Principal Address: Swimming Lessons

Our first swimming lesson ran very well and students did a great job. This will lead towards the Small Schools Swimming Carnival at the end of the year in Barcaldine. Students participated well and showed a great deal of enthusiasm in the water but also followed all directions by the teachers from Windorah, Jundah and Stonehenge. Students are reminded that as swimming continues they will need to continue to bring togs, a towel, a change of clothes, goggles and sunscreen for swimming sessions.

Staffing 2016

Stonehenge State School will welcome back Ms Sandra McCarthy next year after her time at Aramac. Ms McCarthy has built a wonderful school at Stonehenge that I have been privileged to be a part of. I have been grateful for the opportunity and wish Ms McCarthy luck next year.

Power

Stonehenge State School students have shown their determination to learn. Yesterday, due to storms in the area, the school and the town was left without power. This led to a warm classroom and students had no access to computers and Internet which they use regularly to enhance their learning. They thrived in the environment and followed Ms McColl’s instructions beautifully. They had a wonderful science lesson outside with a range of hands on materials. Well done to all students for making every day count.

READING CORNER

At our school, students who show excellent behaviour surrounding our three core values – Be Responsible, Be Safe and Be Respectful – are awarded a certificate at the end of the week but are also awarded a choice from our prize box. In our prize box is a selection of books for students to read.

UPCOMING EVENTS

13/11 – Swimming Lesson – Jundah
20/11 – Swimming Lesson – Jundah
24-25/11 – Swim Camp – Jundah
1/12 – Small Schools Swimming Carnival – Barcaldine
4/12 – Final Day of Term 4
5/12 – Stonehenge Christmas Tree
Jarrod and Harry have been very excited by this as they have picked up some the 13 Storey Treehouse books by Andy Griffiths. These are great stories that are fun and entertaining for kids.

It is wonderful for students and staff to attend a school where students are excited to read.

**WRITERS BLOCK**

Meat and bones.

Recently in the classroom we have been discussing how to develop a persuasive argument. To help with this, we have been talking about the meat and bones of persuasion. Everyone has an opinion but to convince someone else of an opinion, it must be developed. This is where the bones come in. The bones are what supports your opinions. The bones are what holds everything together. The bones are the reasons to justify your opinion. The meat is needed to make the bones stronger. They tell the audience why the bones are relevant arguments to the topic.

Students have been using these two ideas when writing to convince the audience that children should be allowed to ride motorbikes and why the brain is the most important part of the body. I look forward to their finished products.

**MATH SQUARED**

Working with decimals can be daunting for children. The simple knowledge that 1.5 and 1.50 are the same value can be challenging. As adults this can be clear to understand as we know that adding a zero after a digit in the hundredths or thousandths holds no value until a number with value follows (1.501 for example). For a child, 1.50 looks larger because more digits are present.

In years 3 and 4 we have been working on recognising the larger number when observing two decimals. The process to work this out is no different than if it were a number without decimals.

Begin by looking at the highest placed number. If one number is larger than the other then it is easy to tell. If it is the same, then move down until you reach a difference. Have go at the challenge questions.

**CHALLENGE**

Use <, >, = for the following numbers to work out the targets.

- < means the first number is less than
- > means that the first number is larger
- = means the same as

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3.65  4.65
3.65  3.56
3.65  3.69
3.65  3.65000
36.5  3.65
36.5  365
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Good luck