

Principal's Report 15th March 2017

Enrolments

1. On census day (28th Feb) we submitted to the DET our enrolment number of 332 students.
2. We will have two Year 5 short stay international students in July/August for 5 weeks from Beijing.

Strategic Goals and Priorities

1. Friday (3rd March) we enacted a lockdown procedure in response to a critical incident at Templestowe College. Staff were fantastic, poised and professional throughout. Students were calm and counselling was offered on Tuesday.
2. Our 2017 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) has been accepted and will be presented at March 15th Council meeting.
3. New parent payment policy and strategy has continued to be overwhelmingly successful, particularly voluntary payments.
4. Our parent information evenings (Foundation and years' 1-6) were a huge success with big turn outs. Most questions were focused on our coding/robotics curriculum and our specialists program.
5. Parent-teacher discussions concluded last week, where it was an opportunity to discuss how each child has settled into the school year and consider learning goals for their individual learning plan.
6. As part of 2017 AIP student engagement and wellbeing strategy, the hour of curiosity (passion learning) weekly sessions are ready to commence for our 5/6 students in term 2. Areas of curiosity (or passion) are photography, woodwork, 3D printing, arts and crafts, drama and dance, coding and robotics, garage band and cooking.

Staffing

1. Margaret de Haas has been successful in her application and appointment as our new ongoing Business Manager. We are very happy and excited about the prospect of her leading all things financial in the future at Templestowe Heights Primary.
2. Lisa Clark and I recently interviewed candidates for our Templestowe College Tutors initiative. Successful candidates will be trained next week in the reading intervention program before meeting the year 1/2 students they will be working with.
3. Yvonne Tan's position has been advertised (Education Support, 17.5hours per week), the position is until the end of the year.
4. Jenny Hung, our DET speech pathologist, is resigning and moving over to London. The DET is currently in the process of appointing a new speech therapist.

Community Life

1. Our Welcome Picnic was another terrific event supported by our *parents and friends*. Even though the weather wasn't ideal, it was well attended. Next year open-air cinema is the proposal!
2. Our year 3/4 students are completing their 2-week intensive swimming program (last day is Friday 10th March).
3. We have had many great women role models work with our students over the past month. From the *Collingwood women's footballers* hosting clinics for all our students, *Kim Brennan* meeting with all our students to discuss her journey and *Michele Timms* presenting our student voice badges and running a coaching clinic for our 5/6 girls and boys basketball teams- it's been an exciting month!
4. Our Foundation students are now with us full time. They are a very settled and happy cohort.
5. The Year 1/2 team are planning their local walk to Macedon Square to visit some local shops, including a tour of Woolworths.
6. The chicken coop has been installed, awaiting TC to repair the fox-proof mesh. Our Environmental Leaders have been extremely busy harvesting and maintaining our community garden.
7. Five of our students represented our school in the district swimming competition, with our 10year old girls relay team making it through to the next stage.
8. Christian Religious Instruction classes commence on Wednesday 15th March.

Professional Learning

1. On Monday 6th March all staff participated in a professional learning day that was aligned with the school's strategic plan. The focus was on continuing to develop our guaranteed and viable curriculum (with Chris Egan) and further developing staff capacity in working with anxious children (with Dr Catherine Wood, Clinical Psychologist from Swinburne University).
2. Chris Egan and Mary McQuilten have commenced working with year level teams in their roles as instructional literacy coaches.
3. A memorable occasion occurred on Thursday 9th March, when Ross Toogood created our school's first ever 3D print design.
4. All staff have completed their annual child mandatory reporting professional learning refresher.
5. We have organised a professional learning session with the DET's *communities of practice* initiative (Anderson's Creek PS, Warrandyte PS and Milgate PS) aligned to our strategic focus of reading.
6. Ross Toogood and Jacqui Nicolazzo completed a professional learning day on Lego robotics.
7. Jeanette Breen has commenced her Master of Instructional Leadership degree and has been absent for two face to face days.
8. Angela Makris and Ross Toogood have had another professional learning day at Bastow leadership institute.

Resources

To be discussed in Andrew's *Buildings & Grounds* report.