



Middle Indigo Primary School

NEWSLETTER 20/8/2019

Arts Festival 2019

The students performed at the Regional Performing Arts Festival at Wodonga Senior Secondary College last Tuesday. (That's a mouthful)

We headed into town with many butterflies stirring in little tummies. The bus ride in was one of the quietest I have ever experienced. On arrival, we let the students run around to try to calm their nerves. Eventually we marched into the hall and seated them as they waited for their turn. Billy and Charity had arrived earlier and had set up the stage and the instruments. Luckily, several other schools got to go first and this calmed our students down a little. Before long though it was Middle Indigo's turn. The students went up the stairs to the back of stage and the little guys set themselves up (noisily). Then the big curtain opened..... and..... silence.....! Billy focused the children on him and off they went. "Alexander Beetle" was belted out and parents took photos. Then before they knew it, they were done. Next, it was the senior students turn.

They set themselves up while the little guys sat at the back of the stage. Again the curtain opened..... And again..... silence! Eventually the big guys 'burst' into song and the performance was underway. I must admit, this was a marathon. There were a number of attempts by the crowd to clap the performance to an end, but our kids just kept going..... and going. They were playing guitars, ukuleles, keyboards and percussion, whilst the rest sang beautifully.



PANIC at the Arts Festival!

Well done to the students and a big thank you to Charity and Billy. Our performance did not rely on backing tracks or drum beats. Our performances were created by our students alone. It is not always great theatre but it was a genuine whole school performance by the students of Middle Indigo.

Premiers reading Challenge

I have been in contact with our Premiers Reading Challenge Co-Coordinator (Mrs. J McLean) and she tells me this year is looking a little lean.

This is a call to arms for all students to register the great reading they are doing in school and at home on the Premiers Reading Challenge site.

Students will have a copy of their User name and Password with them tonight. Please put in all books read. It is a great program and one at which we have always excelled.



Power

We now have POWER. Well, we always had power but now we have twice as much power. Friday week ago the students and staff had an outside education day. This was due to the fact that the schools electricity was being upgraded by our trusty electrical crew – Edwards Electrical. The school power supply was limited. It was getting to the point where we could not purchase any more electrical devices for the school without going over our limit. Therefore, we have spent the last few months negotiating and wrangling various entities about the job.

Suffice to say nothing much would have happened without the help of Craig and his team at Edwards Electrical – so a big thankyou to you.

(Cheque's in the mail)

MIDDLE INDIGO - RURAL LIVING LEARNING AND BEYOND

So..... Where was I?

So the students and staff faced the Friday with no regular power on the coldest morning of the year. We spent the day on a number of projects and jobs. First up was the design for our new cow _ Indigo. Then it was time to clean up the school and to start spreading the topsoil onto the oval to fix the holes that never seem to go away. After this, Ruth and the JSC students put on a BBQ with sausages, coleslaw and a salad. (Mrs Edwards and I enjoyed the salad) Next, the whole school headed out the gate to explore Ironbark lane next to the school. Most students managed to make it to the end of the lane and much fun was had by all, until little feet got tired not far from home.

By the time we returned to school the new power supply was installed and operating and the students took advantage of the classrooms to enjoy a quiet end to the week. A big thankyou to the students for doing a great job in cleaning up and making the school look great.



Ryan and Jess making Waves

Canberra Camp

The senior class is heading to Canberra on the first Wednesday back in term 4 (9th Oct), we are away two nights. We are sharing the bus and facilities with the Wooragee School to keep costs down and it's also a nice thing to do. The bus will depart at 7:35 from MIPS and return on the Friday (11th Oct), at 5:10pm. See attached itinerary.

Attendance

The Department of Education are on the warpath over attendance. Across the state every school is focusing attention to student attendance or lack of. We understand some children may have valid reasons for missing school. Medical issues, personal/family life, other commitments, extracurricular activities. Whether the reasons are valid or not, parents must still be diligent if their children begin to miss school or the chronic absences may ultimately hinder the child's academic progress.

Some simple statistics can paint the picture in a clearer light. For example, if you child misses an average of 4 days a month, then they will miss a whole year of school every five years.

Absenteeism in the first month of school each year can predict poor attendance throughout the school year. Half the students who miss 2-4 days in February go on to miss nearly a month of school. Poor attendance can influence whether children read proficiently by the end of third grade. By 6th grade, chronic absence becomes a leading indicator that a student will drop out of high school. Research shows that missing 10 percent of the school year, or about 18 days in most schools, negatively affects a student's academic performance. That's just two days a month and that's known as chronic absence.

On a positive note when students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances for high school completion.

Simply put, please get your child to school, unless they are sick or have a serious reason not to.

Sorry for the lecture.

A day on the Green (Cricket)

Middle Indigo Senior students have been invited to attend the Cricket fun day at Chiltern Cricket Club on the last day of term three. We attended last year and had a lot of fun. We will depart from school at 9:15 and return before the bus leaves. The students will be able to participate in 5 - 6 matches each and it sounds like a good day for a hat and a kick of the footy as well. Cost is \$4.70 per student. There is a sausage sizzle on the day. Snags \$1.00 each – Yum!

MIDDLE INDIGO - RURAL LIVING LEARNING AND BEYOND

Transition

Prep transition days have been set for next year's preps. Starting from the 13th November through to the mid December.

13th November – 9:00am to 11:30am

20th November – 9:00am to 1:30pm

27th November – 9:00am to 1:30pm

4th December – 9:00am to 3:15 (full day)

10th December – 9:00am to 3:15 (full day)

New students will have a buddy for each session to help them navigate the first days of school.

The Trailer

"What," I hear you say? Yes, Middle indigo has a BBQ Trailer. We have had it sitting in the Community Shed for the past few years. It is registered and ready to help out if you need a fully equipped BBQ trailer for your next community\family event in the valley.

A big thankyou to Mick and Shelley Savage for taking care of the paperwork over the past few years and especially to Mick who went and got the roadworthy (He even shaved! And got to the Vic Roads 20 minutes early – that threw them I bet?)

Yack Orchestra Visit

The senior class is off to see and participate in a workshop with the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra this Friday. The students will work with some members of the orchestra to learn a song or two and some other orchestra type things. More information in the next newsletter.

Dates to remember

9 September 3 – 6 Wooragee visit

6th September Orchestra excursion to Yack

20th September Cricket day Chiltern Cricket Club

20th September 2:30 finish End of term

7th October Day one of fourth term

9th October Canberra Camp day one

11th October Return from the Swamp



Tai Chi???



Fence Sitters



Lift Off for Cooper