Classroom Happenings:

**Reading:** Reading is part of the explicit improvement agenda at Stonehenge and daily reading forms part of our literacy block. The students are fluent, confident readers comprehending text above their chronological age which is supported by the NAPLAN results and the scheduled assessment tasks undertaken internally. Reading is everywhere and the more we practice, the better readers we all become.

Included in this newsletter is a list of reading tips for families plus URL’s for two children’s web sites with a reading focus.

**Poetry Unit:** Last week the students in grades 3, 4, & 5 commenced a unit on poetry and over next 5 weeks they will listen to, read and view a range of poetry, songs and anthems from different times. We have begun to investigate the literary devices used by different authors, looking at repetition, onomatopoeia, personification and alliteration.

Thursday we began to analyse Advance Australia Fair, written by Peter McCormick in 1878. Most Australian’s are very familiar with the first verse, others know the second verse as well but few realise that it has a total of five verses. We will include the five verses in the last newsletter this term.

After analysing *On The Ning Nang Nong* Heath and Tahnee used the poem as innovation to write their own poem titled *On The Pree Prow Prat.*

**On The Pree Prow Prat**

*On the Pree Prow Prat*

There’s a very strange cat
And the donkeys all say **SHOO**!

There’s a Prat Prow Pree
Where the cows can see
And the mice all jibber jabber joo
On the Prat Prow Pree
All the birds squawk **COW**!
And you just can’t catch them when they do
So it’s a Pree Prow Prat
Where the cat does a scat
It’s a Prat Prow Pree
Where the cows can see
It’s a Prat Pree Prow
Where the birds squawk cow
What a weird place to scat
Is the Pree Prow Pree Prow Prat

*By Tahnee (Yr4)*

On the Ning Nang Nong

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2012 SCHOOL TERM DATES

**Term 3**


**Term 4**


DATES TO REMEMBER

- Sir Wally Rae Athletics Carnival Isisford 24th August
- Yaraka Campdraft 25th & 26th August
- Injury Free Day 19th October

P & C Association

The Parents & Citizens will hold their September meeting next week. The date will be advertised on school notice board and emailed to members. A working bee will be held on Saturday/Sunday 1st & 2nd September. Please contact school if you are able to come along for an hour or two.
Reading Tips for Families

Do you wonder how to get your child to read more and watch television less? Parents can help their children learn to love reading at home. Promoting literacy doesn’t mean you must be a trained teacher or replicate the schoolroom at home. Parents instead should take advantage of ‘real life’ opportunities to share reading with their children.

Here are some helpful suggestions:

- Establish a daily “Drop Everything and Read” time for your family when the television is turned off and everyone reads for 15 minutes. When your DEAR time is over, each family member can briefly summarise what he/she read, talk about a favourite part or share new and interesting facts. Other members of the family can ask questions if they like. Learning to talk about books will improve your child’s reading comprehension.

- Show your child that reading is fun! Laugh out loud, make comments and share what you read.

- Buy books on tape and listen to them in the car together. Better still turn off the television and listen to them together as a family.

- Give a gift subscription to a magazine that holds lots of interest; one that your child wants to read cover to cover.

- Take your child to the bookstore to look at books about their favourite topics. Make a list of books you and your child would like to read.

- Create your own mini-library at home with your family’s favourite books.

- Celebrate reading! Give your child a book to celebrate a birthday or special occasion.

- Reward your child with a book. Provide your child with a reliable home dictionary and thesaurus. Encourage children to look up words that puzzle or interest them.

URL’s for children with a reading focus

http://kids.mystery.com/ Provides mystery stories for kids to read, problems for them to solve and writing contests they may enter.

http://netrover.com/~kingskid/108.html Netrover provides an educational activity centre for kids. Kids can write and animate their own story and then read theirs and others online. This site contains games, songs and art.
Hairy Maclary's show business.

I like Hairy Maclary's show business because it is funny. Hairy is my hero. This book makes me happy.

by Chloe

Mr. McGee
does it sea.

I like Mr. McGee because he is wise. This book makes me oyster.

by Brodie