

Clare Connection

STUDENT NEWS FROM CLARE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Term 2 Week 4

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From the Principal's Desk



This edition of the newsletter starts with a picture of the very happy students and teachers of Hay Mobile Children's Service who came back to Clare Public School during Week 3. It was very exciting to have everyone back at school and it was certainly a difficult task to try to decide which one of the children was most excited. We have certainly missed the energy and enthusiasm of the young children and it was wonderful to have them back.

Week 3 was also very exciting as it saw the launch of our very first Canteen Day! The Clare Culinary Curiosities Canteen was a HUGE success and very exciting for everyone involved. The canteen is operating one day per week and the day chosen by the students was Wednesday so that we are able to include Hay Mobile on the day that they visit. Annabelle was a very competent canteen manager on the day and everyone got everything they ordered and finished the day with full bellies. So all-in-all it was a very successful grand opening. Whilst the one day a week canteen is certainly a novelty for the students and teachers, it is also hoped that this one day a week is a small reprieve for parents in the never ending saga of lunch box preparation. I appreciate that it's a token but anything helps.

I hope that all of our Mums had a wonderful Mother's Day and you were all very excited to receive your wonderful hand-made gifts from the students. The felt wall hangings were especially beautiful and made with great care.

I am very excited about National Simultaneous Story Time which is happening in Week 5. The children will join in with the rest of the country, reading the picture book, "Whitney and Brittney: Chicken Divas." This program is run through the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) and is aimed at promoting the value of reading and literacy and the fun of reading. This years story will certainly be fun as we read about what the crazy chicken divas get up to. We may find ourselves reading the story with over one million other readers at over 8000 different locations. How exciting to be part of something so big, when we are so small.

In other exciting news, we are currently in the process of ordering a new school uniform. The design has been chosen and the order has been put in and hopefully by our next newsletter, we might be able to showcase our students looking sharp in their new uniforms. The colours and logo will stay the same with the new uniform, it is just the style and options that will change slightly. We are all very excited about having brand new uniforms to wear.

I am including a link in this edition to Scholastic Book Club who have moved their ordering to an online forum. You can visit this site at any time to browse their fantastic range of books and their super specials.

Ms Barrow



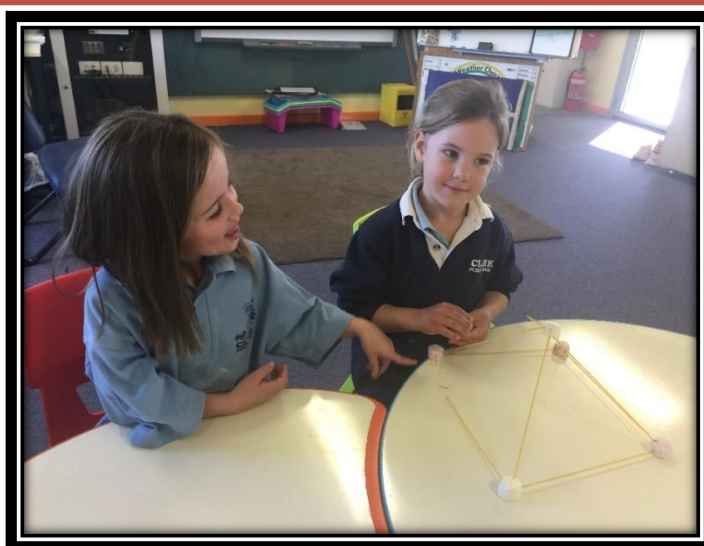
CLASSROOM NEWS:

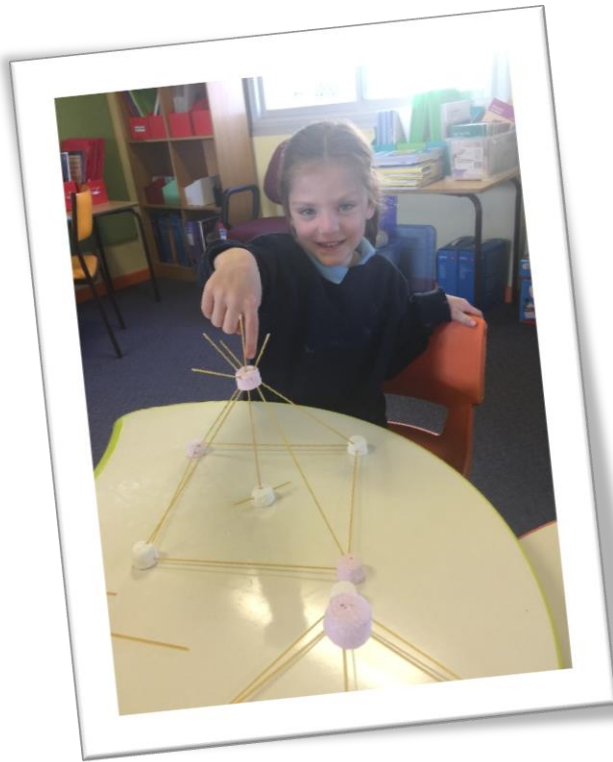
Creative Arts: This week in creative arts with Ms English, the students have been very messy, I mean very busy, cutting, painting and preparing to sew as they create papier-mâché dinosaur eggs and little felt dinosaurs to hatch from them. The children had a wonderful time covering themselves and their eggs with as much paint as possible. Thank you of course to our patient Kara who is always there to help with the creativity and clean up after the children have been creative.



STEM, SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGLISH, MATHS:

This week in STEM the students were experimenting with building towers using the very reliable building materials of marshmallows and dry spaghetti. Their creations were magnificent to say the least and there was a great deal of trial and error being undertaken. This level of problem solving is wonderful to observe as the students attempted a wide range of methods to create tall towers. It is also very amusing to see how much marshmallow dust each of the children (and Mr Patterson) ended up wearing. It looked like they had all been through a snow storm. This week we were also introduced to the first of our 'BeeBot' robots but there will be more on this in the coming editions. Stay tuned.





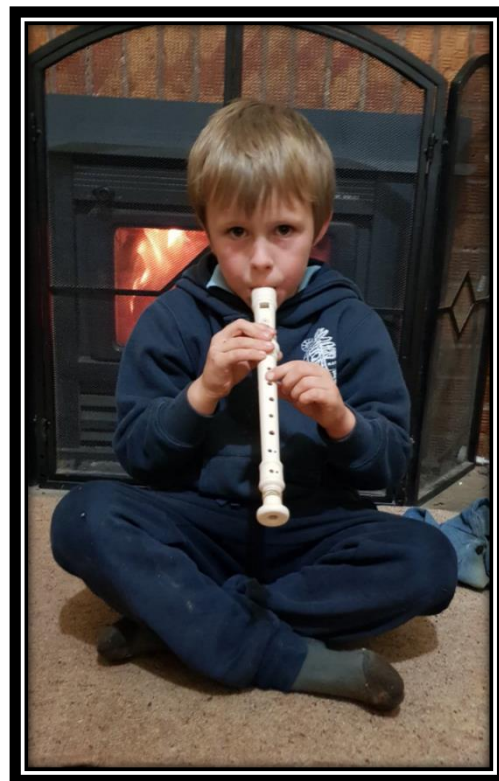
MATHEMATICS:

Students have been learning about mass and investigating area. They have been very engaged in their lessons with hands-on experiences using the balance scales to explore weight, balance and the difference between heavy and light objects. Students were also investigating area using Duplo and Lego pieces to cover an entire shape.



MUSIC:

This week many of the students took their recorders home to practice making sounds and covering the holes properly with their fingers, to try to produce an even sound. I know how much the parents have loved having the recorders at home. You are welcome! Michael in particular has made wonderful progress and was even playing his recorder to the baby goat 'Boo'. Well done Michael.



Where are we up to with COVID-19?



Education
Public Schools

As you will have seen and heard in the media, all NSW public school children will return to full-time, on-campus teaching from Monday 25 May. The Department of Education states that schools are safe and operations are in line with the AHPPC guidelines. There are a number of strategies currently in place to support the return of students, including daily cleaning of bathrooms between breaks and extra daily cleaning of the school environment. Whilst the students at Clare Public School were lucky enough to return to full-time teaching at the start of this term, due to our small numbers, we are still accessing this extra daily cleaning service to assist in keeping our community safe. Staff are adhering to the recommended social distancing guidelines and as none of our staff fall into the high risk categories, all staff have been able to attend school.

At this time, there are still restrictions in place relating to inter-school events and excursion but this simply means that we have more time for learning in the classroom, which is wonderful. If you have to attend our school for any reason, we ask that you take advantage of the hand-sanitising gel and wipes in all classrooms and the office, before and after dealing with staff. Your ongoing assistance in this matter is appreciated.

OUT AND ABOUT:

Cate and Annabelle were lucky enough to spot this little fellow crossing the road. How lucky for them both to be able to undertake such a close inspection. Their interest in him hopefully encouraged him off the road and into a safer location because with a maximum speed of only 2.3kms per hour, it's a long way across the road. Did you know that with all the digging and snuffling echidnas do in the soil, they move about 200 cubic metres of soil every year! Little eco warriors they are. Thank you Cate and Annabelle for sharing your pictures. In very recent news, Ms Barrow had her own adventure with a flat tyre on her way to Deniliquin – she was very capably changing the tyre as Claire found her on the roadside to take a quick snap and luckily Matt Scott came along and helped us. Many thanks to Matt for helping us out – Teamwork makes the Dreamwork!!



AMENITIES BLOCK UPDATE

I wish I had good news, however assets reports that they have a high work load at the moment and as a result, we are just waiting in line. I am still hopeful that the block will be installed by the end of the term and will remain hopeful until the end of the term. I have investigated what might be able to be done to manage (stop) the smell coming out of our septic tank, however it would seem that we just need to hold our noses for a little while longer and hope that the wind is blowing the right way. It would seem that there are no quick fix options to prevent the smell. So as I said, I will remain hopeful that the new block comes sooner rather than later. The amenities block is part funded by the **Federal Government's Local Schools Community Fund Grants Program**.



GARDENS

Discussions have commenced about the planting of natives and the redevelopment of our front garden and entrance. These funds for the native trees were obtained from **the NSW Teachers Federation Tree Levy Program**. As I have reported previously, we are unable to progress with our gardening grant received from **Sustainable Schools Grant Funding** until the old amenities block has been removed, so in the mean-time, we will try to make a start on the front entrance of the school.

KITCHEN

We are VERY excited to announce that the P&C have been successful in obtaining a grant from the **Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR)** for the development of our new kitchen. This is the most exciting news to receive and the success of the application is a credit to both the P&C and our SAM Claire who worked so hard in putting together the submission. We are hopeful that construction will be able to commence as soon as possible, barring any unforeseen hold-ups, and that we will also have a kitchen by the end of the term. Imagine how exciting that will be to have a new amenities block and a kitchen! The teaching and learning opportunities the kitchen space will offer are endless. I am almost lost for words. Thank you very much to the hard-working team responsible for winning this grant. What a great service you have done for your school and community.



QUOTES:

A student/teacher interaction:

Student: "Are you going to the office?"

Ms Barrow: "No I am going to the toilet."

Student: "Yeah! That's the office!"

"Speaking of goats, I fell off a stool at Homebush pub and broke my arm!"

"I reckon I could smash a four ex."

"Mum and Heather are gasbagging"



BOOK CLUB ORDERS CAN BE DONE via LOOP ONLINE ORDERING:

<https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/Parent/BrowseCatalogue.aspx>

DROUGHT COMMUNITY GRANTS – OPEN NOW

Council wishes to advise Community Groups that applications through Drought Community Grants are still available.

Funding is available to upgrade community halls and facilities such as shade shelters, children's playgrounds and for repairs and maintenance on built assets.

<http://www.balranald.nsw.gov.au/uncategorized/drought-community-grants-now-available/>

Apply by 11 June 2020

National Simultaneous Storytime 2020

Wednesday, 27 May as part of
Library and Information Week
11am





Balranald Branch

Balranald ICPA invites members and the community to participate in the following 2 free workshops via zoom
These workshops will be facilitated by author & journalist, Stephanie Dale, from The



Write Road. Our thanks to the Highways & Byways program for funding this event:

www.highwaysandbyways.org.au

Workshop 1: 11th June 10 am Community Connect 2.5hrs

Learn how to:

- * use Zoom and social media in a relaxed, engaging atmosphere
- * learn how to build online communities in fun and friendly ways.

This workshop includes:

- * Zoom basics - how to both participate in and facilitate Zoom meetings
- * simple tips, tools and tricks for making the most of Facebook in a short space of time, engaging social media and safety with our children and online media

Note: these workshops are suitable for beginners as well as more experienced social media users - advanced users will learn to short cut your time on Facebook and gain facilitation insights, it's worth your while!

2.5 hours

Workshop 2: 18th June 10 am Creative journaling and zoom recap

Creative Journaling: everyday writing for everyday wellbeing

Writing is a powerful tool for navigating challenging times.

This workshop will lead you through journaling basics for problem solving and making peace with challenging situations.

(This workshop will include a Zoom recap.)

2 hours

Stephanie has countless hours of experience working with zoom and helping others connect to their creativity through writing. Due to the overwhelming challenges we're facing today, exploring education to expand online is the next best step forward.

THE WRITE ROAD

The Write Road is an award-winning writing & communications initiative that has been delivering workshops & training around the far west since 2014. The Write Road specialises in writing for wellbeing.

To register to attend these workshops please either email your name and which workshop (you can attend both) to

balranaldicpa@gmail.com

Or phone: 0350206765

RSVP 1st June