Welcome Back
What a great start to the year. We have been through two weeks of setting the right working climate and are well on our way into our curriculum. We have two Level 3 classes, a composite Level 3/4 and two Level 4 classes this year.

Writing:
We have started the year focusing on Narratives and are moving into Exposition writing this week. The students have reviewed Narrative structure and had the opportunity to deconstruct a story into a story mountain. They used this knowledge to create their own story plan for their first BIG WRITE of the year! They each wrote a small story about ‘The Day My Socks Came Alive’.

Daily 5:
We’ve spent the first few weeks implementing our Daily 5 structure and the students have started their rotations. They are enjoying the five rotations of Listen to Reading, Read to Someone, Read to Self, Work on Writing and Word Work. Please remember to make sure they bring their books to school.

Mathematics
We’ve started the year with place value to ensure all the students can read and understand the value of larger numbers. We’ve been working on hands on activities to build their knowledge up and are slowly transitioning to symbols and work with addition and regrouping numbers.

Play Is The Way
Play is the Way in action through games (using good manners, participating to progress, persistence, resilience, friendliness, courage):

The Middle School have been busy incorporating Play is the Way games in their class program at least three times per week. Through the multitude of games played, students are learning to build their awareness of others, both socially and emotionally. Our key focus has been on creating a safe community within the classroom and the school. Many posters have been created through classroom Circle Time discussions that are centred around the Golden Rule, ‘Treat others as you would like them to treat you.’

Establishing routines, processes and responsibilities in the classroom as part of ‘Setting the Climate’ has enabled us to be organised and accountable for our behaviour. Understanding our Rights at school and our individual right to safety, to be treated with respect and to learn, has helped us to develop safer classrooms and will ultimately help us to develop safer playgrounds and communities.
Life Ed - Harold’s Diary

Over the last couple of weeks Level 3 and 4 visited the amazing Life Education Van. We learnt about bullying and what to do when someone is being bullied. We know that being a bystander is just helping a bully. We talked about cyber-bullying. Cyber-bullying is when people get bullied on electrical devices. We learnt a little about our body parts and what the body parts do. We know that smoke damages our lungs. Harold even made us laugh!

By students in 3B

Gardening

4B has had the opportunity to work in the garden this term and learn about how plants grow. After a lesson, they go and work in different teams. They weed, water, work on compost and pick the garden. They enjoyed their Thursday visit from Robyn who volunteers in our School Garden.

Paula Baker, Kenny Horn, Donna Tesone, Amanda Johannsen and Di Schmidt