I can’t believe we are in the last week of term! Despite some minor disruptions caused by Cyclone Nathan, we have managed to complete this term’s learning journey. Students are busy putting the final touches on their assessments and getting ready to celebrate their achievements on Thursday.

I hope to see some of you at tomorrow’s AFL carnival. It promises to be an exciting event with AFL Cape York and Live, Learn, Leap planning an exciting day for everyone. This year we are very fortunate to have additional volunteers and the Live, Learn, Leap team who will be running a full program of activities for younger students. There will also be free breakfast and lunch.

I hope you can join us on Thursday for our last parade of the term. We will be showcasing some of the creative pieces designed in art electives. There will be dance, drama and an exhibition of visual art. We will also be presenting each child with their own copy of a new book that they can keep and read over the holidays. We have chosen from among the highest quality children’s literature and hope they become treasured additions to your home libraries. I strongly encourage all children to come to school on Thursday to collect their gift, even if they have to leave early because you are planning on getting a head start on Easter weekend travel. Please also let me know tomorrow if your child needs to collect their gift tomorrow.

After Thursday’s celebrations, we will be holding the P&C Annual General Meeting. Gungarde’s Culture Club will be on hand to supervise activities for school aged children. After the AGM, we will hold a regular meeting. We have some important imminent decisions that need to be made as we will be hosting Cluster Cross Country the second week of term 2. It would also be good to get the Rossville markets operating early into the next term. I hope to see you there. If you can’t make Thursday’s meeting but are interested in finding out more about P&C just let me know. It’s never too late to join!
Senior Class Capers!!

Year 4,5 & 6 Students

Next term as part of Monday maths rotations we will be doing knitting. If any families have knitting needles (larger sizes) and balls of wool (8-12 ply), could you please bring them to school? If you would like to choose your own coloured wool you may want to purchase some over the holidays.

Many thanks to Carol Gavin for coming in on Mondays to help with maths rotations and lunchtime knitting.

These are exerts from the Quest stories that the children have planned. Their task was to write an adventure that describe the first challenge of the quest that their character came across. I have not included all the text the students wrote due to their length, but wanted to give you a sample of the fantastic efforts that they have made.

Saving Dad  By Marco, Year 4
“Belt, come! We need to find the parts to make a real UFO, so I can save my awesome Dad. Come on Belt. Yes, this UFO is cool. As cool as can be. I can’t wait to fly it. Let’s go save Dad Belt.”

“Come on Belt. Wow! Look at the cool stars. Wow, look at the huge moon. Oh no! We are getting sucked into another dimension. Wow. It’s so colourful. Look at the aliens. They’re all pink, green, red and blue. That’s so cool. It smells weird and strange. I’ve never smelled it before. It feels gooey and soft. They speak weirdly. I just can’t understand them.”

The Quest through a Maze  By Reshonda, Year 5
Scared and confused, I woke up in a dirty, rusty junk maze. In the distance I saw and brown dry, dusty, empty brick wall in a maze. In the distance I looked around and saw the door that was the way out of the maze but I don’t know the way to get out! “Oh no I’ll never get out of this maze. I’ll die in here! No one will help me!” I saw a big giant and I thought that he would hurt me but he picked me up and showed me the way out and I was so happy I whispered in his ears and said, “Thank you for helping me!”

The Quest  By Alec, Year 4
I’m in a dense, deep damp forest. I get a drink from the nearest lake. Suddenly I see a UFO. The UFO had bright lights and aliens. The UFO attacked with lightning bolts. I didn’t get hurt because a turtle came out of nowhere and saved me with his shell. “Thanks a lot Turtle. You are kind to give me powers. Are you magic?”

“Yes, I am” he answered in a deep voice.

A Bad Day  By Ben, Year 4
I was having a good day but I met a knight. He had sparkling diamond armour and he said, “My name is Lee.” He wanted to fight me. I got my cow sword but Lee was strong. I was thinking it was strange that there’s a knight in “The Forest of Good and Bad”. Lee had lots of courage. He was a good knight, but he got weak. I got a potion of strength. He also had a strength potion but I had a good potion of invisibility. I got a bottle of water and I got a knighthood for the battle.

The Camping Trip  By Jaxon Rose, Year 5
One day I was in bed and my friend, Marco came and got me to go camping. In the forest we started to make a shelter. The we found a portal to a place, ‘Cloudy with a chance of Meatballs’. “Let’s go in the portal.”

“Okay, let’s go!”

“Wow! Look at this place it has meatball tornadoes, ice-cream mountains and burger rain with jello houses. And there’s Shrimpanzees, flamangoes and a monkey named Steve.”
Senior Class Capers!!

Free Spirit  By Lily, Year 5

My hair is whipped across my thin face, from the soft wind. I squint my blue eyes through the glare reflecting from the snowy ground. Behind my back looms a giant forest. Suddenly behind me I hear a soft whimpering and yowling. I close my eyes fearfully and turn around with my heart pumping. Reluctantly I open my eyes. In front of me is a lump of grey fur. A head peaks out. “It’s a wolf cub!”

Crystal Caves  by Meg, Year 5

Then I quickly glance around and then I see angular jade crystals all around me. It was late dusk but the crystals still shone in the darkness. I went to touch the jade crystal but before I touched it I hear a noise and frozen I looked down and saw a rose red ruby cute crystal man. Finally, I touched the jade crystal. Suddenly the sapphire came alive! Then the little man spoke and said, “Get the crystal before you get killed!” Then I ran through the waving crystal arms. It was like a crowd of dancing people. “Wow!” I screamed, “It nearly got me, but luckily I dodged it.”

A New Jungle Queen by India, Year 3

I am lost. I slowly look around and I find myself in a thick, dense jungle. As I struggle through the fallen logs and big tough vines, I realise I am extremely thirsty. SO I look around and find a sapphire blue brook that is crystal clear and I drink and drink. Then I glance up and see ruby-red rose petals flowing down. I follow the stream down and see a magnificent waterfall with ferns and vines dripping down on the sides. I swim in the crystal clear water.

The King Snake by Zayade, Year 3

The snake killed a kangaroo and an elephant. The snake killed a gorilla and a pig. The snake was so sly he killed the dragon. The snake was so sly he killed a donkey. The snake killed a mammal. The snake killed a horse. The snake was so sly he jumped on the gorilla’s head and snapped his neck and ate his arm. Max, the snake jumped on the elephant and ripped off his ear.

Escape from the Nether by Danny, Year 3

It was midnight when we finally arrived at Grandma’s and Grandad’s house and they already had a bonfire ready. Until, Porky the baby fire-breathing pig lit it. Everyone on the street got sucked in. we ran around trying to find a way to get out of the Nether. Fire and lava are everywhere and it is very dark. We are lost in the Nether. I was just about to fall into the lava and then I got teleported to the Overworld.

The Twilight forest  By Jordan, year 5

‘Help!!’ yells a local as his cover gets blown apart by a giant Cyclops that has come through a swirling portal. “No!” yells Jordan, a tall blonde haired boy, as the Cyclops grabs him and disappears with him.

Suddenly, they appear in a new always twilight dimension, inhabited by giant snakes, dragons and the hydra. GRRRRRRRRR! Next thing, Jordan saw a hot spinning tornado! The Cyclops drops Jordan and races away leaving Jordan falling to the ground as the fire tornado approaches. He hears a muttering, “There is the one that works for the hydra!”

My dogs and I  by Emma, year 4

Then I couldn’t feel my body and I didn’t want to spend one more second in the water. It was really cold. “Ahhh!” I screamed, “Buster! Lily! Where are you?”

My dogs heard me but they didn’t realise who was screaming. When my dogs realised that I was behind me they knew it was me who was screaming, so they ran as fast as they could. They were barking so loudly and didn’t stop. They were running as fast as a cheetah and you could hardly see them, only hear them. My dogs came and got me. We had to go home.

The Secret  by Indigo, year 4

Hannah’s amazing ability had to be kept a secret no matter what. From her beautiful red hair to her sun-reflecting scales, at the bottom of her tail, she needed to keep her fishy secret from everyone, including Sally and Jay. If she lets this secret go and the world finds out her life is over. People will tease her, but one year has gone passed and the secret starts to break.

The Underwater City  by Jack, Year 6

“Ahh!” My dory is sinking. My heart is pumping like never before. I don’t know what too do. I’m sinking I struggle to hold my breath. Bang! I hit the bottom. There are fish swimming around me. Then out of the blue emerges a furious looking hammer head shark. It is heading straight for me! I think it’s going to eat me but the shark crashes into me. I magically start breathing again. I don’t understand what’s happened. Is this inside the guts of the stark? Am I dreaming or what? I feel my body from my neck… Hang on, what’s that? It feels like gills. It’s squishy scaly and slimy. I’ve turned into a fish-like person.
The Junior class have worked hard all term. This week, we are practising reading a book, which we will record for the Prep class to use. It has been wonderful to hear the amazing progress some students have made with their reading.

In Maths, we have been learning about groups and sharing — multiplying and dividing, in Maths words.

Our topic this term for Science has been Materials. We have been investigating the properties of materials and why materials are used for different purposes.

The Yr 1s and 2s have started putting what they have learned into designing their own lunchboxes. Yr 3s and 4s went a step further, and found out about where materials come from. In particular we learned a lot about mining. To finish off, we've designed our own houses, thinking about which materials to use and where those materials come from. Some people chose to create their house design on computer, using a construction program called Minecraft.

Yr 6 and 7s learned about physical and chemical changes. The big kids finished off by doing a fun experiment involving hydrogen peroxide and yeast. They then wrote a Powerpoint presentation explaining the reaction.

Preps and Yr 1s are Making Patterns!