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Newsletter

Week 1 Term 2 – Thursday 30th April 2020



Old Maps No Longer Work, by Joyce Rupp

*I keep pulling it out –
the old map of my inner path
I squint closely at it,
trying to see some hidden road
that maybe I've missed,
but there's nothing there now
except some well-travelled paths.
they have seen my footsteps often,
held my laughter, caught my tears.*

*I keep going over the old map
but now the roads lead nowhere,
a meaningless wilderness
where life is dull and futile.*

*"toss away the old map," she says
"you must be kidding!" I reply.
she looks at me with Sarah eyes
and repeats "toss it away."
It's of no use where you're going."*

*"I have to have a map!" I cry,
"even if it takes me nowhere."
I can't be without direction,"
"but you are without direction,"
she says, "so why not let go, be free?"*

*so there I am – tossing away the old map,
sadly fearfully, putting it behind me.
"whatever will I do?" wails my security
"trust me" says my midlife soul.*

*no map, no specific directions,
no "this way ahead" or "take a left".
how will I know where to go?
how will I find my way? no map!
but then my midlife soul whispers
"there was a time before maps
when pilgrims travelled by the stars."*

*It is time for the pilgrim in me
to travel in the dark,
to learn to read the stars
that shine in my soul.
I will walk deeper*

*into the dark of my night.
I will wait for the stars.
trust their guidance.
and let their light be enough for me.*

We have officially returned for Term 2 in 2020- right in the middle of a pandemic. We are in what will be marked as quite the historical period. Although currently the focus is only to 'get through it' as best we can. Hopefully the break allowed families to slow down a little, because the end of Term 1 felt like we were free falling at warp speed. I think the biggest thing I have gained in the last month is to be so grateful for all the little things, such as a daily walk in glorious weather. I have also gained a greater appreciation for the things I have taken for granted in the past; having dinner with a group of friends or even attending a family function... I now miss them, that is saying something! Our reality will return to what we have been used to, it will just take some more time. Hang in there and know 'Old Maps no longer work' 😊

Stephanie Hopkins: Principal

Staff Development Days

To have two staff development days at the beginning of a term has been incredible. It provided the opportunity for staff to collaborate and participate in Professional Learning as a connected cohort. However due to social distancing restrictions and Health guidelines these days looked somewhat different. Staff were strictly timetabled for time onsite and off site school grounds and participated in live webinars that assisted in building and increasing our knowledge of technology and programs to use to increase student learning. We also managed to complete our annual CPR and Anaphylaxis training. We were a trial school for the first remote presentation of this training. Royal Life Saving were brilliant to work with and the Zoom assessments had representatives from Sydney Children's Hospital drop in to make sure everything was to a high standard. We all passed with flying colours. I think many of us liked working in much smaller groups too.



Term 2

During Week 1 and 2 of Term 2 staff are working furiously to establish routines and protocols for week 3 which will see the majority of students return for face to face teaching Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. This creates some logistical planning to ensure only 'essential' movement between classes and staff is made. Students and staff will have varying break times and use of the playgrounds so that the safest environment possible is created. While schools have been deemed safe and Arranounbai is following all the Health guidelines and Department of Education protocols, nothing can be guaranteed.



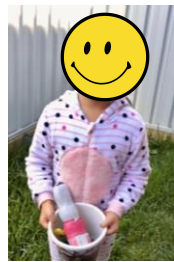
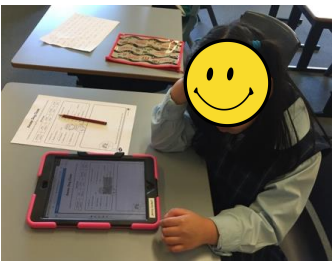
Learning @ Home or School



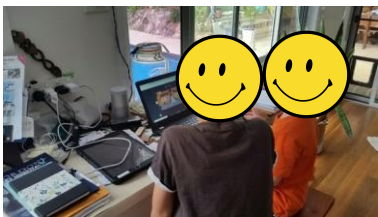
Owen enjoyed following the school recipe to make chocolate cupcakes



Lucas went for a bushwalk in the holidays



Jerina working at school and celebrating Easter collecting eggs.



Beau being the teacher



Beau receiving 'awards' at home

Dates for Your Diary

Friday 1st May – Virtual Assembly @ 9:30am



Coffee & Connection for Parents Zoom style – 11:30am

Friday 1st May



Friday 15th May – Arranounbai P&C



Monday 11th May – Students who can return for face to face teaching – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 😊