



Niland News

Term 3 2014

Safety

Respectful

Learning

STUDENTS
RETURN

TUESDAY 7th
October

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A Word from our PRINCIPAL

Dear family and Friends of Niland

Term three has been a very busy term with lots of things happening in the classrooms and many excursions taking place. One of the highlights for many of our students was the day camp. Students and staff had a fabulous time climbing the high ropes at Tree Tops Climbing Park.

Throughout the school year our students learn many new skills and get to practice these while they are at school. During the holidays it is important for your child to keep practicing the skills they have learnt. One way to do this is through:

Mobile Maths Games

Channel your child's interest in playing mobile apps into a chance to improve their maths skills and recall. The free School A to Z app has a Maths Monkey game to help test times tables and the follow-up app, Maths Monkey's Quest (\$1.99), challenges kids from Yr 2 to Yr 8 with addition, subtraction, ratios and percentages. Both apps are created by the NSW Department of Education and are available for Apple iPhones and iPads, and Android phones and tablets. You'll find links to both here: <http://bit.ly/oSREYV>

Don't forget that Blacktown council offer free fun activities for the kids during the school holidays so check out the website at: http://www.blacktown.nsw.gov.au/Whats_On/Events/Young_Adult_Activities_and_Event

Have a safe and peaceful break. Term four is already shaping up to be extremely busy with presentation day, swimming carnival, V8 Supercar excursion and our seniors dinner.

Yours in Partnership
Renee Culgan

A word from our ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Term 3 is almost over and it has been an eventful few months. Mr Prasad, Mr Finch and Mr Gardner have enjoyed the many positive interactions we have had with students and parents throughout the term. Some of the highlights have been the PlayStation soccer comp, the athletics carnival, NAIDOC day, Niland TV, Tuesday and Thursday sport and the weekly rewards assembly.

The PlayStation competition ran over the first 3 weeks of term 3 in the community room during break times. The students competed in a round robin challenge on FIFA 2010 and while the competition was very close, the overall champion for 2014 was Corey Budd. Congratulations Corey and we look forward to another great challenge in 2015.

The athletics carnival was an opportunity for all of the Assistant Principals to spend the whole day with the students in a positive environment. Mr Gardner was the only AP who was up to the challenge set by some of the

students. Blake Edwards was especially competitive and gave Mr Gardner a run for his money. Mr Finch took some fantastic video footage of the day and put together a presentation that the students and staff enjoyed during assembly.

As NAIDOC day was during the last week of term 2, we are only able to report on it now. All of the APs were very impressed with the level of engagement and the positive attitude shown by students and staff on the day. There was plenty of Kangaroo and crocodile to eat and some fantastic artwork produced. A big thankyou to Mrs Daley for her organisation of the day, along with her team of dedicated and creative teachers and SLSOs.

Mr Finch has been recruiting students and staff to become part of an exciting new activity at Niland School. Niland TV will be an in-school television program for students to show off their creative and performance skills. The school

has purchased some videography equipment and we hope to prepare for an ongoing presentation schedule in 2015.

It is amazing to see the number of students now presenting during our weekly assemblies. Standing in front of the whole school is quite a daunting task and there have been students across all classes who have taken on this challenge and shown that they are capable public speakers. I would like to give a special mention to some of the students who may not have spoken in front of a large group before. Well done to Dorian, Kira Lee, Chloe, James, Gordon and Kasey.

We would like to wish everyone a safe and restful holiday break and look forward to more exciting times ahead in term 4

Mr Finch, Mr Gardner and Mr Prasad.

Term 4

*It won't be all serious here at Niland School . We will again be having our favourite mentors from **NRL** supporting our students with In League In Harmony program. We will be competing against our friendly foe at Coreen School to see what school has the best rugby league skills. Our celebration will be a combined school BBQ at Nurranginy Reserve.*

GO Team NILAND!!!

Need some ideas!

Looking for a parenting program or something to support your teenage children, maybe even a holiday activity, see later in this issue for a page full of ideas to help you along, some are even FREE.

Term 4 we will be welcoming the DSA team back again to work with other students on Self Worth whilst Mission Australia will still be running their programs parallel to DSA to ensure our students receive the best available support. We certainly are well supported here at Niland School by our local services.

COMMUNITY ROOM

Every Student Every School

Wow, this term has simply flown so fast!

We continue to thank **Mission Australia** for supporting our students with resilience building programs and giving them the tools to better cope with day to day changes in their lives. We are seeing these changes here at school and they are definitely for the better.

This term, we had a minor "hiccup" and were unable to have our favourite program facilitator Katie deliver our programs. **Mission Australia** have now teamed with **Disability Services Australia (DSA)** who are now also supporting our students. DSA delivered an 8 week program on the importance of "**Self Worth**" with some of our boys.

Please read the message from the DSA team below on how the program went.

Should you need support from either of these services, please contact them on the numbers provided below.

Mission Australia
Yellow Door Program
Mental Health Support Services
P: (02) 8886 6303



A Word from the DSA Team

I can't believe we have come to the end of the course already, time certainly goes fast. Both Dayle and I enjoyed our time with your students. **To see the changes in some of them blew us away.**

The following topics were covered whilst we Dayle and I were supporting the young students at Niland.

- **Self-worth** - Learning to be nice to myself, working on thinking about a positive time in my life and speaking positively to and about my peers.
- **Appropriate Communication** - what are the different ways I communicate to my peers, elders, family and teachers. Different types of communication- emails, SMS, letters and verbal. How peoples' style of communication can affect me. How do I like to be spoken to? Using tones and body language.
- **One page profile**- how best to support me- Good day/ bad day. How best to support me on a bad day, what makes a good day for me. What can change a bad day into a good day?
- **Stress** and how we deal with our stress- what triggers me to become stressed, knowing the signs of stress for me both emotionally and physically and how to turn it around, who do I need to debrief with.



Disability Services Australia


Community Connections


6 Second Ave Blacktown

PH: 1300 372 121



Niland News


Junaya Family Development Services
 PO Box 601, Shannon, NSW 2220
 Phone 02 932 0042
 Fax 02 932 0043
 Email info@junaya.com.au
 Web www.junaya.com.au

A FREE Parent Educational Workshop

FREE Caring for KiDs with ADHD Workshop

When:
During Public School Terms

Duration:
7 weeks, 1 day per week
From 10.30am to 1.30pm


Where:
Blacktown Local Government Area

Who:
Mums, Dads, Carers, Grandparents
Anyone interested in learning about ADHD

INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING TOPICS

- Understanding ADHD
- The theme "It's of parenting"
- Using reward systems
- Time out strategies
- Living with your child's school
- Self Esteem
- Parental Behaviour
- Referrals for further support
- Grief and Loss Issues
- Love Languages

Light refreshments provided



Bookings Essential
 For further information, expression of interest and bookings
 Please phone (02) 9421 3922 or (0407 222 379)

BETTER THAN CAMP!



The background image is a photograph of a dirt path in a park. Two people are walking away from the camera on the path. The path is lined with large, mature trees with dense foliage. The lighting suggests it might be late afternoon or early morning. The text is overlaid on the upper half of the image.

Early August was a wonderful time for many students at Niland School. Due to a change in circumstance school camp became two days of adventure.

Day 1: The fun began immediately with a stop at the park. The students stretched their legs and went about playing immediately. It was wonderful seeing students work as a team on the swings, roundabout and hamster wheel. It highlighted the benefits of teamwork, safety and respect towards others.

The next stop on our travels was Treetops Adventure Park. It started off a bit tricky with harnessing and unfamiliar clips, but with a bit of practice, courage and persistence, the students were up, up and away.

We won't lie - it was really scary for many of us up in the treetops, as we were very high and the circuits were quite a challenge but with each new climb it seemed to get easier and the support and encouragement from others students was second to none. This was the highlight for all staff involved.

The third place of interest was the cinemas, where we watched Guardians of the Galaxy. We enjoyed a few laughs together before going to dinner.

Dinner was a fun way to finish day 1 of adventure. The students enjoyed social time together and the All You Can Eat feast.

Day 2: entailed a trip to Luna Park. The students enjoyed the trip over the Harbour Bridge and through the city. Once there, the adventure began. We went on many rides together, sharing laughs, screams and a lot of 'can we do that again?' All students represented their school well and had a wonderful time.

The 2 days of adventure were positive for everyone involved. Memories were made and relationships strengthened. We all look forward to doing it again next year.

R oom Zorzo—SENIOR GIRLS EXCURSION

This term has had some amazing adventures and memorable moments for the senior girls in room 1. Everything is awesome when we work as a team.

Our senior girls have made many superb pieces of art, ready for their auction in term 4. Stay tuned for more information.

All young ladies in room 1 are enjoying learning in many different ways. A particular area of progress this term is the use of technology in the classroom. They thoroughly enjoy using their laptops and are becoming more independent and cyber smart each week.

Room 1 students have enjoyed working mathematically, understanding the many ways we relate maths at school to real life situations. We have even found ways to use tessellating shapes for art inspiration. We have also discovered some 3D shapes are more common than others and it's particularly difficult to find pyramids, unless they are in a diamond ring. Interesting and well researched by our young ladies.

Work training continues for most of the room 1 students. Mrs Kennedy continues to support our school program and students with work and educational opportunities outside our school.

Another artistic inspiration our senior girls have discovered is viewing images of magnified cells. They have been enthralled by the magnificent images of bacteria and the human body and the many colours that are visible through a magnified image, but not the human eye. They are inspired to pursue this further.

Our senior girls continue to cook and sell Monday lunches to staff and students. All profits go towards our end of year Senior Dinner, which we are all looking forward to.

Mission Australia are visiting our class every Tuesday to deliver a resilience program to all female students at Niland school. They are learning ways to 'bounce back' and acknowledge the many strengths each individual has. We are realising we don't need to be good at everything and focussing on things we can do and have.

Our class have developed a new found love for the mini trampoline and the many manoeuvres and stunts that are possible. The senior girls are discovering their physical capability and the enjoyment that comes from a positive class supporting each other and having a good laugh, as friends. Mrs Wilson, Miss Jenkins and Mrs Zorzo are all very proud of the young ladies in room 1.



R oom Zorzo

Three Sisters Track

← Three Sisters 100m
← Giant Stairway 100m

Class 7's trip to Katoomba!

The first travel training took us to Katoomba to see the 3 sisters.

We arrived early that morning and we walked to the lookout called Echo Point to see a splendid view.

Then we walked on a walking track which lead us to the 3 sister. It was a very long and steep walk down the track. It took us almost an hour to do the walk.

When we got back to the top we had a look at the shops near Echo Point and stopped for lunch.

We had a great day at Katoomba.

Written by: Dylan Soady and Brendon Southam.



Class 7's trip to The Rocks!

Our second travel training took us to The Rocks in the City.

First we got off the train and had morning tea. We then got a map and looked for The Museum of Contemporary Art. We then followed the map and found an old cottage. After we went to The Rocks Museum and had a look around, walked up some stairs and found a giant chair.

We then walked down and around Sydney Harbour to see the Opera House. We then had lunch and caught the train back to school.

We had an awesome day!

Written by: Dylan Soady and Brendon Southam.

Class 7's travel training trip to The City!

We went by train into The City and got off at Wynyard Station. It was raining really heavy.

We looked at our map to find the Apple Store and got some help of a stranger. We found the Apple Store and played on the technology.

Then we looked for JB Hi-Fi and found it down some stairs. Then we went to Dick Smith Electronics on George Street.

We had lunch in a big food court underneath the Myer Store.

Then we went to T2 to sample all different flavours of tea but we didn't really like it.

We caught the train home after a really exciting day.

Written by: Dylan Soady and Brendon Southam.



R oom Higgs

It has been a very busy term so far in room four. In addition to our literacy and maths we have been learning about Australia. We have so far covered many different topics but our favourites have been Bushrangers, Early Australia and Australian Landscapes. We went on a really interesting excursion with room 1 and room 3 to Murra Mittigar to look at the Aboriginal culture. On this excursion we painted some amazing artworks that tell our own stories, had a go at throwing a boomerang and listened to a talk. Dallas is the king of Boomerang throwing for Niland School as he had a lot of power and accuracy, well done Dallas. If you get a chance come to look at our Australia wall in our classroom it has on display some of our favourite learning achievements. We're going to continue to look at Australia next term and maybe even pay a visit to some of Australia's famous cultural icons.



R oom Jahn

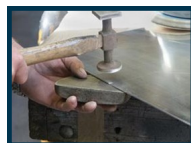
Kane Palmer has recently past his spray painting and panel beating course which he attended this year in terms one and two. Kane's course was held twice a week, some of the subjects Kane studied included Light automotive welding, panel techniques, dent removal and colour application. This course was held in the TAFE's Automotive Specialist Centre and is designed to build a student's confidence to be a body repair specialist for a range of vehicles.



Niland School places an emphasis on focusing on a student's interests so students will enjoy what she or he will learn to do for a living throughout their working life.

From all the staff at Niland well done Kane!!

Other students in the class are learning a wider vocabulary through their reading, a film study or simply testing themselves each week from a spelling booklet. Thanks for those students who have worked so well.



Room Clarke

On Tuesday, the 26th of August Ms Clarke and I took class 2 students to Sydney's famous Taronga Zoo. We drove in our school bus with Bradley, Gordon, Tye, Destiny and Brayden. Brayden's mum also accompanied us, and had a great time.

We saw Snakes, Koalas, Kangaroos, Elephants and all types of different animals which we hadn't ever heard of or learnt about.

We had the pleasure of watching a Seal show and a bird show which were the highlight of the trip. It was amazing to see how well trained the seals and birds were and how they were following the trainers instructions. Our students enjoyed watching them perform. This was a fun but also educational trip for both the adults and students. We all had a great time and learnt a lot of new and interesting facts about the animals that we saw.

It was a very good experience for our students. They were all very excited. All students behaved perfectly and made us proud.

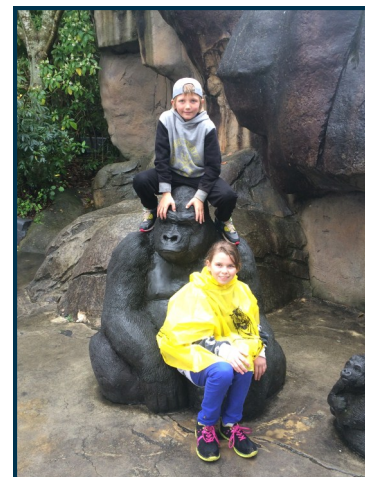
Ms Clarke and I would just like to thank Brayden's mum for coming and helping us out. She was a great help. It was a fun day and we all learnt a lot.

Mr Syed.

SLSO

Room Winkelmolen

Our class has had a great term. We managed to do quite a lot of work in English and Maths and are looking forward to next term. James has improved in all subjects and has learned to deal with tricky situations. Blake has found his feet in his new class and made many friends at school. Tye is working very hard and completes the most work in class. Next term we attempt to go on a few excursions one of which will take us to Sydney where we will investigate how people lived in the early days. We will look at many historic sites around the city. Thank you to all the students for working with me to give them a great future. P. Winkelmolen



Room Piper

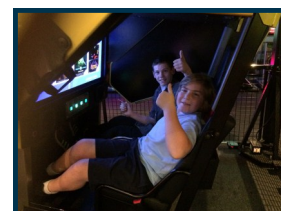
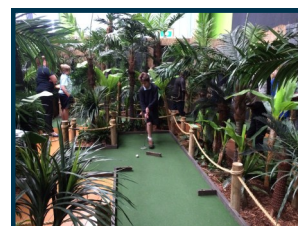
Term 3 has been a busy and exciting term for Class 3. Between our weekly shopping trips and cooking lessons, school sport, PSC, Friday rewards excursions, an athletics carnival and a trip to Muru Mittigar with Class 1 and Class 4, the time has well and truly flown by.

Our cooking skills are improving each week and this term we have tackled some trickier recipes including: Red Thai Chicken Curry, lasagne, salt and pepper calamari, potato bake and homemade chicken nuggets from scratch!! Everyone had their own favourites but the Mars Bar Slice was enjoyed by all!!

This term, KAOS Games Arcade at Penrith Panthers was added to the schedule and was enjoyed by all who attended, including the staff. Class 3 students also enjoyed trips to Putt Putt golf in Blacktown and the all you can eat buffet at St Marys Leagues club.

Muru Mittigar is an Aboriginal Cultural and Educational centre at Castlereagh near Penrith. We got to make Aboriginal art works, throw boomerangs and learn about bush tucker. We had a great time and were safe and respectful visitors to the important Aboriginal site.

Finishing up on a super positive note, Class 3 FINALLY get to move back into our rightful home in Room 3. It has been a long time coming but we are grateful to Mr Gardner who chased it up for us and didn't give up until our carpet got replaced! Thanks Mr G!



WHAT'S NEW WITH OUR STAFF



Our School Counsellor Michelle has been awarded the 2014 Premier's Teaching Scholarship for Special Education. She will travel to the USA in 2015 to visit people and schools to learn about trauma-informed education. She hopes to use her new skills and knowledge to help schools understand the impact of trauma on children and learning and how to improve learning for children affected by trauma.

We are very proud to have Counsellor Michelle work here with us and on her return we will be the first to benefit from her expertise.

ICT CORNER

Don't miss this months special!
Have fun while learning maths,
Normally \$49.95 now download it for

FREE!

From the desk of Mr Finch.

Niland School



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BRONZE MEDAL LEVELS

As at September 2014



Level 30

DYLAN
COREY
JAMES
TAYLA
JAID

Level 20

JAI
MOKOTOA
GORDON
DAVID

Level 10

TIMOTHY
DORIAN
JAYDEN

It's fantastic to see these students
achieve their levels and receive the
gifts they are working so hard for.

Keep up the great work!

JUST A REMINDER:



CONTACT US:

Principal: Mrs Renee Culgan

PH: 9628 6885



FAX: 9628 1550



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www.niland-s.school.nsw.edu.au

