STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Achievement Awards:

Achievement Award K-2: Toby for an excellent effort with his science homework and showing good improvement with his reading.

K-2 Fish bits winners: Toby and Eden

Lexia Awards: Eden for completing Level 3.

Achievement Award 3 – 6: Josh for great improvement in handwriting.

Team of the Week … the Pancake Purples.

Well done everyone!

River Swimming

River swimming with Royal Life Saving is back this term. Norelle will be visiting the school on Friday 26th February to lead the students through valuable activities to enhance their water and safety skills in the river. River conditions will be monitored for suitability by RLS and lessons cancelled if necessary on the day to be rescheduled later. Students must have suitable footwear on the day to wear in the river, a towel, swimmers with a rashie and a plastic bag for wet things. Please return the permission note attached to the office by Thursday 25th February. I apologise for the late notice of this activity. Thank you.

Kids in the Kitchen Program

Don’t forget the cost of the Kids in the Kitchen (KIK) Program is $5 per session or $25 for the term. Please pay at the office. As one of our KIK sessions falls on Easter Monday we are going to do two sessions in a row. The next days will be Monday 29th February, Monday 14th March and Monday 21st March (Harmony day). Thank you.

Canteen Day……….THIS THURSDAY, 25th FEBRUARY

This Thursday will be Canteen day with Melissa Hayes. The special menu she will be preparing for us will be:-

Recess – Homemade Popcorn
Lunch – Spaghetti Bolognaise
The cost will be $5

Please use the attached order slip and return it to school by Wednesday 24th February to order your meal. Payment can be made on Thursday.

Mini lasagne, corn and homemade bread
K-2 News
Students in the K-2 class were very busy in literacy and numeracy last week participating in lots of fun independent activities. This allowed for the teachers to do directed instruction with groups of students. Both Mrs Arnold and Mrs KD were very impressed at how responsibly the students worked.

This term for Science, students in K-2 are studying a unit called 'Up, Down And All Around'. This unit centres around student observations of their environment and is an ideal way to link science with literacy in the classroom. It provides opportunities for students to explore natural, made and managed features that undergo change. Through outdoor observations and photographic records, students investigate the daily, weekly and seasonal changes in their local environment. The Primary Connections unit perfectly summarises the importance of learning to observe in the unit outline which says:

"Look out your window and you will see a constantly changing world. The Sun rises and sets and the sky reflects many different hues over a day. The landscape, everything we know about the environment began by observing it. Environmental modelling, space exploration and city planning all rely on careful observations of the land and sky".

Last week students were given a homework task to make some night-time observations. Students shared these observations with their classmates and this enriched their learning about night and day. Thank you for the parent support of this task. Here students are playing a dress up game to initiate discussion about seasons.
Elijah and Phoebe are dressed for summer weather and Sierra and Eden are dressed for spring.

The **Tell Them From Me** student feedback survey
I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the **Tell Them From Me** student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the **Tell Them From Me** survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 14 March and 8 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) for parents/carers about the survey is attached to this newsletter. If you **do not** want your child or children to participate, please return the consent form to school by **Friday 4th March**. Thank you.

**Thought of the Week**

Reading to children, even before they can understand, teaches them to associate books with love and affection.

**Till next week,**
Liz Arnold

@ ORAMA PUBLIC SCHOOL
TERM 1 - WEEKLY CALENDAR

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<tr>
<th>Week 5</th>
<th>Mon 21st March</th>
<th>Kids in the Kitchen</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 26th February</td>
<td>Kids in the Kitchen</td>
<td>Book Fair finishes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 24th March</td>
<td>Book Fair finishes</td>
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Live Life Well @ School

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

Student’s Name.................................................................

Date of Absence/s...........................................................

Reason for Absence.........................................................

.......................................................................................

Signed...........................................................................

Date..........................................................