From Mrs Lever’s Desk...

Following up on my previous newsletter discussion, I’d like to share some of the highlights of our annual camp. We left with a sense of excitement, having talked so much about what adventures the trip would hold. Some of the children were upset at the thought of being away from family for three days/two nights, however within around 15 minutes they had settled into the journey and were focused on what lay ahead.

Camps bring various challenges to children. Sometimes being away from family is the hardest part, and learning to be comfortably independent can take several years with multiple opportunities to be away from home. For other children, it’s the structure of camp that is most challenging. The Currimundi Recreational Centre is a large facility, and there were hundreds of children camping throughout the campus. Whilst we had our own accommodation area, we did share the meals area and I was very proud of our children’s manners and patience when getting their meals. It was certainly a luxury to line up for the great meals, and then just place the plates on a cupboard ready for washing! Some of the favourite offerings were pancakes, icy cold watermelon, bacon and eggs, and of course the chocolate cake for dessert. Some of the children had to work through the meals being different than home cooking, but there seemed to be something for everyone.

Sleeping arrangements consisted of cabins with up to six students on bunk beds. Managing belongings was not always easy as the item that you needed was usually at the bottom of your bag. When we met for activities sometimes children had to return to cabins and organise their gear ready for the day. I was appreciative of the help of the older students and Mrs Wieck, who accompanied us. The older students made a great effort to be as independent as possible, and also help younger students with dressing and bedtime routines. The hardest part for some of our students though was to share space with students from another school, whom they had not met before. They learnt that everybody is different and not always what you expect. Sometimes other people can let you down, and sometimes they can be kind and helpful when you most need them to be.

Though we enjoyed amazing sessions of learning circus skills, flying kites (they actually flew!) and using maps to locate clues around the complex, we most enjoyed the clear waters of the beach. It was so very special to see the children running and jumping through the waves. We are so fortunate to be able to offer our students these opportunities to learn outside the classroom and school environment. A special thank you to the P and C who significantly reduced the cost to families with their subsidy.

I hope the memories of this time are just as special as our awesome Brisbane trip last year.

Until next time

Rosita Lever
SCHOOL NEWS...

Thoughts about camp ......

Harry – Everyone loved bodyboarding. It was not fun when I went under the water! We all had beach games where you had to dig the deepest hole, and make the tallest tower, and make connected tunnels.

Morgan – it was fun when we were doing spinning plates. It was fun doing low rope climbing too! It was challenging when we were doing body boarding.

Jackalyn – I wish we were still at camp. It was fun! I even did tricks and we laughed and played. In the cabin one of the teachers snored. We had free time. We played beach games and we did body boarding and we ate yummy food.

Logan – It was fun when we were bodyboarding. I spun a plate on a stick because we were learning circus skills. We did beach games. I went into a pool near a hall. I wish we were still there.

Kate – It was fun when went bodyboarding except when we got salt up our noses. I loved spinning plates as well. We flew kites as well – and made them!

Annie – I was standing between the boys and doing a girlie pose for fun (in this photo). I was at the Dickey beach doing body boarding, I could lay on the board sideways. I enjoyed the meals because they were yummy – especially the soup.

Ryan – I loved the meals – the best meal was the burger on the first night when we got there. The breakfasts were yummy especially the pancakes and the cereal. We did circus skills. I played with the toys.

Carmen – Bodyboarding, camping and low ropes and dinner and dessert were all my favourite! My cabin was number 5. It was so much fun.

Zara – I loved juggling. It was fun. Bodyboarding was my favourite time because we got to catch waves.

James – I was spinning hoops. Flying the kite was fun.

Runnning Late?

We understand that some mornings just don’t go to plan, and the efforts that parents go to getting their children to school on time is very appreciated. If you are running late, please sign your child in using the register on the front desk. Similarly, if you need to collect your child early before school finishes, then we ask that you also sign them out.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter!

Playgroup Dates

We have enjoyed lovely weather and many families joining us for playgroup sessions.

If you have young children and you would like to join us please feel very welcome.

Friday Mornings 9.30-11am (approximately)

Bring morning tea for your child/ren and enjoy a story and music session together.

Dates for the remainder of 2016

11th, 18th, 25th November

and last session on the 2nd of December.

End of Year Concert 2017

Wednesday 7 December

6.00 pm BBQ

7pm Concert
SCHOOL NEWS...

**Student Resource Scheme 2017**
A copy of the students ‘book list’ for 2017 was presented to parents at the P and C meeting on Monday 7th November. The meeting approved the use of this list, and Agreement Forms will be sent home in Homework folders on Monday for Parents/Carers to sign ready for invoices to be sent home early next year. Students will have all of their materials from the first day of school, covered (contact) and labelled.

Parents are welcome to purchase their child’s materials if they prefer, as long as the specific items on the list are purchased. For example, textbooks need to be the same for each group. A copy of the list has been sent home with every family. Please see Mrs lever if you have any questions.

On Thursday November 3rd at 11.30am our students joined in with Jon Foreman, Jay Laga‘aia and more than 500,000 students from all over the country to watch a live stream and sing this year’s Music: Count Us In song “Let it Play”. The children really enjoyed the experience of being a part of an Australia-wide event.

PUBLIC NOTICES...

**OLD TIME DANCES**

8pm start—$10 entry fee—supper provided

12 November Flagstone Creek Hall, Jondaryan Woolshed
19 November Kaimkillenbun (Harvest Ball—best dressed male and female Farmer) or Gowrie Little Plain
26 November St Ruth Hall
3 December Bowenville

**FREE MOVIE NIGHT**

**THE JUNGLE BOOK**

Cambooya 5 NOV
Cambooya State School, 6 Harrow St

Pittsworth 12 NOV
Pittsworth Public Club, Short St

Oakey 19 NOV
Oakey Public Club, Federal Street

Millmerran 25 NOV
Millmerran Public Hall, Campbell Street

Clifton 2 DEC
Park Avenue Reserve, Clifton

Cecil Plains 9 DEC
Cecil Plains Reserve, Cnr of Chatham & Russell Ave

Movie starts at 7pm
Food and Drink available for purchase
BYO camp chair or picnic rug

Join us for other Bush Adventures around our region
by registering at www.youth.toowoomba.qld.gov.au/bushadventures
or give us a call on 07 4627 7111 or find us on Facebook at YouthConnectTBCQ, or on Twitter @YCTBCQ or find us on www.toowombo.qld.gov.au

Enrol now for 2017

MacInlay Windermere Kindergarten is taking enrolments now for 2017 and beyond.

Kindergarten places are available for children turning four years of age by 31 July 2017.

Littlies places may also be available for children from three years of age.

Call our Teacher/Director and ask about our waiting list and enrolment application process.

No waiting list fees apply.

MacInlay Windermere Kindergarten
Address: 30 Margaret Street, MacInlay QLD 4403
Phone: 07 46 92 225
Email: maclagankinde@bigpond.com
www.candk.asn.au

PUBLIC NOTICES...
**Earning the right**

By Michael Grose

*Earning the right and not assuming a sense of entitlement is a life lesson parents, teachers and coaches must instil in children.*

On talk-back radio recently I heard a caller tell a timely story about how as a child she was lucky enough to receive riding lessons from a renowned horse expert.

He had one condition. She had to earn the right to be taught to ride a horse. That meant she had to muck out the stables; brush and feed the horse; look after the gear and do everything else required to look after a horse. Only when she’d proved herself could she earn the right to ride a horse under his tutelage.

This caller said this powerful lesson shaped her entire life. It taught that there were no entitlements in life; to work hard and value her achievements. She never took anything for granted.

Contrast this with the extraordinary sense of entitlement of Australian tennis players Nick Kyrgios and Bernard Tomic who routinely treat the public, players and the game that serves them well, with utter disdain. Their attitude of entitlement is mind-boggling, not to say embarrassing to reasonable-minded, hard-working people.

**Our kids should earn the right**

The talk-back caller’s earning the right story is a fabulous lesson for all parents and teachers. If we want to raise a generation to appreciate what they have, then we shouldn’t give children or young people everything on a platter. In an era of small families, child pester power and relative affluence it’s tempting to simply give kids what they want.

"Dad, can I have a…?"

"Sure!"

The Rolling Stones were right four decades ago when they sang, “You can’t always get what you want!” Those words form a great child-rearing lesson. That is, just because you can provide something for your kids, doesn’t mean that you do.

They need to earn the right to have something by saving, working for or simply waiting until they are old enough to appreciate it.

Similarly, kids don’t automatically have a right to greater freedoms such as going out at night; those rights need to be earned by proving they are trustworthy.

Also, kids who think they are entitled to use a part of the house such as a living room without cleaning up mess are acting with a false sense of entitlement.

In fact, there are no entitlements, only rights. And rights are earned by being responsible.

A child has a right to use the living room but they also have a responsibility to clean up a rather than leave it a pigsty. A night banished to their room is a reminder that spending time in the living room is not an entitlement. It’s a right that comes with conditions.

**Earning the right! A simple phrase with so much complexity.**

I suspect it’s a phrase that neither Nick Kyrgios or Bernard Tomic heard much when they were growing up. Maybe their parents thought their prodigious talents excused them from having conditions placed upon them. If so, they did them no favours as good manners, gratitude and graciousness appear to be lacking in their social repertoires.

It usually takes a parent, teacher or coach to remind kids that they have to earn the right to have things, to do things and ultimately to be respected. That’s a lesson that stays for life.