



HopeTown Newsletter

Term 1-2016

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

No-one has ever become poor by giving. – Anne Frank

‘Why should students have to pick up someone else’s rubbish?’ This was said to me not just by some students but also a parent. It was a good question to ask because the answer is central to our goals at Hopetown.

The context was our students being asked to participate in a wonderful program called Clean4shore which enlists volunteers to clean up many of the waterways on the Central Coast. People have dumped items large and small in our creeks, rivers, lakes and beaches and Clean4shore’s volunteers retrieve this rubbish, haul it into a barge and dispose of it properly. Hundreds of kilograms of rubbish can be collected by a small group in just one morning. It has been encouraging to see the vigour shown by our participating students and to know that their efforts have contributed to the betterment of their community.

So back to the question; ‘Why should students have to pick up someone else’s rubbish?’ Hopetown’s vision is to develop three aspects of its students; the learner, the individual and the citizen. Contributing to the good of the community can address each of those three aspects. Skills can be learnt, personal values and motivations can be discussed, desirable character traits can be promoted and acknowledged and students can gain a stronger sense of civic participation, responsibility, pride and belonging. Plus, the world is a little bit better for it.

Many of our students are embroiled in personal disputes, are looking to find fault in others, are focussed on their own wants and are finding it difficult to see themselves or the world in a positive light. Doing good deeds for others without thoughts of personal gain can ironically bring great personal rewards. Students who consider and help others and the community can end up feeling valued, proud and useful. They can experience the benefits of doing something positive and meaningful and can see the world as something to which they can contribute rather than as a resource to be exploited.

In the interests of the social and emotional development of its students, Hopetown will continue to promote service learning, contributions to charities and offering students opportunities to volunteer for the benefit for the community.

Winston Churchill once said; ‘We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.’

Terry Taylor - Principal

“To do more for the world than the world does for you, that is success.” - Henry Ford

Primary School Swimming Scheme 2016

The School Swimming and Water Safety Program was again successful this year.



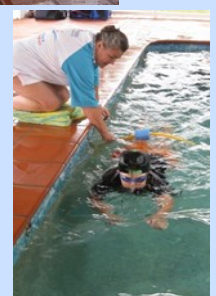
This year the program provided individual lessons for each student. The swimming instructors were very knowledgeable and knew just what to say to help the

students progress. The students who participated all showed improvement with such expert attention. While there were varying levels of enthusiasm, two students Brandon and Alex, had both great attendance and also put in a great effort.



Congratulations to all

students who participated.



Dates to Remember Term 2 2016

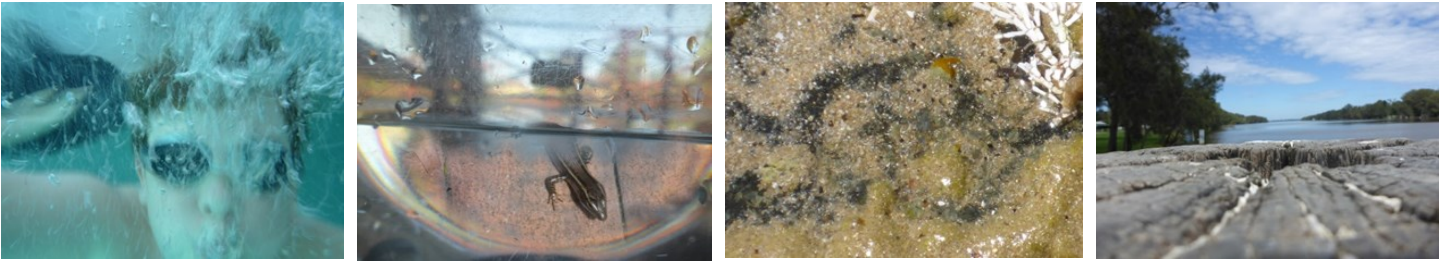
Students return: Wednesday 27th April and we welcome our new Assistant Principal Mr Paul Borodin
Queen's Birthday Public Holiday: Monday 13th June
Last day of Term 2: Friday 1st July

Photographic and Digital Media

This term students from Flinders class explored the ways in which photographs can communicate their experiences.



The students captured photos under, in and around water. They explored how the positioning of important elements within a scene can add balance and interest to their photos.



Photoshop was introduced to the students and they utilised features of the software as a means to altering images and layering photos to create new images.



Vietnam

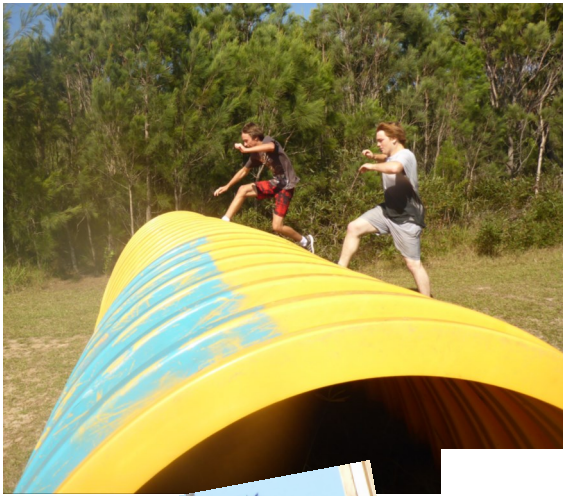


This semester Flinders and Hargraves class have been studying a thematic unit on Vietnam. This unit has incorporated several Key Learning Areas including geography, history, visual arts, numeracy and plenty of literacy. Students started the unit by learning about where Vietnam is located in the world, completing a detailed map. Students then completed an independent research project on a landform of their choice. Some of the landforms that were researched include Han Son Doong (one of the largest caves in the world), Mekong Delta and Red River Delta. Students were amazed by the abundant rainforests and jungle areas in Vietnam. Both classes are putting in their best efforts to create a unique classroom environment that reflects learning. Students are very proud of their efforts in this subject and welcome parents / carers to check out these class displays.



Raw Challenge – 2016

This term Hopetown entered into its second Raw Challenge event, a 5km endurance course with obstacles. They competed alongside students and staff from North Gosford Leaning Centre. The enthusiasm and involvement of our students was extremely high, with almost all secondary students participating on the day. It was a physically demanding course with our students not only confidently rising to the challenge but also conquering many psychological hurdles such as the height of many of the obstacles and squeezing through some extremely narrow spaces. Students encouraged each other through the various stages and offered support to one another, as a team approach was essential to clearing the hurdles.



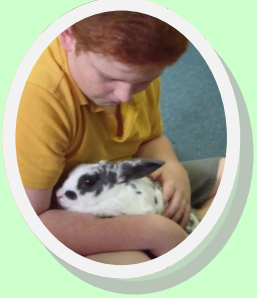
Thank you to all the staff and parents/carers who supported the boys on the day and response from the students is—they can't wait until next year's event!

Rabbits in the Classroom

Mrs Addison brought her rabbits, Alfie and Willow, to school. Alfie is a dwarf rabbit and he is a boy. Willow is a girl. We got to hold and pet them. After that she put them in the box and left.

I like rabbits because they are fluffy.

Brandon



The Poppy Project Never Forgetting the Sacrifices

This year marks the 100th anniversary of Australian War personnel disembarking upon the French coastline in order to join the Western Front campaign. With ANZAC Day drawing near, the students and staff at Hopetown School assisted in the preparations required to create the installation to be on display at Terrigal Skillion. Whilst assembling the poppies to be included in the displays, classes discussed the many sacrifices the Australian soldiers and their families undertook. Students recognised the significance of participating in the creation of an installation that acknowledges and commemorates the lives of Australians who died in military operations over the years.



Yoga Matt

During Term 1 the primary classes have enjoyed a 30 minute session of yoga, presented by Matt, an enthusiastic yoga instructor.



The boys follow a series of challenging yoga poses that increases their flexibility, strength and balance.

Yoga is designed to relax both body and mind.

Classroom 2 News

The students of Classroom Two have been studying Natural Disasters during term one. The students have learnt about different types of natural disasters and the science behind why they happen. For art, the students made papier mache volcanoes using a small drink bottle. This was spread over a few lessons and the students showed great patience and determination to complete them to a very high standard.



After making their volcanoes the students were very keen to complete their procedure on "How to make a volcanic eruption" using vinegar, bicarbonate of soda, red food colouring, detergent and water. After writing about what to do, the students were then very eager to put their knowledge to work and had great fun watching and helping each other as the volcanoes erupted.

Clean Up Australia Day

Clean Up Australia Day was a huge success this year with students from all classes lending a hand to make the community we live in a cleaner, healthier environment. This year we employed the help of Graham Johnston from Clean4Shore who specialises in cleaning up marine environments with various community organisations and schools. As part of Graham's program, students removed rubbish from our local creeks, rivers and lakes. A large flat bottom oyster barge is utilised to transport volunteers to various locations over shallow sand and weed bed. The barge can then be filled with rubbish before being transported back to shore for proper disposal. Students collected over 500kg of rubbish over the 4 locations cleaned up on the day. The day provides a great opportunity for students to give something back to the local community. Fostering positive connections with the local community and a creating sense of citizenship are paramount to the development of our students.



For further information on the great work Graham from Clean4Shore is doing, check out his Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/Clean4shoremacs>



The Basin Camp

A group of students enjoyed an overnight camp at The Basin Campgrounds on Pittwater. The remote location was accessed by water where students packed all their own supplies required for survival for 2 days. Students had to set up camp and cook for themselves with minimal assistance from staff. The camp is designed to foster a greater level of independence and responsibility. Students overcame all challenges and enjoyed activities on offer. It was great to see older students mentoring younger students in the group. Assistance was voluntarily offered from older students for younger students with tangled fishing lines. Emotional support was also provided when younger students expressed fear or anxiety in some situations.

Thanks to the staff and students who were involved in the Basin Camp.



Primary Swimming Carnival

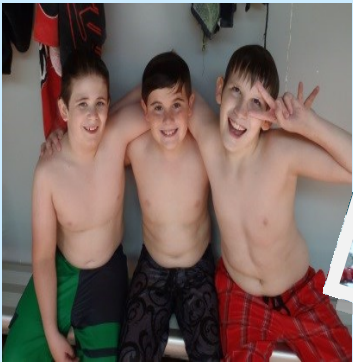


On Friday 1st April the primary held their swimming carnival at the Hopetown pool. We always have the carnival to follow on from the School Swimming Scheme. This helps to increase the student confidence and strengthen the swimming skills that the students have been taught.

The carnival is always fun, yet challenging. We had 10 events which accommodated all skill levels. Events included tyre races, noodle races and flipper races, with relays and a triathlon as well.

The carnival was followed by a "Sausage Sizzle" and popper, which was prepared by the staff. Ribbons were given out later in the afternoon.

The swimming carnival offers students an opportunity to use all of the social skills that they have been learning about in the classroom. Students were encouraging others to do their best, helping others as part of a team and they were also staying safe by following the pool rules.



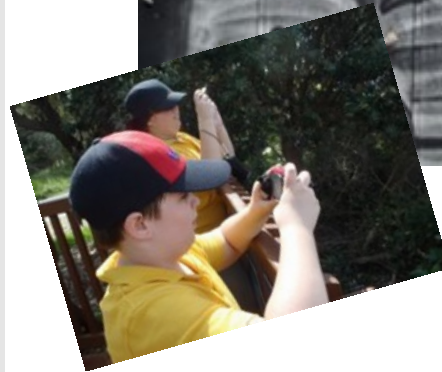
Primary 1 Excursion

On Monday 4th April Primary 1 went on an excursion to three different parts of the Central Coast. Our first stop was Bateau Bay Square, where we purchased the rewards for our behaviour program. Each student was allowed to spend \$20 to buy his own reward. This reward is then used as an incentive to encourage hard work, pleasant conversation and showing respect within the school day.

Our second stop was to the park at North Entrance. The class played on the fixed equipment, working together and challenging themselves to climb, swing and hang on the apparatus.



The next stop was to the Norah Head Lighthouse to take photos as part of our Digital Photography unit. The boys enjoyed wandering around the old buildings and exploring the grounds.



Hopetown Staff would like to acknowledge and congratulate the majority of students who wear their uniform with pride each day to school.

These students are showing respect to our school and responsibility as an individual who is keen to learn and participate in school life.

Have a restful holiday and we look forward to seeing all students again next Term