



Melrose Primary School

RESPECT ~ HONESTY ~ RESPONSIBILITY ~ EXCELLENCE

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PRINCIPAL: Mr Murray Koster

Term 3 Week 4

Dear Parents and Friends of Melrose Primary

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

17th August – 21st August
SCIENCE WEEK

Monday 7th September
Finance Committee
3.45pm

Tuesday 8th September
Governing Council Meeting
6.30pm

Monday
14th September
Partnership
Student Free Day

Term 3 Dates
20th July – 25th September

FOR ALL SCHOOL
INVOICES
BSB: 065-509
ACC:10039517

Next Wednesday commencing at 2.30pm we plan to conduct our whole school assembly. Weather permitting, we will hold the assembly at the front of the school using the stage area. If the weather is inclement we will attempt to hold it in the Community Room. It is important that in this case we maintain and follow social distancing guidelines.

This will be a special assembly as it will be hosted by our new Semester 2 SRC group and will include announcing the winners of this year's Literacy Prize competition, certificates awarded to students who participated and completed the 2020 Department for Education Cross Country Run, Aussie of the Month and regular class awards.

All students were asked to complete the **My Lock Down Diary 2020**. Judging was according to the most thought provoking and reflective diaries with prizes awarded. The presentation of the diary also formed part of the judging criteria.



A School Focus on Reading

In our previous newsletter I talked about our School Improvement Plan. One of our three focus areas is Reading. Our Reading Goal for 2020 being the following, ***Increase the number of students exceeding the Standard Education Achievement for Reading.*** We aim to have all our students achieve this goal.

So how are we going about this? One of our whole school strategies is that all students are involved in the Accelerated Reader (AR) program. So what does AR involve?

AR helps teachers track students' independent practice and progress with reading. AR is intended to encourage students to read independently, at their own level and pace. The program has more than 40,000 titles to choose from on its Book Finder list. Each book has an online quiz which you may hear referred to as AR tests. These quizzes are used to track each student's progress and set appropriate goals for each.

There is a process behind how each student uses the program.

1. Teachers determine each student's reading level. The program provides a multiple-choice assessment that takes students about 15 minutes on a computer.
2. Each student is assigned to a specific range of books on the program's Book Finder list. Books in that range will be challenging for the student but not too hard to read. This concept is called a zone of proximal development (ZPD).
3. Students choose a book that's in their ZPD. After finishing a book, the student takes a short, multiple-choice online quiz. It checks if the student has read the book and understands it.



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

4. Students usually stay at the same ZPD and reading level for a set time, usually one term. At the end of that time, students take a 20-minute reading assessment. It's used to adjust the books that each student can select. A teacher may raise or lower a child's ZPD.

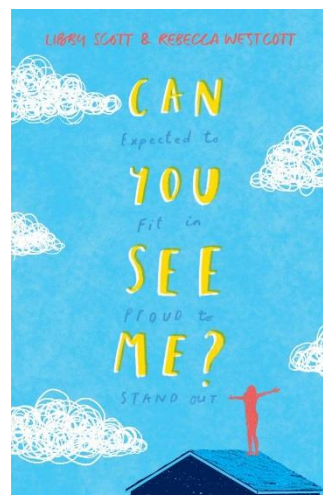
In addition to quizzes AR also uses a point goal system. Every book on the Book Finder list has a point value. Students earn points for every book they read. The number of points is based on the book's length and difficulty. For example, a 3-point book may be a shorter, somewhat easier choice. A 10-point book would be longer and more challenging. We as a staff believe AR is bringing about a positive influence with our student's commitment to reading and providing us teachers with valuable information to support all students to be the best readers they can be.

Regards
Murray

Library News

We have once again had a few new arrivals in the library. These include:

- Can you see me? And Do you know me? By Libby Scott and Rebecca Westcott
- Ninja Kid 6 – Ninja Giants!
- Four new Ella Diaries
- Ella and Olivia – Backyard Campout
- The entire Bad Guys series
- Timmy the Ticked-Off Pony
- Billy B Brown – The Grumpy Neighbour



It has been wonderful to see the children borrowing and returning books correctly from the school library. It was even more wonderful to see only two overdue books within the last week. Hopefully he will remember to return them soon – maybe check under your bed!

AR (Accelerated Reader) markers are slowly moving along the percentage chart. We have one student out on 50% of her target leading the way, followed by a boy on 30% and lots around 10-20%. Keep the great reading up and let's see if everyone can make it to 100% of their own individual target by the end of the term – there might even be a surprise if you can!

I have also introduced a 'Word of the Week'. These are unique, interesting, different etc. words that will hopefully increase the student's vocabulary. This week's word is 'SOVEREIGN' meaning a nation's ruler or head of state. If you have an interesting word for 'Word of the Week' please let me know.

Cheers
Mrs Piggott

School Uniform

Please be reminded that hoodies are not acceptable school wear at Melrose PS. School jumpers are available from the Front Office.

Hats

Our sun smart policy requires students to wear the correct school hat throughout the year when outside. The school hat is part of our school uniform.

Fat Tyre Festival

Due to Covid-19 the Fat Tyre Festival for 2020 was cancelled, so we are looking forward to organising 2021 - but....we want you - the community involved! A fantastic event that brings so much life to our town and it is a perfect opportunity for your fundraising club to get involved and promote what our region has to offer!

We would like to invite you to our next meeting held at the Melrose RSL on Monday 31st August - 6pm. Please RSVP to melrosefattyre@gmail.com by Friday 28th August. Thank you.

Bike Melrose Events Committee
Supporting Cycling in the Southern Flinders Ranges
Home of the Annual Melrose Fat Tyre Festival & 18 Hours of Melrose
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