

MOULAMEIN PUBLIC SCHOOL



2017 Term 2 Week 9 Newsletter

20/06/2017

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Upcoming Events

27 th -28 th June 28 th June	3-6 Art Workshop Free Sausage Sizzle for students!
23 rd June	Athletics Carnival
30 th June	School Assembly and last day of Term 2.
21 st July	K-2 Excursion ALTINA
18 th – 19 th August	150 Year School celebrations

Principal's Message

Principal's Meeting in Deniliquin

On Friday of last week, Principals from across our area met to learn more about the major reforms being implemented in NSW schools this year and into the near future.

Principals committed to collaborating on the implementation of these major reforms and to providing opportunities for professional growth for teachers and support staff. The development of our teachers is vital if we are to deliver quality education for our rural students now and in the future.

My current goal will be to update the Anti-bullying procedures in our school to align with the new departmental policies. I will be establishing a small committee to ensure student, teacher and parent input is valued and considered.

ASSESSMENT & REPORTING

Years K-6 Learning

Learning programs, based on BOSTES syllabuses, are to be provided to address each learning area in each year of schooling. In primary schools, the six Key Learning Areas (KLA) are:

- English
- Human Society and its Environment (incorporating history and geography)
- Mathematics
- Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
- Creative Arts
- Science and Technology.



Reporting to parents/carers – components of the written report

The parents/carers of all students are to be provided with a written report twice a year. Students will receive their reports on the last day of school this term. The written report for each student will:

- provide information on a student's learning in each of the KLAs or subjects, as described above
- compare the student's achievement in each KLA or subject against state-wide syllabus standards -using a scale.
- for each KLA or subject; comments can identify areas of student strength and areas for further development
- have information about the student's attendance at school
- provide information about the student's social development and commitment to learning.

Athletics Carnival- Friday

Our Small Schools Athletics Carnival will be held this Friday. Students from Clare and Wakool Burraboi Public Schools will join us for this event at the Moulamein Recreation Reserve. Walkers and bus travellers will come to school as normal. Students turning 8 years or older this year will walk with teachers to the Recreation Reserve in time for the 9.45am assembly. Students turning 7 years or younger will remain at school with their teacher, then walk to the Recreation Reserve at approximately 12:00pm to compete in the infants athletic events. Students are to order their lunch as normal on a brown paper bag and place in the baskets in their classrooms (order from the menu attached – **normal canteen menu will NOT be available**). All orders will be given out at the Recreation Reserve. **No canteen recess will be available to the students remaining at school**, which means they will need to bring their own recess on the day. Please come and support our students and we hope to see you there!



Payments to our School- Reminder

Our school is about to transition to the new NSW public schools' finance and student management system and a new bank account at the end of July. To ensure a smooth transition, there will be changes to the way we accept parent and carer payments. Cash and cheque payments cannot be received until the 24 July - excursion payments can still be made during this time but we will be unable to receipt them. This means we will be out of action for 3-4 weeks until the change over is complete. We can also not accept payments through POP (our on-line system)during this time.. Thank you for patience and understanding as we transition to our new finance system. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Regional Cross Country

Our students representing our district at Gundagai on Thursday put in a great effort. The competition was very tough and they all performed their best. It was freezing during the morning and students ran through large dirt ditches and paddocks to complete the course. Their team effort and spirit was outstanding on the day.



150th School Anniversary Memorabilia

As part of our 150th Anniversary celebration we are asking community members to dig out anything that relates to our school to display for visitors. The school itself, has very limited memorabilia and we are relying on members of the community to supply anything relevant. It could be old photos, uniforms, items made in the woodwork room, etc. We already have volunteers who will set this up in our green room. All memorabilia or artifacts can be dropped off to the school. Please label your items with your name. You may even like to write a small explanation about the item if it is not obvious. We appreciate your support in this matter. LynneMaree Battenally has volunteered to collect memorabilia, alternatively you could pass items on to her.

Public Speaking Competition Reminder

Our students will once again be participating in the Lions Club Junior Public Speaking Competition.

Students will be learning about speaking to an audience during class time. Students in Stage 2 and Stage 3 will research and write a speech as part of their homework. Today students participated in a speech writing workshop.

All students in Years 3, 4, 5, and 6 will present a speech at school to local adjudicators. Year 3 and Year 4 students will present a 3 minute prepared speech, and students in Year 5 and 6 will give a 4 minute prepared speech

The Stage 2 and Stage 3 topics have been discussed in class and further information sent home with each student.

Visual Arts Workshop- Years 3-6



In preparation for our art exhibition, which will be displayed at our 150th Anniversary, students in year 3 to 6 will be participating in a full-day art workshop on the 27th of June and 28th of June. We have put the two days together for convenience with setting up the Green Room. Students are encouraged to bring in an old over-sized t-shirt to wear on the day. We do have art smocks, but these are very small. I would recommend an over-sized men's t-shirt. Students are welcome to leave their shirt at school for the next workshop. Students will be printing, painting, drawing and using a variety of materials. We are looking forward to producing some high quality artworks on the day. Selected artworks will enter the art exhibition.

Changes to the Department of Educations' Attendance Policy Holidays

As part of the implementation of the National Standards, holidays taken by students outside of school vacation periods will now be included as absences. A Certificate of Exemption can **no** longer be granted for this purpose.

Families are encouraged to holiday or travel during school vacations. The research indicates that taking one day away off from school reduces learning by 3 days. Our current percentage of absences at Moulamein Public School is **higher** than I would currently like. Learning needs continuity and consistency. Gaps in learning can occur when students miss days. Remember we will call you if your child is not coping at school for the day and needs to go home due to illness.

Celebrate Attendance

Hints and Tips No. 2: Teaching good habits



It is important for parents to make attending school a priority.

Allowing children days off for birthdays, to look after younger children, to go shopping, to keep you company or because they were tired from a late night, not only sends the wrong message to your child, it is also against the law.

Children who get used to having days off school for these kinds of reasons develop an attitude that their attendance at school is not very important. This can become a big issue as a child gets older.

Teach your children that being on time is important. Children that are often late to school miss the part of the school day when the teacher explains new activities. The beginning of the day is also when many students are freshest and can concentrate better.

Students that are late on a regular basis may become the target for comment by other students and often as a result isolate themselves from their peers.



Missing school leaves gaps in your education

Assembly

A school assembly will be held on the last day of term, 30th of June. All parents and family members are welcome. We ask for all toddlers to remain in the care of the accompanying adults in the seated area. It is our expectations that all younger siblings should not be sitting with students during this time. It is important to show our speakers respect and we expect our students to have good manners during assembly. Family members are most welcome to join the students for lunch after assembly.

Free Sausage Sizzle

A free sausage sizzle will be on Wednesday 28th of June. Thank you to the P & C for donating the bread and meat!



Students in Year 2/3 have been experimenting with their vocabulary to create beautifully composed descriptive sentences.

After looking at a picture prompt and brainstorming the relative language they can use, students confidently write eloquent sentences that create a picture in the readers mind.

Here are some samples that the students are proud of:

Baxter's fluffy and cheeky Border Collie zoomed to me and pushed me over on the lush green grass.

By Baxter



The peaceful orcas swam in a pod, making a big splash and scaring away some white, squawky sea gulls.

By Clem

Looking out to the picturesque inlet stood high, snow-capped mountains. It was a crisp and chilly morning on the calm bay. An enormous pod of magnificent whales splashed through the frozen waters.

By Meg



The unforgiving ranges looked as peaceful as the sea below. A magnificent Blue Whale darted below the sea to eat shrimp.

By Henry

Olivia's adorable and speedy Border Collie sprinted up to me on top of the grassy, green hill. I launched down to the energetic pup and lifted her up to snuggle.

By Chloe D



The jagged ranges stood above the freezing, shiny bay below. A majestic Blue Whale darted down to get a squid.

By Jason

The cheeky and powerful Border Collie charged up and across the luscious green grassy hill, chasing a hopping fluffy brown rabbit.

By Archie



Rhys's Border Collie darted up the lush, green hill. Clem and Baxter's Border Collies zoomed to follow him. The three dogs dashed back toward their owners and crashed into them like lightning bolts.

By Colby

The magnificent Lion Fish slipped along in the rainbow coral and caught three Krill for a juicy lunch. It then zapped down and camouflaged back into the reef below.

By Rhys



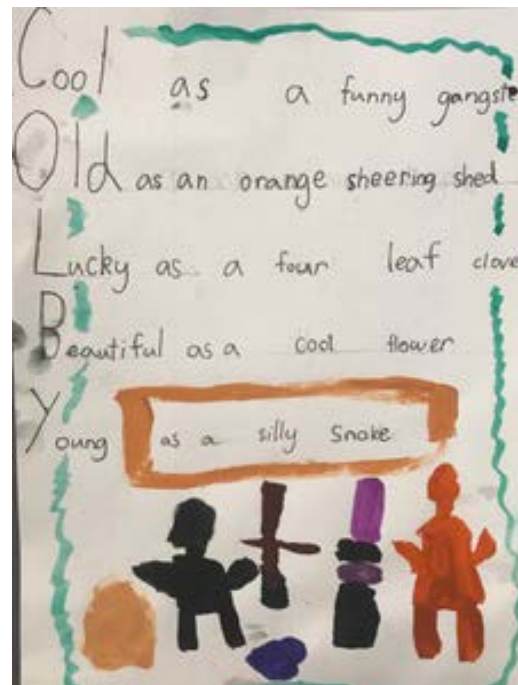
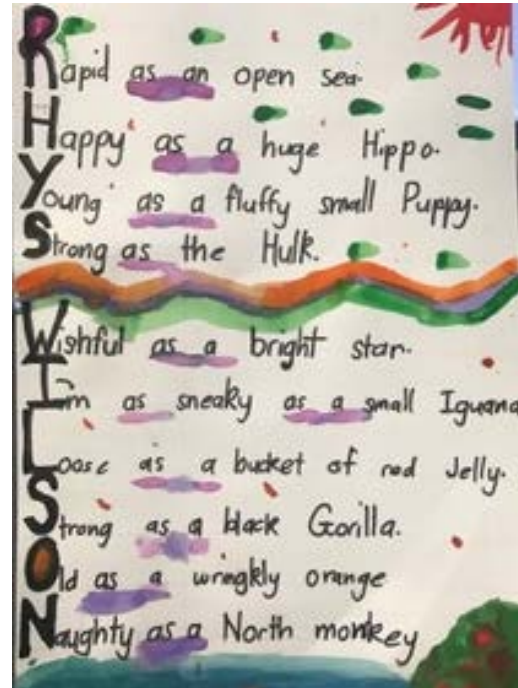
The shiny blue ocean was reflecting the snowy summits that stood above. A pod of killer whales were diving deep in the sea to share a salty fish.

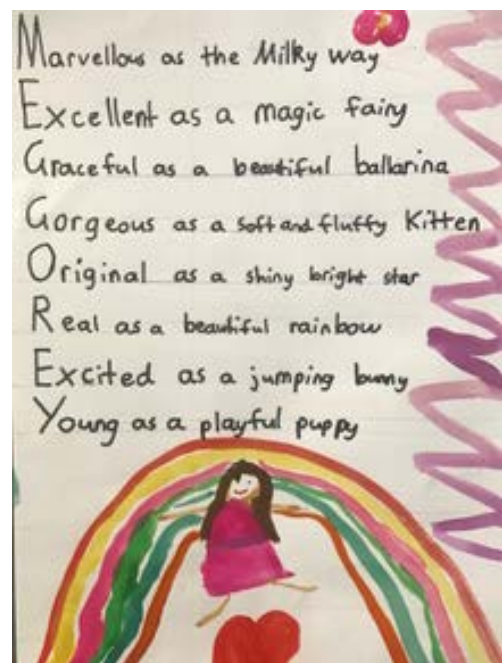
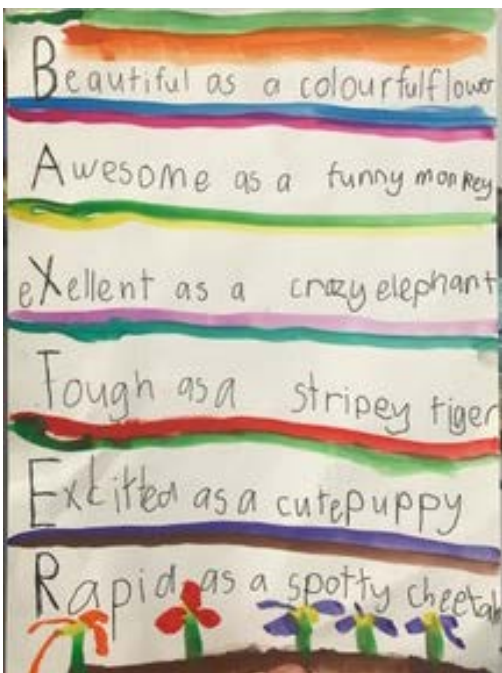
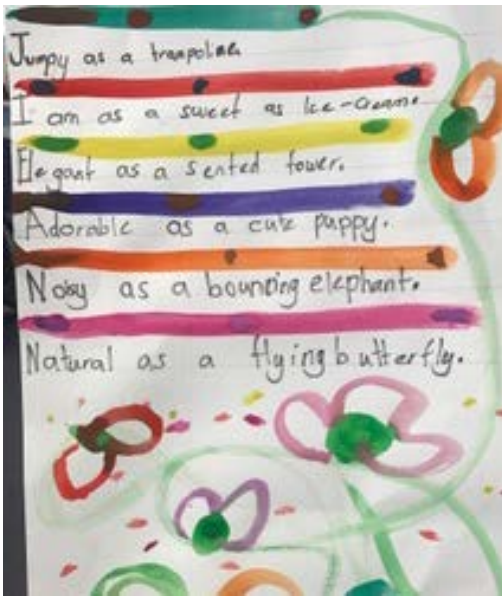
By Jie Ann

The peaceful, snow-capped cliffs reflected in the dark blue sea. The majestic and powerful Blue Whale launched, and then dived, to find a huge fish to eat.

By Faith

Students have also been learning how to apply simile to their writing to create interesting comparisons and vivid descriptions. I was very impressed with the name simile posters students completed.





In numeracy sessions Year 2/3 have been learning Fractions and Decimals and how they relate to each other. Each student in Year 2/3 took on the challenge of exploring hundredths and could write a given number in both fraction and decimal form, and represent the fraction/decimal using MABs (blocks). As it has been the first time all students have looked at decimals this year, their ability to grasp this concept effortlessly was extremely impressive! Well done, you should be proud of yourselves!



A reminder to parents of students in Year 3/4/5/6 that the *Lions Public Speaking* competition will be held on Monday 26th June (Week 10). Students completed a workshop on Friday and should now have a good basis to finish off the writing of their speeches and focus on delivery practice this week.

I will be available to help students before school, at recess and at lunch this week if they need it.

Year 2 students will also be writing a short (2min) speech as homework to read in front of their peers in Week 10.

- Miss Lucy Fay

3/4/5/6 CLASSROOM NEWS

Whole School Dancing and Singing

Each Friday we have been participating in whole school dancing and singing in preparation for the 150th Celebration of Moulamein. Mrs Gibson, Mrs Fitzpatrick, Michelle and I are pleased to see the year 3/4/5/6 students demonstrating their leadership skills by taking on the responsibility of teaching our younger students. Well done!



Descriptive Writing

During Term 2, years 4/5/6 are learning to successfully write effective descriptions that paint a picture in minds of the audience. With the assistance of Mrs Wilson, the students have been focusing on using more specific vocabulary. An example being: rather than writing "the large bird flew", be more specific by writing "the enormous Wedge Tail Eagle darted".

To extend the students vocabulary, we have created a word wall display, that we will add to throughout the year.

I have been very impressed by the students' enthusiasms towards our writing sessions. Enjoy reading some writing sample below:

The frosty and unforgiving mountains lay broadly under the breath-taking sky. With a slap! The majestic Humpback Whale powered swiftly though the rugged Artic water.
By Connor Green

The huge snowy mountain is gazing upon the bright blue sky. With a loud splash, I looked up and saw a Humpback Whale launching out of the Arctic sea.
By Allira Whitham

The unforgiving snow-capped mountain was standing bold under the sparkling blue sky. With an enormous splash, the giant Humpback Whale breached swiftly through the freezing cold waters of the Artic.

By Ethan Miller

The frosty mountains stare out and watch the icy blue ocean. Below a huge Humpback Whale breaches through the frozen cold waters.

By Victoria Vlahos

The massive mountains stood next to the long glossy meadow. Below two mares were cantering in the grass. Bang! Suddenly lightning struck a nearby tree. The mares turned around, leaped the stream and galloped off.
By Chloe Wilson

The intimidating blue sky is towering over the trees in the luscious meadow. A boulder came rushing down the very steep mountain. Bang! Crack! Smashing all the trees in the way.

By Jacob Skipsey

The intimidating blue mountains stands still over the ancient frozen lake below, with its rocky peaks covered in thick snow. Crack! The ice splits in half, a bear bolts, just making it to safety.

By Caleb Scandola

The rocky mountain stands behind the crystal water. Below a brown grizzly bear was hunting for seals on the frozen water. Bang! The ice cracked, the bear sped back to his home with the seal he caught.

By Kye Lucas

The cold crystal waters are surrounding the frosty mountains. With a loud splash, a Blue Whale broke through the shiny Arctic waters.

By Lenny Ivers

Reconciliation Week

In Week 7, years 3/4/5/6 participated in an online workshop called "Guringal Festival: Dance and Language Course", followed by a Visual Arts lesson to acknowledge Reconciliation Week. The students enjoyed watching informative videos, asking and answering questions and learning Aboriginal words in order to sing a traditional Aboriginal lullaby. After, students researched the meaning of the Aboriginal

Flag and symbols. Together the students created an artwork titled 'Sorry' in honour of Reconciliation Week.



Ukulele Lesson

Each week, students from 3/4/5/6 engage and participate in a Ukulele lesson with Chris, from South West Arts. The students are enjoying these lessons, learning chords and how to use parts of the ukulele. By the end of the year we hope to be performing a small range of songs.



Check out some creative artworks:



By Jacob Skipsey



By Faith Russell



By Meg Gorey



By Chloe Doorty

Other Notices

Message from Miss Midson and 3/4/5/6:

Sending a huge **THANK YOU** to Jacquie and Caleb, who have donated both book 6 and 7 of the series "Diary of a Minecraft Zombie", to complete the classroom set. This book series is well loved by the students and they are all busting to read it, after Caleb of course!



Quote of the Week

"Think and wonder, wonder and think" - Dr. Seuss

