Wow! What a wonderful year we have had in the Junior School! We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of the Junior School children for their superb behaviour throughout the year. We will miss spending every day with them and wish them all the best for 2017.

**Numeracy in the Junior School**

This term the students have loved learning about time and data. They have made analogue clocks in class and used these to tell the time then matched these with times on digital clocks. During our unit on data the students thoroughly enjoyed gathering data by recording tally marks and then representing this on bar graphs and, in some cases, even pie graphs.

**Do Daily**

Easy math games using packs of cards and dice provide opportunities for students to build counting, place value and addition skills during our numeracy Do Daily sessions. Students enjoy playing with a partner or in small groups. Your child should be able to tell you how to play some simple games. These games could be a family activity during the holidays at home or while travelling. Numbers are everywhere!

**Literacy In the Junior School**

This year the Junior School children have been working very hard in Literacy. Our Daily 5 sessions have covered a wide range of skills in reading and writing and the children have been very focused on their individual goals during conferencing.

Weekly Writer’s Workshop sessions have revolved around a variety of genres, including Narrative, Procedural, Explanation, Recount and Exposition. The children have had the opportunity to work on writing a piece of text from the initial planning stage all the way through to publishing. They have enjoyed having these works on display and presenting to the class and the school community their abilities as real published authors!

In support of this has been our Big Write and VCOP program. Again, the children have been able to set themselves realistic goals for their writing. This success would not have been possible without your support at home every second Wednesday night by encouraging discussion around the Talk homework. We realise how busy after school can be for some families and appreciate you making time to work together with your child and us to help them achieve their full potential.

The same can be said for your support of our home reading. By reading every night the children have improved their comprehension, accuracy, fluency and expression and their vocab knowledge has been extended. (That’s the CAFÉ that you have all been hearing so much about).

So as the holidays draw near, remember even though our school library is now closed you can still borrow from your local library. What better way to relax over the holidays than to read a good book. Even if it is a picture book that your child has already read 50 times!
Senior Sub School Newsletter

December 2016

Science - Watch It Grow

We are all eagerly awaiting the emergence of our beetles. It has been a slow process to watch the meal worm pupae develop. We have had to find a constant source of moisture for the animals. Many students have shared their apples or cores with mealworms. We have had to keep their homes clean by removing pieces of fruit before they get mouldy.

Integrated Studies

Students are working on how we communicate with the places we are connected to. They have discussed how people were able to make connections in the past. Students created their own sketches to show their understandings.

End of Year Christmas Carols

It’s almost time for our end of year Christmas celebrations and the students have been hard at work practising their songs. We ask that your children practise their lyrics to their chosen song at home so they are confident on the day. We would also like to ask that they wear Christmas clothing on the day and some classes require song specific costumes:

Jeanes – Sunglasses and rock star stuff such as lighting bolts and crazy hair
Foley – Sparkly Christmas head wear/Santa Hats
Stokes/Munn – Wear sunglasses
Harkins – Bells on the wrists and Christmas headwear
Lowe—Christmas costumes

As this is our last Sub School newsletter we want wish all of the Junior School students, families and friends a safe and happy holiday.

We will miss Michaela Jeanes next year as she heads to Balnarring Primary School. She has been an amazing teacher and Sub School Manager and she will be very much missed by everyone!

We also say good-bye to Emily Harkins and Laura Munn and wish them well. It has been great having them as part of the team for this year.

A thought for the holidays...

"Let us raise children to be considerate of themselves, others and the world in which they live, with sound reasons for the things they say and do... from this, all else will follow."  Wilson McCaskill

Jenny Stokes, Laura Munn, Emily Foley, Emily Harkins, Michaela Jeanes and Angelique Lowe