Farewell to the Blancos

Last Friday we had a little class party to say goodbye to Jessica, and the rest of the beautiful Blanco family. The EEC has been fortunate enough to have had Jared, Jorja and Jessica as students and we will miss them. On Friday we made cupcakes with Mrs Sparks and then, with Mr and Mrs Blanco’s help, we iced and decorated them. The cupcakes looked and tasted absolutely wonderful! We hope the Blanco family are loving their new farm and school! – Ms Little

Arts Alive in 2014

What a privilege it was for me to attend the school concert evening at the end of last year. I really enjoyed the opportunity to meet the parents of the children who performed that night. My mother was visiting at that time, and both she and I were extremely impressed by the caring family atmosphere during the night. It was very noticeable that the school community appreciate this special night. I hope you all enjoyed the performances. We certainly enjoyed practising them!

A course outline for the year has been given to all students. This term, all students are studying music, with the junior students learning different rhythms and beats, and the senior students are improving their skills with playing the ukulele. It is so wonderful to see so many students enthusiastically participating in the instrumental music program. I look forward to another exciting year of teaching “the Arts” at your beautiful school. – Ms Carmen

Home Reading is Essential

At Feluga, each classroom spends at least 30 minutes every day on a variety of reading activities. It is essential that reading takes place at home to build on classroom practice and more importantly, to build success.

In their article, “Every Child, Every Day”, Richard L. Allington and Rachael E. Gabriel recommend 6 clear elements so that your child can achieve success with the book they read aloud.

1. Every child reads something he or she chooses.

Students read more, understand more, and are more likely to continue reading when they have the opportunity to choose what they read. The two most powerful instructional design factors for improving reading motivation and comprehension were (1) student access to many books and (2) personal choice of what to read.

2. Every child reads accurately.

Having students read texts they can read accurately and understand. In fact, research shows that reading at 98% or higher accuracy is essential for reading acceleration.

3. Every child reads something he or she understands.

Connecting text to meaning is just as important as focussing on the basic word attack skills.

4. Every child writes about something personally meaningful.

When students write about something they care about, they use conventions of spelling and grammar because it matters to them that their ideas are communicated. They have to think about what words will best convey their ideas to their readers.

Years 1 & 2 model reading in Miss Little’s room.

5. Every child talks about reading and writing.

Retelling or talking about text asks children to analyze, comment, and compare which enhances the entire reading experience.

6. Every child listens to a fluent adult read aloud.

Listening to an adult model fluent reading increases students' own fluency and comprehension skills, as well as expanding their vocabulary, background knowledge, sense of story, awareness of genre and text structure. An admission; my daughter was a reluctant reader and I can remember encouraging her to read books that were more complicated than she could cope with. After reading this article, I realise the error of my good-intentioned ways. She survived my parenting however and is doing her Masters, including lots of complicated reading matter, at QUT in Brisbane. – Mr Mac
What’s on in the Big Flu?

**Every Thursday**
Parents and helpers welcome.

Bring back your Pasta Drive orders by Friday, 7th March.

Next P&C Meeting 17th March, 2014
Mr Mac’s Room
Everybody is welcome!

FREE Well Women’s Clinics
Service includes Pap Smears, Sexual Health Screening, Breast Awareness, also info on Contraception, Continence, Menopause, Lifestyle Issues, Domestic Violence, etc. All services are provided by a specially trained Women’s Health Nurse.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Phone Numbers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cardwell</td>
<td>Wed 5th &amp; Thurs 6th March</td>
<td>Ph 4063 6600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tully Hospital</td>
<td>Wed 19th March</td>
<td>Ph 4068 4144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission Beach Comm Hlth</td>
<td>Thurs 20th March</td>
<td>Ph 4226 4812 / 0428 781 421</td>
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Calendar of Events:
Mon & Tue 3&4 Mar: Leadership Camp- Daradgee
Fri 14: Funky Hair Day to support Leukaemia
Mon 17: Pre-service teacher in Mr Mac’s class
Mon 17 Mar: Next P&C Meeting
Fri 21 Mar: National Day of Action Against Bullying
Thu 27 Mar: Final week of swimming lessons
Thu 3 Apr: Discipline Audit for Feluga State School
Fri 4 Apr: Final day of Term 1.

School Sessions: 1st)9-11am. 2nd)11:40-1:40pm. 3rd)2:10-3pm