COMMUNITY NEWS

Welcome back to school and Term 3. I hope that all families had some quality time together and a break. The weather wasn’t fabulous for outdoor activities but the rain was certainly needed.

Congratulations to Miss Blair, who delivered a healthy baby girl just before the holidays. We wish her well. Congratulations also to Mrs Kilronomakis who was the successful candidate for the teacher vacancy created when Mrs Turnbull retired from full time teaching. Mrs Kilronomakis brings a wealth of experience, knowledge and skills to the position and will make a very valuable contribution to the Jindera school community.

Welcome to Mr Cameron White who is replacing Miss Blair on 1/6B until Miss Blair returns from maternity leave, and welcome to Mrs Sarah Wise who is teaching 1/2R until Miss Reeves returns in Term 4. Welcome to the Jindera community - we hope that you enjoy your time here with us.

Term 3 looks like being another busy term with several new initiatives and exciting events and happenings all term. I look forward to catching up with parents/carers throughout the term.

On Saturday of this week I am meeting a Canadian principal colleague at Sydney airport. Mrs Ana Mena is a primary school principal in Ontario, Canada, visiting Australia for the first time to learn about school leadership in NSW schools. Mrs Mena will be with us at JPS for Education Week (Week 3) and will go to Sydney for further conferences and meetings. I am very excited about sharing the wonderful things that are happening at JPS with a Canadian colleague.

Last Monday, the teaching and support staff returned to school for the Term 3 staff development day. It was another very productive day for planning, programming and collaboration. The teaching staff planned units of learning for the enduring concepts of Heritage and Diversity. In the afternoon, all staff brushed up their physical education skills with a session on skills and drills using the Playing 4 Life teaching resource. Our School Learning Support Officers spent the day enduring concepts of Heritage and Diversity. In the afternoon, all staff brushed up their physical education skills with a session on skills and drills using the Playing 4 Life teaching resource. Our School Learning Support Officers spent the day for planning, programming and collaboration. The teaching staff planned units of learning for the enduring concepts of Heritage and Diversity. In the afternoon, all staff brushed up their physical education skills with a session on skills and drills using the Playing 4 Life teaching resource. Our School Learning Support Officers spent the day

Congratulations to our silver award winners: Thomas Brookby, Tukey Middleton, Luigi Dougherty, Kallee Dubenko and Emma Reid. Congratulations to the following star award winners for this fortnight: Sienna Oehm and Lily Guetho (K) Violet Holding and Zander Vanderlaus-Vyrie (Yr 1), Luke Jones (Year 2).

A huge congratulations to Ben Wójcieszak who made it to the State cross country carnival in Sydney last week. A huge effort, Ben, we are very proud of you, an excellent achievement.

Red, black and yellow – an Aboriginal-themed music program for Stage 1 students

This is a reminder that this fabulous music program begins tomorrow, Friday, 25 July for all students in K – 2 and any other students who do not participate in PSSA sport. The Murray Conservatorium of Music is working in partnership with the school to implement Red, black and yellow. Red, black and yellow is an Aboriginal-themed music program incorporating dance and drama for all students in K-2. Music concepts such as tempo, beat, rhythm, timbre and harmony are explored through singing, listening, dancing and the playing of percussion instruments. Children will also be introduced to ensemble work through singing and playing of percussion instruments. Opportunities for drama will occur through the exploration of movements and feelings of Aboriginal people and native animals. The nine week program costs $10.00 per student. The school is subsidising this program to maximise student participation.

SRC fundraising

During our recent SRC meetings the SRC has decided to focus their fundraising for 2014 to raise money to purchase two street swags. These basic shelters are water and wind proofs and will provide shelter for an individual or family living on the streets. The SRC is planning the following activities and we hope that you can support them:

PJ / movie day – this will be held on Tuesday, 5 August - gold coin donation

Crazy hair / crazy costume day will be held on Thursday, 18 September. $1.00 for crazy hair or crazy costume, $2.00 for both crazy hair and crazy costume.

Riverina Athletics carnival

The inclement weather last term meant that the Riverina athletics carnival was postponed until Monday, 4 August. Good luck to all competitors.

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This four week transition to Kindergarten is aimed at children starting Kindergarten in 2015. Jindera Juniors will meet on Fridays 15, 22 and 29 August, and 5 September from 9:30am - 12:30pm in the school library. If you know of anyone who might be interested in the Jindera Juniors transition program please ask them to visit the school office for further information or phone the school on 6026 3280. An orientation program and Kindergarten parent information session will be conducted in Term 4 as well.

Active After-School Communities

Following the expression of interest forms sent home last term, parents/carers should have received permission notes for their children to participate in Active After-School Communities (AASCs). This coaching program began this week, for seven weeks. Junior golf (Tuesday afternoons) and cricket (Wednesday afternoons) run from 3:45 – 4:45pm each week until Week 8 of term 3. The selected students are asked to assemble in the quad area, near the office, following the end of school bell. A supervisor (Ms McLachlan on Tuesdays and Mr Takle on Wednesdays) will meet with them at 3:30pm for a nutritious afternoon snack and drink before commencing the session at 3:45pm. Any k-2 student participating in AASC must be accompanied home following the session, by an older sibling or responsible adult, known to the child. All students are asked to leave the school grounds following the activity at 4:45pm. Students are encouraged to bring a water bottle for use during the activity session.

Years 6 girls community focus project

The year 6 girls will, once again, be working collaboratively on a project to support a community based organisation. Last year, the Year 6 girls worked together throughout Terms 3 and 4 to raise money and buy gifts for the Jindera Aged Concern. The residents were thrilled at hosting the girls, and receiving the beautiful gifts the girls had worked to provide for them. The focus for this year is still being determined. The focus of this group is to encourage the girls to work collaboratively for a cause and to be active citizens in their local community. I look forward to working with Mrs Godde and the Year 6 girls to bring enjoyment to the lives of others through kindness and giving.

State library Far Out! program

Students in Years 3 and 4 have been invited to attend the State library FAR OUT! Treasure to the bush program at Howlong PS on Monday 28 July from 1:00 – 2:30pm. Students will be involved in an interactive presentation of resources from the State Library of NSW in Macquarie Street, Sydney, using some of the most evocative, original items relating to early Australian history. The cost for students to attend is $4.00 to cover bus fare.

Years 5/6 Broken Bay/Sydney excursion

The Year 6 major camp/excursion is only 8 weeks away. Please let them know about Jindera Juniors (see the pamphlet inserted in this newsletter).

Congratulations to the following students who received Merit Awards at our last assembly

KE - Paddy Holding, Jye VanDenverter, Jed Callanan, Milly Raymoond, Jorja Pearce, Lily Gueho
2K - Jordie Allen, Isaac Oehm, Akeira Delaney, Rori Kohlhagen
3/4S - Monique Pecenicic, Lauren Nixon, Mitchell VanDenverter, Corey Brown, Aaleyah Dougherty
3/4K - Tulley Middleton, Alistair Brooksby, Tayissa O’Dwyer, Tom Nock, Corey Groch
5/6B - Lachlan Stanning, Amy Kelly, Tiara Willis, Jeremiah Quinn
5/6H - Ben Demeo, Sophie O’Connor, Braiden Reeves

How can you help your child succeed at school? Learn with them.

Comprehension strategies

What is a comprehension strategy?

Comprehension strategies help children to understand the meaning of a text, not just be able to read the words. Comprehension strategies are the mental processes that all readers use when they are reading and trying to make sense of a text.

Good readers often use comprehension strategies without even realising, but most strategies must be taught and practised to turn them into habits. At Jindera Public School we use a systematic approach to teaching the six key comprehension strategies and how to apply them independently. Each fortnight we will introduce you to a new strategy and explain why it is important for effective reading.

Strategy 1 - Making Connections

What is it?

All readers make connections with a text before, during and after reading. As readers engage with texts, they make connections in three main ways:
1. to their personal experiences (text to self)
2. to other texts they have read, seen or heard (text to text)
3. to things occurring in the world (text to world)

Why is it important?

When readers link personal background knowledge, understanding or experiences to the text, they are able to read it more fluently and therefore understand or comprehend more effectively.

Personal reflection

How do your experiences or knowledge of a subject assist you to read more fluently and understand what you have read?

Check our next newsletter for Strategy No. 2.