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# Clare Connection

STUDENT NEWS FROM CLARE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Term 2 Week 10



### From the Principal's Desk...

Well ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, as the sun sets on another term of learning here at Clare Public School, so it sets on my time as relieving teaching principal. I have nothing but praise for the students and school community here at Clare. We have achieved so much in our six months together and as I sat down to write this last newsletter and reflect on our achievements, I realised just how long the list was. Here are some of the highlights:

- Beautification of the demountable into a welcoming learning space.
- Tidy, sort, declutter and stocktake in the library (almost complete)
- Organisation of the office into a welcome space and a place to showcase our history.
- Stage one development of the native garden beds, more plants to follow after the holidays.
- Update to our computers, laptops and iPads with the addition of a new robotics program.
- Sorting of the demountable storeroom, classroom storeroom and GA shed
- Implementing a new school uniform.
- Starting a school canteen.
- We even got the flagpole painted and a new rope installed.

This is just some of the things we have achieved this year. And there are so many projects on the wish list, no least of all.....THE AMENITIS BLOCK. The rumour is that this will be started in the holidays, however I have been unable to confirm this as yet.

I would like to formally acknowledge the staff of Clare Public School today. All of them. Doug, Jenny, Claire, Kara, Heather and Bevan. They have all been so supportive and great to work with during the last six months. I feel like I have been here so much longer than six months. It is amazing how time goes by so quickly

I would also like to thank Barb and Ewan who have been so welcoming and extended me every hospitality in the time I have been here. They have fed me, done my shopping, taken the rubbish, cleared the yard and importantly gave me a cap for the septic tank pipe as it backed up and bubbled out of the lawn this week. You have both made me a part of the family and I am very appreciative.

To the parents of the Clare Public School students, thank you all for your welcoming, community minded ways. From the very first moments you have made me feel a part of the gang. You have all showed me the true spirit of this community and my experience here at Clare has been the most rewarding of my career to date.

To the wonderful students of Clare Public School, thank you all for being so great. I hope you never lose your enthusiasm for learning and your zest for life. I have loved every moment with you all (including the red paint in the toilets). I wish every one of you the greatest success in your schooling and I look forward to seeing you all again one day.

Ms Barrow over and out!

## Literacy:

Winners of the short story announced and while the prizes didn't go to Annabelle or Jack, we are still riding high on the wave of success that comes with being a published author in Year 1 and 2.

Jack has been working hard on improving his 'speed writing'. Developing fluency and speed in writing is really hard work and takes a very long time. Jack smashed it out of the park this week when he wrote 16 sentences in five minutes. A new personal best for Jack and something to be super proud of achieving. Jack has also provided an end of term message in this newsletter. Thank you Jack.

The Kindergarten students all continue to impress us with their work. Their writing is amazing and their skills seem to improve every single day.

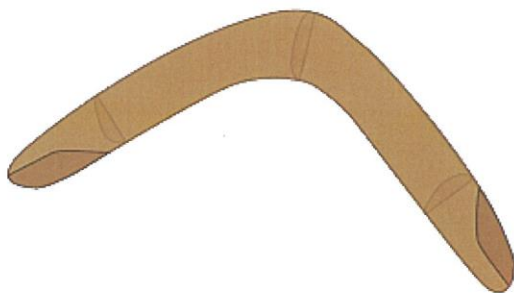
### *An end of term message by Jack Griffiths*

This Term we have made felt Dinosaurs with Ms English. We stuffed the dinosaurs then stitched around them, then placed them in an egg that we made from paper Mache.

We made boomerangs out of thin wood with Mr Pat, we take them out for test throws when it is not windy. We are going to have another throw today. They don't come back to us yet but Mr Pat's does.

This term we have been learning about robots in maths with Mr Pat, My Blue-Bot's name is Backfire Bot and he says "Jack, you are a pain in the neck!" I give him directions and he follows them. I love playing with all the robots.

Ms Barrow is leaving in the holidays I'm very sad to see her go and we will miss her very, very much, but Mrs Binns is coming back.

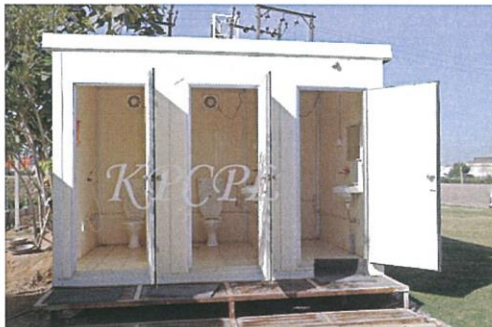


# At school by Annabelle Harris

Things we have done in Term 1 and Term 2 in 2020:

- ✚ Made boomerangs.
- ✚ We went to Balranald.
- ✚ We went to Wentworth swimming carnival.
- ✚ We got a new uniform.
- ✚ Ivanhoe school came to visit us.
- ✚ Pippa and Nellie came to visit.
- ✚ There was a little bit of home-schooling.
- ✚ We are getting a new toilet block and kitchen.
- ✚ We have started a canteen.
- ✚ Mrs Binns is coming back.
- ✚ Ms Barrow is leaving.

I can not wait to see Mrs Binns.





## Maths:

What does the number 8 really mean? That was a focus in maths groups with Ms English as the students searched their brains for all the things that 8 could mean.

Students have also been learning about....

The students did a fantastic job this week in measuring, mixing and baking some fresh cupcakes for afternoon tea. It was all hands in the bowl for clean up...they do say that many hands make light work. The students did a fantastic job and the cupcakes were devoured in no time at all – so quickly in fact that I didn't even get a picture of the finished product.



## Drama:

This week with a reduced number of students at school on Monday, we worked on character development and put together a short skit. The students selected an outfit from the dress-up box, chose a character and then put together a short skit. Our drama featured two pirates (Bruce and Seashell), one police officer (Billy) and one fairy (Wonder). Pirates Bruce and Seashell sailed out of Pirate Cove following their treasure map to search for buried treasure, whilst Officer Billy and Wonder the Fairy, hunted them down, handcuffed them and dragged them off to jail. Unfortunately for Officer Billy, Pirate Bruce escaped just in the nick of time and fled the scene. He was not able to be captured again.

**Pictures of Jack and Mike, Edie and London in their costumes.**

## Excursion:

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Now don't get too excited, we are not allowed to go on excursions again just yet, but we did venture out into the front paddock and found a beautiful emu egg on an ants nest. The ants were having a wonderful time eating the yolk of the egg which was oozing from a crack. Maybe the egg was dropped by a passing bird? We are going to keep our eye on it and hopefully the ants will clean it up and move on and we will be able to investigate the egg more closely.

**Pictures of the kids wandering out the front and the egg on the nest.**

## Hay Mobile:

. We had our last visit for the term from Hay mobile last week and due to some serious early morning fog, we were lucky enough to have the whole gang with us for part of the morning session and to share a story. Hannah enjoyed her last canteen lunch for the term and ate a whole hot dog that was nearly as big as her head! Thank you very much for another great term Hay Mobile. We all look forward to having you back in Term 3.

**Picture of kids at story time and Hannah and the hotdog**

## Computers:

We are very pleased to say that all of our computers have been updated by Rod at the Deniliquin office. He came out to our school on Monday and spent the day clicking and typing and sorting and plugging and got everything refreshed for us. We all REALLY appreciate him taking the time to come out and visit us and help us with our technical issues.

**Picture of Annabelle working at the computer and I think there is one of Mike**

**School Assembly:** An assembly with a twist this term, which is better than none at all which was the case last term. The students impressed with their singing of the school song and a few German songs they have been learning. There was also a performance of the chorus of "We are one" which was lovely. Jack and Annabelle did an outstanding job hosting the event, taking the job very seriously and demonstrating their fantastic public speaking skills. The students received awards for their efforts this semester and were very proud of their achievements.

As a component of the German lessons the students undertake, Ms English teaches the students about aspects of German culture. One of the interesting parts of this is the presentation of a shoultuete which is a cone filled with goodies to start the school year. As we were unable to have our assembly in Term 1, the kindy students were presented with their personalised shoultuete cones today. They were all very excited.

**Photo of the kindies with their cones.**

**Some other assembly photos of the kids with their awards or singing, not so much of the parents and visitors, as they shouldn't really be here.**

## News:

We had a special visit from Pop and Melly the two new birds in the Rees household. They spent the day with us and London did a fantastic job telling us all about them. Thank you Astrid for going to the trouble of bringing them in for the day, and for taking the time to cable tie all the doors shut so they didn't escape.

### **Picture of London with the birds**

Annabelle took us on a journey through her handbag/backpack this week. Like any woman, she had all manner of special things in there from a hair brush to an ice cream wrapper to a coloured pencil. A lesson to learn early in life if that One should never question the contents of a woman's handbag.

### **Picture of Annabelle with her bag**

Jack showed us pictures of his fantastic new buggy. We were all really keen for him to bring it in and take us for a ride, but he couldn't fit it into his backpack so we had to be happy checking out his photos instead. We are all very jealous of such a whiz bang buggy.

### **Photo of Jack in the buggy**

## Uniforms:

Oh my goodness, I could not be more excited that our new uniforms arrived before the end of the term. The children all came to school on Tuesday of Week 10 wearing their new uniforms and they looked BRILLIANT! I could not speak highly enough about the company who supplied our uniforms, LWReid in Sydney. They have been so accommodating and understanding of our small school position and have made allowances to reduce the numbers we were able to purchase due to our exceptional standards. The staff have been friendly and helpful from the start and I would highly recommend them to any school looking to upgrade or alter their uniform (this is not a paid advertisement, they just deserve the plug). Did I mention how great they all look in their new uniforms? They look FANTASTIC!



## **Friends with Toys:**

Thanks to Ewan for bringing over the bobcat and working hard to remove all of our woody weeds. He then came back and whipper snipped the bits he couldn't get with the bobcat. It looks so much better than it did and we appreciate the hard work. If that wasn't enough, he also delivered a number of dead trees to the brilliant wood pile in his front paddock. Thank you very much Ewan.

**Pictures of Ewan on the bobcat and on forklift thing and the raked soil pic**

## **The raising of the flag:**

"Find the positive in every negative," I say. So when the rope on our flag pole frayed to a single string and we had to snap the rope to get the flag down, it was the perfect opportunity to lower the entire pole and spruce it up! Mr McBeth, sanded and painted and painted again and we bough some brand new rope to replace the old frayed one. After a couple of coats of paint and some help from a few bystanders, the flag pole was raised to its original position and the flag raised. It looks better than ever and was a job well done.

**Pictures of raising the pole with Doug, Bevan and the kids – maybe a sequence of 3 pics.**

**Good things come to those who wait....and wait....and wait:** Well believe it or not, Mr Pat finally caught a cod. He made the trek out to Maude, floated out on the kayak, dropped in a line and caught the elusive cod. Story has it that the fish towed him back up the river, but I'm sure if that is true or not. What's a fishing story without a 'story' though. Well done Mr Pat, we are all very happy for you.

## Updates:

### Amenties block:

You have no idea how much I wanted to confirm the start of the amenities block. I have tried and tried to have the details confirmed with no luck. I am very sorry to report that to you all and I will keep my fingers crossed that something happens early in Term 3.

### Kitchen:

Still a work in progress too I'm afraid.

### Gardens:

Some of the natives have been planted and there will be a second delivery of plants after that holidays. Mr McBeth will get onto the redevelopment of the garden beds and the gardens will look fantastic. Thank you to Astrid who has been looking after our plants when she comes in for school pick up. Thank you to all the students who helped finish of the planting last week. You will notice we even had a little fairy in a pink tutu at the bottom of our garden, supervising the work.

### Photo of Astrid and kids around the plants.

## An uplifting experience:

Ms Barrow was able to get out and about on the long weekend and make a trip to Griffith to see her brother Adam. Adam is a hot air balloon pilot and both he and Ms Barrow were to be attending the World Hot Air Ballooning Championships in Slovenia in September this year, however due to the dreaded virus, that has now been cancelled. Adam was in Griffith for the long weekend for the inaugural flight of his new balloon. It is a magnificent creation and one that he spent many, many hours diligently sewing together. He was hoping to bring his new balloon out to Clare to show-off....I mean showcase, to our community, we hope that one day this might still be able to happen.

## From the Parents...

### Farewell and Thankyou

The parent body of K2C would like to share with the wider community our appreciation for all the hard work Rebecca has put in at Clare Public School over the past 2 terms. Unfortunately there's still lots of members of the community who haven't had an opportunity to meet Rebecca or to see the fantastic changes she's implemented around the school.....so see below for some photos – we know Rebecca won't 'toot her own horn' so we thought we would do it for her!!

Rebecca has taken the school motto of 'Take the Challenge' to the next level without a doubt, we don't think there is anything she can't do!! Her positive attitude and leadership skills have been exceptional and it's something that is not lost on the parents – we are very lucky to have the privilege of having her in charge of the school!

We could go on but Rebecca, we know wherever you end up you will be an asset. Thankyou for all of your hard work and dedication - we will miss you and wish you nothing but the best for whatever the future may hold for you!

From the Harris, Pippin, Rees and Griffiths families

The re-vamped front office



Mowed driveway!



Streamlined library  
Clare's Culinary

