FROM THE EXECUTIVE TEAM

It is hard to believe that we only have three weeks left in the school year! I am enjoying reading end of year student reports and seeing the progress that students have made by ‘working hard to get smarter’ this year. These reports will be sent home to families on Monday, 15 December.

We are pleased to see the growing confidence in our preschool students through their tours of the school and visits to kindergarten classrooms as part of the transition process. I have particularly enjoyed getting to know preschool students and their parents in transition interviews. This morning we held the last of our information sessions for parents of children starting kindergarten next year. I would like to thank all those who have taken the time to attend these sessions and to our kindergarten teachers for their presentation highlighting ‘a day in the life of a kindergarten child’.

Last Friday we practised our emergency evacuation drill. On the day we had a number of visitors who had signed in when they arrived, but neglected to sign out as they left the school. Please make sure that when you come into our school you do so via the front office and that you sign in as you arrive, then sign out as you leave. If you come to collect your child in the afternoon please wait outside the school buildings until 3pm, rather than in corridors. Should you need to collect your child during school hours you must come via the front office and sign your child out.

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) have become an essential part of our lives. There are many benefits, but there are also some areas of concern. With the increase in devices such as smart phones and tablets with Internet capability, more and more students are using social media to communicate with friends.

A reminder for parents that students should gain permission from other students before posting any image on the web that could identify that student. It is important to remember that once an image is published on the Internet that image becomes public and is difficult to remove. Care should be taken when publishing photos to ensure students’ privacy is not breached. Most social media applications have an explicit minimum age requirement. To sign up to Facebook or get an email account you need to be at least 13 years of age. To use instant messaging apps you need to be even older. WhatsApp terms and conditions state that you must be at least 16 years of age to use their service.

Mount Rogers Primary does not support primary students having personal social media accounts such as these. When students enter high school there is peer pressure to use social media. Most primary school age students do not yet understand the risks, nor have the skills to use them responsibly. At Mount Rogers we are committed to educate students and develop skills related to digital citizenship.

I am looking forward to seeing lots of you at the P&C family picnic next week on Thursday 4th December from 5:30 - 7pm. Come along, bring the family, your own picnic food and a rug to sit on. On Friday 5th December I also hope to see lots of you in the Ngunawal Room for our thank you morning tea for volunteers between 10:30 and 11:30am.

Sue Harding, Principal
MERIT AWARDS

To be presented at our Assembly on
4 December at 2pm  Hosts – Yr 1/2 Ruby & Emerald

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<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
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<tr>
<td>K Pearl</td>
<td>Olivia D, Will H, Joshua P</td>
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<td>K Amber</td>
<td>Jasmine T</td>
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<td>K Opal</td>
<td>Eve B, Harrison M</td>
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<td>1/2 Emerald</td>
<td>Marius W, Julia KJ</td>
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<td>1/2 Ruby</td>
<td>Jamal SM, Gus M</td>
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<td>Kyah B, Ella H, Flynn S</td>
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<td>Dante W</td>
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<td>1/2 Obsidian</td>
<td>Aaron M, Anika P, Emma T</td>
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<td>3/4 Sapphire</td>
<td>Nathan W, George K, Mohammad S,</td>
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<td>Sebastian M, Ryan B, Shonda LL</td>
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<td>3/4 Diamond</td>
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<td>3/4 Jade</td>
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<td>James J, Sara F, Savannah J</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6 Aquamarine</td>
<td>Ema V, Grace B, Keely D</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6 Tiger’s Eye</td>
<td>Acoya LL</td>
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Recipients of Artist of the Month awards at our last assembly

REMINDER - PARENTS AND CARERS SURVEY

The ACT Education and Training Directorate is conducting an online survey of primary school and early childhood parents and carers as part of a wider research process on communicating the benefits of the public school system in Canberra. As a parent or carer of a student in an ACT public primary or early childhood school, your views and feedback are very important.

In order to achieve a reliable response rate, we encourage parents and carers to complete the survey. If you have already completed the Parents Survey, please disregard this reminder. If you haven’t yet completed the survey you can do so by following the link here:


COMMUNITIES@WORK – BEFORE SCHOOL CARE

Thank you for taking the time to respond to the letter seeking expressions of interest in Before School Care at Mount Rogers Primary School.

Communities@Work appreciates that while the school community had expressed a need for this service it was unfortunately not evident through the expression of interest that this was the case.

We will continue to monitor the demand during 2015 with the possibility of introducing a program in the future.

Karen Pollard, Manager – School Age Care

STAR OF THE MONTH – NOVEMBER

To the following recipients of awards at our Assembly on 20 November

Our Senior Star of the Month always seeks to uphold and follow our school values. However, if we were to choose a value that she exemplifies it would be Excellence.

Elly S is an outstanding student. She understands the importance of working hard to succeed and strives to achieve to the highest standard, demonstrating persistence and quiet determination.

Elly shows particular flair for English. Her creative writing has entertained, inspired, moved and delighted us. With a smile, she gladly supports, guides and encourages her classmates who seek out her advice and assistance. Elly enjoys sharing her love of books and reads with confidence and passion. She has also displayed her impressive acting talents. One day we may even see her in the theatre!

Elly is very respectful and responsible. She seeks opportunities that are challenging and fulfilling and works diligently to reach her goals.

Elly is a wonderful member of Year 3/4 Sapphires and a deserving recipient of the Senior Star of the Month award.

This month’s Junior Star is Claire H - a role model to all and a true advocate of our school values of excellence, fairness, respect and honesty. Claire arrives at school every day with a smile on her face ready to learn. She takes on leadership roles within the class with pride and demonstrates maturity when undertaking these. Claire cooperates with others during team games and values fair play and sportsmanship. She shows great composure for a child of her age and freely interacts with all class members earning respect amongst their peers.

Claire is a member of Kindergarten Opals. She is always encouraging others to do their best whilst maintaining their own high standards. She has continuously displayed a high level of self-motivation to succeed and always challenges herself to do better. Claire is an independent worker who consistently produces high quality work. She has a well-developed sense of responsibility which makes her an asset to our school.

 Congratulations Claire
This semester, 3 / 4 Jade have been continuing to improve in all aspects of their schooling. The visual arts have been no exception. While experimenting with different techniques and art mediums, individual students have discovered hidden talents. Every Friday middle session, the students, with the help of Gay Popple, have enjoyed every second of the visual art program. Here are just a small example of some of the brilliant art that has been produced by Year 3 and 4 students.
LIBRARY NEWS

Reminder
Library stock take will be carried out at the end of the term so all library books are to be returned by Monday, 1 December. Thank you!

Author Visit
Author Leonie Pye, and her guide dog Franklin, visited our school to talk to the children about her book 'The Little Shell'. Leonie was very impressed with the children’s behaviour and the depth of their questions. The children loved her book and enjoyed Franklin’s tricks!

Anna Comerford
Teacher – Librarian

GERMAN NEWS – VOTE FOR MOUNT ROGERS

The National German School Film Award 2014 for the winning entries in 2014 with the topic "Deutsch feiern" will be held as a digital "Vote for the Winner" event over the next two weeks.

The German School Film Festivals in Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney show short films produced by students all over Australia. The best films from each category in each city are entered in the finale – the German School Film Prize in Australia.

You can watch the films and vote for your favourite film online until 5 December 2014.

We invite you to watch the films and vote for the winner. Everyone that can participate: students, teachers, parents, principals...

Here is the link: [http://www.goethe.de/ins/au/lp/prj/gsf/awa/nat/endiindex.htm](http://www.goethe.de/ins/au/lp/prj/gsf/awa/nat/endiindex.htm)

Jump into the Picture
By Emma J - Yr 3 Sapphires

In a strange world was a gallery that held the most amazing pictures, there were swirls of colour everywhere. The gallery was famous but not just for its art, also because people could jump into the paintings. This may sound like fun but you have to be careful because you can get stuck in the painting forever!

"Hi, I'm Scarlett and this is how I got stuck in the painting. I have medium brown hair and dark blue eyes. One day I was visiting the National Gallery. I wasn't really excited, it was my parents’ idea to bring me here. I had to sit in the back with my little sister Briana. Briana has dark blonde hair and hazel eyes. She's so annoying even though she's six.

We finally arrived at the gallery. The pictures were really good surprisingly. The way my Dad was acting was sooooo embarrassing! "Just great," I said with sarcasm. He was like, "Wow fantastic colour…So inspiring…So much life." "Ahhh", I mumbled. Briana started climbing on the seats and statues.

Then I saw someone jump into the painting. I asked my Mum if I could have a look but I didn’t tell her about the person jumping into the painting. I touched the painting, it just felt like a normal canvas to me. I closed my eyes thinking this was some crazy dream but I didn’t wake up. I saw a sign out of the corner of my eye. It said…Jump into a painting that you like. But, be careful!

I went towards my favourite painting. It was a blue whale in the ocean. I wondered what the sign meant. I was about to jump when I heard a voice. "No, it wasn’t my conscience but I wish it was. It was my Mum calling, “Scarlett come here, we’re going for lunch in the café. Are you coming?” “Of course,” I yelled out.

After lunch we went back to the gallery. I went back to the painting of the whale and jumped in. Suddenly I was falling down a hole surrounded by blue, black and white lines. It looked like it would end very soon. But no, it was never ending. Then, bump, splash…the next thing I knew I was sitting on a flat rock in the water. I was wet all over. “Ohhh great, I’m drenched.”

I got up and looked around. "Where am I?” I said confused. I heard a sound. It sounded like a whale. I was right, a whale burst out of the water. I jumped with shock and fell into the water. The whole went down then up with me on its back.

People came out from between the trees which I swear weren’t there before I climbed off the whale and swam to land. People came up to me and said, “Hello, who are you and why are you here?” I replied by saying, “My name is Scarlett and I jumped through a painting and landed up here.” "Well, I guess you’re stuck here forever.” “How do you know that?” I asked with worry. “Well we came through paintings and we’re stuck here,” said a girl my age. I gasped, “So I’m really stuck here forever?” “Yeah I guess unless you can fly.” "Why do you say that?” “Because the exit is way up there!” I looked up… there was a picture of the gallery.

Well I can’t fly!