Thursday 13th 2014

Dear Parents and Carers

Why is reading so important?

Evidence suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who don’t, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures.

In fact, there’s evidence to suggest that reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background.

What difference could I make as a parent?

The short answer is: a lot! Parents are by far the most important educators in a child’s life and it’s never too young for a child to start, even if you’re only reading with your child for a few minutes a day.

Before they’re born, babies learn to recognize their parents’ voices. Reading to your baby from the time they’re born gives them the comfort of your voice and increases their exposure to language.

Vocabulary and understanding

Learning to read is about listening and understanding as well as working out print. Through hearing stories, children are exposed to a rich and wide vocabulary. This helps them build their own vocabulary and improve their understanding when they listen, which is vital as they start to read. It’s important for them to understand how stories work as well. Even if your child doesn’t understand every word, they’ll hear new sounds, words and phrases which they can then try out, copying what they have heard.

As children start to learn to read at school, you can play an important role in helping to keep them interested in books, finding out what interests them and helping them to find books that will be engaging and fun for them. Give time to helping them practise reading the books they will bring home from school.

Stephen Rowe
Principal

Free Children’s eBooks:

Prep 2015
There is an information morning for Prep 2015 parents and families on Monday the 24th of November at 11:00am.
All our welcome to attend – session will be held in the meeting room.

Deadly Awards
Deadly Awards for 2014 will be held on Monday the 1st of December to recognise the achievements of our indigenous students.
There will be a special assembly at 8:45, parents and families are welcome to attend, and invited to stay for morning tea afterwards.

End of Year Concert
Our annual End of Year Concert will be held on Monday the 8th of December 2014. Each class will be performing, and parents and families are invited to attend.
The concert will be starting at 1:20 so please arrive before this time.

Graduation
On Wednesday the 10th of December we will be farewelling our year 6 and 7 students at a graduation ceremony. We are asking that students in 6 and 7 bring a baby/childhood photo to be included in the presentation for families and students. Please send these to the office.
Recently a letter went home regarding the times, and events for the night, and asked parents and families to indicate how many will be attending. As the graduation will be much larger this year, we ask that this number is limited to six, to allow proper seating for all. Please send this letter back as soon as possible so arrangements can be made. If you have not received this letter there are plenty in the office.

2015 School Bus Passes
Please apply for your child bus pass before 5th January 2015. This is so they have their bus pass before the first week of school.
Apply through Westside Bus Company.
Westside Bus Company

Change of Personal Details Form
Name:
New Details
Address: Phone: Mobile Phone: EMAIL:

I wish to receive an email copy of the