PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Last week was a great week for celebrating, learning and reinforcing student wellbeing as an important part of our curriculum and how we can support families through the hills and valleys of life.

Beau Vernon’s talk to the Year 5 and 6 students was inspirational and informative. One take away I had, was that we should expect our lives to be an up and down journey so that we develop strategies and accept inevitable lows as short term and determine ways of working ourselves out of it. Expecting smooth sailing lessens one’s ability to know when things are wavering and the coping strategies that may need to come into play.

Superheroes Day was enjoyed by all and congratulations to all the families who were creative both in superhero ideas and repurposing what they had at home. Lots of good laughs were had by all. Thanks to the staff who each delivered a wellbeing message represented by their character. Students enjoyed a range of wellbeing activities with different staff members.

The Preps had an extra special day as it was their 100 Days at school celebrations and the opportunity to dress up. Thanks to Mrs Bright and the parents who assisted with the ‘100’ activities. The Preps are such characters who embrace opportunities with such gusto. Photos and writing can be enjoyed later in the newsletter.

Beau Vernon’s ‘My Take on Resilience’ was an opportunity for the adults in our school community to hear about resilience from someone who has been faced by a mighty challenge.

Beau’s main messages to build resilience were:

😊 Attitude- events leads to thoughts leads to emotions leads to responses leads to results. You can choose which path to take.
😊 Gratitude- appreciate what you have and draw upon on these when times are tough.
😊 Ideas. How can I work around this? What have I got that will help me with this challenge?

Family Voice Survey
Thanks to the parents who returned the blue Family Voice survey- your contributions will add to our thinking and actions.
Donation
At last week’s bus education session, Keith Foote presented the school with a cheque for $100 from the Bus Operators Association. Yesterday I spoke to Keith and he remarked how much the enjoyed visiting our school: the questions, the cooperation, the manners, the willingness to engage and the attitude of our students- your children.

FATHER’S DAY
This year we will be having Father’s Day Workshops for students to make a gift like we did for the Mother’s Day. The cost of materials will be $3 and orders close COB Friday 12th August to allow ordering and delivery. A return slip can be found at the end of the newsletter. If your child will not be making a gift, please fill out the appropriate section of the slip and return it to school.

In this month’s ThinKUnow newsletter there was an interesting article about Pokémon Go. Regardless of the app, there are some eSmart messages and considerations in the article that should apply to the use of technology (see italic text).

Pokémon Go
Since its release only a few weeks ago, Pokémon Go has become the most popular smartphone application in history. This augmented reality app allows users to go about their daily life, but in the company of Pokémon.

The basic aim of the game is to collect Pokémon characters, working towards ultimate battles in ‘gyms’ which are scattered around our towns and cities. In a nutshell, the aim of the game is to ‘catch em all!’

Contrary to the games slogan, you don’t ‘gotta catch em all’ if it means putting yourself in a situation where you feel unsafe, both online and offline.

Why it’s fun - It is integrated into our real world. In the past, when we thought of gaming we pictured sitting on the couch for hours in front of a screen. Pokémon Go encourages both adults and children to explore their surroundings. ‘Pokestops’ are often found at well-known landmarks around town, some of historical and cultural significance. The Pokémon themselves can be found in a variety of locations. We’ve been testing out the app, and we found some in our local park, in the lift and in the local supermarket. We’ve even got a ‘Pokestop’ right outside the entrance to our building.

ThinKUnow Top Tips - 1. Depending on your child’s age, search for Pokémon with them, or ensure they have a friend with them at all times if you’re comfortable with them being outside without parental supervision.
2. Make sure usernames don’t contain any identifying information. While there is no built-in chat feature, usernames will appear if you are in a ‘gym’. As you need to be physically near a gym to battle, its best those around you cannot identify you.
3. Talk to your child about the importance of always looking at what is around them before they start hunting Pokémon. Pokémon Go requires you to watch your avatar walking on a screen through GPS tracking. This can sometimes cause children to focus all their attention to that little screen in their hands. (“Hey try walking in the city without having someone collide into you because they are overly focussed on their phone.”)
4. Talk to your children about safe places to go while playing. Players can set off ‘lures’ which attract not only Pokémon, but people too. This can cause large numbers of people to flock to locations around town to stand at the lure which attracts Pokémon for 30 minutes. In these instances, it is important to be aware of who is around.
5. Be aware that apps may also have access to your personal information and other applications on your phone, including your location and camera.
6. There are in-app purchases, so don’t forget to chat to your children about the consequences of buying items through the app.

ZOO EXCURSION
From all accounts the zoo excursion went really well allowing the students in 3-6 to enjoy a day out together and access such a rich resource. Students have been praised for their attitude, especially in regards to the inquiries they undertook to complement their class learning.

Last week I was most impressed with 23JG and their ability to ‘wonder’ about animals and generate questions for inquiry. Top marks 23JG- a most impressive quality for lifelong learning and deeper connections to the world.
Prep’s 100 Day Party

With Tillani we made crowns. It was fun. **Cooper**

We had a fun 100 day party. I liked the crowns the best. It was the best day. **Will**

I liked everything on the 100 days. I liked the crowns the best. It was fun. **Matilda**

On the 100 day I had a party and food and a 100 cake. I liked everything we did yesterday. **Bailey**

At the 100 days we made crowns with Tillani. It was fun. **Kiarrah**

I liked the crowns on the 100 days. I liked the food it was the best. **Alex**

I liked making the crowns. **Oliver**

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**ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

😊 **Adele P** for always looking for ways to fill the buckets of her peers.

😊 **Dayne A** for positive changes he is making in organising his work. Keep it up!

😊 **Ruby A** for a great effort with her writing about 100 days at school.

😊 **Zara J** for the ‘no fuss’ attitude she has towards her injury. Nothing gets in the way of her learning.

😊 **Skaylah P** for formulating excellent questions while watching a documentary on Africa.

😊 **Jarvis L** for showing great confidence and giving a fantastic explanation of the Lord Howe Island stick insect at the Melbourne Zoo excursion.

😊 **Keelie P** for the enthusiasm and enjoyment she displayed whilst giving her all in the wellbeing day activities.

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**PRINCIPAL’S AWARDS**

😊 **Rose S** for her confident and creative approach to learning.

😊 **Angel A** for neat and correct letter formation in handwriting.

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**HOUSE POINTS**

**Last Week’s Winner:** Wattle  **Overall Winner:** Bluegum
Today the 27/7/2016 Beau Vernon came and talked to us about his injury and how he persisted through the whole process of healing. I found Beau’s talk very interesting. My favourite part about Beau’s talk was when we were doing positive and negative when we had to say positive and negatives about your friends going to a different school.

Dayne

Superhero day

It’s the day all kids prepared for- to show off their costumes. There was Moto man, Box Man, Eggman—that is only 3 of the superheroes. All of the costumes were original superheroes. I won the funniest costume. All sort of activities were prepared. There were drama mindfulness, cooking, Beau Vernon and Tough Mudder. Beau Venom was inspiring how he got spinal cord injury and got back up even stronger than he used to be, That makes me feel thankful that my body still works properly. Beau loved his sport before he was injured. Now that Beau is injured he still trying to play golf and surf on his boogie board. Tough Mudder was fun and at the same time we were getting fit.

Mindfulness drama taught me that lying down is not the only way you can do mindfulness, there are a lots of ways to calm you down. Phuc

FATHER’S DAY BY COB Friday 12th August

I would like my child/children to participate in the Father’s Day crafty present activity and I enclose $3 per child.

Child’s name: ................................................................................................................. Grade................................................

Child’s name: ................................................................................................................. Grade................................................

Child’s name: ................................................................................................................. Grade................................................

Child’s name: ................................................................................................................. Grade................................................

Total..............................................

My family has made other arrangements for a gift so (fill in names) ________________________ will make a card during the craft session time.