



Sir Eric Woodward School

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TERM 1, 2011

WEEK 5

Principal's Report

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I can hardly believe we are at the end of Term One 2011. The term seems to have flown by and Easter is nearly upon us.

It has been a great opportunity to meet with parents during the IEP process where the educational goals for your child are negotiated with the class teacher. Our news students appear to have settled well into the school routines and it has been wonderful to meet new parents at some of our events such as the Bilby Day and Harmony Day.

This year the holidays, Easter and ANZAC day all run back to back. The first school day for Students will be **Wednesday 27th April**. We will have a school development day in July and in August and will remind you of those as we get closer to the time.

Next term we will have the Department's School Swimming program coming to the school each school day between May 9 and May 20. This represents an opportunity for your child to have regular sessions over a 2 week period.

A majority of parents have said that a day time P&C meeting would suit them better so we are looking to have a P&C meeting within the first few weeks of term. It will be great to see new faces and to welcome new ideas on how to promote the school.

Have you seen our new improved website?.

You can find it at www.sirericwoodwardschool.com.au (hold CTRL and click on link)



REMINDER

Students return to school

Wednesday 27th April

5.6W start Thur 28th April

The calendar on the website will also be updated regularly with important school dates.

We would love to hear your reaction to it and get your ideas on what else we might need and how to keep the website getting better.

Donna White (Assistant Principal) and Anna Trayner (Resource and Vision teacher) regularly update the website.

John Paterson

The screenshot shows the school's website with a blue header and navigation menu. The main content area features a banner with three photos of students and the text: "Quality education for students in Sydney with moderate to severe disabilities or autism in a supportive and caring school environment." Below this are three columns of text: "Quality Education" (2-3 years), "New Innovations" (Autism Education), and "Latest Newsletter" (ABC). A "Quick Links" section at the bottom lists various school resources like "Books", "Pina's Page", "School Home", etc. A "Contact Us" section provides the school's address and phone number.

JUNIORS

The Juniors have continued to enjoy looking at all the ways we move around. We have looked at everything from trains and cars on land to canoes and sailboats on water. It has also been fun folding coloured pieces of paper to make paper airplanes. We combined with students from 5/6 W to make sailboats.



Then in the warm autumn sunshine, we took turns watching our beautiful boats sail in a huge tub of water. In cooking, one day, we even made a cake in the shape of a car!



We have especially enjoyed the music and stories that have been part of our transport theme. With Roxanne's help we have used drums, and bells and tambourines to accompany rhythmic songs like 'Goove Train' and 'The Wheels on the Bus'. We have also used switches to create sound effects for our sensory poem 'Terrific Trains' and 'Who Sank the Boat?' We really had fun presenting our assembly item 'Down By the Station' with the wonderful sounds of a fire engine, steam train, bus and truck. The rhythm of the poem really sounds like a train traveling on the railway track.



In the darkness of the sensory room, David helped us operate a remote controlled helicopter. We used our trays for a launching pad. How amazing to hear the whirring blades and see the bright flashing lights as the helicopter whizzed around the room! We wished it could go on forever

Each one of us wore something orange to celebrate Harmony Day on March 22nd. We welcomed parents and grandparents to enjoy this day when we celebrate diversity, respect and friendship. The festive orange balloons and streamers and sharing the day with family and friends made it a very special occasion.

With Easter fast-approaching, another highlight of this term was Bilby Day. It was a beautiful day to be out in the sun making clay bilbies and listening to the story of how important it is to look after the bilby and its environment. After the clay moulds were dry we used pink and grey colours to paint our Bilby for Easter.

Now that the term has come to a close, we are looking forward to our autumn holiday. We wish everyone a very Happy Easter—may the bunny or bilby shower you with chocolate eggs. Enjoy every minute of the holiday with your families and friends.

Until next term bye from,

Amira, Charlie, Daniel, Lucy, Megan and Nathan



INTERMEDIATE

We have had a wonderful, busy term in the Intermediate class with each student shining in different ways. Daniel continues to delight us with his cheery 'Hello' and vocal skills, Phoebe is happily joining in the group music lesson, Brooke can now walk the entire length of the school with minimal assistance, Rifa is communicating beautifully using her hands and Stuart entertains us with his rhythmical playing of percussion instruments and dancing.

We have continued our theme work on 'Spinning in Space' with lots of fun activities like creating a spinning solar system in a jar, baking a nebular cake and making rockets and men on the moon.

Special Celebration days during the term like Bilby day and Harmony Day have been wonderful whole school events and the students loved having their friends and family come along. We also enjoyed a visit from Christ Church Preschool who sang us songs and presented our students with beautiful hand made flowers.

All of us in the Intermediate Class wish you an enjoyable holidays and Easter time.

From Stuart, Phoebe, Daniel, Rifa, Brooke, Julie, Jennie, Christine and Akram.



Brooke swirling a galaxy in a jar.



Rifa reaching for the stars.



Phoebe can switch the stars on and off with her foot



Our Nebular cake

This term 5/6W said Good Bye to Lachlan who has transitioned to another school. As he lives a longer distance away now we are practicing keeping in contact with friends using the telephone and email system. We have completed the unit on 'Gold' and 'Its Electrifying'. Everyone enjoyed creating a pressure switch using aluminum foil (conductor of electricity) and pressing the switch to turn the light bulb on and off. We also conducted a school Energy Audit where the students used a Power-Mate Lite to measure the wattage of an appliance and a Light Metre which measures light in LUX. The students were amazed at how much wattage was used to charge the Nintendo DSi's and realized the importance of turning it off at the power point when not in use. As 5.6W are involved in the Climate Clever Project, we will be examining ways of reducing greenhouse gases and reducing our carbon footprint throughout the year. Keep a lookout for tips in future Newsletters. Student presented a 2 minute talk to the class about BeastQuest which is a class novel we read throughout the week after everyone gets their work finished. We focused on posture and speech and students critiqued their own presentation and another students. Everyone did exceptionally well !!! Have a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Donna, Chris & Jennie.



Creating a pressure switch with aluminium foil.

THE GARDENING CLUB



Dylan and Luke.L measuring the length of the garden before dividing it into equal sections to plant the herbs.



Ethan has looked after the parsley he grew from seed and was very happy to cut bunches to send home with some students.



Ethan using the Power Mate Lite and Luke.B and Bobbie measuring the light levels in LUX.



Artworks inspired by Sidney Nolan.



Seniors

The Seniors have continued to look at the natural and built environments in China. After making a building with Chinese inspired architecture for our display board, we painted some Chinese Opera masks. Then came The Great Wall which has weaved through the natural and man made environments of the Chinese countryside. Using coloured rice we've made a Chinese farmer working in the paddy fields. We have looked at the designs of paddy fields and made our own collage. Also made some lilies floating in the ponds near our mountain range. Lastly we have made a collage of the sea and done some paintings of some Chinese boats on the water. It has been a busy term with everyone involved in many activities in the classroom.





BILBY DAY





Harmony Day



Switch adapted scissors

Check out these switch adapted scissors! These are easy-to-use and allow students to assist in all cutting activities. You hold the scissors and allow your child to press their switch and activate the cutting action. This term, children have been operating the scissors in a range of art & craft activities as well as cutting herbs for cooking.



Go wireless!

Now our students can go wireless with these new wireless switches which come with wireless transmitter and receiver. The transmitter plugs into a switch operated appliance and transmits a wireless signal to the switch. Effective range is up to 10m. No more tangles!



For more information on either of these resources go to:

<http://www.spectronicsinoz.com>

Anna Trayner

Resource Teacher

EASTER FUN !!



Opportunity to hear Dr Michael Carr-Gregg

Our local network of schools has secured a booking with the eminent psychologist Dr Michael Carr-Gregg

On 18th July the combined network of St Ives Schools will be attending a school development day where Michael Carr-Gregg will present to the staff on issues relating to adolescence, mental health and issues relating to online social networking sites, cyberbullying, internet addiction and online games.

Parents will be offered an opportunity to hear him on the same day at St Ives High School in the evening.

Topics that may be covered depending on parent interest include

“Real Wired Child- what kids are doing online and how to keep them safe”

“The Five greatest challenges for parents in 2011”

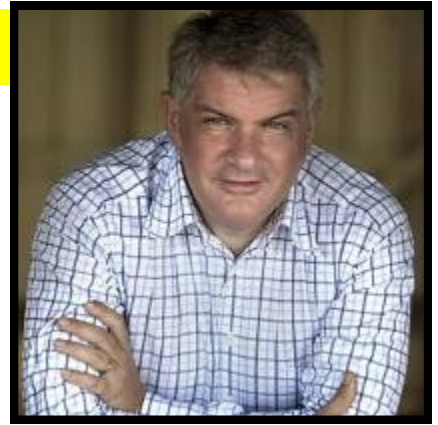
“Mental health Issues for young people”

“Coping with the HSC Year”

“Coping with Alcohol, Tobacco and other drugs”

Please indicate what topic you would like to hear (not all will be offered) and whether you are likely to attend.

John Paterson



If you are viewing an electronic version of the Newsletter please [click here](#) to get more information on Dr Michael Carr-Gregg otherwise you can find more information at

www.michaelcarr-gregg.com.au



Michael Carr Gregg Presentation

6.00-7.30.p.m Monday 18th July, 2011

The topic I would like to hear on July 18th with Michael Carr Gregg is (please tick):

- Real Wired Child- what kids are doing online and how to keep them safe
- The Five greatest challenges for parents in 2011
- Mental health Issues for young people
- Coping with the HSC Year
- Coping with Alcohol, Tobacco and other drugs

Name : _____