



# Crows Nest State School

## **NEWSLETTER**

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**Edition 9**

**24/03/09**

**Principal:** Scott Edmunds  
**Deputy Principal:** Kaarin Grinstead  
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**Office Hours:** 8:00am - 4:00pm

### **Principal's Message**

#### **The best Australian books for kids**

Sometimes as a parent you may have trouble choosing a children's book. One way to find the perfect book is to learn about what kinds of stories your child is interested in.

For younger children, there are a variety of audio books available to borrow at libraries and purchase at book stores. Your child can listen to the story as they learn to read.

This will not only keep them interested, but help them recognise important words and letters.

Here are some titles of Australian classics to share with your child:

- *Blinky Bill* by Dorothy Wall
- *I can jump puddles* by Alan Marshall
- *The Muddleheaded Wombat and Playing Beatie Bow* by Ruth Park
- *Snugglepot and Cuddlepie* by May Gibbs.

Our school suggests the following stories and picture books for younger readers:

- *The Tashi series* by Anna Fienberg
- *Cool Bananas* by Christine Harris and Bettina Guthridge
- *Are You Hungry?* by Tina Burke
- *No Room for a Mouse* by Kyle Mewburn and Freya Blackwood
- *Nim's Island* by Wendy Orr
- *One Blue Sock* by Emily Ballou and Stephen Michael King.

For older children:

- *Daughter of the Regiment* by Jackie French
- *Hating Alison Ashley* by Robin Klein
- *Two Weeks with the Queen* by Morris Gleitzman
- *Pigs Might Fly* by Emily Rodda
- *Lockie Leonard Human Torpedo* by Tim Winton.

Remember to talk to your child to discover if he or she likes mystery or adventure stories or humorous books.

This will not only make choosing a book easier, it will also make reading more enjoyable.

### **Nominate your Favourite Teacher**

Students are now able to tell us all about what makes their teacher so special with the My Favourite Teacher program.

This year, students are asked to nominate a teacher who has inspired them to become more creative as part of the Year of Creativity.

My Favourite Teacher is an opportunity to recognise and reward the commitment of Queensland state school teachers. Last year, Queensland students cast more than 4000 votes.

State school students are encouraged to nominate their favourite teacher via the Department's website: [www.education.qld.gov.au/community/events/edweek/favourite\\_teacher/](http://www.education.qld.gov.au/community/events/edweek/favourite_teacher/)

All students need to do is write in 25 words or less why their favourite teacher is so special. Of course, parents of younger children are encouraged to give them a hand.

Entries close on 8 May and the winning teachers will be announced during State Education Week, to be held from 1 – 5 June.

### **Thought for the Week**

Yesterday is a memory, tomorrow is a dream. Today is the reality - make the most of it.

Regards,

Scott Edmunds  
Principal

## Living With Your Teen

### Tip 4: Show You Love Them

- Love needs to be continually shown in order to be felt
- Tell you teen often that you love them
- Put little treats in the lunchboxes
- Go out of your way to help them with special projects
- Leave a note on the pillow saying "I love you" or "You are special" or "tell them that you felt proud of something they have done"
- Show your love by hugging (but not in front of their friends)

Debbie (Youth Health Nurse)

### Student of the Week/Academic Award

Congratulations to the Week 9 recipients.

#### Student of the Week

- 1-3 Paris Nelson - improvement in all areas  
4/5C Sarah Genrich - supporting others, working hard and behaving responsibly  
5/6N Rebecca Trost - a responsible and caring class member  
6/7N Jessica Cornell - her consistent approach to all tasks.

#### Academic Awards

- 8C Karen Berry - excellent results in Science Exam - 100%  
8N Amber Vonhoff - achieving 100% on her Science Exam  
8N Dean Donovan - achieving 100% on his Science Exam  
9C Nick Kolarski - excellent time management skills, completing SOSE draft before due date  
9C James Murray - making thoughtful contributions to class discussions in SOSE  
9C James Murray - excellent results in Science Exam - 100%  
9N Danikka Freeman - excellent results in Science Exam - 100%  
9N Jessica O'Neil - greatly improved effort and result in Science

### Gifted and Talented Education

Crow's Nest State School staff met recently to review the school's goals towards an improved strategy for Gifted and Talented Education. We found a high need to focus our work on the identification of students with gifted and talented learning needs. As we move forward with Gifted and Talented Education, our school will investigate and trial tools to use in the identification of student strengths. Identification processes should always include and involve parents. This means that, later in the semester, families may be contacted to discuss their child's strengths and complete a checklist on the learning behaviours that you see your child exhibiting at home. The information that we gather will help us design a learning program to best meet the needs of your child.

### 'Think Tank'

In Term 2, Miss Thitchener and Miss Grinstead will establish groups of students to participate in a range of higher order thinking activities that we will lead. The aim of this strategy is to encourage students to think 'outside

the square' or look beyond the boundary of their present knowledge base. This activity is a short term event which is part of our overall strategy to advance gifted and talented education at Crow's Nest State School.

### Thank you

Thank you to the many parents who have found the time to visit me in the office to discuss their child's learning program. I appreciate your help in getting to know your children and learn more about your personal experiences of learning.

### Miss Grinstead

### Pyjama Day

This Thursday we are holding a pyjama day. We are raising the money to go towards our long term goal of **sponsoring a child in need**. We are asking students to donate a gold coin or more. This needs to be a wealthy fundraiser as we need it to last for many years. We ask for all students to participate on this enjoyable day. The requirements for pyjama clothing is that it will be sun safe (sleeved shirts, closed in shoes and practical length clothing).

Most importantly have fun!!

### Student Council

### Academic Competitions

#### IMPORTANT: One slip per child please.

I would like my child \_\_\_\_\_ of Year \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in the following competitions:

Competition	Cost	Sitting Date	Year	Payment Closing Date
Rio Tinto Science	\$4.50	21st May	8-10	Closed
ICAS Computer Skills	\$6	27th May	3-10	3rd April
ICAS Science	\$6	10th June	3-10	22nd April
ICAS Spelling	\$8	23rd June	3-7	5 <sup>th</sup> May
ICAS Writing	\$11	23 <sup>rd</sup> June	3-10	5 <sup>th</sup> May
ICAS English	\$6	4 <sup>th</sup> Aug	3-10	10 <sup>th</sup> June
Aust. Math Competition	\$4.50	6th Aug	8-10	24 <sup>th</sup> April
ICAS Mathematics	\$6	19th Aug	3-7	29th July

Total enclosed: \$.....

Signed:.....

### Parent/Guardian

### Library News: Travel Buddies.

"A Book Safari with Simba and Benji."



The theme for "Children's Book Week" (**August 22nd - 28<sup>th</sup> 2009**) is "**Book Safari**". **CBC website:** "[The Children's Book Council of Australia](http://www.childrensbookcouncilofaustralia.com.au)"

The young lion "Simba" and his friend "Benji" the tiger arrived at the school library to help celebrate Book Week by travelling on a reading safari with the Prep to Year 3 students. They have enjoyed reading and going on adventures with some of these students and their families already and look forward to travelling home with each student in these grades.

The "travel buddies" will share their adventures on their online diary that can be accessed by clicking on <http://www.learningplace.com.au/tb/diarycentre.asp?pid=23887>

**Paul Bates**

### **P & C News**

The new President of the P&C is Justin Simpson. Vice president is Paul Christensen and Treasurer, Helen Stevens. The position of secretary remains vacant.

The following decisions were made:

- Agenda items for each P&C meeting should be passed to the secretary for publishing in the newsletter a week before the meeting.
- Meetings will be kept as close as possible to a 9:30pm finish.
- Written financial reports for the P&C and each sub-committee will be tabled at each meeting to meet auditor's requirements.
- The motion regarding putting fridges in classrooms was rescinded. The P&C will not be supplying fridges for classrooms.
- A questionnaire will be going out about what parents, staff and students would like money spent on.
- We will be having a card pack fund raiser.
- P&C volunteer information sessions will be held next term.
- To add a yellow and red stripe to our shirt would increase the price to around \$45. Further avenues are being explored to add a safety colour at a reasonable price.

Next meeting: Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April.

### **UNIFORM SALE AT THE SCHOOL**

**New & Used items**

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April**

**8:30am to 11am**

#### **Wednesday April 8** **Cross Country**

- 1) High School
- 2) PREP
- 3) Grade 1
- 4) Grade 2
- 5) Grade 3
- 6) Grade 7
- 7) Grade 4

8) Grade 5

9) Grade 6

- High School to run first. (approx 18min to first student)
- Immediately once the high school starts, the Prep students will begin.
- Grade 1 to follow (primary captains to help)
- Grade 2 to follow (primary captains to help)
- Grade 3 to follow (primary captains to help)
- By this time the first half of the secondary students will be complete, remaining students will be on a different section of the track.
- Grade 7 to follow (secondary captains to help)
- Grade 6 to follow (secondary captains to help)
- Grade 5 to follow (secondary captains to help)
- Grade 4 to follow (secondary captains to help)
- Grades 4 to 7 – once the first 20 students complete the course, the next event will begin.

#### **Time**

- Program to run in session one (into if necessary) first lunch. This is to keep the events in the cooler part of the day.
- This will allow parents who wish to be spectators to stay at school once they drop their child(ren) off at school.
- Parents who have multiple students at school will be able to watch their children compete on the same day without having to leave the school and come back.

#### **Tuckshop Group 3 25 March**

##### **Workers**

Bobby Goddard  
Jenny Pendlebury  
Kirsty Myles  
Kym Campbell

##### **Suppliers**

*Patty Cakes*- Jodie Parton  
*Slice*- Karen Moody

#### ***IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER***

**31 March – 3 April**

Year 5 Camp  
Sunday Creek

**8 April**

School Cross Country

**6,7,8 April**

Parent Teacher Interviews

**9 April**

Last day of Term