



HopeTown Newsletter

TERM 4, 2018

177 Pollock Avenue Wyong
Postal Address: PO Box 805, WYONG 2259
Phone: 43532522
Email: hoptown-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website: www.hoptown-s.schools.nsw.edu.au

Principal's Message

2018 has been a year of change for Hoptown School as we launched into the first year of our new School Plan 2018-2020. We have implemented a huge range of new learning programs and activities, upgraded classrooms, introduced new learning technologies and developed outdoor learning spaces. Hoptown has both hosted and been involved in a number of community and joint school events, fundraised and supported local charities, networked and shared expertise with colleagues from local schools and welcomed a range of therapists (and Peter Rabbit) to work with us to further support our students. We are currently working on what will be reviewed, updated and introduced in 2019 as we continue to improve teaching and learning opportunities for the Hoptown School Community.

In 2019 we will be trialling a new SMS system to make sure you receive information and updates about attendance, school events, meetings and school activities as well as to let you know how your child's day has been. The text message will be written by staff and come through a computer system, so there will not be a reply number. As always, if you need to contact us, you are always able to call the school on 43532522.

At the end of such a busy term, I take this opportunity to say a heartfelt and very grateful thanks to everyone involved in supporting Hoptown School in 2018; engaged students, hardworking and innovative staff, supportive parents/carers, community members, community partners, local schools, agencies and services. It has been my absolute privilege to work with you all, making a difference together, as a strong, collaborative and proactive team.

We also say a special thank you to a number of staff members who are moving on from Hoptown and wish them all the very best for their future adventures! Jennine Addison, Sarah McCartney, Tamara Sidorenko, Danny Hughes, Jodi O'Donoghue and Jane O'Donnell have all been valued members of the Hoptown team, some for a short time, others for a long time. They have all sorts of exciting opportunities ahead of them and we thank them for the expertise they have shared with us during their time here.

We wish you all a safe, happy festive season and summer break and we look forward to seeing you again in 2019!

Kirsty Reynolds

R/Principal

Athletics Success!

This year Hoptown primary students participated in the Wallarah Zone athletics carnival in both track and field events. Students participated in the Norm and Elizabeth Austen Small Schools Trophy 4 x 100m relay which enabled them to qualify to compete at Sydney North. We travelled down to Sydney Olympic Park Athletics Centre at Homebush to compete on the main track against other small schools. The boys ran an amazing race, coming in third. This resulted in another trip to Homebush to compete at state level. Hoptown students ran a competitive race against more than 20 teams. Aaron, Dyllan, Noah and Zac should be proud of their achievements and their positive attitude to competing on the big stage.



**Wishing all Hoptown families
a happy Christmas break
Stay Safe**



**First day back at school for students is
Thursday 31st January 2019**

Beekeeping at Hopetown School

Students from Darcy class are excited to be involved in a beekeeping program. The beehive is located on Hopetown School grounds and is part of the expansion of the school's agriculture program. Activities which students will engage in include routine hive inspections, pest management procedures and harvesting honey. The bee hive is coming along nicely with plenty of brood and honey present in the hive already. We hope to have honey available for sale early Term 1 2019.



Did you know.....?

Bees have 5 eyes.

Male bees are called drones and they don't sting. They live in the hive and look after the queen.

Worker bees (the ones that collect pollen) are female and they do sting.

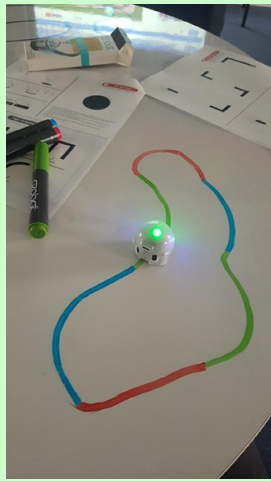
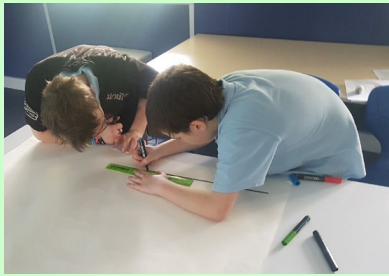
The average worker bee lives for just 5 to 6 weeks. In this time, she will make around a twelfth of a teaspoon of honey.

The queen can live up to 5 years and can lay up to 2,500 eggs a day.

An average beehive can hold around 50,000 bees.

Honey bees are fantastic at flying. They fly at a speed of around 25km per hour and beat their wings 200 times per second.

STEM—Science, Technology, English, Maths
This term Flinders experimented with **OZOBOTS**.
Students learned to program movements and directions using colour codes.



This term students in Kendall class have been studying *The Greatest Showman* as a part of their English studies. Students have been learning about the history of the circus and how modern circuses have moved away from using animals. To enhance their understanding of the future of this industry, students were given a backstage tour and talk with Circus Rio when they were situated at Wadalba. The tour was led by Hannah, the manager of Circus Rio. She informed us of the many roles within their circus and how each person's contribution is vital to the success of their Australia wide tour. During the talk, we met several circus staff that were rehearsing for their night performances. Students were amazed by the strength shown by these performers, a result of years of hard work and dedication. Thank you so much to Hannah for giving up her precious time and giving students an insight into a performers' lifestyle.

Responsible Fishing Program

As part of the Marine and Aquaculture Technology curriculum, students have enjoyed this term's *Fishing* unit of work. In the classroom, students examined a variety of sustainable commercial and recreational fishing practices. Students also enjoyed visiting local rivers, estuaries and ocean environments to try and land a big catch. Students also learnt how to prepare a variety of seafood dishes, including the preparation on a large Australian Salmon for fish cakes.



THE INTRODUCTION OF BREAKFAST CLUB during Yarn Up in the mornings has been a positive way to start our day. Students gather around the table to share stories and a meal. Dyllan and Tyler have perfected the art of cooking porridge and a little sprinkling of brown sugar and a splash of milk are the all-time favourite added extras. Friday's special of pancakes has definitely been a hit, with flipping actions been laughed at by all as pancakes become stuck to the side of the pan or folded in half. The boys often play a variety of card games as they chat and nibble away at their breakfast. Breakfast Club has provided another opportunity for students to engage in social conversations, learn cooking skills and discover new friendships over food.



Thank you **KEN'S PIE SHOP** at Wyong
for donating bread for our Breakfast Club
each week!



HARGRAVES TEXTILES

Tie-Dye Cushion Cover

1. Wet two pieces of fabric.
2. Chose a pattern and twist the fabric in a spiral.
3. Put elastic bands on in a star pattern.
4. Choose different colours and put it on the fabric in a pattern.
5. Wrap it up in cling wrap and leave it overnight.
6. Run it under cold water to rinse it out and let it dry
7. Pinned the sides of the fabric together and stitch it on the sewing machine
8. Leave one side. Push the cushion inside
9. Hand sew the last side

By Hargraves



Hargraves designed their own shirt logo designs. They then put them onto the shirts with iron-on transfer paper. Students were very proud of their unique creations.

CULTURAL CONNECTIONS

Hopetown School held its third Annual Cultural Connection Camp this term where 4 students and 3 staff travelled 6 hours to Balladoran which is 10 minutes from Gilgandra, Central New South Wales.

The 5 day camp was hosted by respected elder, Uncle Ralph, who is renowned for working with teenagers across NSW. Uncle Ralph provided many opportunities for our students to participate in quality learning experiences. These included several bushwalks, sheep shearing, yabby fishing, didgeridoo making, a visit to Wellington Caves and actively participated in a traditional smoking ceremony.

Despite not having the comforts of home, the boys had a fantastic time, with regular displays of resilience, teamwork and peer support. It was a highly successful experience for everybody, with the theme of respect being demonstrated throughout the week - respect for themselves as individuals, respect for each other and respect for elders.



HARGRAVES HAVE FINISHED THE YEAR OFF AFTER ANOTHER EVENTFUL TERM . Students have continued to show a high level of participation and engagement in their classes whilst being heavily involved with extra-curricular activities. Students who attended the end of year camp should be extremely proud of the way they conducted themselves and exhibited great confidence in stepping into the unknown, that being the great outdoors. Back at school Hargraves have finalised their Trout farming project after several months of nurturing the fish, maintaining fish housing equipment and water stabilisation to ensure consistent and healthy growth rates. The students' celebrated by preparing, cooking and eating a delicious trout meal. The lunch was shared around the school and enjoyed by all. **WELL DONE ON A GREAT YEAR HARGRAVES AND HAVE A SAFE HOLIDAY!**



Central Coast White Ribbon Events 2018



Friday 30 November
at KIBBLE PARK, 10am until 1pm

Friday 7 December
White Ribbon Walk starting at
THE ENTRANCE, 10am until 1pm.

23 November was White Ribbon Day. This day is held the Friday before the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

For the second year in a row, Hopetown School staff and students were united in attending the Central Coast White Ribbon Walk – Standing Up to Violence Against Women. Walking alongside other school groups, community members and police from Local Area Commands the walk was to raise awareness in preventing, reducing and eliminating domestic and family violence on the Central Coast through education, advocacy & community engagement.

With 2 events being held on the Central Coast, students walked from The Entrance Police Station to Memorial Park, where they listened to speakers, watched performances and interacted with the various stalls and displays including the Police and other Domestic Violence services.

All students understood the importance in recognising this day and represented Hopetown School with maturity and respect.





Hopetown's first ever Movie night was a great night out for all who came. Despite the wind we were still able to put the large screen up on the school oval and enjoy time as a community lounging in the large black cushions! There was close to 180 people!



Life Education

This term primary students engaged in the life education program 'bCyberwise'. Students explored how to build positive relationships with online friends through respectful online behaviour. They learnt strategies for keeping personal information safe when communicating online and how to be responsible communicators when using technologies. Healthy Harold discussed how to best deal with face to face and cyber bullying and what role they play as a bystander to bullying of any kind. Students listened carefully and asked inquisitive questions and at times were confident to respectfully challenge the information they thought may have been incorrect. It was positive to observe the students acknowledge that there are differing opinions to a point and they were willing to listen to an alternate view.



Sailing on Sydney Harbour

This term, two students were selected to participate in the Freedman Foundation's Schools' Youth Sail Program in Rushcutters Bay, conducted by the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia's Youth Sailing Academy. Both Nathan and Joel were coached in developing a basic knowledge of boat handling and sailing skills.

The program ran over 2 days and involved participation of students from other schools as well.

The days were long, but that didn't matter as the students had the fantastic opportunity to experience sailing in Sydney Harbour, passing by the various islands such as Goat Island, Shark Island and Fort Denison.

Once the boys got a grasp of the various sailing terms and techniques to manoeuvre the yacht, they were confident enough to travel further-towards Manly and even mooring at Watsons Bay for some lunch.

It was a great experience for the boys, who were appreciative of the opportunity!





HAPPY CATS!



This term Ashton spent some time visiting So Cares Animal Shelter at Charmhaven. Ashton is a real lover of all animals big and small, but mainly cats. He would often just sit there playing with the shelter's adopted stray cat named Jango. He spent a lot of his time making cat toys and recycling bottles and cans he collected to donate funds to the shelter. The Shelter is very happy to see Ashton visit regularly, especially Jango, who loves the attention Ashton gives him. The Shelter was very excited to receive the donations from Ashton and so were the cats. They were very grateful for the generosity from this young man.



Toys made for the cats



Jango enjoying a pat

MEET PETER RABBIT - HOPETOWN'S THERAPY BUNNY

Peter is a special rabbit breed known as the Flemish Giant Rabbit. Peter is not yet fully grown. He is six months old now and will grow much larger.

Hopetown is very fortunate to be able to care for this beautiful creature. Classes take turns each week to be responsible for feeding and watering Peter and cleaning his cage. Peter enjoys joining the students in their classrooms for a run around and also a cuddle.

SOME FACTS ABOUT CARING FOR RABBITS:

- ◆ Rabbits need a lot of room to easily move around—make sure the cage is a suitable size and let them out for several hours each day for exercise.
- ◆ Clean the cage at least every two days.
- ◆ Just like cats, rabbits can easily learn to use kitty litter.
- ◆ Rabbits have complex digestive systems, so it's very important that they receive a proper diet.
- ◆ In addition to hay and pellets, the basic diet of an adult rabbit should consist of leafy, dark green vegetables but NOT iceberg lettuce.
- ◆ You should only feed rabbits carrots occasionally as a treat. Apples are better for them.
- ◆ Rabbits like to chew, so be careful of items inside that you don't want damaged.
- ◆ Handle with care: rabbits have fine bones. Be gentle.
- ◆ Keep out of the heat in the summer time.

