Thanks to all the folk who joined us during Education Week, so lovely to see you all at school. Congratulations to our school leaders and our students recognised for their positive contribution to our school community.

**Australian Ballet**
On Wednesday 5th August students in Years 3 to 6 will be attending the Australian Ballet movement and dance workshops. This is free for the students, followed by a small show in the afternoon. This is a wonderful opportunity for the students to engage with professional dancers first hand.

**Book Week and Book Fair**
This year the theme for Book Week is “Under the Sea”. Our dress up parade will be held on Tuesday 18th August at 10am. So start thinking about a costume that relates to the sea or a book about water. Parents and carers are welcome to watch and then join us for lunch. The Book Fair will be also running that week. More details to follow.

**Review of Process and Procedures**
Next week I have requested that a team come into the school to review and make recommendations to improve our systems and processes for children requiring additional learning support across all classroom environments. If you would like to be part of a parent focus group please contact the office and they will direct your call to Kerrie Cameron who will be co-ordinating the review.

**Discovery Day**
Mrs Faulds is asking for donations of materials that Stage 1 can use for the transport unit. Discovery Day in week 5. Please bring in your empty cardboard boxes and rinsed plastic bottles and lids.

**Positive Parenting Program**
Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) teaches parents strategies to encourage their child’s social and language skills, emotional self-regulation, independence and problem solving ability. Triple P will be holding sessions in Dubbo at the Dubbo Community Health Centre (2 Palmer Street), from 10.00am to 12.00pm on the following dates.

- **Tuesday 25 August 2015**
- **Tuesday 1 September 2015**
- **Tuesday 8 September 2015**
- **Tuesday 15 September 2015**
- **Tuesday 6 October 2015**

The cost is $20 and includes your workbook and light refreshments. Child care will be provided. Please call Andrea Butler on 6885 8999 to reserve a place.

**Class Captains for term three**
Congratulations to our all of our fabulous class captains!
Lane Bailey in Special Ed, Ella Gilkes in Kinder Confucius, Ben Miller in Kinder Bono, Murray Preston-Ritchie in Year 1 Einstein, Chevvy Martin in Year 1/2 Imhotep, Alexandria Kerin-Bayer in Year 2 Warhol, Maddison Walker in Year 3 Franklin, Temiah Fernando-Stanley in Year 3/4 Archimedes, Koda Giblin in Year 4 Galileo, Shanel Jones in Year 4/5 Renoir, Zachiah Riley in Year 5/6 Leonardo, Joseph Kainuku in Year 6 Darwin.

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Anne van Dartel
Principal
This is a great article I found from Michael Grose.

When things go wrong at school.

Every parent wants the best for their children, and that includes having great experiences at school. Despite best teaching practice, things do go wrong at school. Most kids experience learning difficulties from time to time. Conflict and peer rejection are a normal part of school-life. The developmental nature of childhood means that there will always be some turbulence, particularly around key transition ages, such as the start of adolescence.

During these times young people frequently experience a dip in their learning as well as significant relationship difficulties. Kids will often come home from school with grievances, and call on their parents for assistance. Your approach as a parent when your child has difficulty at school makes a huge difference to their resilience, and their future relationships with teachers and peers.

Here’s a six point checklist to help you stay focused and be effective if your child experiences difficulty at school.

1. Stay calm and rational

   It’s natural as a parent to protect, or defend your children, particularly when you think that they’ve come in for some unfair or poor treatment. But acting when you are full of emotion is not always smart. Rather than getting on the phone straight away to organise a meeting at school, take your time to think through how you might assist your child.

2. Get the all facts

   Once you’ve calmed down, then get the facts about the situation. Kids are faulty observers and often only see one side of a story when there’s a problem with a teacher or a fellow student. They sometimes can’t see that perhaps they may have contributed inadvertently to a dispute at school, or perhaps said something that may have upset a teacher. It’s the job of parents to help kids process what happens in an incident, so that all the facts emerge and understand their place in any problem. Ask good questions to help the full story emerge.

3. Assess whether to go to school or not

   Kids, like adults, like to vent and will benefit from having told their side of a story to a trusted source. Often problems can be dealt with at home, simply by talking through an issue, and giving kids some common sense tips to help them cope. If your child has a recurring problem that he can’t solve himself, or you think adult intervention maybe needed to sort out a relationship issue with a teacher or peer, then consider meeting your child’s teacher or year level coordinator.

4. Go through the right channels

   Approach the school calmly, going through the school office, or directly to your child’s teacher if that is the usual protocol. If you have already established a relationship with the teacher concerned, then it’s often easier to approach them directly.

5. Look for solutions rather than blame

   Parent-teacher meetings usually get nowhere when either party blames the other. State the problem as you see it and view your child’s teacher as an ally, not a foe. “I’m really worried about Jeremy. He’s been acting strangely lately and I need some help” is the type of approach that will elicit a helpful response. Talk about your concerns and keep the discussion focused firmly on what’s best for your child. Listen to your teacher’s viewpoint, valuing a different perspective.

6. Stay in touch

   Be realistic with your expectations, remembering that some problems can’t be solved to your satisfaction, nor will they be resolved straight away. Be prepared to work alongside your child’s teacher over the long-term, which means you need to keep communicating with each other. Parenting is easy when things are going well, but testing when your children struggle or experience difficulty. Stepping back and taking a long-term, reflective view is often the best approach when your child experiences difficulty at school.

Earn and Learn

We have had a great response to the Earn and Learn Promotion, please keep your stickers coming in so that we can buy lots of resources for our school!