



Weetangera School

Successful Learning Through Caring and Sharing



ACT
Government
Education

Weetangera School is an
ANAPHYLAXIS AWARE SCHOOL
Avoiding eggs and all nuts

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Julia Ison and I am the new executive teacher for the preschool to Year 2 team. I am also teaching in Year 5 on Thursdays and Fridays. I have already met many children and their families over the last couple of weeks and would like to thank you all for the warm welcome that I have received. I feel very fortunate to be given the opportunity to join such a friendly and supportive community and to work with such knowledgeable and dedicated staff. I look forward to getting to know all of the children and their families as the term progresses.

Writing focus

This year the staff at Weetangera School have been working together to implement a balanced writing program that improves the writing outcomes of all students.

In January, all staff attended a workshop presented by renowned expert literacy educators and authors, Sheena Cameron and Louise Dempsey. Sheena and Louise thrilled us with a range of ways to engage children in quality writing experiences. We learnt more about the writing process and how to successfully implement a balanced writing program. A balanced writing program allows students to take new learning to an independent level. Initially teachers will provide a high level of support by modelling a new concept to the students. The students then have the opportunity to contribute their thinking in a supported, shared learning environment before trying the new learning independently, with teacher support as required. This approach supports all students to achieve success in their writing.

After attending the workshop, staff evaluated their current writing practice and worked together to develop an agreed set of beliefs around writing.

Writing Beliefs at Weetangera School We believe:

- All students have the capacity to learn to write
- Students need to write for authentic purposes and audiences
- Writing needs to be explicitly taught and modelled

These writing beliefs shape how we teach writing. As well-known literacy author Debbie Miller states:

'Success in the classroom depends less on which beliefs we hold and more on simply having a set of beliefs that guide us in our day-to-day work with children. Once we know who we are and what we're about in the classroom, we become intentional in our teaching; we do what we do on purpose, with good reason. Intentional teachers are thoughtful, reflective people who are conscious of the decisions they make and the actions they take; they live

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Parent Reps. Yvonne Gray 0414817680; Alex Nockels 0414914006; Janine O'Keefe 0411286853; **Community Rep.** Tomasi Wainigolo; **Principal** - James Barnett 62057488; **Teacher Reps.** - Isabel Dunn and Erwin McRae

Newsletter No. 13

11 May 2017

Term 2 Week 3

COMMUNITY DIARY

Inclusions may be added in the diary at the front office.

May

- 8-12 NAPLAN
- 12 Mother's Day Stall
- 29 Board Meeting 5:45pm
- 31 Athletics Carnival

June

- 6 P&C Meeting 7pm Staff Room



ASSEMBLIES - 9:15am

Friday 12 May

Junior Assembly

Hosted by Kindergarten

Friday 19 May

Whole Senior School

Hosted by Year 4



ANNOUNCEMENT

Our canteen has a new phone number

62071476

Weetangera School
Southwell Street
Weetangera ACT 2614

Telephone: 6205 7488
Fax: 6205 7487
Canteen: 6207 1476

Please read our web site:
weetangeraps.act.edu.au

and teach by the principles and practices they value and believe in.'

D.Miller, (2013)

We look forward to sharing more about the school's writing journey as the year progresses.

NAPLAN and End of Term Reporting

Congratulations to all of our Year 3 and 5 students who participated in the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing that occurred this week. All students worked diligently and strived to achieve their best, you should be proud of your efforts.

Later this term all Weetangera students and families will receive detailed reports on all learning areas with comments on strengths and areas to support each student's learning. Following the report, three way interviews will be held early in Term 3.

Mother's Day

We would like to wish all of the Weetangera School mothers a very happy Mother's Day. Why not spoil mum with a gift from our Mother's Day stall. This will be open on Friday, with classes timetabled to visit throughout the day.

Kind Regards,

Julia Ison

AWARDS CERTIFICATES

At last week's Whole School Assembly certificates were awarded for:

Communication: Elijah S.

Creativity: Lara M, Grace Q-N, Freya M.

Collaboration: Freya M, Olivia M, Tyler J, Dominique D, Sidu N, Amy S, Abigail B.

Critical Thinking: Nathan W, Max L, Luca S.

MOTHER'S DAY STALL TOMORROW

The P&C has put together a lovely selection of gifts between \$3 and \$5 for your children to purchase and surprise you with on the big day. We look forward to seeing your children there. If you are available to help out on the day please contact Melissa Lee on 0401 256 107.

LUNCHTIME RIDING GROUP

We have commenced a lunchtime riding group with the senior students. This four week program will be held every Friday at lunch and involve the students in activities to do with safe cycling and bike handling skills as well as a ride off the school grounds on the final day. We had over 40 Year 5 and 6 students nominate to take part in the program. As we can only accommodate 15 students in each group we will repeat the program during the year and all students

who expressed interest will be able to participate. We are looking forward to starting this program and using the bikes provided to our school as part of the Ride or Walk to School Program.

Erwin McRae

SCHOOL BANKING

The Commonwealth Bank has just released the CommBank Youth app from the App Store. If you download this app and log on with your child's NetBank Client number and password you can *Check the balance *View transaction history* Track the number of Dollarmite tokens and *Create a list of chores your child can do for their pocket money. Check it out today!

This term's rewards include Cyber handball, Colour Changing Markers, 3D Chalk Set and a Tablet Case. Redeem your ten tokens to receive a reward and remember **Banking is Every Friday!!**

JAMES HIRD CUP: YEAR 5/6 GIRLS

The Year 5/6 Girls AFL team travelled to Reid to compete in the James Hird Cup. The team consisted of Year 6 students Molly, Jaime and Zoe, and Year 5 students Ava, Dominique, Isabella, Jessica, Lucy, Maddie, Millie, Miriam and Olwyn. The girls played four games for the day in a round robin format with the following results.

Weetangera 2.2.14

Harrison 1.3.9

Goals: Millie 1 Jessica 1

Weetangera 0.1.1

Radford 1.7.13

Weetangera 7.6.48

Amaroo 0.3.3

Goals: Miriam 3, Millie 2, Jessica 1, Maddie 1

In the play-off for third, Weetangera played Sacred Heart.

Weetangera 3.2.20

Sacred Heart 1.1.7

Goals: Maddie 2, Isabella 1

The girls were outstanding representatives of the school with their team spirit, sportsmanship, skill, and determination.

Well done girls.

ACT SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Last week three students - Arawan C, Anna V and Hannah M represented Belconnen at the ACT Swimming Championships at the AIS.

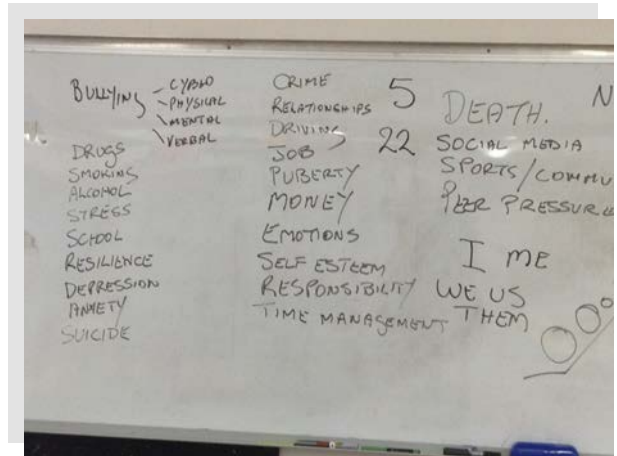
Arawan competed in the 50m freestyle and butterfly, Anna swam in the 50m breaststroke and Hannah raced in the 50m freestyle. All three acquitted themselves well and are commended on their efforts to compete at ACT level. Well done girls and best wishes for your future swimming endeavours.



Spotlighting

Weetangera

Proudly brought to you by Year 5



Together with Constable Kenny Koala, we brainstormed all the things we may have to navigate as we continue to grow up. There were two really important messages he shared with us.

1. Don't let problems snowball. Snowballs are easiest to handle when they are small.
2. The strongest word you have is, 'No'.

Design/Make/Appraise Gold Grabber

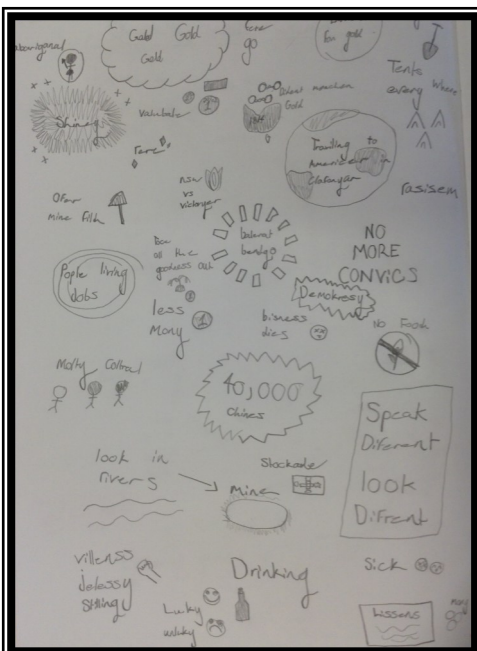
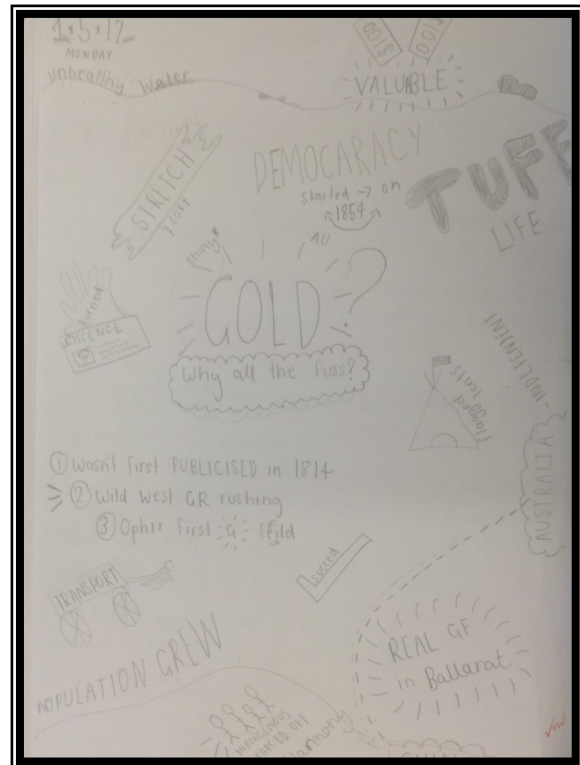
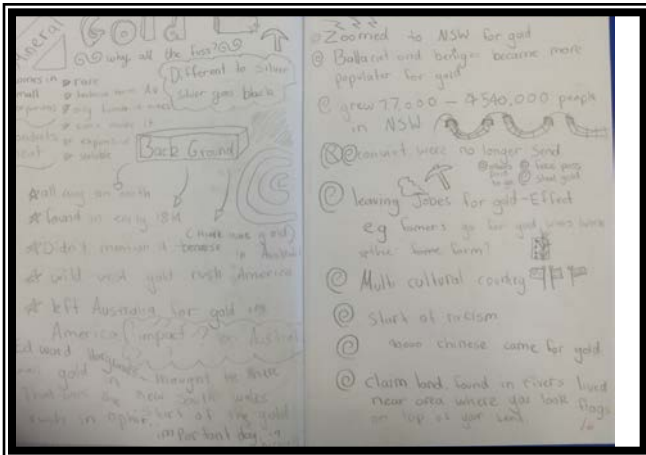
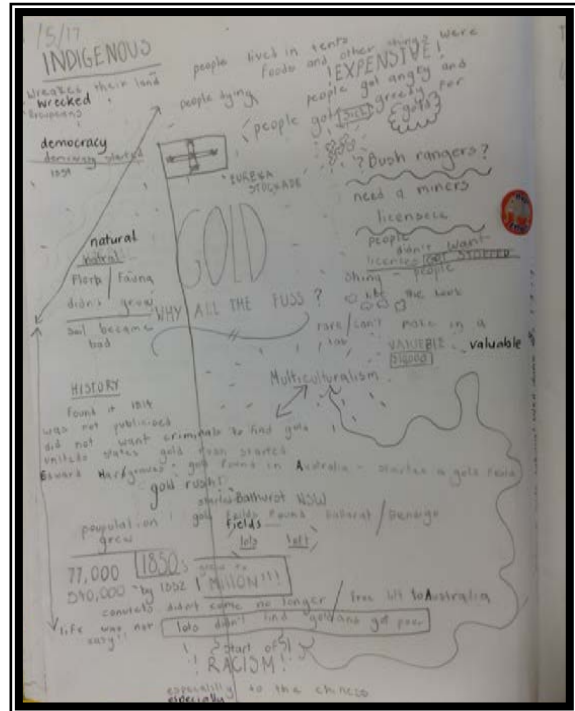
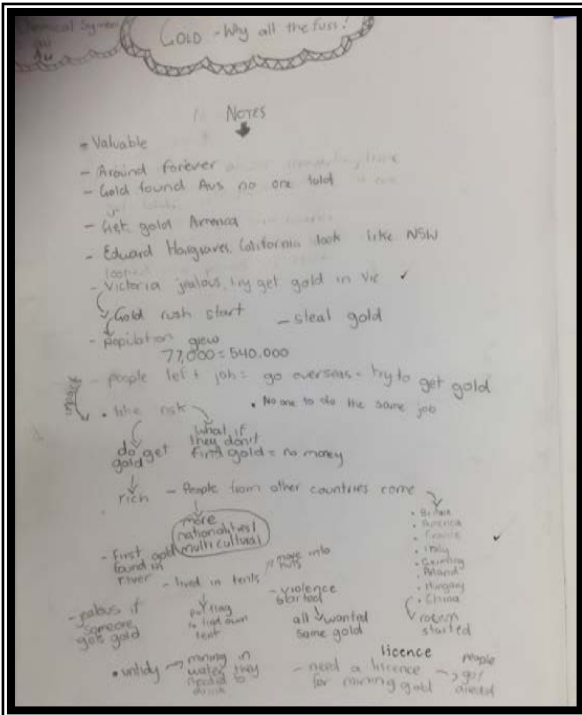
Integrating design technology with our Unit of Inquiry.

Who would be successful in transporting their gold find across the ravine before the bushrangers came?

Learning Intention: Using limited resources and working together to make a device which would meet the design brief.



Note Taking - During Term 1 we considered the key elements for taking notes. Note taking is a personal process. We all achieve the process in different ways. Some of us even like to sketch notes!



Gold What is all the Fuss?