A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Site Improvement Plan
As part of our roles and responsibilities in our Site Improvement Plan, teachers and students have been collaboratively setting reading goals to assist in improving their reading. Teachers have used data collected from sources such as InitiaLit, PAT-R as well as observed reading behaviours during conferencing to identify and co-design with students, their reading goals for term 1.

Reading Goals for Lower Primary
• to read more smoothly.
• to learn my InitiaLit letters.
• to know all my tricky words.
• to read more smoothly.
• to remember all the letters.
• to know all my digraphs.
• to learn the alphabet.

Reading Goals for Upper Primary
• breaking up larger, unknown words in more challenging texts.
• reading at a more fluent and steady pace.
• reading more frequently at home and using deeper thinking to respond to texts.
• retelling a story from beginning to end.
• reading more frequently at home and using more expression in my voice when reading aloud.
• reading more at home and changing my voice when a character is talking.
• reading smoother when reading aloud.
• reading more challenging books.
• reading more books independently.
• using more expression in my reading.
• reading longer books with more words.

We have also displayed in the library a profile of student’s favourite books.
Please drop in and have a look. If would be great if you could send in the details of your favourite books and why you like them. Please text the details and we will display our parent’s favourite books too.

**Mary-Jane:** My favourite book is ‘The Rainbow Fish’ and I like this book because I like that the end is happy.

**Mason:** My favourite book is ‘Diary of a Wimpy Kid’ and I like this book because it is very interesting, really funny and has over one hundred pages.

Please find below the second instalment to our Parent Reading Workshop. There is also a hand out to assist with Struggling and Reluctant Readers.

**Why do we need to do reading at home?**

- Being able to successfully decode requires children to understand the relationships between sounds and letters.
- Being able to comprehend requires children to understand the meanings of words and how they work together.
- Reading is a complex skill that takes years to master. It is not a skill that is naturally developed (such as speaking). Reading requires explicit teaching and regular practice.
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**Kongorong Primary School & CPC Sports Day 2023**

Kongorong Primary School & CPC held their eighth Sports Day on Tuesday 21st March. It was wonderful to see so many families attending and cheering their child/ren on the day and wearing their child’s house colours. This year we had 2 house teams, Schank and Caves. The students were extremely excited and supported their team by wearing their team colours. Our teams were led by their House Captains: Schank - Connor and Caves - Jamison. Trying your best, displaying positive sportsmanship and always having fun were the messages of the day.

The first event on the program was a whole school marathon. Students and staff participated and the encouragement to one another was a credit to all. The tabloid events were next on the card. Students participated in the Hurdles, Long Jump, Marathon, Accuracy Throw and Accuracy Kick. These events are in line with the District Small Schools Sports Day, giving each student an opportunity to have a go at them in a real sports day situation. The focus is that the students will have a positive experience, not just practising the events and are not overwhelmed once they compete at The District Sports Day.

The fastest dad race was a highly anticipated event with all lanes being filled. The dad’s race was a spectacle, with 4 dads and one student. At the end of the race it was neck and neck with Pete (old stalwart) and Tommy (the new kid on the block) finishing with a tie. There were no protests and they were both awarded with a blue ribbon. Excellent sportsmanship was displayed by all competitors.

The fun events ended the day and it was great to see so many parents, new and old being involved. Students and parents participated in Tug of War, Human Under and Over and House relays.
Schank were announced the winners on the day, followed by Caves second.
Scores:

1st Schank 1500 points 2nd Caves 1100 points

The Sports Day Shield was presented to the winning captain, Connor, by Mrs Hunt, donated on behalf of Warreanga Nominees.

I would sincerely like to extend a warm thanks to all students and staff for assisting on the day, setting and packing up the oval, officiating and helping out at the events. Finally to our students for displaying a positive attitude and having fun.

Lower Primary
In Lower Primary this term our Science learning has been focussed on biological science. We have learnt about our 5 senses and explored the external features of plants and animals. We have also learnt what a habitat is, and how plants and animals have features to help them survive in their habitat. Our final task was to plan a new creature by mixing the features of different animals.
Upper Primary
We have had a very busy first term in the Upper Primary class!
In writing, we have been learning about the structures of narratives and how to expand our writing by including a sizzling start, building up the tension in the middle of the story and finishing with an exciting ending. We have had a large focus on using the 5+1 senses to provide description to our stories. Below are some small parts of students work while practicing this strategy. They had to write a story where a character was participating in the extreme sport of kayaking through rapid rivers.

‘I can see big rough waves bashing in to my kayak. I can hear big waves in to rocks while I was in the wide, freezing river water.’ - Brodie

“What’s it called” said Sam. “The Ultimate River”. Everything froze. I could smell the coffee in the air I could hear the yelling from the kitchen I had heard that name before but where? “Connor, Connor” everything unfroze and I looked over my shoulder and saw that Sam was shaking my arm, “We’re leaving.” The car ride home was very loud, “We are not doing it” yelled Cohby “Why not” yelled both Angus and Sam. “Connor what do you think we should do” said Cohby. Despite the feeling in my gut saying I shouldn’t do it, I agreed.’ - Connor

‘I was a professional at kayaking so I felt brave and went down ‘Rocky River’. Water was splashing at my face and then THUMP! I had hit a rock and now I was flying through the air. I screamed out in pain but no people could hear me.’ - Cohby

‘I started going down the waterfall. I heard the water smashing against the kayak. I could see fish in the water. The rock fell and hit the kayak it put a hole in it. The water rushed in and the kayak began to sink.’ - Jack

‘I felt so good I could pop right now. When I got to the front of the line. I got my ticket out my pocket and I gave him my ticket and went on in. When I got there I got a pink kayak and started taking off, and it’s got crazy giant falls and rough water crashing at you and all sorts of crazy things but worst of all there is a waterfall 900 feet tall and when I got to the bottom I could smell reeking water and trash out of the trash cans. It was horrible down there.’ - Mason

Snake Man Visit
I enjoyed the snake visit because I got to hold the snakes. One crawled on me, it felt amazing, during the snake visit. I asked the snake man a question. I asked him “Do you have many snakes at home?” The snake man said “Yes” - Jamison

Early Dismissal
This Thursday 6th April, before the Easter long weekend and 14th April, the last day of term are early dismissal days, and the bus will run one hour earlier on these days, with the day ending at 2:20 pm.