The wet has finally set in and our students are well and truly settled into their studies. Over the past few weeks, we’ve been looking very closely at your children’s strengths and areas for future growth to plan their learning journey this year. We would love to share this with you so feel free to drop in, call or email to touch base with your children’s teachers.

This year we will be striving to improve attendance above and beyond at Rossville State School. This means that EVERY CHILD is expected to be at school EVERY DAY.

If students are away because of illness or other reasons, it is important that you phone the school in the morning to let the teachers know. If students are away without notice given to the school, Mr Jenkins will be calling parents to find out the reasons for the absence. This is for both ensuring and encouraging attendance and to ensure your child’s safety in knowing where students are.

If you are planning a trip of 10 days+ please let the school know in advance and you will be able to apply for an exemption from attendance so a) it doesn’t affect school attendance data; and b) it doesn’t look bad on your child’s attendance record.

It was great to catch up with many of you this week at either the Meet, Greet & Eat or at play group. We also received a lot of apologies from parents who weren’t able to make it on Tuesday. If you weren’t able to make it and would still like to catch up feel free to drop by anytime before or after school.

All of us here believe you as the parents are the best teacher your child will ever have. We encourage to please complete the enclosed form so we can gain a greater insight in how best to teach your child.

If you would rather speak with your child’s teacher about these issues please phone us or come and visit the school. We look forward to hearing from you.

Cheers,

Amelia

Left: Rossville students looking great in their new AFL shirts on Thursday
Junior Class Capers!!

From Miss Tonya

Woo-hoo! Every single person in the Junior class returned their first set of homework! Well done everyone, and **thankyou** to all those supportive parents who help their kids to be their best.

**Homework** will go home each Monday and is **due back on Friday**.

From next week, the whole school (except for Prep) will be starting **Spelling Mastery**. Spelling Mastery is a direct instruction program, which means each lesson is set out and supported by teacher guides and student workbooks. In the past week we’ve done Spelling Mastery placement tests, to ensure that each child is working at the right level. From next week, homework spelling words will be drawn from students’ Spelling Mastery lessons. That means that our homework spelling directly connects with what we are doing at school.

In English, Year 1s and 2s are **learning reading strategies** using animal mascots. So far we’ve learned Lips the Fish and Stretchy Snake.

**Lips the Fish** teaches us to get our lips ready when we are attempting a new word by making the first sound.

**Stretchy Snake** teaches us to stretch out new words, sounding out one sound at a time. When you’re **reading** with your child at home, try sounding out with Lips the Fish and Stretchy Snake.

Every **Thursday** the AFL Skills Development team visit. Last week they were teaching us how to kick. Zayade’s kick was HUGE!!

Remember we need **SHOES** and **HATS** for **Thursday** (actually, every day, but especially Thursdays!)
Senior Class Capers!!

From Miss Heidi

Homework
The homework challenge (Yehah) has been set and the students have made an outstanding effort in trying to reach the goal. It was not achieved this week but we are extremely confident that next week we will all be dancing up a storm at the 'Homework Disco' as a reward for our efforts. In the senior class it would be very exciting if students could remember their homework without assistance from their families but at this stage if you could help your child with different strategies to remember to bring it back on Tuesdays that would be really helpful!
If you would like more or specific types of homework for your child please phone the school to let me know.

Class work
Already the students are improving their bookwork. Some students are really showing GRIT by persisting even when they find it particularly difficult to write neatly. This preparation will mean that during the year and even in high school they will be able to read their work easily and write at a pace necessary for note taking etv. Keep the effort up everyone!
In English we have focused on characters and setting to establish our Quest stories. We are all starting to realise how important they are in making an exciting story.
Maths is all about playing with numbers and that numbers can be expressed in lots of different ways. Being able to represent numbers differently is one of the main areas to being a great mathematician.
In class we are also building our self-discipline for excellent class behaviour so that we become better learners. There may even be a movie in class soon as a reward for working towards this goal.
Prep Class Capers!!

Our Preps students have been busy this week learning about Books and how they are made up of words and how words are made up of sounds. We have introduced our first 5 Golden sight words and continue with teaching a new jolly phonics sound each day. Students are also learning about questioning words such as who, what, where, when, why and how.

In Maths we continue to focus on counting and recognising numbers 1-10. We have also explored the meaning of more and less. Our Preps are really settling into school routines and we continue to model and show students the correct behaviour when interacting with other students and teachers. Quiet inside voices, whole body listening, and using our voices to solve problems.

The journey has begun! Students have all been involved in the first two lessons of our positive education program. The focus for this term is...

GRIT

Grit entails:
- working strenuously toward challenges,
- maintaining effort and interest over years despite failure, adversity, and plateaus in progress.

The gritty individual approaches achievement as:
- a marathon; his or her advantage is stamina.
- Whereas disappointment or boredom signals to others that it is time to change trajectory and cut losses, the gritty individual stays the course.

In general:
- students who have higher levels of grit may be less prone to negative emotions and vice versa.

In the first two lessons we have discussed that each person's inner potential is unlimited and that to improve where you currently see yourself you have to have "Challenging Moments". We have also discussed to show GRIT you need the following strengths:

Optimism, Persistence and Self-discipline.

Please use these words at home to reinforce to your child what they mean. When these traits are discussed and practiced it means that your child will be able to succeed and not get knocked down when they don’t.