



SCHOOL UPDATES

Dear Parents/Carers,

Due to the fast-paced changes due to the COVID-19, I think it is important to keep you informed along the way. We often use Facebook and personal mobile phone text message to fast-track messages. All teachers and staff are very happy to have the students back in class and learning each and every day.



Over the weekend new arrangements have been finalised to start today and Term 3. It is really important to keep this note in a handy spot to refer to our health guidelines provided by the experts. The following principles underpin these guidelines:

- Schools continue to be safe and operations are in line with AHPPC and NSW Health guidelines.
- All students should be learning on-campus unless they are unwell or have a medical certificate to support their absence.
- Existing infection control protocols at schools, and new health and safety measures put in place will help maintain the health and safety of students and staff.
- All activities permitted at school are safe and appropriate in a living with COVID-19 environment.

So far, I can share this information with you:

From 15th June:

- All visitors and external to school providers must adhere to relevant hygiene, distancing and safety protocols
- Non-essential adults are still not permitted on school grounds or at school events – this includes parents/carers unless specifically approved by the principal. Please ensure you do not enter school grounds.
- Parents/carers who need to be on site for the uniform shop purposes or for important face-to face-meetings will also need to sign the visitor acknowledgement form.
- All parents are to report to the office first, if asked to attend a meeting and sign the visitor's acknowledgement form.



- Students should continue to bring water bottles from home to fill at water bubblers. We are currently supplying water bottles each week to students who are failing to bring a water bottle. Please check and send your child with one and not rely on them to remember themselves.
- Parents are not to enter the school at pick-up and drop off times
- Parents are responsible for social distancing at pick up areas (1.5 metres apart)
- School hygiene measures remain in place, including regular hand washing and cleaning of equipment.
- 15-minute school assemblies are allowed - which we will use to hand out merit certificates, although parents are still unable to attend
- Bluearth workshops can recommence
- Day trips to local areas are allowed- restricted to Moulamein only
- Community use of school grounds is highly restricted, so this means WONGI production is still not able to run on school grounds
- All students are expected to be at school for face-to-face learning
- **Students absent more than 3 days will be recorded as an unauthorised absence until presenting the school with a medical certificate.**
- Absences are followed up by the school initially then by the Home School Liaison Officer for the Deniliquin region.
- Parents are asked to keep sick children at home
- Playgrounds are open within school grounds
- Community members are unable to enter school grounds to use the sporting facilities including the basketball court on the weekends.



From Term 3:

- Incursions can occur
- Excursions are still restricted
- Meetings with parents, including parent/teacher interviews will be completed over the phone or online where possible
- Parents and carers should not be on school grounds or at school events without permission from the principal
- Sporting events are cancelled for interschool competitions
- Absences are being followed and monitored by the Department of Education daily. Again, if a student is away for more than 3 days a medical certificate is required.
- School reports will occur for Semester 1, but not be published to parents until Term 3. Teachers and schools have until 30 August 2020 to provide a formal report to parents due to the interruption of the learning program. Please see further down in the note about reports.
- Enhanced cleaning is to continue

CLASSROOM NEWS

News from the Year 3/ 4 Classroom

In 3/4 this term we have been looking at rainforest and beach settings, along with the wildlife that inhabit those areas. The students in 3/4 have used their knowledge of adjectives, prepositions and interesting vocabulary to create some exciting sentences.

Behind the shoreline, waves crash onto the moist sand, spraying water in all directions. As the tide rises, the lethargic seal is worried about the stormy weather approaching.

- **Maddy**

As their cool breeze pushes the waves gently across the ocean, fish jump behind the whitewash. While the sun sets, a majestic penguin looks for a pebble to give to its mate.

- **Lawson**

Beyond the evergreen mountains, the leaves blow towards the murky ocean. Upon the rough sand, hungry cows scout for a new patch of grass to feed on.

- **Holly**

Underneath the blue sky, palm trees sway gently in the wind. As the sun sets, a baby turtle glides gracefully through blue waters, wanting to get home.

- **Georgie**

In Science and Technology this term 3/4 is learning about building construction and bridges, which shapes are strongest and testing out our theories. The students enjoyed making their own bridges, using the knowledge they have gathered so far. The finished products will be amazing.



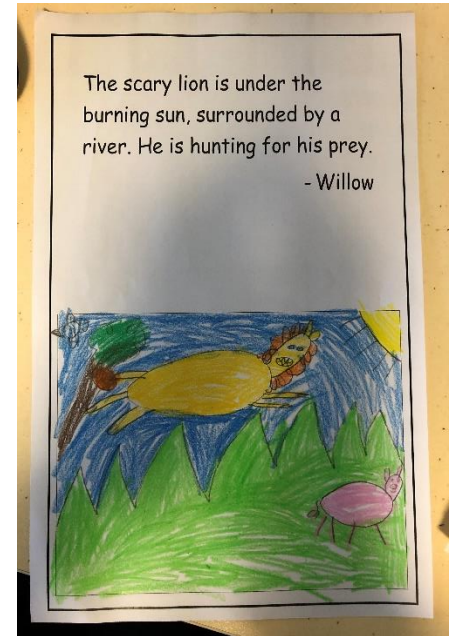
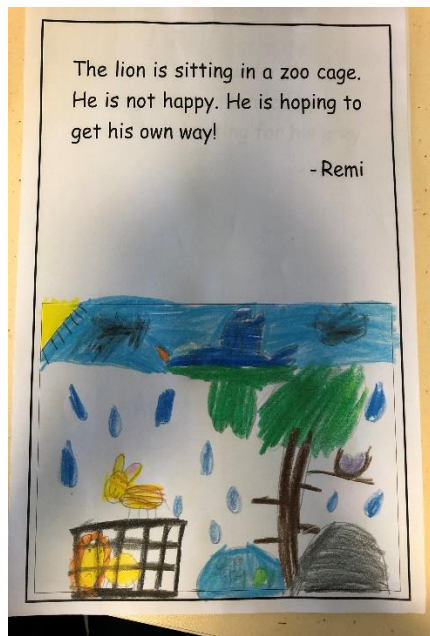
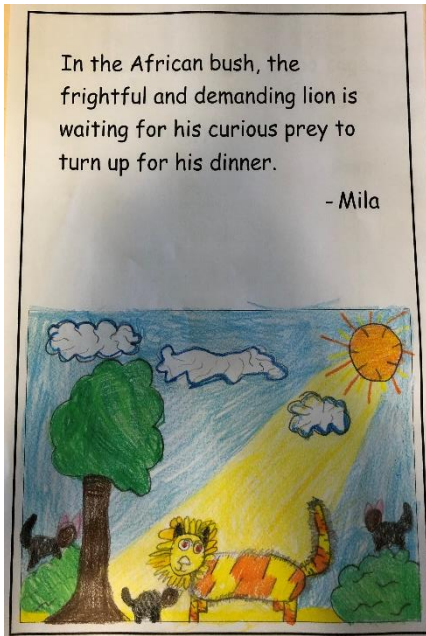
News from the Year 1/2 Classroom

Year 1 and 2 have settled beautifully back into our classroom routine and are enjoying their learning.

Since returning back to full time schooling, the children have enjoyed listening to a range of narrative stories and are beginning to use these to guide their own story writing. We've also been enjoying describing different animals and characters and writing about them.

The students love participating in hands on Maths activities and have been getting very clever at dividing and sharing.

See photos below.

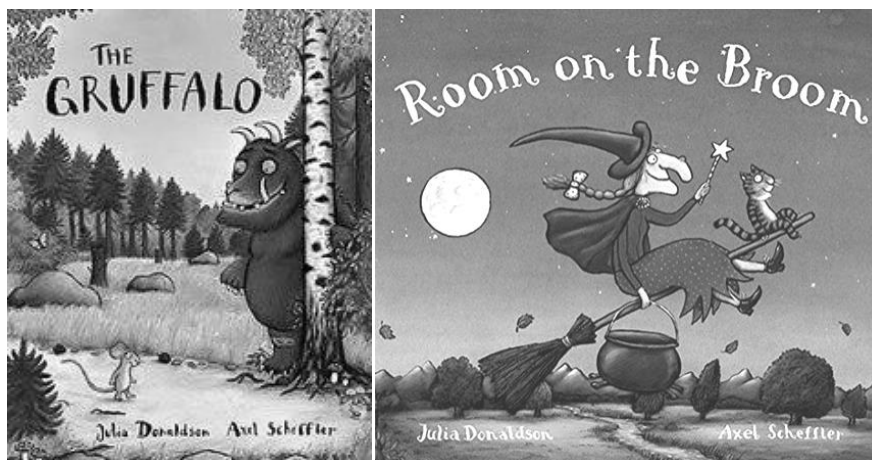


It's great to be back together again!



News from the Kinder Classroom

The Kinders have been very busy since their return to the classroom full time. They have enjoyed reading a number of Julia Donaldson books in English with a particular focus on *The Gruffalo* and *Room On The Broom*.



In Week 5 they completed some independent writing about the mouse from the Gruffalo and last week they wrote about the Gruffalo himself. Here is a sample of their work:

The Gruffalo has white horns.

By Rafael

The mouse has sharp claws. He has a long pink tail. The mouse is smart.

By Eilon

The Gruffalo has a black tongue and knobbly knees.

By Maliyah

The mouse has a long pointy tail. He is a friendly mouse.

By Hamish

The mouse has brown and white fluffy fur. He is friendly

By Porscha

The Gruffalo has orange eyes and a poisonous wart.

By Porscha

The mouse has got a long tail. He is kind.

By Dakota

The Gruffalo is brown and he is big.

By Chayse

The mouse has a long pink tail. He is tricky.

By Lewis

The Gruffalo is brown and he has purple prickles on his back.

By Xavier

The Gruffalo has sharp tusks and he has yellow eyes.

By Kamilah

The Gruffalo has a black tongue and knobbly knees. The Gruffalo has a poisonous wart

By Hannah

The Gruffalo has a black tongue and a poisonous wart at the end of his nose.

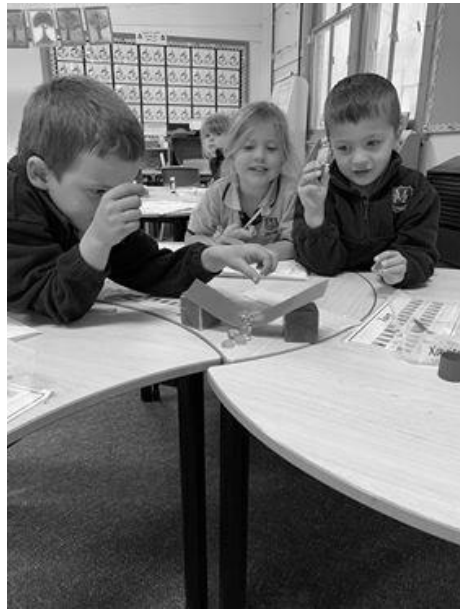
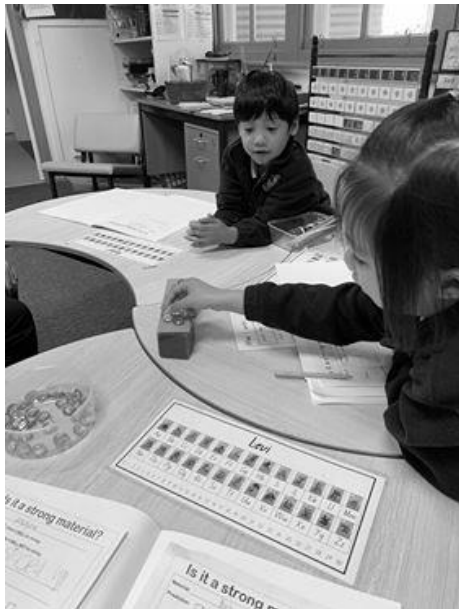
By Will

The mouse has got big ears.

By Levi

In Science students have been investigating the Material World and learning about the properties of objects made from glass, plastic, fabric, metal and wood. In the past couple of weeks, they have engaged in investigations to explore whether certain materials are waterproof or strong, while this week they will investigate the comfort of different materials. These activities are aimed to prepare students for an end of term challenge that will see them design and then make a 'Pet Shelter' that is strong, comfortable and waterproof.

Here are some photographs from their 'Investigating Strength' activities:





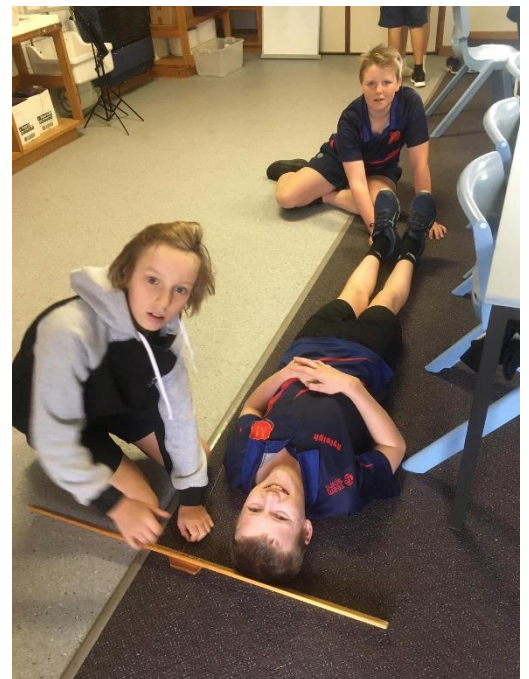
In Personal Development and Health students have completed a short "Germs, Germs, Germs" unit and are now starting to look at Healthy Eating. This unit will focus on what good food does for our bodies and inform students about healthy food choices. This Term students have also been enjoying a number of 'Exercise for Kids' clips which enables them to join in with simple, quick moves that help to build their muscles, strengthen their bones, improve flexibility and even burn calories!

With lots more learning still to come this Term, make sure you keep an eye on the school's Facebook page, as we will share some of the highlights with you.

News from the Year 5/6 Classroom

There has been a huge change in the Year 5/6 classroom and routines. Mr Kerrigan decided to return to Sydney and not complete the year at Moulamein PS as expected. Due to his departure, Mrs Wilson (3 days) and Mrs Fitzpatrick (2 days) will now be sharing the class. The students have adjusted to the change really quickly.

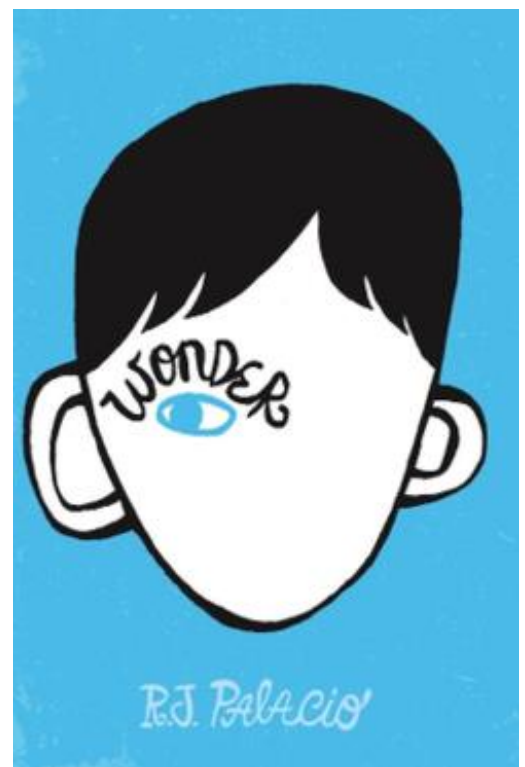
Students in Year 5/6 have had many learning opportunities in such a short space of time. These include robotics and coding, art workshops, drumming lessons, movie making lessons as well as engaging literacy and numeracy lessons. If you go to our Facebook page you can keep updated with these learning opportunities. Students especially enjoyed a measuring activity where they were asked to measure biceps. The competition was on between our Year 5/6 boys! They also worked out that Archie and Ryleigh are exactly the same height and both are taller than Mrs Wilson! They have also loved their art lessons, where they have integrated creativity and geometry.





The students have started the term strongly and already making great progress across the curriculum. In literacy, Mrs Fitzpatrick is studying the novel *Wonder* by R.J Palacio and the students are absolutely loving this novel. It raises a number of interesting topics which include; bullying, difference, racial discrimination, acceptance, moving to a new school and develops a student's knowledge of what it is like to be born different and the challenges that come with difference. It is a beautiful and inspirational novel that takes students on a roller-coaster of emotions. The companion movie will be viewed after the novel is complete.

In writing, students have been writing a range of descriptive poems with Mrs Wilson. These poems are free verse poems that encourage students to look at the meanings of words, use the thesaurus, explore unknown vocabulary, use general knowledge and facts to create a piece of writing where they put the best word in the right spot. Please take the time to read some of the examples attached.



Earthquake

Plates grind vigorously
Fighting under the surface
Rubbing rumbling crashing
Ground begins to tremble
Windows shatter
Cracks largen the monster is bigger
Water covered roads
Buildings tremble
Cars crash and smash
Pipes burst
Stop lights fall on frenzied people ducking
for cover
The beast slows
A real-life nightmare has stopped
The building is crumbled
Bricks and signs fell
Cracks thicker than mountains
Bridges like floppy rope
Sinkholes in the roads
Houses without walls
People feel scared
Children lucky to be alive
Vicious killer

By Clem

Discovering the Deep Ocean Trench

Speechless
Beneath the innocent waves
The bottomless ocean waits
Dim, dull, hidden
A chilly odd land
Waters low and silent
Miniature bubbles racing upwards
Boundless deserted sand
The last trickles of light
Tension expands
The darkest night appears
Eels Hide
Gears turn
Peculiar creatures turn away
Eerie lantern fish glimmer
Soundless swimmers
A void of nothing
Rocks tumble into the endless tunnel
Mountains like enormous hills
People stay quiet on the surface
Whale imagine what's below
Dolphins' hush themselves
Oceans lay perished
Children wonder if there could be life down
there

By JieAnn

Intruder

Nightfall sneaks faintly
Through a perishing city
A starless world above
Shadows lurk around corners
Resting lethargically under the warm
blanket
Soundless, lonely
Smooth, silky fur
Then flees peckishly
A hushed stalker
Pounces onto the roof
Tip toeing with care
Beneath the galaxy of stars
To a garden full of life
A miniscule intruder looks for food
Moving elegantly
Hurdling, leaping, pouncing
Into the star lit sky
Revealed
Possum

By Meg

Deep Ocean

Below
Under the clear water
In the dark deep water
Dark, lonely, cold
Chilly water
Hot thermal bubbles escape
Faded light
Bubbles popping from crabs
Goblin shark with razor sharp teeth
Wiggling jellyfish
Grey and Rocky Mountains
People discovering with machines
Tropical fish stay away
Children wanting to see it for themselves
Pressure too great
A steep wet mystery
Indigo world
Depressing

By Charlotte

THE MARIANA TRENCH

Endless
Beneath the glittery surface
The trench waits
Gloomy, boundless, murky
A biting overcast plant
Liquid hush and hollow
Floating tiny pockets of air
Grey moonless sand
Blank speaks of light
Intense pressure with endless blue
particles
Lurking goblin sharks
Glowing jellyfish
Angel fish reach home
Puffer fish wish to go
Calm and quiet
People dream of going there
Isolated world
Peaceful

By Colby

DEEP DARK OCEAN

Tranquil
Under the shimmering sun
The colossal ocean rests in wait
Pitch dark, dim, deep
A freezing, lunar universe
Water calm and watching in wait
Teeny tiny bubbles floating up at a slow rate
Boundless blank ooze
Longing for strokes of light
Excessive amounts of pressure
Squirmy sea dragons
Atom sized decapods
Alien – like sea dwellers
Glimmering hatchet lying in fear
Shifty sea devils about
Underwater crevices like canyons
Old rusty challenger deep
Aquatic mountains like parliament house
People working around the clock
Shrimp would be eaten in a flash
Turtles look below but alas they cannot survive
The ocean has turned feral
Most mammals wonder
Profound, raging, but still calm
Blank, dingy, lonely

Isolated
By Elijah

Earthquake

Tectonic plates bash
Rumbling sliding shaking
Earths ground starts to shiver
Lights flicker, pencils fly
Shelves drop
More dangerous over time as the quake
awakens
Roads covered in water and cracks
Buildings fall recklessly
Churches break by flying bricks
Cars crushed initially by falling buildings
Pipes stick out of the cracked roads
Stop signs swaying
People flying out of buildings
The shaking stops
Builders have to rebuild after catastrophe
Streets destroyed
Bridges like twisted swirls
Cars sink into giant holes
Rooms chopped in half
Families devastated
Terrifying

By Ryleigh

Intruder

As night lurked and manoeuvres through the
crammed town
Hollow walls become homes for unexpected
guests
Shadowy skies melt all light
Her shiny, snow white tail hugging the tree
tightly
Isolated perished
Beaming eyes awake
Then escapes frantically
An obnoxious ninja disguised as cute and cuddly
Sneaking onto the roof with great caution
Crawling gracefully under the bitter blanketed
heavens
To the fully furnished garden
Robbing
Climbing the rusty fence
Standing in the spotlight of the moon
Noticed
Possum

By Sophie

The Underwater Canyon

Moonless
Under the blue fields is darkness
The dull trench sleeps
Dim, gloomy, meaningless
A black peculiar world
Water, mute and eccentric
Sparkly bubbles sway upwards
Queer sand is endless
It lays waiting for a glimpse of light
Pressure tightens
Pitch black
Assassins lurking
Jellyfish swishing
Goblin sharks attacking prey
Glowing angler fish
Venomous tentacle creatures
Jiggered rock bridges
Smooth boulders and wavy sand
Mountains like concrete building
Human life cannot survive
Friendly giants wonder what's below
Great whites don't attack
Only slight movements left
Youngsters are curious
Extraordinary, bizarre and unknown
A dark world
Lifeless

By Rhys

Earthquake

Tectonic plates rumbly
Fighting deep below
Crumbling, slipping, bashing
The earth crust opens
Windows shatter, tables slid
The earthquakes hunger grows
Homes crack, cars crash
Roads flood, pipes burst volatile
Cathedrals crumble
People scattering like ants
Stop lights sway
The earths hunger slows
Frenzied people calm
Bricks scattered
Mini canyons have unopened
Twisted rope liked bridges
Half of a building taken
Children wonder where they're going to stay
Parents saddened
Faces confused
Rumbles die
Dismantled
Beast slumbers
All is quiet
Chaos is left
Lives changed

By Archie

THE MARIANA TRENCH

Calm
Under still quiet ocean
The sea sleeps
Gloomy, dim, boundless
A bitter curious world
Water crisp and chilly
Tiny odd bubbles floats peacefully
Thick slimy sand
Bare black water
Enormous pressure
Dark blue
Eels slithering around
Crabs scattering
Sea shells crunching
Rat tail fish swimming
Mountains like huge slimy trees
The pressure too high
Fish above wonder what is below
Sharks above can't get the fish down there
The ocean rises
Murky, soundless and blank
Peaceful waves above
Sad and lonely

By Baxter

Earthquake

Tectonic plates moving powerfully
Pushing, sliding, moving
Earth's surface begins to wobble
Tables move, computers jiggle
Glass cracks, cupboards tumble
The underground devil becomes harsher
Crumbling buildings crash
Cars get crushed
Pipes burst open viciously
Stop lights vibrate
People run frantically for safety
The earth settles slowly
Windows shattered
Rubble all over the ground
Roads have collapsed
Cars sink in holes
People wonder what happened
The earth stops
Children devastated
Adults see the wreckage
SES help out to find people in bricks
Destruction

By Faith

<p>ASSASIN</p> <p>As the night turns on like a TV As the night air swallows the neighbourhood As a stranger bounces off walls into buildings The darkness and shadows hide the creature A sleek shadow leaps onto a house The animal runs past the street as happy as a baby Glistens, adorable, comfortable Escaping carefully on the roof Assassin stalking Across my window Into the streetlight Scared Cat!</p> <p><i>BY HENRY</i></p>	<p>Intruder</p> <p>As night crept around the corners of my house Outside becomes a cold miserable blanket Darkness brings nightmares Sitting in a blissful living room The beast escapes on to my roof Hissing with soft dark fur Escaping with the wind The monster leaps back onto my roof Faster than an eye blink Rushing under the moon light bravely Stealing honey off our doorstep Running into the light suddenly Revealed A possum!</p> <p><i>By Jason</i></p>
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More about Reports & Parent/Teacher Interviews

Reporting for Semester 1, 2020 will occur but with changes and amendments.

Our schools will provide a simplified written report to parents/carers about students' learning in Semester 1. We will modify our existing report templates/software or develop a new simplified report to accommodate this change due to COVID -19 and the adjusted learning sequence. Not all curriculum areas will be reported on as they were not taught during the pandemic.

Reporting to parents/carers will focus on the learning that has taken place so far this year. This will include student's progress and achievements, as well as areas for development.

The grading of students using the five-point A-E scale is not required and therefore will not be used. We will be using a scale, based on working below, above and at the expected stage level or benchmark. Teachers will comment on English, Mathematics and make a generalised comment about the learning in other key learning areas.

Parents will be invited to participate in an over the phone interview, rather than in person due to health restrictions in early Term 3. Reports will be published in mid Term 3, instead of at the end of this term. This allows teachers the time to teach more of our content and then assess students learning. Reports across the state will be delivered to parents by the middle of Term 3.

Excursions

At this stage all excursions are on hold. We have planned two excursions for Year 3/ 4 to a Sport and Recreation Camp in Wagga (3 days and 2 nights) and Year 5/6 excursion to Canberra (3 nights and 4 days). All excursions have been booked but we awaiting advice on whether these excursions can take place. If they are to go ahead, excursions will need to be completely self-funded. These means parents are to pay for 100% of the cost BEFORE the excursion. The expected cost for the Year 3/4 excursion will be approximately \$400 and \$500-600 for the Year 5/6 excursion. We have not had any P & C fundraising to help pay for these excursions this year. I thought I would let you know in advance, but also can't promise that these excursions will happen due to COVIDI-19.

Homework

Homework will recommence in Term 3 for Stage 2 & 3. Home reading and sight words (K/1/2) is encouraged nightly.

P & C

At this stage, due to the guidelines and restrictions of parents not being able to meet or be on school grounds in groups we will not be able to establish a P & C. We are hoping to rebuild a P & C committee in the near future by inviting interested parents to a meeting to discuss the possibility. We will hold off with a meeting until further notice.

Jennie Wilson
Principal
Moulamein Public School