Principal’s Report

The term is coming to an end with next Friday 24th June the last day of term.

Reports will be sent home late next week. Please take time to read these thoroughly. I’d like to pass on my sincere thanks to the staff for their extensive work developing the Individual Learning Plans and mid-year reports. It is a delight to see all students either making good progress towards their goal or achieving the goal.

Our school values are Safety, Respect and Try Your Best. Students are explicitly taught these in weekly PBS lessons. Our expectation is that students will respect peers, staff and the wider community.

These values also extend to the wider school community which includes parents. Harassment and bullying towards staff won’t be tolerated whether it occurs in person, by phone calls or messaging (facebook, texting etc.). Our bullying/cyber bullying policy stipulates that there will be consequences for those who bully others. A copy of this policy can be sourced through the office.

I wish you all a happy and safe holiday.

Leah Willis
Principal

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<th>IMPORTANT DIARY DATES</th>
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<td><strong>Friday 24th June</strong></td>
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**Student Awards**

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Cobram & District Specialist School values are Respect, Safety & Try Your Best
Hovell Room

We cannot believe it is almost the end of term 2. We have been so busy. We are learning the sounds for the letters ‘a’ and ‘p’ and we have started to join some letters together to make words. We know that if we join ‘a’ and ‘m’ together it makes the word am and we have been reading it in a sentence ‘I am (name).’ We have also put a ‘s’ in front of it to make it ‘Sam’. Sam is the main character on our reading eggs program who always makes us laugh.

We have been playing a maths counting game with a dice and, although, sometimes it is hard to wait, we are getting much better at turn taking. Our speech therapist has visited the class each fortnight to help us practice blowing and sucking and increase the strength and control of the muscles around our mouth. We have also been enjoying the beetle game where we use a visual cue to assist us to ask for the next piece we want.

Have a happy and safe holiday and we look forward to another successful term in Term 3.

Hume Room

It has been a long, busy term in Hume room. We have been lucky enough to have continued to follow our original timetable, with only a couple of wet weather interruptions! Despite the cold weather, the students have really enjoyed the swimming program. They have come a long way, since the start of the year, especially with their confidence when entering/exiting the water and with their movement through the water.

The distances we have been covering in Bike Ed are continually growing which is great and, once again, their confidence and road safety knowledge is always improving.

Our literacy sessions have been very busy, covering different letters and stories each week, writing sentences and making word lists. In numeracy we have been using bingo and counters to improve our counting.

Finally, in PBS, we have been covering: how to use school equipment safely, appropriate uniform and manners. Midas, Caitlyn and Hollee have taken out the Safety, Respect and Try Your Best Awards.

We hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable break!
Mitchell Room

It has been a fun and productive term here in the Mitchell Room! Everyone has worked extremely hard, and have tried their very best in all areas of learning. Our Sporting in Schools program was a big hit this term, as we honed our skills in different areas of basketball, such as performing different types of passes, how to catch the ball, and dribbling. The students have done a great amount of work on cyber safety this term. They have looked at being safe when surfing the web, and not clicking on pop-ups that may appear on the screen, as they can sometimes be tempting, and could try to trick the user into thinking that they have won something, or have been given something for free. We have also had a big focus on creating graphs, and representing different forms of information this way. The students have done this over the last 4 weeks, and have enjoyed it immensely. During our PBS sessions, we have looked at what it looks like to use equipment appropriately out in the yard, and how we play with others nicely during recess and lunch. We hope that everyone has a safe and happy holidays. All the best, From the staff and students from the Mitchell Room.

Senior Rooms

Leo’s Induction Lunch
The Cobram on the Murray Leo’s club held a very exciting lunch at Fasta Pasta in Cobram recently. Our club hosted guests from the Cobram Lions, Strathmerton Lioness’s and the incoming District Governor for Region V6 Peter Poels and his wife Margaret. Peter helped induct all seven of our new club members and passed them individual certificates and membership badges. All new members pledged to be positive additions to our club. We all enjoyed our lunch and the great service at the restaurant. Members of the Strathmerton Lioness Club very generously donated $500 to the Leo’s Club to go towards assisting with future projects. We cannot thank them enough for their kindness. Thanks also to the staff who attended to assist us make this event happen.

Harold, Jessica and Dean
Cobram on the Murray Committee Members
RDA May 19th, 2016
Today Charles, Gus, Jazmin and Ebony went to RDA at the Cobram Showgrounds, it was a warm and sunny morning. RDA was a lot of fun because they did the games, the students said. Ebony had a great time, she was riding Shay. Ebony has improved so much this year, they are trotting around together. Gus was riding Cobber, he is a nice stocky chestnut horse. Gus enjoyed playing basketball and throwing goals from horse back. Gus shot 6 goals. Jaz was riding Zena today, a lovely grey/white horse. Jaz loved shooting goals as well. They would move further away from the goals when they got one in. Jaz shot 6 goals today. Jaz is getting on and off unassisted, great effort. Charles was riding Nugget and they had a great time together. Charles enjoyed knocking over the blocks with the stick from the saddle.

Moira Shire Youth Council Tuesday 7th, June 2016
Nathalia Secondary Collage chaired the meeting at the Shamrock Hotel and there were three guest speakers for the meeting. The first speaker was Nathan Anderson from Moira Shire, he spoke to us about his job in media and with communications for the Shire. Our second speaker was Senior Constable Ryan Johnson, he spoke about topics that students talk about like drugs, alcohol, family violence and crime in our community. The day’s next speaker was Emily Gough, the Youth Foundation Cobram representative. She talked about her position, how she helps people (youths) in the community with getting grants. She also spoke about the proposed new cinema/theatre fund raising project for Cobram.
After a break we watched several clips made by Nathan and students from youth council. Town issues are always raised at our meetings and Jessica informed everyone that a town issue which was raised in a 2016 meeting has been fixed. Hollie Barnes spoke to us about the “Kool Skools” program our school is involved in. 2016 has the biggest number of students attending this year. Band and singers will travel to Melbourne to record their tracks in the first week of the holidays.

Coming events for youth in the Shire-
August 27th - Battle Of The Bands in Yarrawonga.
We had a fantastic day and lunch was delicious!
Meals on Wheels

Twice a month, three senior students participate in the Meals on Wheels program around the local Cobram/Barooga townships. Under the guidance of Wendy, Faye or James who rotate the driving duty each time, Mitchell, Shakaya and Jesse are responsible for picking up the meals from the Cobram Hospital and delivering them to the clients on the list. Each time, the students are encouraged to increase their independence in being able to read the list, match the food to the clients, navigate their way to the houses, deliver the food and interact with the clients. Comments from the participants so far about the program include:

Jesse: Meals on Wheels is a good way to give back to the community.
Shakaya: I like delivering the meals to the old people because it is fun.
Mitchell: I enjoy helping Jesse deliver meals to the clients because we get to chat to them.

PBS

Over the last few weeks, the senior area have worked together in our PBS sessions. We have talked about trying new things and having a go at unfamiliar activities, acknowledging that it doesn't matter if you don't like it as long as you have tried. Students brainstormed and identified some feelings that may go with having a go at new things and attempted to draw a horse whilst exploring these further. It was pleasing to hear students encourage and support others through the whole process as well as have a go at a different drawing of a dragon or a giraffe.

In recent sessions, we have been looking at being a good friend and what this looks like to ensure your safety and the safety of others. As well as brainstorming ideas of how this can be encouraged, students also worked in small groups to produce posters and mini iPad clips to role model how this can be shown around the school. These clips will be used for future reference to help promote this expectation across the classes.
Sporting Schools

Sporting Schools is a $100 million Australian Government initiative to get children committed to a lifelong love of sport. Sporting Schools specifically aims to help schools:

- Increase children’s participation in sport
- Connect 860,000 children with National Sporting Organisations (NSO) endorsed sporting opportunities
- Nurture children’s lifelong love of sport.

Our school was successful in gaining funding for this program for terms 1-3. Adam Gatcum has delivered weekly basketball sessions across the school which has helped students gain better ball control and improve their ball skills. We have thoroughly enjoyed these sessions and thank Adam for running such a great program. Adam will be running soccer sessions for us in Term 3.

Parents and Friends

Thank you to all those families who are taking a box of fundraising chocolates. These will be distributed next week and all money and unsold chocolates need to be returned by **Friday, 15th July**. We have some extra boxes available if anyone has changed their mind and would like to take a box.

Office News

Next week is Bus Safety Week. Parents of bus travellers could you please reinforce the important messages below with regard to bus safety.

**SAFETY - IT’S A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY.**

For students:
- Stand well back from the road and don’t push and shove when waiting for the school bus.
- Only approach the kerb once the school bus completely stops.
- While on board sit down and hold on.
- If the bus has seatbelts you must wear them at all times.
- Don’t be noisy or unruly, the driver has to concentrate on driving.
- When leaving the bus never cross the road until the bus has moved away and you can clearly see all road traffic.
- Remove your headphones and ignore your mobile phone so that you can be fully aware of your surroundings.

For parents:
- Try to park on the same side of the road as the school bus stop so your child doesn’t have to cross the road. Remember many school bus stops are located on roads that have 80/100 km speed limits.
- Slow down and watch for students when you see a school bus has stopped.

**BUS SAFETY - IT’S A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY.**
We thought this might be a useful guide for parents at this time of the year.

**SICK DAY OR SCHOOL DAY?**

Should they stay or should they go? Check this cold guide to help you make the sick day judgement call.

**Keep kids at home and consider seeing your GP**
- Fever of 38.5°C or higher
- Wheezing or shortness of breath
- Disruptive cough
- Constant runny nose with a yellow/green tint
- Excessive fatigue

**Kids can resume most regular activities**
- Fever – free for 24 hours
- Sporadic cough
- Minimal green/yellow runny nose

**OK to send kids to school**
- Mild, infrequent cough
- Clear runny nose
- Active, playful and rested

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**Community News**

**School Holiday Program Goulburn Valley Library**

_Week 1 June 27 – July 1 - For Bookings Please Call 1300374765_

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