

Principal's Report

We have had a productive term 3 with students being involved in many different programs. The Student Attitudes to School Survey results indicate an increase in the following areas:

Attitudes to School Survey	2015	2016
Teacher empathy	4.13	4.38
School Connectedness	3.98	4.07
Stimulated Learning	3.97	4.14
Student Motivation	4.25	4.39
Teacher effectiveness	4.12	4.41

Our review period is finished. Day one involved working through the policies required for our VRQA registration, analysing data, and developing terms of reference. On day two we worked through the terms of reference and established goals and strategies to be used in the next strategic plan. I'd like to thank the school community for sending back surveys and staff and students for their involvement in the planning period. I look forward to the direction the school will take us over the next four years.

The new junior playground is underway and will hopefully be completed in early term 4. Brendan will be planting grass in an area next to the playground so we need to let this establish before we use it. The middle years are excited about being able to access the existing playground.

We are very proud of Jess who spent a week working at Billabong Ranch at Echuca. This was a component of her Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Next Thursday 15th September is the last day of term for all students. Staff will be completing their CPR and epilepsy updates at school on Friday 16th September. Staff will also complete their Diabetes update next Monday after school.

Wishing you all an enjoyable and safe holiday.

Leah Willis

Principal

IMPORTANT DIARY DATES

Tuesday 13 th September	P&F meeting @ 2.00pm
Thursday 15 th September	Students Last Day Principal's Lunch
Friday 16 th September	Staff Professional Development
Monday 3 rd October	First Day Term 4
Thursday 27 th October	Senior School Formal
Monday 19 th December	School Concert 6.30pm



Student Awards

19th August

Respect	Sam Donnelly & Paul Murray
Safety	Laurie Norgate & William Mills
Try Your Best	Cody Connelly
Yard Award for Try Your Best	Midas Gopolan
Bus Captain/Bus Award for Respect	Jesse Beresford
Uniform Award	Chris Harbrow & Matthew Peters

26th August

Respect	Keely Thorpe
Safety	Midas Gopolan & Seth Mumford
Try Your Best	William Mills, Darci Mayfield & Chloe Kirkpatrick
Yard Award for Respect	Boston Haimona
Bus Captain/Bus Award for Respect	Paul Murray
Uniform Award	Darci Mayfield & William Mills

2nd September

Respect	Teon France & Jesse Beresford
Safety	Scott Johnson & Ayjah Nathan
Try Your Best	Anikia Welch
Yard Award for Try Your Best	Ned Quinane
Bus Captain/Bus Award for Safety	Midas Gopolan
Uniform Award	Ned Quinane & Gus Ryan

9th September

Respect	Dylan Schmager & Ned Quinane
Safety	Nathan Hendrie & Jessica Gray
Try Your Best	Hayley Hendrie
Yard Award for Safety	Cody Connelly
Uniform Award	Xavier North & Shakaya Graham

Principals Award Term 3

Teon France, Hayley Hendrie, Hollee Clark, Ebony Lowrie & Paul Murray

Hovell Room



What a long way we have come since the start of the year! We have learnt so many things in regards to being a part of a classroom team and appropriate ways to behave. We are aware of school rules and are doing such a great job at following them that we have started to go for walks outside of the school. We all walk behind a staff leader and follow the instructions of "stop, wait, go and come back". Often there is a reward for our good work and we stop at the park for a play. We have also recognised numbers on letters boxes we walk past and we love to stop and look at flowers.

Cobram & District Specialist School values are Respect, Safety & Try Your Best



While we walk, Ned, Seth and Liam go swimming and they have gained confidence in the pool as they now all go down to the deep end on a noodle. They are also beginning to put their heads under the water as well as blowing bubbles. Well done everyone.



Hume Room

What a busy term we have had! Cannot believe term 3 has come to an end already! Over the last few weeks we have been continuing our daily plans, concentrating on the letters E, M and S in literacy. We focused on 'Dear zoo' and 'Whose nose' in our guided reading program and every afternoon we have been doing self-selected reading. The bike ed. program is still in full swing with Terry volunteering his time to go out riding with the more advanced group, while the rest of us are working on our skills both on school grounds and around the school block.



We have seen some great achievements in swimming, with a couple of our students overcoming their fears and are now jumping into the deep end of the pool unassisted. This is very impressive, having seen how far they have come since the start of the year. Each week in cooking we have been trying our best in experimenting with new foods. Caitlyn Koopman has done a FANTASTIC effort with this, having a go at eating, rice, burritos, cakes and spaghetti! In PBS, we have learnt ways in how to look after one another, and the appropriate times to use our quiet voices. Students have roll played these situations and are putting them into place both in the classroom and out in the yard. Our recent weekly PBS winners were Sam, Midas and Anikia.

We hope everyone has a wonderful term break and comes back refreshed and ready to finish off a great year!!

Mitchell Room

It has been a very busy term for the students of the Mitchell Room. We have learnt about the Olympics, and different countries that competed at the games. We also had our own Mini-Olympics a couple of weeks ago now, and a great time was enjoyed by all. We have all tried our best in all areas of the curriculum!

We have also focused on accepting differences in relation to our PBS sessions of late. We have also looked at how we respect others, and trying our best at getting along with others.

Dance and movement has been a big hit with everyone, as we have been practising a special dance that will be performed for all at the end of year concert, and it has been coming along nicely!

We hope that everyone has a safe and fun holidays, and can't wait to see everyone in the new term.





Jess Gray Work Placement - Billabong Ranch



Last Monday Robyn picked me up from my house at 7.30am, we travelled to the Billabong Ranch in Echuca to complete my work placement.

When I arrived at Billabong Ranch the staff showed me where I was staying and gave me some time to unpack and settle in. I had met my supervisor, I went out with the staff and assisted with feeding and moving the animals.

The following day I had a chance to try some archery, we had targets to aim for and I had a great time. We were joined by Hay Public School and we did rock climbing and I had a go, it was cool and we played a game on the rock climbing wall of twister. Afterward I fed the animals.

The following day I feed all the animal nursery animals and I also fed the baby cow. We did a lot of cleaning and organizing the shed on this day, it was a long and tough day.

The following day I was in the animal nursery, I cleaned up all in the animal nursery all day and I had a bbq for lunch and in the evening I went on the bungee trampoline and it was fun.

The following day I packed up all my stuff in my room and I said good bye to the animals and the Billabong Ranch staff before Lisa picked me up and drove me back home at the end of the day.



Moira Shire Youth Council meeting 6/5/16

Today we went to the football club rooms in Numurkah, the sitting council was St Marys of the Angels. We were picked up at 10.00am and travelled on a bus together. The schools that attended were St Marys of the Angels, Cobram and District Specialist School, Cobram Anglican Grammar School, Cobram Secondary College, Nathalia Secondary Collage, Numurkah Secondary College and Sacred Heart College. There were two guest speakers on the day.

The first guest speaker was Linda Nieuwenhuizen she spoke about re-branding the Shire services and she showed us some new Moira Shire logos.

The second guest speaker was Bobby Brooks and she spoke about Australia Day nominations and the election process for nominating a person for this.

Youth Council Representative comments

Jessica's favourite thing was hanging out with her Youth Council friends.

Nathan's favourite thing was meeting new people on the day.

Dean's favourite thing was the free food.

Jazmin's favourite thing about the day was the whole day, it was great.

Volunteers Morning Tea

Yesterday, the Sturt Room hosted our annual Volunteers Morning Tea to acknowledge the contributions made by individuals, parents, friends, businesses and community groups to our school over the past year. We would like to say thanks to all these people for their ongoing support. The generous donations received this year, has enabled equipment to be purchased for different classroom programs within the school. Some of these funds have gone into sensory programs as well as our Independent Living Skills curriculum areas.

Leah and Jesse gave speeches welcoming everyone and an insight into how funds have been spent to benefit students. Our Occupational Therapist, Kaitlyn Cummins talked about the Alert



program and how it ties in with many of the programs we run at school, especially Bike Ed. Laurie and Nathan recalled their experiences of learning to ride without training wheels to finish off the presentation. Students then mingled with the guests and provided them with thank you certificates. We would like to thank the staff and students for providing the morning tea, Sturt room for making the invitations, setting up and helping out this morning, the Mitchell room for helping this morning and the VCAL Work Related Skills group for making some of the certificates.



Mini Olympics Day

Our theme this term is Olympics and as well as being involved in classroom activities, students participated in our Mini Olympics day a couple of weeks ago. The opening ceremony had each team march out onto the basketball courts to their national anthems. Darci was the torch bearer with Sam carrying out the Olympic flag. Our national anthem was sung by the talented Beccy, Robyn and Lisa Walker, who also played the recorder. Charles read the athletes oath on behalf of all competitors whilst Lou read the officials oath. After these official proceedings, teams participated in a rotation of Olympic sports in both the morning sessions. These sports were: cycling, badminton, soccer, shooting, hockey, rhythmic gymnastics and handball. Points were gained at each sport and tallied and overall standings were announced at the closing ceremony. Well done to all teams for a great display of great sportsmanship and fun. The results were as follows:

Gold: Team Canada (Charles, Liam, Teon, Scott and Shakaya)

Second: Team (Jeffrey, Tori, Ebony, Jessica)

Bronze: Team America (Gus, Bella, Sam, Nick, Nathan, Jazmin)

Team England (James, Clancy, Midas, Keely, Laurie, Dean)

Team Ireland (Seth, Ned, Caitlyn, Cody, Peter)

Team Russia (Matthew, Paul, Hollee, Hayley, Jesse, Darci)

Team Italy (Ayjah, Anikia, Chris, Stephen, Mitchell, Teon)



PBS



Over the past few weeks, the two senior classes have been working together on the PBS lessons around looking after equipment and how to use it properly. They did an audit of the sports shed and held a discussion that there should be daily monitors to hand out equipment at recess and lunchtime. Following this, a weekly roster was drawn up with our house

captains and vice captains allocated with this responsibility. It is hoped that this will help keep the sports shed tidy and give students responsibility in getting and returning sports equipment at each break.



Cobram Leos on the Murray Club News

Yesterday representatives of our local Cobram Lions Club visited our school to hand over a cheque to our club President Dean White at the Volunteers morning tea. The \$670 cheque will be combined with the \$330 raised by the efforts of the club members over the last term to create a \$1000 donation to be forwarded to the Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation. This organisation was created to recognise the support needed to assist children survive a whole range of cancers they may develop over their early years. A series of awards have been created to acknowledge the efforts of community groups in supporting this great cause. As a result of the generosity of the Cobram and Lions and the work by the students and our school community support our Leos Club have been nominated for a Gold Award. We will keep you posted how we go!

Parents and Friends

Thanks to everyone who purchased tickets for our Father's Day raffle we made a profit of \$508.40
Congratulations to our winners:

1st Prize Outdoor Setting - Trish Mulquiney

2nd Prize Whipper Snipper & Meal Voucher - Trish Mulquiney

3rd Prize Car Cleaning Kit & Box Chocolates - Harbrow Family

Office News

Compass

We have a new program at the school for our attendances and excursions. You will notice at the bottom of permission notes that there is an option for paying via credit card, please ignore this as we don't have that facility. We accept cash & payment via direct credit into our bank. Our bank details for future reference are:

BSB - 063554

Account - 10185506

Reference – 'Family Surname'

Daylight Savings

Just a reminder that daylight savings clicks over on the last weekend of the school holidays. On Sunday 2 October 2016, **2:00:00 AM** clocks will need to be turned **forward** 1 hour.

Uniforms

Hats are compulsory from 1st September until 30th April. If your child needs a new hat we have them in stock at the office, \$12.50 bucket hat and \$14.50 wide brimmed hat.



Community News

Just a couple of activities available in our area during the school holidays.....

Riverlinks is excited to present *Loose Ends* during the upcoming September school holidays. While we understand this means the show isn't suitable for school group bookings, if it can be included in an upcoming school newsletter it would be much appreciated. I have attached an image, with a brief overview of the show below:

A family show that makes inventions and machines fun

Riverlinks presents **LOOSE ENDS**

Eastbank Centre, Shepparton


Monday 19 September, 1.30pm

Tickets \$15 - \$13

Created by performer Jens Altheimer, *Loose Ends* is a breathtaking show set in a wondrous tinkering heaven. It's also a story about friendship, acceptance and loyalty. Suitable for children aged 5 – 12 years.



Week 1 Sept 19 - Sept 23

Library	Mon 19 Sept	Tues 20 Sept	Wed 21 Sept	Thur 22 Sept	Fri 23 Sept
Shepparton		Jack & the Parachute 11.00 - 12.00			
Numurkah			Jack & the Parachute 11.00 - 12.00		
Yarrawonga			Jack & the Parachute 11.00 - 12.00		
Euroa			Come & Try Chess Club 10.30 - 12.30		
Cobram				Jack & the Parachute 11.00 - 12.00	





We are SunSmart - a note for families

Too much UV can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. Overexposure to UV during childhood and adolescence is a major factor for future skin cancer risk.

You can't see or feel the sun's UV so don't be fooled. Whatever the weather, if the UV levels are three or more, it's important to **Slip, Stop, Slap, Seek and Slide!**

Our school aims to protect children and staff from too much UV to help minimise future skin cancer risk. We are a registered member of the Cancer Council Victoria's SunSmart Program. Please help support our SunSmart membership by ensuring your child follows the SunSmart measures included in our policy.

During the daily local sun protection times (issued whenever UV levels are three and above), use these 5 SunSmart steps – even if it's cool and cloudy.

1. **Slip on a shirt** - for free dress days, ensure your child wears clothing that covers as much skin as possible (e.g. elbow length tops with a higher neckline or collar and longer style shorts or skirts). Densely woven fabrics are best.
2. **Stop on SPF 30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen** – apply a generous amount of sunscreen at the start of the day and make sure children have sunscreen in their bag ready to be reapplied throughout the day. Please ensure they get plenty of sunscreen application practice at home so they'll be all set when they are at school.
3. **Slap on a hat** – one that protects the face, neck and ears such as a broad brimmed, legionnaire or bucket style hat. Peak caps do not offer enough protection and are not

recommended by SunSmart. Please help your child remember to bring and wear their approved hat.

4. **Seek shade** – choose shady spots for play whenever possible.
5. **Slide on some sunglasses** - if practical and approved by the school. Make sure they are labelled AS 1067 and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

Sun protection times

Don't just wait for hot and sunny days to use sun protection. Check the sun protection times each day so your family can be protected when they need to be.

Daily local sun protection times and weather details are available from the SunSmart widget on our school website, in the weather section of the newspaper, on the SunSmart website at sunsmart.com.au and as a free SunSmart app. Sun protection times can also be found at the Bureau of Meteorology website and live UV levels are available from ARPANSA.



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