

# Newsletter Term 2, 2023

# Principal: Marianne Mitchell

#### Dear Parents/Carers

Term Two has been busy and full of excitement with the commencement of a pilot Out of Hours School Program, students have enjoyed a range of activities including: cultural workshops, learning new games at PCYC, art and cooking activities. Welcome to new students and their families, a fond farewell to older students moving on to jobs and a big congratulations to those who received acknowledgement for the gains they have made in school-based apprenticeships. We have had two Sensory Pods installed and being enjoyed by many students along with a Sensory Room utilised by our Wellbeing team and Occupational Therapist to support our young people to regulate and return to learning. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our amazing team at The Bidgee School, the effort you all put in supports our young people to experience success at The Bidgee School.

A reminder to all parents that students are expected to attend school every day, as long as they are well. It is important that students remain at home if they are ill in any way, especially with flu season here. Please let the school know if your child/child in care will be away for any reason so we can mark absences appropriately.

Wishing all students and their families a safe and happy holiday. I look forward to seeing everyone in Term 3. Following is a report from each class detailing some of their learning experiences this term.





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### **Class 3**

What an amazing term of growth and challenge for Class 3! We focused on the novel "The Invention of Hugo Cabret" and learnt about silent movies, vintage cartoons, clocks, automatons, Prometheus, and the importance of trust in friendships. We visited Wagga's own horologist (maker and repairer of clocks) Dom's Watch and Clocks to get a true insight into this fascinating profession.

In **Science** lessons, students explored forces, friction, magnets, levers, and pulley systems. They took on the challenge of building bridges from limited materials.



Art lessons had a graphic design emphasis and students made tessellations, optical illusions with cubes, and amazing reflections of the moon. Each week students practiced new skills in Food Technology creating tasty bites to share and enjoy with friends. Throughout the term, students practiced their bike riding skills, resilience, and perseverance in PDHPE, working towards their goal to complete the Tumbarumba Rail Trail. They did this successfully with the guidance of Shaun and the support of Luci, Josh, and Mikayla.

Class 3 continued to grow in numbers this term, so we have moved into a larger classroom and renamed ourselves Class 6 in readiness for the continuing adventures. I can hardly wait!! Maree

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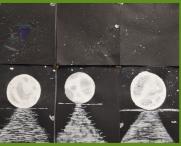
















# Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



#### **Class 4**

Class Four students demonstrated our school values in many ways in Term Two. Students displayed effort consistently in Literacy, Mathematics, HSIE and PDHPE lessons. They demonstrated growth with improved reading and writing skills along with improved researching skills related to Wiradjuri language tasks and information report tasks. Students consistently demonstrated kindness in the classroom and on the playground. We were excited to welcome Jackson and Grayson to our class. Class Four students were curious, insightful learning stars this term; they should be proud of the effort they have put in this term. Ericka and Michelle





















#### **Class 5**

In Term 2, Class 5 enjoyed spending time out in the community engaging in various physical activities including fishing, bike riding, bowling and flip out. Students spent time researching and understanding the meaning of ANZAC day and Shaun spent time showing students different artifacts from his time in the army. A focus in writing this term required students to understand and follow procedures. Over three weeks students learnt to prepare and cook meals using procedures. In history this term, students have been learning about the importance of country/place to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples. Students were welcomed with a visit from Vinny and an excursion to the wetlands to develop an understanding of Aboriginal heritage in our local area.





















### **Class 6**

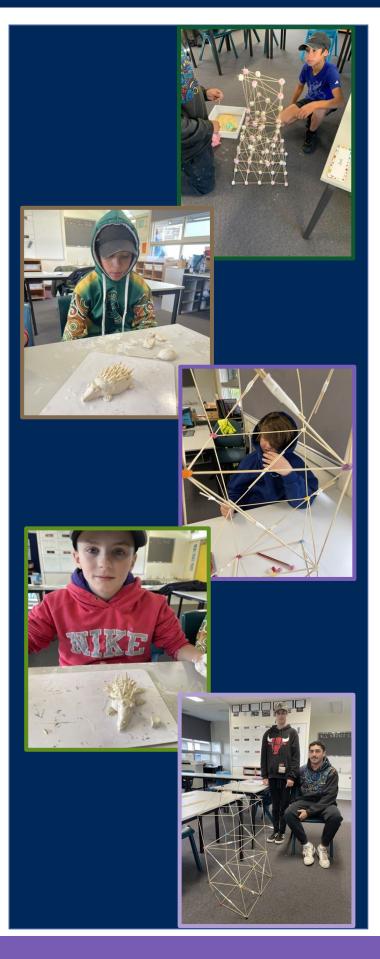
Class 6 has had another busy term. We welcomed Ayden into our class, he settled in quickly with his cheeky smile and sense of humour. This term we have reviewed Aboriginal Dreamtime researched stories. The boys information about the animals in the stories and developed skills in writing information reports and using PowerPoint.

Students have enjoyed putting their creative thinking caps on each week to engage in STEM activities that required them to plan, create, experiment, and improve on set weekly design tasks.

The boys have had the opportunity to participate in Gymnastics, Swimming lessons and Jordan's 8Ways program this term. Wishing you all a safe break. See you next term.

Tammy, Sue, Josh and Latrell





The Morning/Afternoon Pilot Program has been a successful program and we would like to take this opportunity thank all students and parents who have contributed to the program. We are continuing in Term 3 with the program, however due to the limited places and capacity to hold these activities I will be limiting numbers for each morning and afternoon session.

Places are not automatically transferred from last term you will need to ring as some parents have already booked spots and activities for Term 3 that are already full so, if you require your child to be a part of the program please call to see if the days and times you want are available.

Looking forward to another great Term

Happy Holidays

Ralee and Jordan







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### Class 7

While Karen has been off living the dream and travelling Europe, we have been living the dream back home, slowly chipping away at our Year 11 and Year 12 work load... we have been learning about film techniques in English; applying for jobs in Work Studies; cooking up a storm in Food Tech; learning about the metaverse, augmented reality and virtual reality in Computing Applications; braking systems in Engineering; Trigonometry, Linear Graphs and Data in Maths; and the Cuban Revolution and the Romanov Empire in History.

We have been visiting TAFE every week to have a Conversation Group with the ESL class. With this group we have a different topic focus or skill each week, and develop these by playing games and using pictures or question prompts. We have had to think about how we communicate, and choose different words to make sure we are understood by those learning to speak English.

Those of us working towards our Silver Certificate in the Duke of Edinburgh Awards are also gradually adding the required hours to our log for Community Service, Physical Activity and Skills.

It's so good watching Class 7 grow in maturity and responsibility as they work through their studies and think about life after school!









### Class 8

Class 8 has continued to build on the momentum set earlier this year. Students continued to build on their growth both socially and academically.

For Geography students developed their understanding of the world. The class were able to identify countries on a world map, as well as examining facts about identified countries. The class examined the process of planning a trip overseas, including a detailed itinerary for their journey whilst sticking to a budget. Additionally, students completed a comprehensive research project about a chosen country of the world, completing a slide show about interesting facts.

During Mathematics we examined algebraic techniques, here students build on previously known mathematical facts to solve increasingly complex equations. Students developed their understanding of BODMAS and how to utilise this.

In Science we examined the solar system. The class looked at theories and laws that contribute to how our solar system works. Students engaged in classroom discussions and tasks based around newfound scientific knowledge.

During English, students commenced a unit of work focusing on the design, development, and publication of a magazine. The class examined the importance of utilising visual literacy and what these features looked like; this was demonstrated through the completion of an advertisement poster.

Afternoons were spent looking at the importance of well-being. The class looked at ways we can manage stress and emotions during challenging situations. Students looked at the importance of inclusivity, equality, and respectful relationships as well as the importance of self-identity.

I wish everyone a fantastic break and look forward to seeing you all in Term 3. Take care and stay safe.



# **AEO Program**

This term students participated in the AEO 8Ways program every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Our focus this term was to continue writing The Bidgee School a new acknowledgment to country. The students finalised the school's acknowledgment to country and presented it on Assembly Day.

Every Wednesday the students engaged in a variety of different activities which included fishing, bike riding, basketball and rugby league. Staff observed massive growth in the students' teamwork and sportsmanship.

On Thursdays students explored different parts of the Wiradjuri Walking track, visiting different parts of Wiradjuri Country.



# NAIDOC League Tag









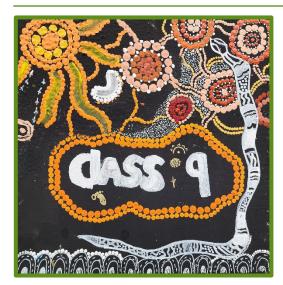








## Class 9



Term 2 has been a busy term for Class 9. We took advantage of the cooler Autumn weather at the start of the term to be outside as much as possible, reading outside, experimenting with plein air landscape drawing (drawing outside) and taking many walks to the botanical gardens to support our physical fitness. Class 9 enjoyed the pushup challenge this term, and we spent time considering how our



physical health and mental health work well to support each other.

A highlight of our learning this term has been our novel study of 'Trash'. This novel tells the story of three boys who live as trash boys in a garage dump in South America. The boys spend their days sorting through garage looking for things to sell to recyclers, until one day they find something amazing which changes their lives forever. Students have enjoyed reading aloud, listening to the audio book, and engaging with lots of activities based around the novel. Many students have enjoyed making a board or card game based on the book.



Phillipa, Sue and Steph.

During art this term we have learnt about landscape art works, including a close study of Albert Namatjira's works and creating our own landscapes in many different styles such as sketching and sculpture. Students have worked diligently to create art to a very high standard and should be proud of their growth in working with different media.



We look forward to term three and all the exciting opportunities it will

