STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Achievement Awards for Term 2, Week 1:

Achievement Award K-2: Angelo for working hard to hold his pencil correctly and learning to write his numbers.

Achievement Award 3-6: Hannah Smith for an excellent piece of creative writing.

Lexia Award to Tom for completing level 11, Heather, Eden and Mitchel for completing Level 3, Joey for completing Level 5.

K-2 Fish Bit Winners for Term 2, Week 1 are Heather and Rumi.

3-6 Team of the Week is … the Blue team.

Magic 100 awards to Kaii and Toby for completing the Orange Level.

Well done everyone!

Think You Know Parent Information Session
ThinkUKnow is an internet safety initiative which aims to raise awareness of the issues that young people face online whilst using mobile phones. It is a partnership between the Australian Federal Police (AFP) and Microsoft Australia, and is now proudly supported by ninemsn and Datacom. Orama Public School will be hosting a ThinkUKnow presentation on Wednesday 6th May at 3.30pm in the library and all parents, carers, teachers and community members are encouraged to attend. This presentation will cover topics such as how young people are using technology to have fun, online grooming, cyber bullying, inappropriate content and e-security.

This is a fantastic opportunity for you to learn more about how young people have fun online, how you can help them to stay in control on the net, and how to report a problem.

For more information you can visit the ThinkUKnow website at www.thinkuknow.org.au

We look forward to seeing you at the presentation. Thank you.

Bellinger District PSSA Cross Country Carnival
Students from Year 2 to 6 will be participating in the Bellinger District PSSA Cross Country Carnival on Friday 8th May at Bowraville Recreation Grounds in Bowraville. Please ensure permission note is returned by tomorrow. Students will need to wear appropriate running shoes and school sports uniform that will be handed out on Thursday. These uniforms will need to be washed and returned to school. Thank you.

K-2 News
This term students in the K-2 class are completing a Science unit called Staying Alive. This unit is an ideal way to link science with literacy in the classroom. It provides opportunities for students to investigate the basic needs for survival of animals, including humans,
and how their senses help them to stay alive. Students’ understanding of basic needs and their importance in their lives will be developed through hands-on activities. Through investigations, students will explore the needs of a class pet (our school chickens) and compare them to their own needs. Our school chooks will soon be taking up residence in a new chicken coop which is in the process of being painted and assembled by Nathan, our general assistant, and a team of student helpers.

3-6 News
Sarah Wright came to our school to talk to us about her book, Arnhem Land and how Indigenous Australians live. We were all very interested in their relationship to the land and how they use this to learn and remember things, for example the growth of certain flowers and the movement of certain animals are used just like we would use dates. We asked so many questions that we went half an hour into recess. She talked to us about what they eat, how they live and their pet crocodile called Nike. Thank you Sarah for coming in to talk to us and sharing your experiences. Hannah Smith

Cooking damper is done using a special tree’s leaves and cooked on an open fire. We would like to try this! Below, Yolngu maths uses a base 5 system.

Paperbark is very significant in Arnhem Land. The layers of the bark represent layers of knowledge.

Behind Bars
by Hannah Smith

Dark storm clouds roll across the autumn night sky. Although I cannot see much I can feel the dull skies crawling into the window and up the walls. The ground is cold as ice but there is no escape. A shiver runs down my spine as the drops of water drip from the roof on to the hard ground. The moon is bright, it lights up the town. I can see people through the gaps of the hole they call a window. I feel their eyes looking at this place with wonder and thinking about us like we’re a whole race of different people. They don’t understand that we are still people just like them. The only difference is that little bit of anger and cruelty in our hearts, but they don’t know we have such a thing.
There is nothing to do, nothing to see, there’s no one around. No one understands the pain we feel, no one understands that it’s not fair to be here, no one is on our side. The anger rumbles inside me as I watch the one who did this to me walk past with a smile on her face like nothing’s wrong. People don’t understand that we only have our life and it’s not fair to waste all of it on something you didn’t mean to do. Everything makes me feel depressed. Everything is so plain and lifeless. Everything is just not meant to be. Footsteps come up and down the corridor, over and over again, just wanting to leave this place, leave this world of grey skies but I can’t I just can’t. A tear rolls down my face but I force myself not to cry. The window is my favourite place but also my enemy because it shows me what I fear. Nobody could ever love me. Nobody could ever even look at me. My life was not meant to be like this, my life was not meant to be behind bars.

Hannah’s story, along with most of 3-6’s creative writing pieces, was entered into a writing competition. We anxiously await the results.

What’s Cooking?
The kids are in the kitchen again today and are making roasted pumpkin and carrot soup. Tomorrow they will be baking some bread to go with it. We are selling serves of soup and fresh baked bread at the canteen tomorrow for $4.00. Also available at the canteen are pesto scrolls (yes the kids made them) for 50 cents each. They have all tried them and loved them. Please order these items on your child’s lunch order to avoid disappointment.

Should be delicious, give it a go!

“Orama Made”
Don’t forget ...to try some of our school made PESTO.
It is wonderful with pasta, on toast, a wrap, a pastry scroll, as a pizza sauce or even in mashed potato! Jars are available for $5 each. (Pesto ingredients: basil, olive oil, almonds, lemon juice, garlic, parmesan cheese.) Also available are bunches of fresh basil for $3 and lemon grass stems 2 for $1.

School Transition and Readiness Training (START)
This term pre-school students will be joining the K-2 class for the START program. This very worthwhile transition to school program is an excellent way to engage children in play based learning activities to use and develop thinking skills such as problem solving, reasoning and lateral thinking. The children will engage in gross motor skills which are an important prerequisite for the fine motor skills needed in the classroom setting. They will also engage in fundamental movement skills which are the building blocks of movement and allow for successful participation in games, sports and other activities. Students will join the K-2 class from recess this Friday 8th May. Thank you.

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) 2015
The ICAS are annual assessments with a competitions element developed for school students in Years 2 to 12. If you would like your child to participate in any of these tests please notify the school. The subjects, dates and prices are as follows:-
ICAS Subject | Sitting Date | Price (incl. GST)
--- | --- | ---
Digital Technologies | Tues, 19 May | $8.80
Science | Wed, 3 June | $8.80
Writing | Mon, 15 June – Fri, 19 June | $18.70
Spelling | Tues, 16 June | $12.10
English | Tues, 28 July | $8.80
Mathematics | Tues, 11 August | $8.80

For more information visit their website: www.eaa.unsw.edu.au

Till next week,
Liz Arnold

“Don’t wait for the perfect moment, take the moment and make it perfect.”
Zoey Sayward

@ ORAMA PUBLIC SCHOOL

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Week 3, Term 2
Fri, 8th May
- START program for Kinder students 2016
- District Cross Country, Bowraville Recreation Ground
- Stewart House envelopes due

Week 8, Term 2
Tues, 9th June
School Photographer visit

Bellingen Show
This year the Bellingen Show will be held on 9th and 10th May. Attractions will include Murphy’s puppets, face painting, old MacDonald’s farm, Kids passport, pavilion entries, colouring in competition and much more. Everything you need to know including entry forms can be found online at: www.bellingenshow.com.au.

Absences
A short note of explanation is required when your child is absent from school. This is for legal purposes. Phone calls may be made to explain absences but a follow up note is also required. Please see the bottom of the newsletter for a proforma which can be used. These are in the newsletter weekly.

Record of Absence

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