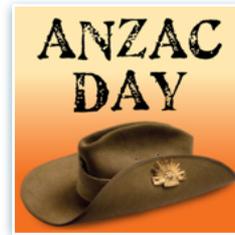




LET THE READING BEGIN!



ELECTRIFYING



COME JOIN US

WELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Education For Country Kids



Pyjama Day Fun

Our end of Term One celebration was a whole lot of fun. We began the day with a yummy breakfast of bacon and egg muffins and juice. This was followed by hot cross buns at recess and lots of Easter themed games in the afternoon. The best part is that we got to enjoy it all in our PJ's. Thanks to Daria for organising such fun games.

Welcome to Term Two

Term Two is here and in typical Welton fashion we have a busy term. We are very excited to be beginning our Outdoor Education Program of a Tuesday afternoon, this will continue into Term 3. Term Two also sees the introduction of STEM week (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics studies); we will be taking a week to participate in range of hands on activities to promote problem solving, curiosity and a deeper understanding of how things work. More information on STEM week and activities will follow in future newsletters. Other things happening this term are NAPLAN testing for all Year Three and Five Students, Murray Plains Cluster Activity Day at Leitchville, Premier's Reading Challenge, Australia's Biggest Morning Tea and mid year assessments and reporting (sorry to bring the mood down).

Second Term also means we can get our Vegetable garden up and running again.

The students will be planting some vegetables this week and we are looking forward to a bumper crop. A Term 2 timetable has been attached to this newsletter.



Grounds

At the last School Council Meeting it was decided that the organising of grounds would be taken over by Sam Levings. Whilst we will still publish the name of the family who is next rostered on to mow, if you are unable to take your turn or need to swap with another family, Sam is the one to ring. You will still need to let Lisa know when you will require the mower key.

The lawns will need mowing within the next fortnight and the next rostered family is Barrat/Surplice. Sam can be contacted on 0421567315.

NAPLAN

As mentioned above, this term our Year Three and Five Students will be sitting a series of Australia wide tests known as NAPLAN (National Assessment Program- Literacy and Numeracy). All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are tested, regardless of the school system they are enrolled in. Our students will begin practising for this testing program to familiarise themselves with the layout of the tests. The dates for the testing are as follows:

Tuesday May 9th- Language Conventions and Writing

Wednesday May 10th- Reading

Thursday May 11th - Numeracy (this will be taken at Gunbower PS) .

If you have any questions or concerns with regard this testing program please contact Lisa. Information can also be found by searching NAPLAN information for Parents.

Play Group

The next playgroup is scheduled for Friday April 21st commencing at 10am. We have had some disappointing numbers at the last two playgroups. Please spread the word that this group is running at the school on a fortnightly basis. It would be a shame to have to discontinue this program, but it can only continue to be run if supported by the community.

Pie Warmer

During Terms 2 and 3 the pie warmer operates each day. If students would like to have food heated in the pie warmer they are to bring it wrapped in foil or within a foil container (with a lid). All items should be named.



Premier's Reading Challenge

All students are encouraged to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge. This program is a great initiative to encourage all of our students to read regularly and select a range of genres. Participating as a group provides encouragement and a little bit of healthy competition between classmates. Information about the program is attached to this week's newsletter. If you would like your child to participate, please sign the consent form attached.



Speaking of encouraging reading.....

Welton Primary School extends a very warm welcome to Mrs Helen McLaren. Mrs McLaren has been appointed to the role of MARC Librarian for Term 2, due to Mrs CW's long service leave and subsequent retirement. Mrs McLaren has had lots of experience as a teacher/librarian and is extremely enthusiastic about commencing her role in the five Murray Plains Cluster Schools.



A big well done to those students who completed their holiday reading tasks. Reading regularly significantly enhances one's reading and comprehension skills (not to mention spelling and writing). Students who are reading every night at home are giving themselves the best chance at becoming competent and confident readers. Although we read daily at school, those students who are reading outside of the classroom are making the most progress.

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea @ Welton

Welton Primary School are this year going to host a morning tea as part of the annual Cancer Council's fundraiser. The official day for this morning tea is Thursday May 25th : however as this is a day we are at Gunbower, we are going to host our morning tea on **Wednesday May 24th (the day before)**.

We invite all members of the community to come along and join us. The students will be making some treats and serving refreshments. We invite guests to bring a plate and make a gold coin donation that will go towards the Cancer Council's fundraising efforts.

The morning tea will commence at 10.30am and run until 12pm. To provide us with an indication of numbers likely to attend please contact the school to let us know if you can make it.

Hats

A reminder that in line with our Sunsmart Policy, students are to continue wearing their school hat whilst engaged in outdoor activities. From May 1st students will not be required to wear a hat.

Mothers Day Stall

We will be holding our annual Mothers Day Stall at the school on Friday May 12th. Families are asked to donate 2-3 low cost items per child to put on the stall. The Year 5 students will be responsible for the running of this stall.



Science Fun

The last Science lesson on the topic Light and Colour (for the Preps) and Electricity and Circuits (for the older students) proved to be a lot of fun. Ashton and Jasmine made some cool 3D glasses whilst the other students constructed a skill tester game using a light up warning system. Term 2 sees the students studying Materials and their Properties (Junior Science) and Natural and Processed Materials (Senior Science). Not to mention all of the cool experiments that will take place during our inaugural STEM week!

Newsletter goes fortnightly...

They say no news is good news! We have decided to trial a fortnightly newsletter for Term 2. Many schools, including the larger ones are now sending home newsletters on a fortnightly basis. Not only does this cut costs, it also frees up teaching staff (mainly Lisa) to go about the more important tasks of planning and teaching and we have found that a lot of the time we are repeating information and looking for photos just to fill in the space. Parents will continue to receive texts for information and reminders as required.

Books Fundraiser

At our last school council meeting, Wade Taylor presented a fundraising idea that he has seen operate in other towns. His idea was for people to donate books that they no longer wish to keep. These books will be kept at venues (the Torrumbarry Weir Caravan Park being one of them) for people to purchase for \$2 to read whilst on holidays or when the mood takes them to sit down with a good book. Other venues are being investigated. In the meantime, if you have any books that you would like to donate please send them along to school.

COMING SOON

PLAYGROUP at Welton.....	Friday April 21st
ANZAC DAY Holiday.....	Tuesday April 25th
NAPLAN TESTING- Year 3 & 5.....	9th, 10th, 11th
MOTHER'S DAY STALL.....	Friday May 12th
SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING.....	Tuesday May 16th
AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST MORNING TEA @ WELTON.....	Wednesday May 24th