Your Child's Journey into Reading

This is the first in a series of reading stages I present to you for your consideration.

Children are emerging as readers from the day they are born (and sometimes before). Children become emergent readers as they become aware of the world of print, its power and uses.

The emergent reader:
- enjoys listening to stories
- forms an understanding of what print is for
- learns about language, story, rhythm and rhyme
- develops alphabet knowledge, eg: can recite the alphabet
- comes to understand that print is made up of words
- comes to understand that stories have a beginning, middle and end

Things you can do to help your emergent reader:

Immerse them in TALK and TEXT

- Use open-ended questions "How..." "Why..."
- Use big words and explain what they mean

Encourage play and investigation

- Write in front of your child and talk about what you are doing.
- Demonstrate how print/text can be useful in real life: Shopping lists, signs "Do not disturb" "Reserved" etc

Read aloud and demonstrate decoding strategies

- Engage discussion during and after stories
- What happened at the beginning/middle/end?

Sing songs and rhymes

- Nursery rhymes, counting rhymes, alphabet songs, Jolly Phonics

Help them develop knowledge of the alphabet

- Help them learn to name the letters of the alphabet and the sound they most often show.

Limit television

- Monitor and share your child's viewing.

School discipline to be strengthened

The Queensland Government has announced a plan to strengthen school discipline in state schools. The plan is the first of 15 strategies to be developed from the recently released Great teachers = Great results direct action plan. It will reduce red tape and provide principals with the flexibility to work with the school community to implement a range of new and strengthened disciplinary approaches. For more information on Great teachers = Great results visit the DETE website.
News from ‘H Block’ (Hohn/Hannant)

Ready, Set, Grow! is our Science unit this term. A Biology unit focussing on the relationships of living things and their dependence on their environment. So far we have looked at the life cycle of plants and the needs of living things. We will be researching an endangered animal or plant from our area and making recommendations on what we can do to assist its survival for our assessment. Ms Hohn will supply students with research websites and other informational material later this term, but keep an ear and eye out for anything that may be useful.

How many Vietnamese Dongs is Laura holding?
31 000 Dong = $1.55 Australian!

Lexile News

Our Laker parents are invited to have a look in our classrooms to see our Chain Challenge in action. The children receive a ‘link’ for each point they receive in their Lexile quizzes. The chains in each class will be joined together at the end of the term to see which class has read the most and be awarded the PRIZE! This is yet to be determined, but I’m working with Ms Wright to make sure that it is a good one! To be in the running the children need to read Lexile books and successfully complete the quiz at school. Bookmarks:
Oops, Ms Hohn accidentally threw out the sheet containing these names! Kudos to all those who received an encouragement award last week.

Ribbons:
A MASSIVE CONGRATULATIONS TO YOUNG Lachlan M on his huge effort of 800 POINTS!!!!! Please aslute this INTERGALACTICAL CADET when you see him.

No Public Holiday in May

Due to the confusion with the ever changing public holidays of late attached to this weeks newsletter is a 2013 school holiday calendar. Please note there is no public holiday in May this year. The Labor Day holiday has now been moved to October.

Special thanks

Thank you to Selina W. She has kindly donated SPENCIL Packs to our school students. These packs consist of a pencil case and a pack of highlighters. These will be handed out to the students this week, and these packs will remain at with them at school.

Cross Country

Two of our students have qualified to go on the next cross country event which will also be held at Blenheim this Friday May 3. Zeke K. placed 5th and Tamara S was first in their respective events. Special mention to Brenton M who came 3rd in his event but is too young to go on to the next event. Watch out for him next year.

Found

A silver ring watch has been found in the playground last week. If you think this is yours come up to the office to collect it.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Pixifoto will be coming to our school on Friday 31 May to take our class photos. Children are expected to wear their full school uniform on this day. Envelopes were attached to last weeks newsletter. Please fill out one envelope for each child and ENCLOSE CORRECT PAYMENT as no change can be given. Cheques are to be made payable to PIXIFOTO. Each student is to place their individual envelope into the silver box or hand it to their class teacher by Monday 27 May. Pixifoto will do sibling photos. If you would like to take advantage of this you will need to pick up a separate envelope from the office.
Library
Scholastic Issue 3 leaflets have been handed out. Our school receives rewards to purchase books for our library when you order any item within these leaflets. Could all orders and payment be returned to the Silver Box by this Thursday 2 May. Payments can be made by cash, credit card & cheques made payable to Scholastic Australia. If paying with cash please ensure correct money is given as we so not have any money for change at the school.

School Website
The school website has been updated with a fresh look and new information. The newsletter is published weekly on this site and can be accessed at any time. The address has remained the same www.lakeclarendonss.eq.edu.au

Family Festival
St Vincent's Private Hospital Toowoomba will be hosting a Family Festival in Queens Park, Toowoomba, on Sunday May 12 (Mothers’ Day) from 9am until 2pm. This free family event will be held in conjunction with the FKG Tour of Toowoomba. See attached flyer for more information.

Tuckshop Menu 2013

**MUNCHIES**
- Mixed Chips...............................$0.50
- Red Rock Chips(Honey Soy).......$1.20
- Panda Biscuits..........................$0.60
- Nutella..................................$0.80
- Apple Slinky............................$1.00
- Yoghurt/Fruit frogs...................$0.50
- Yoghurt Sticks.......................4 for $0.50
  *(Temporarily unavailable)*

**COLD ITEMS**
- Zinger Ice Blocks..................$0.50
- Yoghurt Ice Cream Tubs.........$2.00

**Ham & Salad Roll....................$4.00**
**Meat Pie.................................$3.00**
**Sausage Roll.........................$2.00**
**Fish Fingers........4 for $2.00**
**Chicken Fillets....................$1.30**
**Pizza.................................$2.50**
**Cheese Toastie....................$1.50**
**Ham/Cheese Toastie............$2.00**
**Ham/Chesse/Tomato.........$2.50**
**Garlic Bread.......................$0.40**

**DRINKS**
- LOL’s..................................$2.00
- Chocolate Breakers...............$1.50
- Strawberry Breaker...............$1.50
- Yoghurt Sticks....................4 for $0.50

**Tuckshop Roster 2013**

**TERM 2**

8 May: Keet G, Helene S, Tanya S
15 May: Mardi U, Rachel R, Sandy G
22 May: Sharon K, Melissa B, Lisa E
29 May: Tracey U, Terri K, Helene S
 5 June: Tracey U, Terri K, Lisa E
12 June: Mardi U, Helene S, Tanya S
19 June: LCSS SPORTS DAY - If you can help out on this day see Mardi

Uniforms Available
Monday & Friday mornings from 8.30am in the Uniform Room/Chappy’s Room. If these times don’t suit you can phone Evelyn and arrange a mutual time. 0428 165 767

Yoga Club
Yoga will now be held on Wednesday mornings See you all then. Namaste Lisa

Road Safety
POLICE BLITZ...
Our new Adopt-a-Cop, Brett Rule, has informed me that they will be undergoing a month long operation involving school zones. We will have a heavy police presence here over the next 4 weeks, targeting speeding and traffic offences. Take Care!!!!
Curriculum—Education Queensland Curriculum, Aiming for High Level Academic Skills, Skilled and Dynamic teachers

Learning—A love of learning and a recognition that it is a life-long process, The ability to problem solve and to think both creatively and critically, Top Quality Learning Resources

Excellence—Best Practice, Striving for High Standards, Striving for High Academic Results

Attitude—Developing a ‘Can-Do’ Attitude, Positive and Outward, Onward and Upward, Active Citizenship

Respect—The development of self discipline and socially responsible behaviours, Respect for self and others, Effective communication and interpersonal skills

Chappy’s Corner

About 3 weeks ago I began to share some of the beliefs that exist in the world. Today’s belief is Hinduism.

It is regarded as one of the oldest religions and started in India. It is believed to be a way of life not just a religion. Many ‘wise’ sayings or texts were passed down verbally by Sages and had different authors. In more modern times these sayings were written down to form the Hindu scriptures covering many topics including science, religion, philosophy and spiritual knowledge. Hinduism is not confined to a single set of ideas, so there are many schools of thought. The Shruti deal with never changing, eternal principles and consist of ancient books called Vedas. The Smritis explain the practical applications of these principles.

Hindus have many gods, but believe that their God is a being without form that pervades everything, is present everywhere, is all knowing, all powerful, and transcends time and space. Hindu life journey or karma seems to be focused on improving their life as they go. Reincarnation is the belief that once they die they can return as another life form. If successful they achieve Moksha where their will merges with that of God. The joining of oneself with the Hindu God (Brahman) is called yoga.

Yoga involves meditation, contemplation and the fixing of your mind on Brahman to become free, at peace, and one with him. I’ll leave it there, because the Hindu belief is very complex and involves many god’s (male and female) for those beginning the spiritual journey to make it easier focus on until they understand Brahman more fully.

Humour

What did the vet give the sick pig? Oinkment

What do you call a pig with no eyes? PG.

What do you call a cow with no legs? Ground Beef.

Finally… We may look different, but we feel the same. G. Pittar