August 2016

**Dates to remember:**

- **Monday 8th August**
  - Responsible Pet Ownership incursion
- **Monday 15th August**
  - Pupil-free Day
- **Monday 22nd to Friday 26th August**
  - Book Week
- **Monday 22nd August**
  - Foundation PITW assembly performance
- **Wednesday 24th August**
  - Royal Botanical Gardens Cranbourne Excursion

**Students planting their seedlings for Science.**

**Daily 5: Launching the new CAFÉ menu**
This week we are excited to be moving from the emergent CAFÉ reading strategy menu to the standard CAFÉ menu that is used throughout the school. This menu contains more complex comprehension, accuracy, fluency and expanding vocab strategies.

**CAFÉ Focus Strategy: Cross Checking**
Students have been introduced to the accuracy strategy of **cross checking**. It is important to slow readers down when they come to a word they don’t know and teach them to apply the strategy of cross checking so they are able to fix the meaning and not just skip the word. Cross checking requires a person to constantly think and monitor meaning. It is a strategy for ensuring the words and pictures read make sense and match the letters on a page.

**Writing Focus: Sentence Structure and Punctuation**
A large focus of our writing has been on developing basic sentence structure—writing a short passage using a capital letter at the start, spaces between words and a full stop at the end. The students have been enjoying using their ‘Minion spacer’ to assist with their writing and have been further practising their writing skills in consolidation time.

**Numeracy Focus: Place Value**
A significant portion of this term will be devoted to our Numeracy unit on Place Value. This is an extension of number sense beyond merely counting, whereby the students must understand that 78 for example, is made up of 7 tens and 8 ones, rather than simply the number that comes after 77. The students will utilise manipulatives, such as tens frames, icy pole stick bundles and ‘unifix’ blocks to assist in building this understanding.

**Science: Growing Well**
As part of our Science topic this semester, the Foundation students will be learning about what living things need to survive. They experimented by planting seedlings using a variety of variables including no water, no soil and no light to see what happened. The students gained experience making predictions, observations and writing their own procedures and results.

**Integrated: My Family History**
Our Integrated unit focuses on exploring the students’ family histories and the idea that all families are different. Together with their peers, they will use photographs to piece together a Biography about their lives so far, including important events that make them special. We will also explore family traditions and how different cultures celebrate in many different ways. So please remember to bring in your annotated family photos ASAP.
100 Days of School

It was such a fantastic day and the kids had a wonderful time – we hope they have fond memories of this day. If you would like to see some of our 100 day activities, please feel free to come and check out the display in the Foundation building hallway.

Dates to remember:

Sunday 28th August
- School Working Bee 9am

Friday 9th September
- CHPS Art Show

Students planting their seedlings for Science.