



MODANVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Thursday 5th November, 2015

Newsletter No. 18

Website: <http://www.modanville-p.schools.nsw.edu.au>

P&C Meeting

Wednesday 25th November

6:30pm

Week 3 & 8 each term

Upcoming events

- Chess Championships, Thurs 5th Nov
- Year 6 Tree photo, Thurs 5th Nov
- Swimming Scheme 9th - 20th Nov
- K/1 Assembly, Thursday 12th Nov
- RRHS Open Day, Thursday 26th Nov
- Helpers Morning Tea & MPS Talent Show, Friday 27th Nov
- Young Performers Concert, Tues 1st Dec
- RRHS Open Day, Thursday 3rd Dec

Dear Parents,

SWIMMING SCHEME

Thankyou for your fantastic response to our Intensive Swimming Program.

For the next two weeks every student in Kinder to Year 5 will enhance their swimming safety skills and build on their formal swimming skills. In Year 6 we regularly watch 'Behind the News' and this week there was a report on the swimming skills of primary students. Incredibly, in some states of Australia, 60% of children CANNOT swim 50m prior to moving on to high school.

I believe we have become complacent about our children's swimming ability due to the number of children who can swim safely in their backyard swimming pools. Your support of this Program will go a long way towards ensuring our students are safe in the water and develop stronger swimming skills and the confidence to participate in next year's swimming carnival program.

SCHOOL AUDIT

Our school was audited last week by our Department's Senior Auditor. This occurs regularly every 3 years. The audit covered financial management, Work Health and Safety compliance and Child Protection Protocols. Unsurprisingly we passed with flying colours and this reflects the outstanding job done by Linda and Juanita in our front office. It also demonstrated our whole of school commitment to Child Protection and the provision of a safe learning and working environment for children, staff and parents.

ETHICS CLASSES

Ethics classes will be available to students in Years 1/2 and 3/4 next year, thanks to one of our parents, Hayley, volunteering to complete a 2 day training course in Ethics Education. The program will operate as an alternative to Religious Education classes held on Wednesday afternoons.

For students in Kinder and Yrs 5/6 to access this program we would need another volunteer to undergo training. Information about Primary Ethics Classes is attached for your interest. Any parent interested in training can contact the school and we will put you in contact with Hayley who can explain the process.

MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

This year all Year 6 students participated in the Newcastle Permanent Primary Mathematics Competition. There were over 9000 entrants from around the state. Our results have recently arrived. Congratulations go to Jason who received a Distinction for his result which placed him in the top 20% of entrants. We also had 6 students receive Merit awards for their excellent efforts. They were presented to Sarah, Josh, Maddy, Reid, Grace and Bella. Well done!

SCHOOL SURVEY RESULTS

Parents, Teachers and Year 4,5 and 6 students were invited to participate in the 'Tell Them From Me' school survey process. The reports have now been received and will be presented at the next P&C meeting. Copies will also be available at the Office for anyone who is interested. The findings will help us

to refine current school practices to further enhance the learning environment and opportunities for our students and staff. Thankyou to all who took the time to give us feedback.

Barry Cooper, Principal

Flappy Birds

Year 6 have been working on their Flappy Birds.

First we had to cut out the body and wings using a coping saw. Then we sanded it, and did two undercoats. Then we created a design and drew it lightly on the birds with pencil. We painted them with colours and used washers as weights so that the wings would flap. To hang them up used fishing line.

Ren



Students from our school achieve at the Lismore Show:



Imogen was very excited to see her Rooster up the front of the show pens with Reserve Champion over it.

Imi entered her 3 Australorps in the Lismore Show Poultry section. Australorp are an Australian bird that lay a brown egg. They are classed as a heavy breed soft feather.

Imi and her father are chook lovers. First they select the best looking ones which include a full plumage (fully feathered) with clean legs & feet,

their eyes have to be black and a bright red comb. Then they wash them and groom them for showing.

Newcastle Permanent Building Society Lego Building Competition: At the Lismore Show Harry won the Lego Building competition for his age. In the heat they had to build farm animals and then in the finals he created some jungle animals. Well done Harry!!



The Rivers Choir - Opera House visit

On Wednesday 28th October, I had the privilege to accompany Jemma, Lilian, Georgia & Maia to Sydney along with 31 other students and parents that made up the 'Rivers Choir'. We travelled through the night, hoping that the students would sleep as they had a BIG day ahead of them.



We arrived in Sydney on Thursday morning and headed to McDonalds where the students had to change into their choir uniform. After breakfast, we travelled to the Sydney Harbour Bridge where we disembarked the bus and made our long walk across the Bridge. What an amazing sight!



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Once we were across, we toured 'The Rocks' area and Circular Quay. We had an early lunch as the students had to go to rehearsals at the Opera House. At 5pm we met back up with the students and had Pizza for tea at First Fleet Park. What a beautiful setting to relax and enjoy the coming and goings of the ferries.

The excitement of the students was starting to build as we walked to the Opera House. We found our seats and settled in for an evening of amazing music and singing. We had great seats that looked straight down onto the stage that was surrounded by a 700 strong choir of primary school children.



It is hard to put into words just how amazing it was to be part of this special and at times emotional concert. It will be a memory that will always be with the girls knowing that they had the opportunity to perform at one of Australia's iconic landmarks.

Juanita

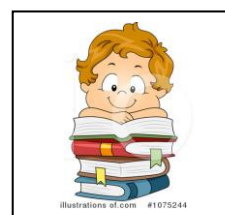
Young Performers Concert

The talented students from the Modanville Public Musicorp Program with Mr Earl will be performing on Tuesday December 1st starting 2pm at the school. Everyone is welcome to attend this concert and hope to see you there.

Regards, Mark Earl

2016 Kindergarten Orientation Date: Wednesday 25th Nov:

Prospective students only from 9:15 - 1:30
Please bring lunch, recess, and a hat for playing outside.



Visiting Mobile Library

The mobile library comes to the school on a regular basis and community members are welcome to make use of this service.

The van is here between 2 - 3:30pm on the following dates:

Nov 17

Dec 1, 15

Mobile Library competition winner: The mobile library van that visits our school each fortnight has been running a competition called the 'shredded book' competition. The book was 'Emu' by Claire Saxby and Graham Byrne. Padi was one of the winners and will receive a book prize from the Mobile Library.

Congratulations Padi!

Year 2/3 Assembly with Miss Jess



ASSEMBLIES: 2pm

Parents are welcome to attend!

K/1, Thursday 12th November

CANTEEN NEWS

*Lunches available **Monday** and **Friday** only- please do not send food to be heated up other than on Mondays or Fridays. Thank you.*

If you cannot make it for your rostered day, please let the school or Juanita know so we can try and arrange a replacement.

CANTEEN ROSTER:

6/11, S. Robinson
9/11, N. Goulding
10/11, J. Joseph
12/11, R. Smith
13/11, C. Bull
16/11, N. Goulding
17/11, J. Joseph
19/11, L. Vickers
20/11, S. Barnsley
23/11, J. Tandy
24/11, L. Vickers
26/11, R. Smith



COOKING ROSTER:

6/11, S. Robinson
9/11, H. Foster

10/11, J. Joseph
12/11, R. Smith
13/11, **cooking donation required**
16/11, B. Youngberry
17/11, S. Friske
19/11, L. Vickers
20/11, S. Barnsley
23/11, J. Tandy
24/11, H. Gosper
26/11, **cooking donation required**

CELEBRATING OUR STUDENTS

Work of the Week - Week 3

Chelsea D, great 'Grandparent' portrait
Jack, excellent challenge writing
Annabelle, fantastic 'Special Place' writing
Lilly, fantastic Flappy Bird

Week 4

Max, wonderful butterfly dot picture
Levi, interesting sound piece about Protestors Falls
Brad, challenging himself in maths
Bella, insightful poem analysis



Student of the Week - Week 3

Ella, excellent writing using interesting similes
Will R, his love of learning
Beau, improving his focus in class
Indi, making a big effort during writing activities
Tyrone, great results converting kg to grams
Mitch, great help with the new sports equipment

Week 4

Eddie, always following instructions
Lucus, making pleasing reading progress
Harry, excellent news presentation about Lego



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Amity, fantastic participation in music
Tyler, dedication to his work in literacy groups
Stella, consistent improvement in maths
Grace, wonderful participation in English
Sarah, great improvement in home reading



YOU CAN DO IT AWARDS

Week 3	Week 4
Confidence: Connor	Getting Along: Chelsea C
Organised: Isabella	Confidence: Lily
Confidence: Jarred	Organisation: Isabella
	Organisation: Noah
	Getting Along: Reid



Live Life Well @ School

(a joint initiative between the NSW Department of Education and Communities and NSW Health)

What's for Christmas?

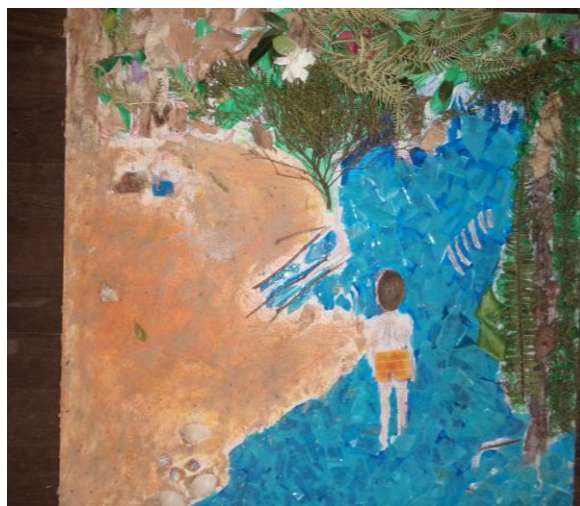
What you buy for your family will have an impact 6 months down the track.

Buying your children activity based presents will give them the motivation and means to get up, get active, or go outside.

Some ideas:

- Footy boots/ballet or tap shoes
- A netball
- A kite
- A body board
- Something for the bike
- A magnifying glass
- A skipping rope
- A vegie patch to look after

Year 2/3 project with Miss Jess: Over the past month, 2/3 and Miss Jess have been inspired by the book, "Where the Forest Meets the Sea". We have recorded our own CD and have made a beautiful collage. Our world is full of special places. Miss Jess will miss the kids and the wonderful Modanville Public School staff.



Grandparents Afternoon Visit: It was wonderful to have our students' grandparents visit our school last Thursday 29th October. Thank you for taking the time to visit our school.

We had 35 grandparents come to the event!! They were served afternoon tea and then entertained with watching school movies on our Interactive Whiteboards. Our 'Happy' video, the Performing Arts and Tournament of Minds movies demonstrated the amazing talents of our students.

Grandparents then were able to watch the Year 2/3 assembly. Afterwards they wandered through the classes and our beautiful school grounds.

Grandparents are a vital part of our community and it is very rewarding to see so many taking the time to come to our school.



Volunteers preparing afternoon tea



Watching the movies of our talented students

Mingling with the students in the playground



Chatting





Primary Ethics Classes

Since early 2011, NSW public school children have had a legal right to attend classes in philosophical ethics at their school if:

- their parents give permission for them to go to ethics classes and
- Primary Ethics can provide trained and vetted volunteers to organise and teach the classes.

Classes are available to all children from Kindergarten to Year 6 who don't attend the available Scripture/SRE (Special Religious Education) classes in their school. However, Primary Ethics can only provide these classes if it has trained volunteers from either the school community or the wider community.

What are ethics classes?

Ethics is a branch of philosophy that examines ethical concepts and issues, asking what is right or wrong in particular circumstances. Our curriculum comprises a wide range of age-appropriate topics that primary-aged children find interesting. Students learn to think about these ethical matters together and engage in the give-and-take of reasoned argument. This process allows students to properly consider other people's points of view and to be sincere, reasonable and respectful in dealing with their differences and disagreements.

Our K-6 curriculum has 78 topics, starting with *Questions and Puzzlement*, introducing children to the foundation of ethical thinking. Children in the younger primary years examine issues such as being left out, sharing and bullying, while older children reflect on issues such as homelessness, fairness and teasing to help them consider the feelings and interests of others – one important aspect of moral reasoning. Other aspects include understanding consequences, having empathy and appreciating difference.

Research shows that well-reasoned moral judgement does not develop automatically as young people mature and that these skills are best developed using the methods we employ in ethics classes. Once acquired, these skills accompany individuals into adulthood.

Starting ethics classes at your school

If there are no ethics classes currently available at your child's school, you should:

- let your principal know that you would like ethics classes for your child,
- go to the Primary Ethics website www.primaryethics.com.au to find out more about our curriculum, information for parents and volunteering, and
- email Primary Ethics at info@primaryethics.com.au to let us know the name of your child's school and the year he/she is in.

We will contact you and/or your principal to get things started at your school.

No classes for your child's year?

If there are ethics classes at your school but none for your child's year, please contact your principal and the Primary Ethics Coordinator to let them know you would like ethics classes for your child. We will need to find a volunteer to start a class, so volunteer yourself or ask your friends/family if they are interested. See www.primaryethics.com.au/ethicsteacher.html

