, bullets and missiles. Thank you to all students who participated on the day and to the veterans of the Gosford City Sub-Branch of the Vietnam Veterans Federation of Australia who volunteered their time.



Eat Well Stay Well Program

The Eat Well Plate was the focus of study in the Food Technology course this semester. It saw all students embark on an Eat Well program that included preparing, cooking and eating some delicious healthy food. It was wonderful to see students' skills improve and their new-found willingness to try some foods they had previously avoided. Students prepared dishes such as Four Bean and Beef Casserole, Buckwheat Pancakes with Fruit Compote, Fruit Salad with Lemon Cream and Yoghurt Dip, and Lemon Delicious Puddings. The garden layered salad was a surprising favourite. It was a pleasure to teach this subject with such enthusiastic students.



V8 Supercars

Students from Flinders and other classes enjoyed an exhilarating day out, visiting the V8 Super Cars at Homebush. All students exhibited outstanding behaviour on the bus both to and from the venue. Upon arrival the sun was blazing and the engines were roaring around the track in the Porsche car category. From there the students entered the much appreciated air-conditioned pavilions where the decked-out panel vans, utilities and muscle cars were on display. The students then got up close and personal with a drag car, this was an all-out attack on the senses with the noise and fumes being overwhelming for most. Other highlights for the day were the motocross demonstration, turbine powered remote control cars, impressive sound systems and of course the V8 qualifiers.

The boy's manners should be commended as they continually handled themselves with maturity when interacting with grounds staff and the general public. The students were cooperative with staff and each other and we all look forward to a return visit next year.



Woodwork with Saunders Class

This term the focus in Woodwork for Saunders Class has been developing the skills necessary to complete a major project over several weeks. This involved Fred building a special wooden box to hold his brand new i-pod and Keian making and evaluating a bow and arrow design until complete. These students showed increased persistence, organisation and confidence while completing these projects. Skills with the band saw, drills, hammer and nails, glue and dowel pieces, measuring and sanding were developed further. Harley joined our woodwork class later in the term and has improved his confidence in using the band saw. All students have been getting along by using good communication skills in listening and in sharing their needs while completing their woodwork projects.

Townie Reward Outing

Congratulations go to
Michael ,Logan ,BJ, Jeffery,
Adam C and Mitchell for receiving the Reward Outing.
The boys had a fabulous day at
Erina Ice Skating

Hopetown School's students and parents wish to thank the Lions Club of Wyoming for again giving us tickets to the 'World Festival of Magic'.

This great community and family event is made possible through the generosity of local businesses.

The Duke of Edinburgh

This year students in Hargraves class have been participating in the Duke of Edinburgh program and have been completing our bronze award which has four areas of achievement. These sections include physical recreation, skills, volunteering and an Adventurous Journey and Qualifying Journey

Physical recreation - improve physical fitness and activities. We had to do 1 hour per week.

Skills - we had to do about 1 hour per week and we had to learn a new skill.

Volunteer - we had to get out in the community to contribute our time and services as we have also benefitted from the community.

Adventures Journey - we had to go for an overnight camp to discover your sense of adventure and to build team skills.

Qualifying Journey - we had to plan a camp on our own including finding a place to camp and planning meals.



'Thankyou' to Mrs Lott for helping us to accomplish our Duke of Edinburgh Award and for supplying the motivational support needed to complete our physical and emotional journey.

NAISDA Morning Star Dance Performance

A number of Aboriginal students from Hopetown visited Laycock Street Theatre to view a dance performance called Morning Star – New Day , New Spirit, New Life.

The production was put on by NAISDA Dance College which is a dance academy for Indigenous students.

The performance was choreographed by Patrick Thaiday, who is a highly respected member of Bangarra Dance Theatre.

Students were very impressed with the performance which included traditional and contemporary dances.

The matinee performance was close to a sell out with students from a number of central coast schools attending.

Q: How can I help my child get the best out of the net?

Q: What risks should I know about and how do I protect my child on the net?

Q: How do I make a complaint about offensive material?

Q: Where can I find great sites for the kids?

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