Principal's Report

We are now passed the half way point of Term 3 and students are well into their units of work for this term and learning continues at an amazing pace. This term's Music and French lessons are seeing great results and I think everyone enjoys the chance to show off their skills and learn something new.

As it looks like the rain has started to clear and the sun is shining, we'd like to remind all families and students that it is school policy for all students to wear a hat and shoes when on the playground at all times.

Playgroup continues every second Wednesday at the school beginning at 9am. All families and children are welcome to attend with CDCC providing a great set up with games and activities for the kids, and a is a good chance for the parents to get together.

Have a look at a great recount of some work by Ashley Patiag of what she did over the holidays!

Remember: No Hat, No Shoes = NO PLAY
Junior Class Capers!!

We have been reading The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis. It is about a magical country called Narnia. We are working on writing about characters. This is an example, that we worked on as a class:

We think the Witch is dreadful and seems unstoppable but she can be stopped by the lion called Aslan. The witch has bad magic. She uses it to make it winter all the time and to turn people into stone statues. As well, she is not a human: she is half giant and half genie. We DEFINITELY must stop the evil White Witch ruling over Narnia!

You can see we have some talented writers in the Junior class!

We have a set of fun new tools for reading - made out of plumbing! Whisper Phones are made from PVC pipe. The phone helps the student ‘hear’ their own voice. The pipe funnels the child’s voice directly to their ear, helping them listen to the sounds they are making. This improves the child’s awareness of sounds (phonemic awareness) and helps them focus and concentrate on the reading. We already love using the phones to improve our reading (Our phones will be sprayed with disinfectant after each use.)

Philosophy is one of our most interesting new additions. Mrs Jenkins and Miss Margie have worked together to fit Philosophy into our English program. Students talk about topics like: ‘What does it mean to be a good friend?’ ‘What makes a good life?’ and ‘Is money important?’

In Science we are investigating mixtures. We have made mixtures with solids and liquids, and explored how some mixtures can be separated again. Keep an eye out for mixtures in your home!

Photos: left: new Prep student Kenneth shows he knows how to work! Below: Willow, Ashley and Clint demonstrate the Whisper phones for reading.

Is your lunch box here?
Come in and check the lost lunch box collection in The Community.
Senior Class Capers!!

Safe, Respectful Learners
What such amazing kids we have in the Senior room! Congratulations go to all those students who come to school every single day and show that they are safe, respectful learners. From the beginning of the day when they line up in a straight line with their focus on the teacher, to the end of the day when they thank the teacher and politely say goodbye, these students are demonstrating exactly what it means to be a student at Rossville State School. These dedicated and resilient learners don’t let difficulties get in their way. Even when they find the work challenging they do not give up and persist until they are successful. Such positive behaviours are not only useful in school but they are behaviours that are beneficial for life.

Units of Work
In the English unit “A Cool Drink of Water: Comprehending the Water Crisis”, all students have demonstrated how they can understand what they read and view on different levels. The students know that when they want to generally understand a new text they use the strategies of predict, clarify, question and summarise. They also practiced how to take notes from what they read or viewed. This skill will be especially useful for those students going to high school next year! Analysing a text for deeper understanding was the last level of comprehension that they practiced. At this level the students were trying to make judgments about the literary devices that were used, how truthful the text was and whether there were any hidden messages. Finally, the last task for this unit was to make a simple poster to persuade others to consider the problems of the water crisis. This final piece of assessment is due this Friday. The results of these assessment pieces will be sent home in the next two weeks, so that the students can share their great work with their families.

The last five weeks of the term, the English focus will be analysing songs. Some students will be analyzing songs of social comment and others will be analyzing songs from a movie. Miss Kathy will be assisting the students in analyzing the musical elements of their chosen songs so that they will be focusing on elements of music such as mood, verse and instrumentation.

Obviously, the caliber and depth of what the students are studying in English is very different to what we all studied in our own primary schooling however it is extremely positive to see how well all the students are responding to these standards and it is very exciting to see the high level of work standard that is being produced.
CDCC comes out to Rossville State School every second Wednesday morning to provide a play-group session for those families with younger children.

Dates for Term 3:
6th August, 20th August, 3rd September & 17th September

Please come along and join the fun!