



*We learn. We show respect.
We are safe.*

Thursday 8th February 2018

"Golden Past, Bright Futures"

Canterbury Street, Vic. 3370
Telephone (03) 5345 3182. Fax (03) 5345 3555
Email: clunes.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Clunes Primary School Newsletter

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please see Term 1 #draft 2 Calendar on back page

2018 Prep/ Foundation students Rest/ Assessment Days- each Wednesday after that for the first 6-7 Weeks of Term 1, 2018

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome to Term 1, 2018!

It gives me absolute pleasure to introduce you to our 2018 School Captains; Max and Lizzy and School Vice- Captains; Flynn and Charlotte! ☺



Our first **School Working Bee** is **THIS** Saturday! 12.30- 2.30pm to align with our Football and Netball Club helpers. Please attend and support our wonderful school!

Best wishes to you all for a positive fortnight ahead! Kind regards, Sonia & the staff of CPS.



STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS FOR TERM 1



Our Term 4 You Can Do It is:
Getting Along

Prep/ 1B - begins next week	1/2H – whole class
Year 2/ 3D- Tom	3/ 4LM- Sebastian
5/ 6 A- Rowan T	5/ 6 T- Shaylee
Chaplain's Award- begins next week	Mrs Laurie's Award- Xaiden-Lee

Bus Traveller's Awards- begins next week

Our Newsletter monitors for beginning 2018 are Campbell and Oli. Thank you both!

CHAPLAIN'S CHAT

Hello... and Happy New Year and welcome back to everyone! A special welcome to all our new students and families here at Clunes Primary! As your school chaplain my role here, broadly speaking, is to *provide care and support to the whole school community*; families, parents, students and teachers. This may mean assisting and resourcing parents, meeting with students and/or parents wanting 'a listening, non-judgemental ear', running lunchtime activities and Breakfast Club for students, supporting teaching staff in their classrooms...the list goes on because caring for one another varies from person to person, situation to situation! I am at CPS on Mondays and also Thursday mornings. If you feel I could be of assistance to you, your family or your child please don't hesitate to contact me here at school; pop in for a chat (I love a chat!!), phone or leave a note for me at the office. I look forward to getting to know you and your families.

Have a great week! Blessings, *Julie McDowell* Chaplain

Volunteers required for our Friday Lunch Order delivery please (Roster at the Office)

This year we have slightly altered our School Timetable to positively influence our Mathematics lessons. This has meant a timetable restructure that has Maths begin in all classrooms straight after Recess and SRA (Spelling & Prep- Letters & Sounds) beginning after the bell at 12.30pm. As you know, we utilise every single member of staff during this SRA time to keep our learning groups small and matched to their specific spelling learning needs. (I teach the Preps whilst Mrs B teaches Reading Recovery).

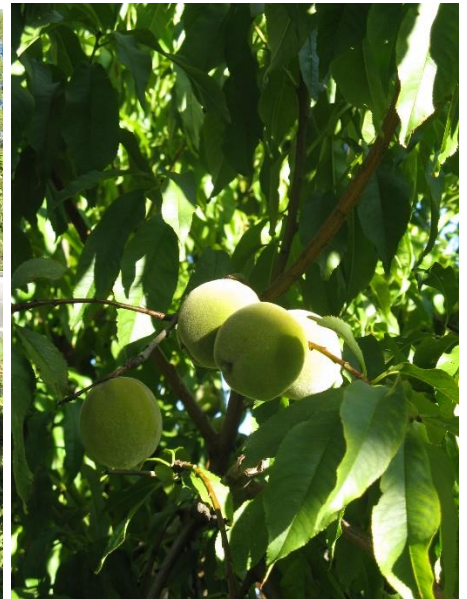
Lunch eating will now be 15 minutes later at 1pm. (Lunch eating 1-1:10pm)

This poses a new challenge for us as in 2016 and 2017 the staff have been 'back-up' Lunch Order delivery people for Mark Field when he has been unavailable. This year Mark is unable to deliver the Lunch Orders due to work commitments. Staff are now also unable to collect and deliver the Lunches as we are all teaching. We need your help! Are you available to put your name on a Roster for Friday Lunch Order collection from the Top Shop and delivery to school? Please see the Office if you are able to help. Our collection /delivery system will now be totally reliant on Volunteer help.

Thanking you in advance, Sonia ☺ PS Rebecca Jolly ✓ for this week Fri 9/2 and Tamara Hayes ✓ Fri 16/2.



Our current Kitchen Garden produce 😊 Feb 2018



Clunes PS staff 2018



Mrs Kristin O'Brien



Miss Jordyn Dargaville



Mrs Di Bongiorno



Mr Paul James



Mrs Vicki Anderson



Mr Ross Adams



Mrs Liz Garth



Mr Shane Hoffmann



Mrs Felicity Longmire



Mrs Val McNeight



Mrs Jan Miles



Mrs Cassie Mitchell



Mrs Jill Perrin



Mrs Sarah Tuddenham



Mrs Julie McDowell



Ms Sonia Jardine

Staff Professional Learning



On Tuesday 30th January, Student Free Day 2, our Teaching Staff attended a NAPLAN Writing Professional Learning day at Napoleons Primary School. The session was attended by Communities of Practice co schools: Napoleons PS, Macarthur St. PS, Creswick PS and Clunes PS. The day was led by NAPLAN Writing Assessor Meaghan and provided us all with a very engaging and extremely insightful and powerful learning opportunity.

Photo: Mrs Anderson and Mrs Mitchell completing an assessment task linked to a student's sample of writing.

Library 2018

Library borrowing will be starting on the following days-

MONDAY- 2/3D

TUESDAY- P/1B

WEDNESDAY- 3/4LM

THURSDAY- 4/5T & 5/6A

FRIDAY- 1/ 2H

ALL students require a library bag or reader bag for borrowing.

Thank you, Jan. 😊

Swinging Summertime- Clunes PS Musical 2017

The DVD is still available to Order from the Office. Cost \$22 (as in 2015) Pre-payment is necessary.

Concert Photos are also still available to Order from the Office.

6 SKILL SETS THAT HELP KIDS SUCCEED

5

FEB

BY MICHAEL GROSE

When I was teaching, as I got to know the children at the start of the year, I was always on the lookout for factors other than academic ability. As a number of researchers have found, including Prof. Michael Bernard author of the You Can Do It Program, children need more than a penchant for learning to succeed at school.

There are a number of skill sets that contribute to children's success over the long-term. They are skills that we neglect if we narrow our focus on numeracy, literacy, performing arts and other academic skill sets. They are also skill sets that can be taught, or at the very least drawn out, when we as adults know what to look for.

Following are six skill sets that contribute massively to overall student success and contentedness at school.

1. Friendship skills

The ability to get along with others is hugely important for children. How quickly children settle into a new school year will be determined as much by their ability to make new friends and fit into a peer group, as any other factor. Those children with a strong set of friendship skills have a definite set of skills that makes them easy to like, easy to relate to and easy to play with. These skills include the ability to win and lose well; how to approach others to join in a group and how to lead rather than boss. These are just three of 17 basic friendship skills that have been identified as being essential for making and keeping friends.

2. Organising skills

You can probably recall when you went to school a student who was really bright, but who let themselves down because they couldn't organise themselves or others. The ability to organise your time, your space, your items and others is a massive plus for any student. Being organised extends beyond school, including at home and during leisure time. The best way to

help children who are organisationally-challenged is to introduce them to systems and processes to help them organise themselves. These processes include the use of visual reminders; anchoring (i.e. linking new behaviours to habitual behaviours) and mapping activities out.

3. Optimism skills

It may seem strange to see optimism as skill set, but as leading psychologist Prof. Martin Seligman discovered through his research, optimism can be taught. Seligman found that while some children are more inclined by nature to see a glass as half empty than half full, all children are capable of developing an optimistic explanatory style through exposure and direct teaching. The skills of optimism include being aware of self-talk, reframing negative events into positive effects and the practice of perspective-taking.

4. Coping skills

Kids will generally face a number of challenges during the course of their school lives including overcoming disappointment of missing being picked in a team; working their way through difficult learning situations and meeting with rejection. How stressful these situations will depend on their own spirit, the support they receive and their coping skills. The good news is that coping skills can be taught, or at the very least, encouraged, if adults know what to focus on. Coping strategies include parking problems for a while; normalising a situation and accepting and moving on. Some kids will use coping strategies quite naturally, while others need parental input to help them cope with seemingly minor challenges.

5. Relaxation skills

The ability to relax and get away from it all is vital for the maintenance of mental health, which in turn, impacts on a student's ability to perform. Many of today's kids live with pressure. That pressure needs to be released through relaxation and play, otherwise it just continues to build and it shows itself through anxiety and other mental illnesses. The ability to relax and unwind is paramount to your child's school success. Ways to unwind include

getting lost in a hobby; learning how to meditate and enjoying creative pursuits.

6. Relationship skills

Children at school are involved in hundreds of social interactions every day ranging from working cooperatively with a peer in class through to asking a teacher for help. Most of the interactions go well, but there are times when there will be conflict and tension. This is when children with a solid set of communication and relationship skills honed through a myriad of sibling interactions come to the fore. They don't become flummoxed when a child won't give them what they want, or a child tells tales to the teacher about them. Children that come from very small families (two children or less) often don't have experiences of conflict to draw on so they need to be taught how to give way graciously; to stand up for themselves assertively rather than angrily and to see two sides to a story rather than take things personally. There are many skills we can teach our kids to help them maintain healthy relationships at school, as well as in their families.

These skill sets are part developmental and part environmental. That is, kids will naturally develop many skills as they mature. But also many of the skills need to be nurtured environmentally- that is, they need to be recognised, encouraged, taught and modelled by adults that children and teenagers respect and admire if children are to acquire them. That makes parents Very Important People in the acquisition process of these skill sets in children and young people.

TERM 1 PARENTS CALENDAR 2018 Thursday February 8th 2018 draft # 3 (latest additions in YELLOW)

2018 Prep/ Foundation students Rest/ Assessment Day- Week 1 - Friday 2nd February, after that each Wednesday for the first 6-7 Weeks of Term 1, 2018- final Wednesday date TBC

Week 2: Monday 5 – (Saturday) 10 February

Monday 5 February: Assembly – School Captains Welcome – Induction of School Captains- presentation of badges Attendance Certificates for 2017 and Term 4 2017 presented at Assembly

Wednesday 7 February: **Second Foundation Year (Prep) Assessments/ Rest Day**
Every Wednesday is Walk to School Wednesday (leaving from Queen's Park 8.30am)
School Council Meeting 7pm TBC

Thursday 8 February: First FULL Newsletter home (Newsletters home each fortnight)
Friday 9 February: Wesley Community Service begins Wesley Welcome Community dinner
***Saturday 10 February: School Working Bee supported by -12.30-2.30pm Clunes Football & Netball Club –Community Service session at CPS**

Week 3: 12 - 16 February

Monday 12 February: Assembly- Induction of House Captains – presentation of badges
Mrs Helen Romeril begins her final 4 week Principal Intern placement with Ms Jardine

Tuesday 13 February: Student Support Group Meetings – PSD/ Koorie students to be scheduled confirmed
Junior School Council Meeting 1.10pm

Wednesday 14 February: Senior School Swimming Sports 12.30pm onwards Years 3-6, Clunes Swimming Pool confirmed

Thursday 15 February: School Council 2017-18 election process begins

Week 4: 19 – 23 February

Monday 19 February: Assembly- Induction of JSC reps – presentation of badges

Wednesday 21 February: 2018 Welcome BBQ- followed by STEM Family focus evening led by our staff & our students

Week 5: 26 February – 2 March

Monday February 26: Choir Group 9.30-10.30am Session 1 participating students Years 3-6

Thursday March 1: Closing Date for School Council elections

Friday 2 March: Sovereign & Eureka Division Swimming Sports 9.30am start Ballarat Aquatic Centre

Week 6: 5 - *11 March

Monday 5 March: Choir Group 9.30-10.30am Session 2 participating students Years 3-6

Wednesday 7 March: Years 7, 8, 9, Aquatic Centre Swimming Challenge 7pm start TBC

Friday 9 March: after school preparation for the Vintage Truck Show

***Sunday 11 March: School fundraising -Clunes Community Vintage Truck Show- helpers required please**

Week 7: 12- 16 March

Monday 12 March: Labour Day public holiday

Tuesday 13 March: Junior School Council Meeting 1.10pm

Wednesday 14 March: Last Foundation Year (Prep) Assessments/ Rest Day TBC

Week 8: 19 – 23 March

Monday 19 March: Choir Group 9.30-10.30am Session 3 participating students Years 3-6

Wednesday 21 March: School Council Meeting- AGM and General Meeting

Thursday 22 March: Term 1 Disco – theme to be decided by JSC

Friday 23 March: TBC Harmony Day?- Focus Day ? Families/ mixed groupings & optional dress up theme Regional Swimming Event?

Sunday 25th March: Clunes Family Fun Day- Clunes Primary School involvement 10am-2pm

Week 9: 26 – Thursday 29 March

Monday 26 March: Life Education Program

Tuesday 27 March: Life Education Program

Thursday 29 March: Last Day Term 1 1pm finish (casual dress day)

Friday 30th March: Good Friday

Term 2 resumes: Monday 16th April, 2018

To be confirmed: (all items in Red)

