



FRIDAY NOTICE



November 2015

www.cottageschool.tas.edu.au

admin@cottageschool.tas.edu.au

P.O. Box 379, Rosny Park 7018

Ph: 6244 3556

Email: admin@cottageschool.tas.edu.au

What's happening in Term 4:

November	16 th	Monday	Prep/1 Camp at Orana starts today
	16 th	Monday	2016 5/6 Camp parent meeting @ 3:00pm
	17 th	Tuesday	5/6 excursion to Parliament House
	18 th	Wednesday	Kinders visit P/1 camp
	18 th	Wednesday	Garden Market at 3pm
	19 th	Thursday	Prep/1 Camp concludes today
	20 th	Friday	No school for Prep/1
	20 th	Friday	Bellerive Triathlon
	23 rd	Monday	2/3/4/5/6 Camp at Mayfield starts today
	26 th	Thursday	2/3/4/5/6 Camp concludes today
27 th	Friday	No school for 2/3/4/5/6	
December	2 nd	Wednesday	Garden Market at 3pm
	2 nd	Wednesday	P/1 Bike Day
	7 th	Monday	Year 6 Leavers Day
	9 th	Wednesday	School picnic
	9 th	Wednesday	Committee meeting 7:00pm
	10 th	Thursday	Leaver's celebration 11:00-12:00
10 th	Thursday	School closes at 12:00pm. End of the year.	

From Steve: Lots of meetings with parents and sub committee meetings this week, so quite a bit to share with you.

The Futures Working Group; Elly, Sian, John, Hana and myself have been on the go refining the information from the previous Futures Workshop in Term 3. The options from that workshop have been worded in such a way as to be understood easily by everyone, and without any ambiguity. We are currently developing the statements/questions (considerations), which need to be asked across each of the options. At the same time, we are developing a system by which each statement/question can be weighted so that the corresponding answers do not unduly influence the outcome of the option. As soon as this work is completed, we will present to both the Committee and community.

EXCITING NEWS.....as of the start of next year, Cottage School will deliver its own Pre-Kinder session. Operating from 9:00am to 12:00pm every Monday in the current Kinder room. Numbers will be limited to 12. Further information will be available early next week. The Pre-Kinder can only go ahead if we get sufficient interest, so please get the message out to all of your friends.

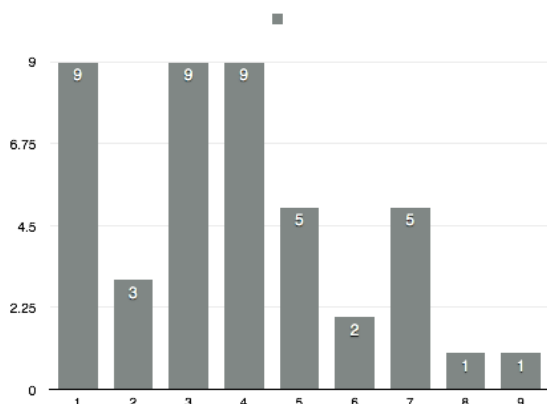
End of Year Reports will be going home on Monday 7th December. At this point, a letter for all 2016 Year 1 students will be included to inform which class your child will be placed in. We are still receiving enquiries about possible enrolments for Prep, Year 1 and Year 2, and need to maintain a certain amount of flexibility with our groupings. I know that all of you have already had a conversation with either Michelle or Hana who are regularly meeting with each other to discuss children's maturity, friendship group, learning styles and support needs. These discussions continue with each new enrolment that we get and which has an effect on final placements.

More good news to celebrate. We have just completed our end of year Progressive Achievement Tests in: Spelling, Vocab, Comprehension, Maths and Science. In every area we have achieved improved whole of school outcomes across the entire sweep of tests. As you would remember, this year saw us having a strong focus on how we were delivering our spelling across the school and our teachers have really taken up the challenge to make inroads into a curriculum area that concerned us. Below are two graphs which show results in March and again in October. The numbers along the bottom of the graph show the stanine

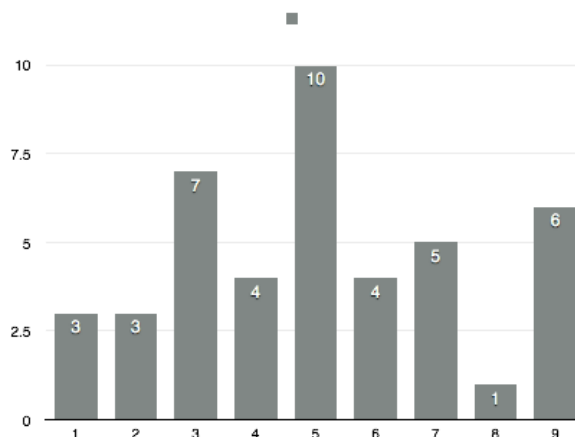
grouping, with 1 being the lowest and 9 being the highest. The white number in the bar denotes how many students are sitting in that stanine group. This is a strong improvement over a short period of 7 months, and already we are looking at how individual student achievement can be used to inform next year's teacher as to what support or extension is required to ensure that this improvement growth continues.

PAT-R SPELLING (Years 2-6)

March 2015



October 2015



Cottage School Mo Bros: Are you wondering who those shady looking blokes cruising around Cottage School are lately? Don't worry it is just Steve, Tom, John and Simon's attempt at growing a moustache for Movember! The Cottage School Gents have decided to undertake Movember this year as a way of raising awareness of men's physical and mental health. Men's health issues are not often something at the forefront of most blokes minds but testicular cancer, prostate cancer, mental health and physical inactivity are the 4 main factors that prevent men from living happy and healthy lives. Through raising awareness, sharing knowledge and encouraging positive communication around these issues we hope to change the face of men's health.

If you would like any more information about men's health or would like to have a chat about these issues, please feel free to catch up with Steve, Tom, John or Simon when you next see them around school. Thank you for all the donations so far in the "We Stand for Change" box in the foyer outside Annette's office. You can also donate directly to the Cottage School Mo Space <http://mobro.co/cottageschool> and check out the videos, pics and MOgress. Thank you all for your support - Cottage School Mo Bros

FANTASTIC FAIR 2015! \$19,160: Once again, the time, effort and love that we all put in, has resulted in a highly profitable Fair. Every stall looked fantastic and it was great to see many stalls had improved their displays and signage and all appeared to be well stocked, with a wide range. The comments from the public were full of praise, for a high caliber & well-run fair. So, well done everyone! Our five biggest earners brought in over \$ 12,745 collectively.

Our biggest earner this year was Plants, who after being pipped at the post by Manure last year....by only \$30!.... were highly motivated to reclaim their 'crown'! Coming in, in second place, was Manure; followed by Craft; Gourmet Food and Cakes & Bakery. Our traditional top-earning five stalls, represents around 65% of Fair's total take (earnings) collectively and this shows us all, why it's important for ALL 'B' and 'C' Stall members to also contribute a small amount to one of the four 'A' Stalls. Next year, we will again be looking closely at what 'B' & "C" team members *can* and *are* doing to help the 'A' stalls (Plants; Gourmet Food; Cakes & Bakery and Craft).

The effort from the students of the school was yet again fantastic! Creative Kids and Face Paint made \$408.80. Great to see all of that hard work pay off. The lessons the kids learn by participating in the Fair, such as: cost of materials vs selling price needed to make a profit; deciding on appropriate packaging; designing display & signage; thinking about sales techniques and working out change, are all valuable skills. I encourage all of the Stall Managers to do a small *de-brief* with their team, to jot down what worked and what didn't this year and to come up with ideas for next year. My motto is always to 'tweak' different aspects of the Fair. For example, whenever we focus on a particular area (eg display; pricing etc) or a particular stall, we always see an INCREASE in sales in that area. One of the areas that still needs focus, is in our visual merchandising (how each stall looks). If it looks attractive, then the merchandise has not only more appeal, but can usually command a slightly higher price.

So, I urge everyone to think about how we can improve next year. If I can help in any way, perhaps in getting new display units made for you, then let me know. It's all about working smarter and not harder. I think that most of school's families put their 'all' into the Fair and we just need to constantly 'tweak' to make sure that

Fair is the best it can be.....both profitable and an ideal promotion of the values and community spirit, that our School embodies.

Thanks to: Teaching and admin staff who looked after children whilst we set-up and packed up Fair and who generally made our job easier. Particularly thanks goes to Annette, who with Jonathan Bedloe, put in a massive effort counting and balancing all of the money. Also, to many of the teacher's Aides (Suzanne; Mel and Simon) who gave up their morning to help out.

Geoff LePage; Jane Patel and Thierry Cueff, who alongside Vanessa and myself, carted way too many tables from the council storeroom and lots of equipment out from under my house, earlier on Fair day...especially to Geoff who has done it for 5 years running now!

And thanks in advance, to all of you who are going to be making cakes ready for delivery to our donor businesses. The businesses really appreciate the little 'gift' and they really help with ensuring on-going support from the business community. It is hard competing with other schools for donations, when they can offer *marketing* of businesses. The cakes and jams we give DO make a huge difference, and I know this as *many* businesses tell us so! So, please, if you are asked to make 1 or 2 cakes, please say **YES**. If you haven't been asked and are able to make (& bring to THE CARPARK...not school...NO EGGS allowed in School.....), please let Vanessa Cueff know. We need about 25 cakes (so at least 18 bakers). That's a third of the school.....please say YES!!!! NB: The date that we need the Cakes to be brought in, will be advised. Larger cakes are popular, as many businesses have a few staff. Cakes don't have to be 'fussy'....or full of expensive ingredients..... a simple iced cake is particularly popular. Trays of slice can also be ideal.

FAIR HOUSE-KEEPING:

REMINDER- REIMBURSEMENTS FOR FAIR EXPENSES

Whilst we encourage school families to donate the materials they use on their stall, we understand that some of you may have expenses that you need to claim. If you haven't already done so, please FINALISE CLAIMS BY MON 23/11. To make a claim, please ask Vanessa for a "Reimbursement Claim Form"; fill it in; attach your receipt and hand it back to her.

BUSINESSES WHO DONATED:

As you are aware, each year we aim to get as much as possible donated. The Tasmanian business community was once again **amazing**. Consequently 48 businesses supported our school this year. Some gave goods; offered a great discount or manufactured things for us, and all of them did it with no expectation of anything in return (OK- maybe cake!) They bought into the "small independent, community run, not for profit school" concept. Please see the accompanying list of those businesses. **It represents a value of \$ 4,900 this year (\$31,400 over the past 8 years).**

Thanks to the whole school community for getting behind this event so marvelously! We are quite inspired as to what we can achieve together next year. Elisia and Vanessa☺

Lost at Fair: One of our customers lost a pearl from a ring at the fair. Please contact the office if you happened to find it.

Left at DSS 40th Anniversary Celebration: Someone left behind a largish straw basket (they must have delivered goodies in it). I have it in my office if it belongs to you ☺ Annette

TO GIVE AWAY: Epson Perfection 2400 Scanner (photos and docs). Works fine....just surplus to our needs. Please contact Tim Short if you are interested.

What's On:

*Family Drum Clun with Boubacar Gaye & Tara Tucker
Saturday November 28 from 10am – 11am.*

*This special Family Drum Club session is open to **children up to 10 yrs of age and their families** (up to 3 family members for each \$20 ticket). Our special guest is Boubacar Gaye from Senegal, West Africa.*

Rhythm For Tots students and their mums/dads are very welcome!

There will be plenty of child-friendly percussion instruments for the little ones.

Tara and students from her African drumming classes will keep the groove going and Boubacar will facilitate the group according to the age mix of the participants.

Please note: The session will only go ahead if we reach a minimum number of registered participants. So if you are interested, please don't leave it to the last minute. We hope to see you there!

Tara and Boubacar. Location: The Kickstart Arts Centre, Next to the church on St Johns Avenue, Newtown. In the 'Old School Room'. Entrance at the back of the building.

Attachments: Sales Totals for Fair, Business Donors and what they donated for Fair