



TERM 3 - WEEK 5
AUG 2023

SCHOOL NEWS

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Dates to Remember:

Steps Vision (In school) Screening Program (Pre-Year 1) – Thursday 17th Aug

Mid Term Break – 18-21st August

Burrendong Sport & Rec Excursion – Mon 22nd – Friday 25th Aug

Father's Day – 2nd September

Nyngbar Athletics Carnival (Cobar) – 6th September

Meerkat Productions – Thursday 7th September

Western Region Carnival Athletics - 16th September

Crazy Hair Day – Thursday 21st September



What's Happening in the Classroom

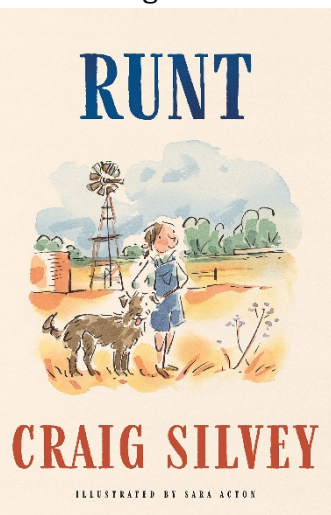
Mexico Unit

Hola! This term we are studying the country of Mexico. We have learnt about the location of Mexico and its geographical features. We learnt about the flag and its history and meaning. For 2 weeks we've explored the Aztec civilization and ancient Mexico. The students were surprised with the savage and barbaric rituals and cultural practices, very different from modern day life.

We have been learning Spanish phrases and dialogue. Counting to 20!

Literacy

Year 1 students have been exploring the world of bats as part of the book 'Stellaluna'. Students can recall lots of interesting facts about how bats use echolocation and activities of nocturnal animals.



Runt by Craig Silvey

Students from Year 4-6 have been reading the book 'Runt' by Craig Silvey, a heart-warming, funny, beautifully told story for readers of all ages from the bestselling author of Jasper Jones and Honeybee. 'You don't have to carry the weight of the world in your tool belt.' Annie Shearer lives in the country town of Upson Downs with her best friend, an adopted stray dog called Runt. The two share a very special bond. After years evading capture, Runt is remarkably fast and agile, perfect for herding runaway sheep. But when a greedy local landowner puts her family's home at risk, Annie directs Runt's extraordinary talents towards a different pursuit - winning the Agility Course Grand Championship at the lucrative Krumpets Dog Show in London. However, there is a curious Runt will only obey Annie's commands if nobody else is watching. With all eyes on them, Annie and Runt must beat the odds and the fastest dogs in the world to save her farm. Runt is a heart-warming and hilarious tale of kindness, friendship, hurdles, hoops, tunnels, see-saws, being yourself and bringing out the best in others.

Squiz Kids News

We have been listening to a short news podcast each week appropriate for primary students called Squiz Kids. In the next half of term 3 and into term 4, Yr 4-6 will be looking at Newshounds media literacy activities including what exactly the media is; how we use it; and how it's changed.

'Every hour of every day we have media coming at us. Whether it's the news, advertisements, social media, even billboards on the street - someone is trying to influence what we think. The media impacts every part of our life, and there's more media today than at any time in history. So, there's never been a more important time to be Media literate.'

Phonics Screening

Mrs Coddington our APC&I has been testing Year 1 students for the NSW YR1 Phonics screening check to monitor student knowledge and capability to read real and nonsense words to check for sound/spelling correspondence and blending.

Meerkat Productions

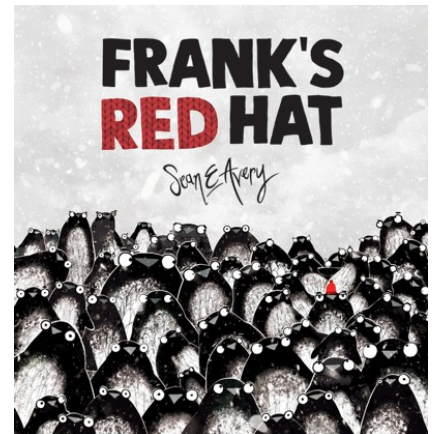
This year, Quambone, Carinda and Hermidale Public Schools will be joining us at Marra Hall on Thursday, 7th September for our annual Meerkat performance, where they will be adapting Frank's Red Hat – one of the books shortlisted by the Children's Book Council of Australia (CBCA) for the Book of The Year Awards.

Lunch will be provided for \$5. Please pack recess as normal.

FRANK'S RED HAT BY SEAN E AVERY

A story about never giving up on your talents, because even though what you do may not be appreciated right now, it may be in time. Possibly by someone you'd least expect.

Frank is a penguin with ideas. Mostly terrible ones. That's why his fellow penguins are nervous when he shows them his strange new creation. Something they'd never seen or expected to see in their cold and colourless Antarctic world — a red hat.



Preschool with Shan

Our 4 students Salem, George, Hamish, and Edie are all really settling in, enjoying the new preschool program now offered at our school. The children zoom in at 10am every Thursday, meeting up with Dubbo DE teachers Justin and Al and other preschoolers.

Last week Salem attended the Distance Ed Camp held in Dubbo, we can't wait to hear all about it tomorrow! Each week the kids are getting more familiar with our school routine which is beneficial for when they start to transition into the classroom next term when Kindy Start commences next term.

Small School/Nyngbar Athletics Carnival

Students are keeping fit by running every morning, preparing themselves for the Nyngbar carnival.

The Nyngbar Carnival is set for Wednesday 6th September, commencing at 9.30 am. At this stage there will be no canteen available at the carnival.

Congratulations to the following students for being nominated:

Charles Stendell – 12 YEARS: 1500m, 800m, 200m, Age Race, Relay, High Jump, Discus, Shotput & Long Jump.

Locky McKinnon – 12 YEARS: 800m, 200m, Age Race, Relay, High Jump, Discus, Shotput & Long Jump.

Pippa Turnbull – 11 YEARS: 800m & Relay.

Kataylah Cooper – 11 YEARS: 200m, Age Race, Relay, High Jump, Discus & Long Jump.

William Thornton – 10 YEARS: Age Race, High Jump, Discus & Shotput.



Photo: Congratulations to Charles for being awarded the Senior Champion at this years' Small Schools Athletics Carnival in Nyngan in Week 2.



Burrendong Sport & Rec Camp

Next week Mr Pascoe, Mrs Hibbins and students will be heading down to Burrendong to enjoy a jam-packed week full of new adventures such as Archery, Pedal Karts, Kayaking, Fencing, Paint balloon combat & grass skiing for the older kids. We look forward to seeing and hearing all about it.

MCPS Recipe Books for Sale

Thank you to everyone that purchased a recipe book at the Marra Field Day, we still have plenty of copies available in the office. Price: \$15 each or \$20 for Recipe Book + Tea Towel Combo.

NAIDOC Celebrations & Hub Day

This incredible artwork was created by the students at Marra, Girilambone & Hermidale Public School, under the guidance of Maddie from Kapata Dreaming.

**The painting will be made into a Hub shirt for each student – more details to come.*



Brekkie in a Bag

Aussie Helpers have kindly relaunched a Brekkie in a Bag initiative to support farming kids by providing free, nutritious school breakfasts.

Deb from Aussie Helpers delivered Weetbix, Up and Go's, milk and soon will be adding fresh deliveries of fruit and milk each week. Thanks to Sanitarium and Little Big Dairy Company for their contributions.



THE HEALTH FOOD COMPANY



Bushfire danger period information for parents and carers

Factsheet

This factsheet provides information for parents and carers about arrangements for the bush fire danger period.

The NSW Department of Education has engaged external experts to conduct assessments of all NSW government schools, to identify schools at greater risk of impact from bushfires.

To support the health, safety and wellbeing of students and staff, the department, in consultation with NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS), will direct the school to temporarily cease operations on days when a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating has been declared for your school's NSW fire area. Alternative learning arrangements will be put in place for these days.

Schools may be directed by the department to become non-operational at any time based on advice from emergency services and the State Emergency Operations Centre.



What is a Fire Danger Rating?

Fire Danger Ratings describe the potential level of danger should a fire start. The ratings are determined by a combination of factors including air temperature, relative humidity, wind speed and drought.

For further information on the Australian Fire Danger Rating System, visit rfs.nsw.gov.au/news-and-media/fire-danger-ratings-are-changing-soon

Fire Danger Rating sign





When will I know if my child's school has been made non-operational?

At approximately 4:00pm each day the Fire Danger Rating is issued for the following day. This means that schools, including onsite preschools, will be notified after school hours that it will be non-operational the following day. Your school will notify you as soon as possible by the preferred method of communication.

Parents and carers are requested to:

- provide up-to-date home and after-hours contact details to your school
- stay up-to-date with news and local media through the bushfire danger period.



NSW School Updates app

Get the free NSW School Updates app to receive operational status updates for NSW public schools education.nsw.gov.au/parents-and-carers/nsw-school-updates-app



What education arrangements will be in place if the school is non-operational?

When non-operational, your school will advise of alternative learning arrangements, including any relocation or learning from home plans.



Learn more

Be prepared and ensure you have a bushfire survival plan in place. The NSW RFS has resources for all residents to plan and prepare for the bushfire season.

Consider whether your home is safe from bushfires and grassfires, and be prepared to relocate to a safer place well in advance. Find more information and resources from the NSW RFS rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare

We appreciate your cooperation during the bushfire season. For further information about Fire Danger Ratings and the bushfire danger period, please refer to [NSW Rural Fire Service rfs.nsw.gov.au](https://www.nsw.gov.au/rfs)

The department's School Safety website education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/school-safety provides up to date information during bushfires and grassfire emergencies.

Please contact your school with any additional questions.



Need help?

Speak to your local WHS Advisor for support and advice, or contact the Incident Report and Support Hotline on **1800 811 523**.