Principal’s Message

We often get concerns from parents about students getting along. An important part of student learning is for them to develop social skills. At school, Mr Wright teaches fortnightly lessons of social skills to each class. Our school rules encourage respect and we also deal with individual cases whereby a lack of social skills has caused some conflict. The ‘Parenting Ideas’ article titled ‘Social Skills for Children’ by Michael Grose explains how parents can lay the foundations at home by teaching their children seven important social skills. They are:

1. Ask for what you want
2. Good manners
3. Sharing
4. Holding a conversation
5. Winning and losing well
6. Approaching and joining a group
7. Handling fights and disagreements

These strategies are simple and having good social skills contributes much to the happiness and well-being of children. To read the whole article, go to our school website under ‘Support and resources/Parent resources/Social skills for children’.

Mark Hooson

Parent-teacher Interviews

Parent-teacher interviews will be held from Monday 21 to Wednesday 23 March. Please see the attached note for further details.

Highfields Pioneer Village Excursion

‘A taste of the past’ was Friday’s theme for the children and staff of Vale View State School as they ventured to Highfields Pioneer Village Museum. Thanks to a community of dedicated volunteers, the children were treated to billy tea and damper, displays of whip cracking, blacksmithing and pumping water the old fashioned way, as well as experiencing what life was like for the early settlers.

The children were very impressed with the displays of inventions and innovations, not to mention the fire trucks! Museum volunteers were equally impressed to see the children dressed up for the occasion and using good old-fashioned manners. No doubt there were many stories and memories shared over the weekend, following their adventure.

Students were treated to a demonstration on how Clydesdale horses were used.

‘They used this for what?’
Vale View Cross-country

Our cross-country will take place on Friday 18 March from 1.45 pm. More details will be in next week’s newsletter. Everyone is welcome.

Individual Chess Tournament

Last Tuesday we had thirteen students take part in the Toowoomba Primary School’s Chess Tournament. A total of 302 students participated. All students played eight games with Erin Ryan and Elle de Nooyer winning six each which placed both of them equal 12th. This is a wonderful achievement. It was very pleasing to see some of our students show the confidence to take part even though they had only had two lessons.

Fire Visit

This Friday the students in Prep-2 will have a visit from the QLD Fire and Rescue Service. Students will learn valuable skills in case of a fire emergency such as: "Get down low and GO! Go! Go!" "Get Out and Stay Out" and knowing where fire evacuation areas are at home and at school. Students will complete a series of activities to prepare for the visit on Friday.

In the Classrooms

In Science, the Year 34 class have been studying what constitutes a living thing and understanding that they can be distinguished from non-living things. Last week they took part in an ‘archaeological dig’ where they discovered animal bones in our sandpit. Students then arranged the bones to make inferences about the animal that they had discovered.

Police Visit

Last Wednesday we had a visit from the police who spoke to all of our students. Constable Neil spoke to the 56 class about cybersafety, providing students with practical advice to help them safely enjoy online activities.

‘You Can Do It’ Awards

Awards this week were presented to the following students for showing resilience by bouncing back from difficult situations.

P1: Cohen Erbacher
12: Noah Olivier
34: Tameika Reddell
56: Elle de Nooyer

Meeting Minutes

Minutes from last Monday’s Annual General Meeting and monthly Meeting are attached to this newsletter.

Happy Birthday

Happy birthday to Travis Bellingham who turned 7 today.