PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

This Friday 6th November is a Pupil Free Day, allowing our staff to participate in a professional learning workshop. Staff will be working at school on Friday 6th and Saturday 7th November. There will be no school for students on Friday.

Absence Letters
It is Departmental policy that we send letters home to parents requesting an explanation for absences; both whole and partial days. At present we are implementing a new computer system and have had some errors occurring. For example we have marked explained absences on the computer however it is still generating a letter requiring an explanation for the dates marked. It would be appreciated if you could return the letters signed and explained and note on them if you have already returned an explanation note so that we can continue to inform IT of these errors. We apologize for the inconvenience.

PRINCIPAL’S AWARDS

Week 5 Term 4

K Yellow
Lauchlan D. - wonderful participation in class discussions

K Lime
Lilly B. – working hard to achieve her personal writing goals.

1 Blue
Preston B. - improved fluency in reading.

2 Purple
Jordan K. - her enthusiastic approach to our assembly item.

2/3 Red
Harry D. - excellent effort in reading groups.

3/4 Magenta
Molly J. - her dedication, hard work and improved confidence in mathematics

Award System
At Aberdeen Public School, as part of our student welfare policy, we have a levelled System of Awards which is as follows:

• 10 Merit or Kidsmatter awards OR 5 Principal’s = Level 1 = Badge
• 10 Merit or Kidsmatter awards OR 5 Principal’s = Level 2 = Bronze Patch
• 10 Merit or Kidsmatter awards OR 5 Principal’s = Level 3 = Silver Patch
• 10 Merit or Kidsmatter awards OR 5 Principal’s = Level 4 = Gold Patch
• 10 Merit or Kidsmatter awards OR 5 Principal’s = Honour student = Cap

It is the child’s responsibility to give their certificates to the front office for the Principal and to keep track of their awards. Awards which are presented to the office will be stamped so they are unable to be used again. Awards will be able to run for the students’ entire life at Aberdeen Public School.

Michelle Floyd – Principal
Principal's Awards continued
4/5 Green
Brody K. - being a conscientious student.
5 Orange
Trent R. - producing a high standard of work.
5/6 Black
Shantelle B. – excellent work with her writing and improving her skills.

Merit Awards
K Yellow
Skye H.
K Lime
John D.
1 Blue
Kelsea R.
2 Purple
Claire M.
2/3 Red
Tyson T.
3/4 Magenta
Roy H.
4/5 Green
Aiden N.
5 Orange
Seth B.
5/6 Black
Monique D.

Kids Matter Awards
K Yellow
Natasha B.  Resilience
K Lime
Ruby T.  Confidence
1 Blue
Connor L.  Happiness
2 Purple
Dakota B.  Success
2/3 Red
Abby P.  Happiness
3/4 Magenta
Noni D.  Resilience
4/5 Green
Cailey G. Respect
5 Orange
Cody T.  Respect
5/6 Black
Hannah F.  Happiness

Merit Badge
Seth F.
Bronze Bar
Noni D.

P & C NEWS
Hotdog Day - All notes need to be returned to the office by Wednesday. Hotdog day is Tuesday 10th November.

Christmas raffle - we are still after some items to be donated for our annual Christmas raffle. If you can help, please leave items at the office clearly marked P&C raffle.

P&C Fundraising Meeting - is on this Wednesday 12.15pm in the Cola. All welcome. Our plan is to set a timeline for 2016, we welcome all ideas.

CANTEEN NEWS
No Canteen on Friday 6th due to Pupil Free Day.

Canteen roster for the following week:

Wednesday 4th November
Nat McCamley
Kelly Maher

Monday 9th November
Sandy Morrison
Adam Morrison

We are still out of stock of cheese and bacon pizzas and we also have no Yummy Drummies.

If you have any questions please contact Kelly 0488134550

FORTHCOMING DATES

November
Wednesday 4th  Early Birds 2016 (12 – 3pm)
Friday 6th  Staff Development Day – Pupil Free Day
Wednesday 11th Early Birds 2016 (12 – 3pm)
Thursday 12th Hunter Wetlands Excursion
Tuesday 17th  Captain Speeches
Wednesday 18th Parent Information Session (2 – 3pm)
Thursday 19th  Kindergarten Excursion
Thursday 26th  Intensive Swimming

December
Wednesday 9th  Presentation Day
Thursday 10th Year 6 Farewell
SCONE FILMS
Scone Films will screen the drama, LAST CAB TO DARWIN, rated M, on FRIDAY 6th November at 7.30pm, at Scone Films pop-up cinema at the Senior Citizen's Centre, Oxford Road, Scone. Jacki Weaver and Michael Caton star in an iconic Aussie film with a road trip from Broken Hill to Darwin. Advance tickets $10 from Serendipity, Scone, or at the door. Refreshments available. Everyone is welcome. For insurance, under 18s must be accompanied by an adult. Details are on the website www.sconefilms.org.au

FAMILY FUN DAY
FUNDRAISER
Muswellbrook Public School
Saturday 21st November 10am-2pm
Entry via Newsius Street Gate

Cake Stall • Lucky Dips • Showbags
Sausage Sizzle • Fairy Floss • Sno Cones
Raffles • Face Painting • Market Stalls
Play Area for Under 4-year olds
Appearance from Big Dog

Armbands $5 Female
Contact Christie 0429 832 850
$20 unlimited on the day / $5 per line up

All money raised will go to Heartbeats 4 The Children’s Hospital at Westmead

DINOSAUR ISLAND

Dinosaur Island will be screened by the Scone Neighbourhood Centre at Scone Park on Saturday, November 21 from dark. Bring along a chair or blanket for an evening of entertainment on our 4 metre outdoor screen.
Cost is $15 per family (2 adults/2 children) with each additional child $5.
Food stalls with hot dogs, popcorn, fairy floss, hot coffee, slushies and milkshakes.

PG

The importance of arriving at school on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Gives students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Ugly Sweater Off the Tour
Learning to value others

Some girls in Grace’s year four class were taking turns at skipping. Grace watched them closely and decided she would like to have a turn too. She asked to join in but Sally said, “It’s too hard for you.”

Grace had an intellectual disability. This meant she sometimes took longer to learn things. She was also not as well coordinated in sports as the other girls.

“Come on. Let me have a turn,” said Grace. “Anyone can have a turn,” said Deepa. “Have your turn after me.”

So Grace tried to skip over the rope, but it got caught at her feet. “Try again”, a few of the girls said. “You have to jump just as it hits the ground.” Grace tried again. They gave her extra tries because she was learning. On the last try she managed two skips in a row. “You did it,” said Deepa. Grace was really proud. “I did it!” she said. “And you helped me.”

Learning to see another person’s point of view

Learning to see another person’s point of view is important for getting along with others and building positive friendships. Understanding others helps children know what to do in social situations and is the basis for developing caring and responsibility.

It’s not always easy for children to see the point of view of someone who is different from them. Being different could mean having a disability, coming from a different country, being a different age or gender, or having different values and interests. Children who are seen as different may be left out of activities.

They may face discrimination because others think they are not as good, as talented, or as important as they are. Discrimination can have very negative effects on children’s self-esteem and mental health and wellbeing.

Skills for empathy

Taking others’ needs into account involves values of caring, compassion and acceptance of others. It also involves emotional skills for empathy. Learning to empathise with another person means learning to ‘walk in their shoes.’ It means being able to recognise and value their feelings and needs, even though they may be different from your own.

Skills for empathy develop over time and include:
- recognising your own feelings
- recognising others’ feelings
- listening to others’ opinions
- thinking what it would feel like if you saw the situation their way
- thinking how you can respond in a caring way
- doing something to help.

Some children find it easy to tune into feelings. Others need more guidance to learn empathetic skills. Adults have an important role in supporting children to learn kindness and empathy.

A little kindness can sometimes go a long way. Learning to skip has made Grace’s day. Watching and supporting her has helped everyone else feel good too.
How parents and carers can help

Research has found that the examples shown by caring adults have a big influence on children’s empathy. Parents and carers (as well as school staff) can also foster empathy by promoting values of caring and compassion and coaching children to be kind and thoughtful towards others.

- Model empathy by tuning into children’s feelings (e.g., “Ouch! That must have hurt,” or “You must be feeling disappointed that your friend can’t come over”).
- Help children think about how feelings affect other people (e.g., “How do you think your friend might be feeling?”).
- Help children develop skills for understanding other people’s points of view by discussing the effects of discrimination and the importance of respectful and caring attitudes towards everybody.
- Talk about situations that involve empathy (e.g., “What I liked about the story was how kind the hero was,” or “That was a mean thing to do. Don’t you think she should have helped her friend?”).
- Notice when children are kind and let them know you value their behaviour (e.g., “That was a very thoughtful thing to do. I really appreciate it!”).

How to support children to accept and include others

- Teach children that there is nothing wrong with being different and that each of us is different to somebody else.
- Teach children that everyone has a right to be respected.
- Help children develop skills for positive friendships and cooperative play.
- Parents and carers of children with special needs can talk to the staff at their children’s school about how to support their strengths and about encouraging other children to include them.

Valuing others means seeing difference as something positive. It means trying to understand how others think and feel, and knowing that this helps you as well as them.

This resource is part of a range of KidsMatter Primary information sheets for families and school staff. View them all online at www.kidsmatter.edu.au

Australian Government
Department of Health and Ageing

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SCHOOL RULES

• BE IN THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME DOING THE RIGHT THING

• BE HONEST

• ALWAYS BE POLITE AND USE GOOD MANNERS

• FOLLOW TEACHERS’ DIRECTIONS

• RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS

• PLAY SAFELY, WORK SAFELY

• LEARN AS MUCH AS YOU CAN

• LET OTHERS LEARN AS MUCH AS THEY CAN