We have certainly launched into Term 3 with gusto!

5/6 Raptores are camping at Hamilton Downs Youth camp grounds with Ms Barnes, Ms Gilbert, Mr Adami, Mr Dougherty, Ms Wharton, Ms Wilson and Miss Brown and parent volunteers. I am sure they will all be toasty warm in their sleeping bags and swags judging by the size of each swag that was packed into the coach bus AND trailer yesterday!

Camps are special opportunities for students to continue developing positive relationships with their peers and learn about the local area as they engage in unique and challenging outdoor activities such as long hikes, circuit challenges, orienteering/scavenger hunts and design and creative activities using natural resources. More often than not, these are experiences that our students acknowledge as a school highlight at their primary school graduation event and remember for many years to come. The success of such events is based on careful planning, great team work between school staff members, support of parents both the financial contributions and generosity of time and, of course, the attitude and engagement of the students who attend. I look forward to visiting them tonight and will share some photos on Facebook on my return.

MOTHERS DAY GIFT MAKING

A fabulous buzz can be felt throughout the classrooms this week as students create special gifts for their mum/s with the guidance of classroom teachers. There is even a greater BUZZ at lunch times when the Eco-Rangers and SRC members lead simple workshops to make additional gifts to surprise mums and expectant mums judging by the size of each swag that was packed into the coach bus AND trailer yesterday!

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NAPLAN

It’s a huge week for all staff and students next week as we participate in NAPLAN. Ms Spring and Mr Middleton have been working very closely with all teachers and support staff in preparing for our inaugural participation in the online testing system. Teachers have undergone specific training to administer each test with integrity and support has been provided for any technical issues that may arise. Students have had opportunities to access the practice test to gain more familiarity with the mode of the test and to become more confident with the testing processes. I have been very impressed with their approach, applying themselves honestly to the tasks and sharing their feedback about what worked well and what they might do next time.

For students and parents, the results from these assessments will help track student progress and allow comparisons of performance against national benchmarks. Teachers can use the results to confirm students needing additional support and students achieving exceptionally well and as a school we can examine the teaching and learning programs to celebrate our areas of strength and to set clear improvement goals.

EISTEDDFOD

As you may be aware the Centralian Eisteddfod will be held between 19th-28th May. All junior school classes, both school choirs and about 100 senior primary school students have entered various events. There are students who are participating as soloists, duets, trios and small groups in the performance and dance sections. If you are collecting your child from school to participate in the event please remember to sign out and in at the front office. This is a health and safety procedure that helps us to identify a child’s whereabouts at all times.

SUZI BURGESS Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Junior assembly tomorrow Friday 10th May @ 8.40am (Hosts: T Dawson and T Harper)
- NAPLAN 14-24 May
- Walk Safely to School Day Friday 17th May
- Sports Day 24th May
- Interschool Athletics Friday 31st May

YOGA!

Mrs Dawson’s Transition class practises Yoga daily. The stretching and movement prepares the students for their hard working day!
SPORTS DAY
Our annual Sports Day is scheduled for Friday 24th May. Volunteers are needed to help with setting up and packing up (names to the school office please). Our canteen will offer a special Meal Deal (roast pork and gravy roll, with drink and icypole, for $7.00) and coffee/hot chocolate for adults will also be available.

More information to come!

Rosco’s Canteen
special next week: chicken and veg pasta bake—$5

WELL DONE!
Joe, Miles and Seamus from Mr Mathew’s Year 3/4 class collected an enormous lot of rubbish and disposed of it properly—thank you boys!

FAVOURITE THINGS!
Students from Transition Venske have been looking at rhymes in books and songs. They then came up with their own version of the ‘My Favourite Things’ song:

Firemen who rescue and tricks in a circus
Playing in my bedroom and unicorns and horses
Snuggling with mummy and going on swings
These are a few of my favourite things

When the dog bites, when the bee stings, when I’m feeling sad,
I simply remember my favourite things and then I don’t feel so bad.

Backflips and frontflips and handstands and cartwheels,
Playing with my teddies, eating cakes for main meals,
Going on walks, on seesaws and trampolines
These are a few of my favourite things!

EARN AND LEARN
Until 25th June, our school will be participating in the Woolworths Earn and Learn program. Please collect the stickers from the local supermarket and either pop them in the box there or bring them to school. Thanks for your support!

EISTEDDFOD PRACTICE
Mrs Alison Pyper is volunteering her time to help our students with Prepared Reading. Thanks Alison!

THANKS!
Our Mothers Day raffle raised over $1600.00, which will be put towards playground improvements. Thanks to all our donors: Trusty Glass, Heaslip family, Bronwyn Crowe and the Trull family and congratulations to our winners (all Ross Park families): Budrikis, Cortez and Russ families. Thanks also to our school community for supporting the raffle.

IT’S A SURPRISE!
What were these students making for their mums at lunchtimes this week?

Happy Mothers Day to all our mums!

TEACHING IN THE TERRITORY EXCELLENCE AWARDS are an opportunity for exceptional educators and support staff to be acknowledged and recognised. Nominations can be submitted by any member of our school community. For more information, please go to education.nt.gov.au and search Teaching in the Territory Excellence Awards. Awards will be presented on World Teachers’ Day on Friday, 25th October.

Book Club
Please send completed orders to the school by Friday 10th May.