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Newsletter Edition

October 11th 2019

Lyrebird Word



Pictured: Students reading their "Superhero" stories live on 3MDR 97.1FM

A new term, and a new look...

This edition of our newsletter is presented in a simplified format, with larger and clearer photos. We have less fancy graphics, less unnecessary colours, and less of the distractions... *making it easier for you to view the information you are after!*

Our October 11th 2019 edition is super special, as it bridges learning from the last few weeks of Term Three, whilst bringing you exciting news and events to look forward to for Term Four. Read on to share the achievements of our amazing students!

A Message from the Principal



On the evening of October 11th, I was extremely fortunate to join students from our “Gifted Insights” program, as we took part in an astronomy session hosted by an amazing PhD astronomer from the Bureau of Meteorology.

As we used a variety of telescopes to view the night sky, it made me think about how when we look at things from afar they can seem small, distant, and perhaps insignificant. But when we take the time to have a closer look, we see that certain special things become magnified, and all of a sudden our view of the world changes.

Having this clarity of focus also helps us to improve learning outcomes for our students; as often an action that may seem small can make the biggest difference. That is why, as a team of teachers, we have elected to have the Library open for our students, each and every recess.

By doing so, this little action is providing our students with the opportunity to pursue different interests during their recess breaks. The Library is supervised by teachers, who will support this initiative by continuing to run a variety of lunchtime clubs. Recess should be an opportunity for each and every student to explore friendships, self-interest activities, and to be provided with guided options.

2020 Class Structures and Requests

From October 1st, most DET schools begin to plan their workforce and classing structure for the following year. In 2020, we are aiming to continue with running an eleven class model, supported by four specialist programs. As a school we have been collecting and sharing (within staff) evidence about our students, hence we are in a strong position to make valued class lists for 2020.

2020 Class Structures and Requests...cont'd

In 2018/ 2019 we guaranteed that parent requests would be met, and worked extremely hard to accommodate the needs of our families. However honourable it may be to meet all parent requests, this endeavour creates a challenge of mathematical complexity which impacts upon, and has the potential to compromise, classing structures which the school sees as beneficial for learning. By meeting all parent requests, classes run the risk of becoming unbalanced; both in gender distribution, age distribution, and academic ability.

With an increased focus upon teacher collaboration, we will be formulating 2020 class lists based upon what the school staff believe will provide the best learning outcomes, at both a cohort and individual level.

Therefore, when structuring 2020 class lists we will not be asking for parent requests. As a school staff we know our students very well, and will be formulating classes based on maximising learning opportunities; at a cohort and individual level.

We acknowledge that learning is a partnership, therefore parents are still able to write to the Principal and place a request, however we cannot guarantee that your request will be met.

We thank you in advance for your support, and appreciate that this is a change to what you may have previously experienced.

Details of our 2020 classroom and teaching structure will be shared with the school community in coming weeks.

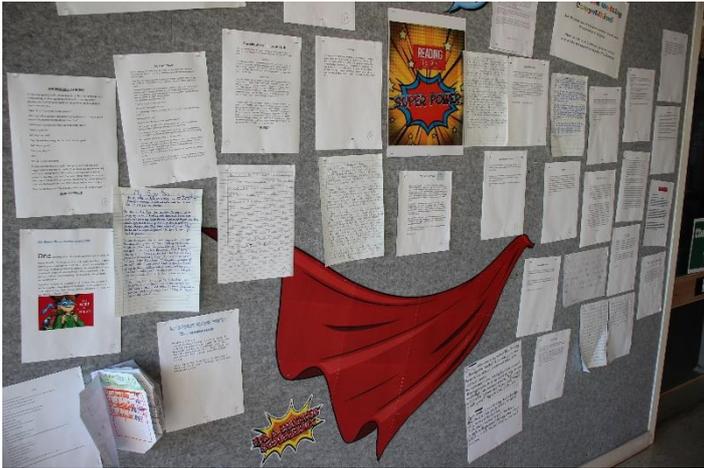


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Book Week 2019- Reading is My Superpower

As Term Three neared completion, we celebrated Book Week as a school with a number of amazing events; including our 3MDR Writing Competition.

On behalf of our school community, we would like to say thank you to all of our families for putting in such a brilliant effort to support a love of reading. Huge congratulations to our Writing Competition winners: Ella B, Millie B, Holly B, Charlee-Belle C, Phillipa L, Lily L, Jade Mc, Flynn M, Bonnie V, Zane W.





Humane Society Art Competition

Earlier in the year, Miss White had advertised a Threatened Species Art Competition, which was organised by the Humane Society International. There were over 600 entries from across the state, with the “Top 40 Finalists” being invited to an official presentation ceremony at the Royal Botanical Gardens. When my name was read out as the Victorian State winner of my selected age-group, I couldn’t believe it! I was very proud, and even a little surprised.

My winning piece was a collage of a Barking Owl, which gets its name from the sound it makes (which sounds like a barking dog). Unfortunately, the barking owl is now threatened due to deforestation. The Barking Owl lays its eggs in the hollows of trees; trees which are often over 100 years old.

Author: Brooke- Year Six



Regional Athletics

On the September 18th, eighteen of our students represented Upwey South at the Division Athletics Carnival. We had some fantastic results at the District level, so we were positive the momentum would carry into this stage.

Our day started on a brilliant note with Amelia O, Riley McB and Tyler Mac all advancing to the Regional stage for their 1500m individual events. Amelia placed 2nd, whilst Riley and Tyler both came 1st.

The day continued to grow from strength to strength with Angelica R (1st in Long Jump), Evie E (2nd in High Jump) and Rachael A (2nd in High Jump), progressing through to the Regional Stage.

We moved on to the relay events where all three of our teams walked away with ribbons. Our 12/13 boys placed 3rd. A special mention to Ryan H who filled in last minute and after never running a relay before did a fantastic job. Our 12/13 girls placed 2nd and will move on to the Region stage as will our 11 year old boys who placed 1st.

Overall, it was a very successful day for our school and all competitors should be very proud of not only their efforts but also the way in which they represented our school.

The next stage will be at the East Burwood Athletics track on the 18th October. We wish all of our participants at this level the best of luck

Go Upwey South!!

Mr. Scicluna- Health and P.E



Summer Sports News

On October 10th, our Year 5/6 students represented Upwey South PS at the Summer Sport Round Robin Carnival. We had some amazing results with two of our volleyball teams, and our Hot Shots tennis team making it through to the Division Stage!

The Division stage for the Volleyball teams will take place on October 22nd at the Dandenong Basketball Stadium. Hot Shots tennis still needs to be confirmed.

All of our students should be very proud of their efforts on the day and the manner in which they conducted themselves. There were numerous comments about the positive levels of sportsmanship and teamwork that our students displayed during their games.

Thank you to all parents who came and supported the teams on the day, we are very grateful.

Well done everyone!

Mr. Scicluna- Health and P.E



Victorian State Schools Spectacular

During the final weeks of Term Two, 22 of our students took part in the VSSS. This year, we had 20 students performing in the Mass Choir. We were also the only primary school to have students involved in the Production Crew. Huge congratulations to Ryan H. and Angelica R. who were selected following an interview process, and months of technical training. Ryan operated two mobile cameras on the floor throughout the evening. Angelica operated a number of technical boards, and also operated a fixed camera throughout the matinee show. We are very proud of everyone for their amazing efforts!





PTA Acknowledgements

A big thankyou to our school community for supporting our Term Three events. The PTA would like to recognise the following businesses/individuals that contributed to the success of Bogan Bingo - our major fundraiser. Please show them your support where you can.

Chandler & Co. Real Estate Hunter Products Travel Managers – Sinead Phillips Country Racing Victoria Manna Gum Building & Garden Supplies Golden Cobra Martial Arts Inc. Innocent Bystander Tiny Bear Distillery Sir Paz Estate Josie & Me Zoe Kuhne Yoga Kylie Orr, Author Groove Foundations Upwey Belgrave RSL The Eatery Tecoma Le Voltaire Digging for Fire BBQ Tin Pan Alley Nevedya Shangri-La Café Have You Bean Fat Goat Ward & Wylie Silhouette Pet Grooming Olinda Teahouse Dance Empire Arthur Daley's Rush HQ Scholastic Groove Train Upwey Fish & Chips Comedy Lounge	Sovereign Hill J@N Nails Melbourne Zoos Melbourne Museum Myuna Farm Collingwood Children's Farm Chesterfield Farm Woolworths Belgrave & Ferntree Gully Club Hotel FTG Zagame's Boronia Lunar Drive-In Masterfoods Trees Adventure Belgrave Klad Extreme Tennis Upwey South Tennis Club Pinnacle Gym Upwey Fernwood Eastwood Golf Churchill Waverly Golf Club Coaching Zone FTG Ananda Hot Yoga Monbulk Aquatic Centre Salt Earth Boronia Bunnings Natures Organics Holey Moley Hardrock Climbing Sidetracked Entertainment Learn to Swim Betta Electrical Knox Mangana DM Commercial Refrigeration	SkyHigh Mt Dandenong Sooki Lounge Bam Bam Italian Flametrees Burger Bar Babaji's Kitchen Dream Mamas Bendigo Bank Upwey James Merlino Fleming's Nurseries MAK Hair Tiny Bear Distillery Mower Power FTG Terry White Chemist Upwey Bills of Belgrave Cameo Cinemas Metro Boronia Upwey Music Tupperware Tea Leaves Sassafras Butchers Club UFTG Yarra Valley Chocolaterie Boost Juice Montania Knox Gymnastics Ruccis Belgrave Pharmacy Soul Shapes Little White Box Jewellers Nature's Beauty Secrets (FTG) Legoland Luna Park Phillip Island Nature Parks Little Lands Officeworks
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HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR!
FRIDAY, 25TH OCTOBER

Join us for a Monster Mash at our annual sock disco!!
This year kids are welcome to dress up in their best spooky costume!
(Not too scary please!! G rated spooky!)

Years F-2 will mash 5pm-6pm and Years 3-6 will boooogie at 6:30pm until 8pm.

TICKETS ARE \$5 AND COVERS ENTRY, DJ, DRINK AND TRICK OR TREAT BAG!

PAY BY QKR OR CASH AT THE OFFICE. BOOOOOKINGS ESSENTIAL!

Remember only socks can be worn on the dance floor (our gym).
Thanks for supporting the PTA and giving your kids a fun experience!

Parents are welcome to stay on school grounds, however, due to Working with Children Laws, only authorised adults can stay inside the gym. The Lifelong Learning Centre will be open for coffee/tea and a sausage sizzle will be set up if you'd like to stay and picnic.

NOTE: A Compass post will be sent to all families advising when tickets are available via QKR. Keep your eye out!

WE'RE IN TOWN

Roll up your sleeves and give blood



Upwey Mobile Donor Centre

Community Hall
1443 Burwood Highway, Upwey 3158

Appointments available:

Monday 4 November 12.30 pm – 7.00 pm
Tuesday 5 November (Cup Day) 9.00am – 3.00pm
Wednesday 6 November 12.00 pm – 7.00 pm
Thursday 7 November 1.00 pm – 7.00 pm
Friday 8 November 8.00am – 3.00pm

Make an appointment today

Call 13 14 95 or visit
donateblood.com.au



Sometimes it's hard to know what to say....
Talking with your Children about dying and death



Join us for an informative discussion about being "frank" with children around the topics of dying and death.

Specifically aimed for parents/caregivers of primary school aged children. This session will consider loss and grief from the perspective of the needs of grieving children. Young people have different needs to adults when they experience loss. Adults who provide care and support need to be sensitive to these unique needs.

Presented by Janet Myers-Creed. Janet has over 32 years experience in palliative care and bereavement support and will explore the theories around best practices in assisting children to cope with the losses. Being open, available, genuine and showing an empathy and concern are Janet's core values both professionally and personally.

Date: Monday October 21st
Time: 7pm - 8.30pm

Venue: Coonara Community House Willow Road Upper Femtree Gully
Bookings essential: (03) 9758 7081 or email: enquiries@coonarahouse.org.au

This session is FREE, light supper will be provided



How the locals like it.

Fresh Fruit Fridays

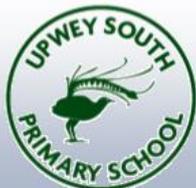
We value the support of our local community store!

Each class will receive a platter of cut up fruit.

If any parents could volunteer their time to cut up and distribute the fruit each Friday morning from 8.50am it would be greatly appreciated.

You must sign in at the office and have a current Working with Children check.

All fruit is donated by our local IGA in Upwey, we thank them for their continued generosity.



2nd Hand Uniform Shop

Open every Thursday 3 – 4 pm, behind the main office next to the staff room

Cheap *Convenient *Environmentally Friendly

All Logo item \$2 All non-logo items \$1

Come and check it out!

Donations of old uniforms gratefully received and can be dropped off at the office at any time

OnPsych School Psychology Services

Do you find that your child is displaying emotional or behavioural issues? OnPsych are a team of fully qualified and registered psychologists who specialise in child and adolescent services working in primary and secondary schools in both individual and group settings. Services are performed at NO COST to the school, student or parent through Medicare bulk billing.

We are now lucky to have an OnPsych staff member at Upwey South Primary School, Lily.

Who is Lily?

Lily is a passionate psychologist who works with both children and adolescents who are experiencing a range of psychological issues such as anxiety and mood disorders, Autism Spectrum Disorders, interpersonal, learning and behavioural disorders, exam stress, self harming and adjustment difficulties (social & situational). Lily employs psychological techniques such as Cognitive Behavioural Therapy, client-centred and solution-focused therapy with psycho-education. Lily firmly believes that a collaborative approach will produce the most successful outcomes for a child. If you believe that this might benefit your child, please contact your child's classroom teacher for further instructions.

If you would like any further clarifications about the onPsych service, please call us at 1300 659 350.