

Clare Connection

STUDENT NEWS FROM CLARE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Term 3 Week 3

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From the Principal's Desk...

It's wonderful to be back.

The kids have settled in smoothly and we are having a great time learning, laughing and loving school.

I have given all parents a copy of the term 3 planner and we have been able to organise some fun activities that we are able to do on site with the current COVID19 restrictions in place.

Last Friday, the kids surprised me with purple day because as we all know I just loooooovvvvee the colour purple (please see my face in photos for confirmation!) NOT!! Everyone, was dressed in purple and there was even purple food!! Kathleen made cupcakes that were entirely purple all the way through and Carla's were just as offensively purple but they were both equally delicious.

I must say, even with my complete loathing of purple the staff and students had fun stirring me up.

Next week, the students will participate in some interesting and colourful science experiments. More to come in the next newsletter on that.

Bevan has been hard at work, and the new entry way is well underway. We have decided to purchase a new gate, it will be a swimming pool gate and will add an extra safety element as it will be childproof.

I'm very happy to say that work has finally started on the new toilet block. The contractors have dug and set the footings and assured me they will return in a few weeks to continue.

In light of the emerging COVID19 situation in Victoria, please understand that whilst this doesn't affect the majority of families here at Clare, it has had a significant impact on some of our staff. This unfortunately, may lead to reduced hours on site for those staff members over weeks and months which may ultimately mean notes, newsletters, and Facebook updates may be impacted. However, every effort will be made to ensure students are not impacted and learning will continue as normal.

Have a great week,

Sarah



German:

Why learn another language? Learning a second language is a difficult activity, and so stimulates brain function and cognitive development, including better memory and listening skills, that are of benefit in all aspects of their lives. Some other benefits are the development of an awareness of the similarities and differences between languages, and insights into another culture. In years to come your child might venture outside Australia and travel to one of the many German speaking countries. I would hope they would take with them some knowledge acquired from their early years at Clare Public School.

When teaching German, I try to create a fun learning environment where students can enjoy themselves and be confident in their knowledge. Part of this is singing in German and you have all seen some wonderful solo singing performances recently from the students. Isn't it wonderful how they present themselves and their knowledge with confidence!

Next week is Education week and the students and myself will be seeking to capture some unique perspectives of our school, through photos, that we will be using to enter a photo story competition. The theme is 'Rural and remote schools are great places to be. (#lookingthroughourwindow)'. I look forward to highlighting some of the great things about our school with our students and we will keep you posted with some of our photos in future newsletters.



Kindy students are learning French Knitting! Senior Students are learning to knit with needles.



Painting “Winter in Germany” Winter in Deutschland. This is the beginning of a work in progress!

Pattersons Page:

Patterson's Page

Well it's been a while since there was a Patterson's Preamble (or Dougie's dialogue – call it what you like!) in the newsletter. I'll try to be a more regular contributor from now on.

We're off to a great start to the term so far. Being such resilient and flexible Vegemites, our kids have embraced the change in staffing admirably and have got straight into their learning with recharged batteries and huge smiles.

In Kindy InitialLit we are flying ahead with our new letters and handwriting. Well done to all students, especially Edie and London on their fast, accurate reading of all the tricky words. The best part about the program at this time of year is that Kindergarten children begin to write sentences independently and these kids are no exception! They write many simple sentences now and are now moving ahead in leaps and bounds.

In Mathematics, all our children are on task. So far in term 3 we have practised measuring length at differing levels and can now estimate and measure the surface area of objects using informal units. This week we are focusing on multiplicative strategies and I need to give a special shout-out to Michael whose live-wire brain makes the connections between equal grouping and repeated additions like a human computer, often without using counters. Meanwhile Cate's counter-calculations are getting faster and faster!

Kindy have been using BlueBots and counters in Maths to show results of their quick calculations whilst improving their coding skills at the same time. The robots are a great way to reinforce learning in all learning areas.





Boomerangs:

We started making boomerangs last term as a Science/STEM project, with the focus on the designing and making processes. Our goal has been to change the aerodynamics of what are basically flat pieces of plywood in order to make something that will fly and hopefully come back one day.

All I can say is folk from Clare are nothing short of amazing! So far both Jack and Michael have got their boomerangs to return and all the girls are almost there. On Tuesday afternoon Jo Griffiths (after only 2 practice throws) also got hers to come back. Well done!

We will keep refining the boomerangs (with lots of sanding) this term until they all come back. We have done well considering our timber was lightweight plywood packing material kindly given to us free by the guys at Balranald hardware - thanks guys. Imagine how great our new boomerangs will be when we buy some thicker and stronger plywood shortly!



History:

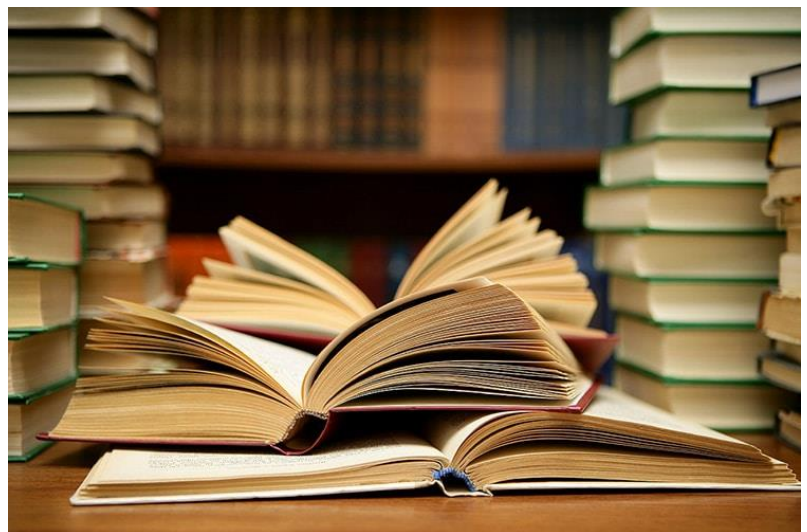
In History, the students have been learning about the past from the unit Now and Then. We have been learning about all the different ways we can find out about the past. One of those, is looking at old photographs, so we took some photos of the students and used the sepia filter to make them look old.





Education
Public Schools

Library News: Everyone is welcome to borrow books from our library, we have a great selection of books, especially for younger children so please feel free to borrow. **Please also remember to return books as we understand how easily they can get mixed up at home, we greatly appreciate timely returns thank you!**



Maths:

Last week students looked at the area of different items in the classroom and around the school.

One of the fun hands on activities the students did was drawing their hands and then working out the area of their hands using counters. Guess who has the biggest area? That would be Michael!

This week, our focus has been multiplication and division and the students were involved in fantastic activity making groups and then using the Beebots to find the answer. It was very impressive to see the students complete this activity and be so engaged with the robotics.



