Cluster Cross Country

Last Friday students from Pentland, Ravenswood and Homestead fought it out on the cross country track in our annual cluster event. All students gave it all they had. It was fantastic to see the healthy competition between the schools. Unfortunately, Greenvale couldn’t make it due to weather.

All in all it was a great day of mateship, competition and delicious food, courtesy of the Homestead P&C. A great day was had by all. The overall winner of the day was Ravenswood, however our students gave them a run for their money. Mathew, Chelsea, Althea and Dallas were age champions on the day and there were many other place getters as well. Our students can be extremely proud of the way they represented our school. We are!
Attendance

Congratulations!! Our current attendance rate for term 1 is 95.2%. This is fantastic and we are well on our way to achieving our yearly target of 95%. Keep up the great work students and parents!

Reading

Miss James has been busy testing the students on PM reading this week. Congratulations to all the students on their fantastic improvement! Our reading results are displayed in the classroom on the Reading Data Wall - ‘Reach for the Stars’. All students also received a certificate for their improvement and it will also be communicated to parents via their children’s data book. Keep up the great work!

Kindy Pilot Program

As previously mentioned, Pentland State School is very lucky to be selected to implement a state wide Remote Kindy Pilot Program this year. As of term 2, Pentland State School will be offering Kindy to students turning 4 years old, before June 30th 2016. The program is 15 hours a week in the classroom. If the pilot is successful, this will continue next year. Miss James and I attended a two day conference in Brisbane last week to discuss the legislation and implementation of the program. We are currently advertising for a teacher aide to fill the Kindy position. Please phone the school if you are interested in applying for the job, to request an application package. If you have questions about Kindy or have a child/children that are eligible, please phone the school. We are very excited to be given the opportunity to take part in the pilot program.

Happy Easter

I would like to congratulate the children on another fantastic term at Pentland State School. Have a Happy Easter and enjoy the holidays. School will resume on Monday 11th April, 2016.

Yours in learning,

Laura Peagham
What a short but sweet term we have had! Although short, we have squeezed a lot of school work into this term. The Pentland students have been busy in all key learning areas. Here is a rundown of some things we have been doing in our classroom:

The P-2 students have been learning about 'place' and 'features' in Geography. They have had lots of fun exploring maps, giving directions and studying location. Students have created maps of their bedroom, classroom and school playground. They had to show their understanding of location and direction to accurately represent features in their maps. All students enjoyed sharing their maps with peers.

The 3/4/5 students have been learning how to be a part of a community and how to be an informed citizen in Civics and Citizenship. They have been learning about belonging and being a part of a group within a community, how to ask questions and how elections work. These lifelong skills will no doubt be of benefit to the children when they grow older.

All students have been working nicely together in The Arts learning about culture and how art can be represented differently around the world. The students should be very proud of their efforts in The Arts and we will be sending home their art pieces in the near future.
I wish you all a relaxing and fun Easter break with your family and friends!

Ella James

3/4 Geography

Students in grades 3 and 4 are exploring similarities and differences in environments and places. They will be looking at environments on a local and global scale. Students will identify and describe the natural and human characteristics of these places, as well as how the weather of these places determines the sports and activities done there.

3/4 History

This term grades 3 and 4 students are learning about celebrating and commemorating our history. Grade three students will learn how and why people choose to remember significant events of the past. Grade 4 students will explore why the great journeys of exploration occurred and why Europeans settled in Australia. They will learn and sequence key events relating to the colonization of Australia.
Persuasive Arguments

These persuasive arguments are the childrens ideas and work and were written for fictional and assessment purposes only. They are the students opinions NOT those of Pentland State School staff or the Education Department!

Relocate Those Critters Now!

The flying foxes are annoying the residents of Lorrossa Bay and they are keeping them up all night long. A resident later said, “They’re annoying, loud and I want them off my property now”!

Firstly, flying foxes are a menace to Lorossa Bay. Flying foxes are eating all the fruit and dispersing it all over cars and the roads. A resident later said that he couldn’t even park his car without them leaving their mark. We would have more fruit if they were not here.

Secondly, flying foxes carry a deadly virus called ABL and it can be transmitted to humans. Our people in Larossa Bay do not deserve to get sick off of this virus.

Lastly, flying foxes are damaging our crops and eating the local farmer’s fruit. Those poor farmers are having to buy brand new expensive nets to keep the critters out. Our poor farmers do not deserve to be picking rotten fruit from their crops.

The council has to take action on relocating the critters somewhere else, otherwise I will! Flying foxes should be moved immediately!

Brandon
Grade 5

Children need to get outside more!

Children need to get outside more! There are a few reasons why. Firstly, children don’t get enough exercise; secondly, children will get a better experience of life and lastly, because children will certainly have way more fun.

Children don’t get enough exercise because nearly everyone plays video games all weekend. I think that their mothers should only let them play video games for 15 minutes once a day.

Besides, being outside teaches things to kids. For example, there once was a girl who was the SMARTEST child out of all her classmates. Kids must get outside more because you’ll get a way better education.

Anyway playing outside is SO much fun because you can swim and ride your bike. Why sit around when you’ve got a whole backyard to explore. You definitely need to take my opinion on this because it’s so healthy, plus you can entertain yourself when you’ve got nothing to do.

Children DEFINITELY need to get outside more so why don’t you. Right here! Right now!

Angela
Grade 3
Cities are definitely better than the outback because cities are way more educational and active. In cities there are more facilities for people. Last of all, there are better opportunities for children to go to university and get a great job.

Cities are more educational and active because there are more things to do like swimming, ball games and you can go to museums and libraries. I go to the beach and have so much fun. I run, jump and play with my friends. 11.3% more people are overweight in the outback than in the city. There was a girl who lived in the outback and a girl who lived in the city. They were both eight and in grade 4. The girl in the city got an A+ in maths five times, but the outback girl got a B thirteen times. This proves a city is more educational.

A city has so many awesome facilities that are open twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. In a city there are hospitals, schools, shops, airports and so much more. Not only are they for emergency, they’re so fun. In a city, there is a water park and shops that are for kids and adults. If there’s an emergency, the hospital is right there to help you. If you need to go shopping you don’t have to travel three hours to do a little bit of shopping. That’s why the city is so wonderful.

In the city there is a better opportunity for kids to get a great job and go to university. In Brisbane there are thirty-five universities for children and heaps of jobs like, zoologist, doctor, teacher, pilot or marine biologist. Having a good education means that your children can have the benefit of learning and they could become famous.

That is why the city is way better than the outback because there’s facilities and more opportunities for children to be very active.

Chelsea
Grade 4
Children must play outside more!

Children must play outside more because it’s so fun, it’s healthy and you can make new friends.

Playing outside is better because it’s so fun. It’s fun because you can unleash your imagination and play with your friends. You are so bored and then when you invite your friend over you can pretend you’re anywhere in the world.

Playing outside is so healthy for people. Playing outside is healthy because you get fit and exercise. Children under eight are oversize so they have to play outside to get skinny. You get fit when you play outside.

Playing outside can get you heaps of new friends. When you play outside you make new friends. For example, you’re playing in a team and while you’re playing you make new friends.

Kenyon
Grade 4

Farming is the best job!

Farming is the best job because you can’t be lazy. You do fun things and you can drive cars and trucks.

Farming is the best job because you don’t get time to be inside so you’re not so lazy. You’re always outside doing animals, fencing and bailing. You’re always outside doing something.

Farming is the best job because you can go shooting pigs. When I go out I get to chase pigs and cows. You get to have fun shooting things like pigs and kangaroos.

When you’re on farms, you don’t need a licence because you’re on private property. Once I got to drive an excavator truck and cars. It’s fun to drive cars and machinery.

Everyone must get a farming job so you’re not lazy because you definitely don’t want to be lazy! You can have fun and you can drive vehicles. When you’re older you definitely do not want to fail your test.

Mathew
Grade 4

Pigeon Goes to School!

Pigeon wants to go to school. The pigeon fly’s to school and sees his friends on his way to school. When he gets to school he opens up his lunch box and he sees a hot dog.

Once he picks up his hot dog his friend snatched it of him and took a little bite of it.

Althea says “The pigeon was bad.”

Pigeon says “The hot dog needs cheese.”

The pigeon’s friend says “The hot dog is very yummy.”

The Northern Miner

Althea - Grade 2
Congratulations Joshua and Jkya on your massive improvement in reading. While all students were amazing in their latest reading tests, Josh and Jkya stood out with 5 and 6 level improvements respectively. Excellent effort boys! Well done everyone! We are very proud of you all.

Comics, magazines, library books, signs and even shopping lists can stimulate your child's reading. Asking your child to read these aloud with you will improve their reading in the classroom.

You can help your child with their reading by:

- reading to them from an early age – to let them know that reading is a fun and relaxing activity and not just for work and school. Children love to copy, so it’s a great way to set an example that reading is important
- asking your child to read aloud each day for at least 10 minutes from a variety of texts, such as beginner’s readers, library books and picture books – this will establish a routine and make reading aloud easier
- using expression and feeling when you read and using different voices for different characters – this can make a story more entertaining
- letting your child choose what you read together – it doesn’t matter if you read the same book several times
- joining a library and borrowing books to read is inexpensive. Most libraries will have a children’s librarian – it is a good idea to speak with them about books you can share with your child.

For more tips on helping your child to embrace reading visit: www.education.qld.gov.au/parents/map/
Calendar of Events

- 20th April – Crazy Hair Day
- 22nd April – Cricket Session
- 22nd April – Weekly Soccer Coaching Starts
- 27th April – District Cross Country
- 4th May – TAGYI Car Wash
- 18th May – Chappy Pancake Breakfast
- 19th/20th May – Dance Workshop

SCHOOL RULES

Be Safe
Be Respectful
Be an Active Learner.

24.03.16

Dallas is Awesome. He is a spelling star.
Chelsea is Awesome. She consistently aces her spelling test.
P & C have had a very busy 1st Term! We have been getting very good support from all families with tuckshop and we were very successful with our cake stall on voting day. A Huge Thank You to Deb List, Mechelle Larfield and Chappy Jarvis for helping run the stall and another Huge Thank You to everyone who donated goodies to sell! Movie night last night was a great success. It was great to see so many people attend.

Have a fun Easter break, see you next Term.

Nicola
Today’s Easter Egg Hunt
The Ultimate Act of Compassion

As we come to the Easter period this year, I’d urge you to consider not just the meaning of Easter, but the reason for it as well.

As you probably know, we have a holiday for Easter because it is intended to be a time to remember that Jesus, God’s only son, died on a cross for all the wrongdoing (sin) of every person who ever lived and ever will live. The Christian faith teaches that we can only come before God and have a relationship with Him because of Jesus’ death on the cross and resurrection on the third day. Without Jesus our imperfections keep us from reaching the perfect standard required to approach a pure God.

But, have you considered why God sent His son and why Jesus willingly came and suffered that death on the cross. Last month I wrote about compassion. The reason for God’s actions is because of God’s great compassion for His people. He knew the situation that we were in and because He loves us, He compassionately took action to make a way for us to return to a relationship with Him.

The good book tells us that “Every good and perfect gift is from above...” (James 1:17). When we love another or show compassion to another it is mirroring the love and compassion that God showed us at Easter and continues to show us today.

Have a happy Easter!

Date Claimers

Next Term there will be a number of Chaplaincy events:

Wed 20th April - Crazy Hair Day

Coloured hair spray, hair ties and ribbons, spiked up or slicked back with gel. This is the day for everyone at the school to go wild with their hair.

Wed 4th May - TAGYI Car Wash

When was the last time someone volunteered to wash your car... without expecting something in return? This is the day when we will do just that. Don’t bring your money, just your car.

Wed 18th May - Chappy Pancake Day

Come and have a pancake breakfast with us. Enjoy a pancake breakfast with your favourite toppings and enjoy the company of others in our community.

Notes will go home for these events, but please mark them on your calendar now.
Chocolate Tarts with MaltEaster Bunnies

Ingredients
- 200g plain chocolate biscuits
- 80g butter, melted
- 150g dark chocolate
- 1/4 cup (60ml) cream
- 75g butter, extra, chopped
- 1 Coles Brand Australian Free Range Egg
- 2 Coles Brand Australian Free Range Egg yolks
- 2 tablespoons caster sugar
- 80g Maltesers
- 6 MaltEaster Bunnies

Method
Preheat oven to 180C. Grease six 2cm-deep, 8cm tart pans, with removable bases. Place on a baking tray. Process biscuits in a food processor to make fine crumbs. Add melted butter and process until just combined. Press firmly into base and sides of prepared pans. Place in the fridge to chill.

Combine the chocolate, cream and chopped butter in a medium saucepan over low heat. Stir for 2-3 mins or until the chocolate melts and the mixture is smooth. Using an electric mixer, beat the egg, egg yolks and sugar in a bowl until thick and creamy. Gradually beat in the chocolate mixture until combined. Pour into tart shells.

Bake for 10-12 mins or until filling is just set. Set aside in pans for 30 mins to cool. Place in fridge for 2 hours to chill, or until firm.

Decorate tarts with Maltesers and MaltEaster Bunnies.

Salmon with pea mash and fennel salad

Ingredients
- 500g frozen peas
- 1 small fennel bulb, thinly sliced, fronds reserved
- 1/4 bunch radishes, sliced
- 1 cup celery heart leaves
- 1 small red onion, thinly sliced
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1/3 cup (80ml) extra virgin olive oil
- 4 x 180g salmon fillets

Method
Step 1
Place peas in a bowl and cover with boiling water. Stand for 1 minute, then drain. Set 1 cup (120g) peas aside. Puree the remaining peas in a blender, then transfer to a saucepan over low heat. Season and keep warm.

Step 2
Toss the fennel and reserved fronds, radish, celery leaves, onion and reserved 1 cup (120g) peas in a bowl. Combine the lemon juice and 1/4 cup (60ml) oil in a bowl, then season and toss with the salad. Set aside.

Step 3
Season the salmon with salt. Heat remaining 1 tablespoon oil in a frypan and cook salmon, skin-side down, for 2-3 minutes until crisp. Turn and cook for a further 1 minute. Transfer to a plate and rest, loosely covered with foil, for 2 minutes. Serve salmon with the pea mash and fennel salad.
Q: What do you call a bunny with a large brain?
A: An egghead.

Q: Why shouldn’t you tell an Easter egg a joke?
A: It might crack up!

Q: What do you call a rabbit that tells good jokes?
A: A funny bunny!

Q: Why didn’t the bunny hop?
A: No bunny knows.

Q: How does the Easter Bunny keep his fur neat?
A: With a hare brush!

Q: How does the Easter Bunny dry his fur?
A: With a hare dryer!

Knock Knock
Who’s there?
Some bunny
Some bunny who?
Some bunny has been eating my Easter candy!

Q: What is the Easter Bunny’s favourite dance?
A: The bunny hop!

Q: Why did the Easter Bunny hide?
A: Because he was a little chicken!

Q: Why is the bunny the luckiest animal?
A: Because they have four rabbits feet!
Happy Easter