



MARRA CREEK
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Marra Creek Public School

Newsletter No 3 2010

Term 1 Week 6

Principal's Message

Hello All,

As usual Marra Creek Public School has been a busy place in the last two weeks. The Year 3-6 students have produced some wonderful writing samples using the Reading to Learn method, based on a text from Rowan of Rin by Emily Rodda. After studying and rewriting a passage, the students then develop their own theme for their own writing, drawing on some of the strategies that they have studied. So Emily Rodda's passage where the witch Sheba warns the characters about the dangers of climbing a mountain may be transformed into a warning against travelling across a desert, through a rainforest or in one imaginative transformation, through a flooded creek to rescue sheep.

Now that there are only a few weeks left in the term, we are planning our major end of term art installation based on Rowan of Rin. We will be working hard to produce something stunning. A special thank-you to Leanne, for her assistance with the planning of this project.

Our students in Kindergarten have settled in well and they are making great progress in early reading skills and in learning the routines associated with school. Our K-2 leader, Archie, who is now in Year 1 is also helping them learn about school and is making wonderful progress himself. Thank-you to Kelley and Leanne for helping us make Kindergarten resources. Marra Creek girls and boys are also travelling to Carinda on Fridays to join Carinda Public School for lunch and for swimming lessons. Although it is getting a little cooler, all students benefit from the social opportunities that these sessions offer. Thanks-

you to Sophie and Leanne for transporting the children.

Last week Lincoln and I attended an interesting 2 day workshop in Bourke, which was designed to give us a deeper understanding of how to teach phonics to students in the first three years of school. We were also introduced to many interesting games and strategies which will enrich our classroom. This week I also attended the Regional Principals' Conference in Dubbo where we crammed in a range of interesting workshops over 2 days. I learned about many new technologies that are designed to engage students and break down the effects of isolation. However before we can fully participate in some of these ideas we need to make progress on the installation of broadband at the school. Our latest advice is that Telstra is still examining our situation, and that we should know their proposal before July. We will be following this closely.

Our 'Hayshed' is very near completion and the children are looking forward to playing on the equipment soon. It is hard for kids when the only place you are allowed to climb at school is screened by a safety fence!!

Cassandra Mackay
Acting Principal
Marra Creek Public School





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Technology Camp

A tentative date has been set for the 22nd and 23rd March for a Technology Camp at Carinda. This has yet to be finalised, but there will be more on this later.

Questacon

Another date for the calendar is Friday 26th March. A day is being planned in Walgett with both Carinda Public School and Bourke-Walgett Distance Education exploring 'Questacon'. Questacon is a maths problem solving experience in a hands-on way. More to come on this later as well.

- Bogan Bush Mobile – Tuesday 16th March.
- End of Term Assembly – Wednesday 31st March, starting at 2.30pm.

ICPA

A message from the Nyngan Branch of the ICPA.....

Hi all,

Just a little information for anyone that might be interested in joining the Nyngan branch of ICPA (Isolated Childrens Parents Association). ICPA is a non-profit organisation that meets with both Federal and State Governments on a regular basis to try and achieve equal access and opportunities to education for rural and remote children.

Many secondary schools offer scholarships and bursaries to students whose parents are members of ICPA.

If you would like to join ICPA, you have two options on how to pay your membership, either through the post or Direct Debit. The amount is **\$50** per family per year.

You can mail membership to:

Hiram Marr
Nyngan ICPA
PO BOX 95
Nyngan 2825

OR Direct Debit to:

ICPA Nyngan Branch
BSB: 062 586
Acct #: 00800214

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