



Clunes Public School Newsletter

12th November 2009

Week 4 Term 4



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**Important
DATE!**

Mondays

Tuesdays

Band

Wednesdays

Thursdays

Library/ Banking

Fridays

Sport / Canteen

WEEK 4

- Intensive Swimming

Thursday 12

- Yr 5/6 bowling

Sunday 15

- Spring Fair

WEEK 5

Thursday 19

- *Shekere Beat*
- Yr 4/5 bowling

Friday 20

- Kids in the Kitchen 5/6
- School Assembly 4/5

WEEK 6

Tuesday 24

- Mobile Library

December 4

Dress Rehearsal

December 8

Annual Concert

December 10

Yr 6 Farewell

December 11

Student Reports

December 14

Student Fun Day

December 16

Students finish

December 17-18 Staff Development

Thought for the Day

"The best and most beautiful things in the world, cannot be seen or even touched they must be felt with the heart." ~ Hellen Keller ~

Principal's Report

What is a good education? What is a good school? If you asked this question of fifty different people, it is likely you would get fifty different answers because the responses are coloured by our beliefs, our experiences and our perceptions.

Attempts to find a solution to this perennial problem have engaged the minds of philosophers, academics and educationalists for centuries. In recent times, determination of what constitutes an effective education system and a good school has been taken up by the populist media; and it seems that almost every day we are presented with views about what schools are good, what schools are not; how the education system is performing or failing, how the government is under-resourcing or over-resourcing education and so on. We hear about league tables of schools; of different configurations of classes and different instructional strategies; in short, what's effective and what's not.

No doubt these headlines fulfil the commercial purposes of the media companies by selling newspapers. But they also serve another purpose- keeping education at the forefront of community consciousness. We are forced to think about education to a degree not required of previous generations. And rightly so! We all have a stake in ensuring that our tax dollars are spent wisely. As a nation, education is inextricably linked to our future success.

Still, there is no definitive answer to the question of what constitutes a good school. Over the years, many research projects have been undertaken to this end and while there may be consensus in some areas, the definitive answer still eludes us. Perhaps it always will. What is important though, is that we continue to search because through seeking answers and analysing what we do, we are progressing along the path of continual improvement and that has to be a win for everyone.

At the combined Principal's meeting held yesterday we were presented with some of the research work of Professor Steven Dinman in relation his work on identifying the elements of a good school. His research (*How to get Your school Moving and Improving* 2008 publication) looked at a number of schools and factors affecting student learning. Through assigning a value to each factor, he attempted to gauge their impact upon student learning. Although it is impossible to summarise such involved research findings in a few sentences, two things stood out: The impact of the students themselves (personal qualities, family and environment) and the quality of the teachers and teaching. Together, these factors have the largest impact on the quality of education. These findings have strong implications for individual schools and for the way education systems function.

...the focus of every school, every educational system and every education department or faculty of education-(should be) student learning and achievement.

Dinham 2008

I'm sure we all agree.

*Margaret Porter
Principal*

Music

Instrument Tuition:

- Hothouse Music sends sincere apologies for the inconsistent tuition this term and hopes to remedy the problem by next week. If we cannot reschedule all planned lessons we will refund students for missed lessons.



Spring Fair Performance

- The band members and the choir will be presenting items at the Spring Fair. It is planned for midday, so the children will need to **meet in the 4/5 classroom at 11.45am**. Mr Hoile will be meeting students here and taking them up for the performance. Band members need to bring their instruments and music.

Shekere Beats

Students will have the opportunity to attend *Shekere Beats* next Thursday morning at 9.30am.

Information and a permission note were sent home last week. Notes and money need to be returned by Tuesday 17th November..

Kids in the Kitchen – Class 5/6

The next class to experience culinary delights will be the 5/6 class on Friday 20th November. The permission note is attached to the newsletter and needs to be returned with money by next Wednesday to allow our parent helpers to buy ingredients.

Bowling – Class 4/5

The 4/5 class will be going bowling next Thursday 19th November, as part of the physical education curriculum.

Further information and the permission note is attached.

Remembrance Day Photo



Remembrance Day

All students from Kindergarten to Year 6 proudly represented our school at the Remembrance Day Service at Clunes yesterday, singing “Where have all the flowers gone” and the National Anthem. Our School Captains placed a wreath at the Cenotaph. We have been invited back to participate in next year’s service.

Assembly

Our next student assembly will be on 20th November 2009.

Canteen Roster

Date	Names
Friday 13 November	Amanda Butler Liana Riemer
Friday 20 November	Kim Goodrick Panalee van der Hecht

School Website

Our school website is at

<http://www.clunes-p.schools.nsw.edu.au>

Newsletters will be published here each week.

Dunoon & District Little Athletics

Little A’s season is here again, each Friday from 5pm – 7pm, Balzer Park, Dunoon Sports Club. Children wear green shorts & yellow t-shirts, registration numbers will be given upon payment of registration. Coaches & parent helpers are also welcome/needed. BBQ tea is available at very reasonable prices each week. Please contact Kathy Goulding 6628 2178 or Rose Smith 6628 2414 for more information.