May 28th, 2015

**Congratulations Miss Wallis**

We are delighted to have Miss Kayla Wallis, a past Cranbourne North Primary School (as we were previously named) student working at our school.

Kayla recently attended her graduation ceremony and in the photograph to the left she proudly holds her degree. Well done Kayla and keep up your tremendous work.

**Foundation Students Meet Mem Fox**

Our Foundation students recently visited Cranbourne Library where they had the marvellous experience of meeting renowned children’s author, Mem Fox. The children were very lucky to have Mem Fox read several of her stories to them.
New House Captain for Deem

Students were recently invited to apply for the position of Deem House Captain, vacated after Mercy and her family returned to Singapore for family reasons. The new House Captain will be announced on Monday at assembly.
Getting There – Enhancing School Attendance Conference

Earlier this month I attended a conference for primary and secondary school staff, health and welfare professionals and clinicians who work with students who have difficulties with attendance.

The message delivered by Associate Professor David Heyne, Leiden University, The Netherlands was that when a young person has a hard time attending school regularly – for whatever reason – it becomes a serious concern for many. Parents may be confused and frustrated. Conflict can arise in a family. School staff and mental health professionals often invest a great deal of time working out how to best help. The young person is at risk of falling behind academically and falling out socially. He presented sobering findings drawing in research that show that our current interventions are not meeting the needs of certain subgroups of youth with attendance problems. His take home message was: “There is a lot yet to be learned about supporting youth with school attendance problems, and we have a solid research and practical base from which to proceed.”

Wellbeing Engagement Officers from the department reinforced the message “Everyday still counts” and presented actions, strategies and evidence of success from two Victorian schools. Other speakers including Simon Le Plastrier, Principal, Eltham College, Dr Glenn Melvin, Clinical Psychologist and Senior Lecturer, Centre for Developmental Psychiatry and Psychology, Monash University, a school psychologist and a parent representative all shared their experiences. The common message was that there is no easy answer and that best outcomes occur when there is open and honest communication between all parties who are committed on working together and persevering to overcome the problem.

If you need support in ensuring your child regularly and punctually attends school, please make an appointment to discuss the issue with your child’s class teacher who will offer suggestions and refer on to the well-being team as required.

2015 Attitudes to School Survey

Many thanks to our year 5 and year 6 students who recently completed the 2015 Attitudes to School Survey. The anonymous responses have been posted off for analysis. Reports for our school will be available from late July.

Is your child in prep this year?

This year you would have received the A Healthy Start to School brochure as part of your Prep library bag. An information booklet designed to help you and your child transition into school.

This was the first year the booklet was produced and the Victorian Government is seeking feedback from parents on its usefulness via an online survey.

By completing the online Healthy start to school survey you can contribute to the future content of the booklet and share experiences that may be useful to future Prep parents.

Dates to Remember:

June 3rd – 5th                      Camp – Grade 3 – 6
June 8th                           Queen’s Birthday public holiday
June 9th                           Curriculum Day
June 23rd                          Year 3/4 Scienworks Excursions

Supporting Kids in Primary Schools (SKIPS) is a unique program for primary schools that educates about mental illness in families and how schools support children in those families.

SKIPS is designed to increase teachers’ understanding of mental illness and their confidence in supporting children who live with a parent with mental illness. SKIPS gives grade 5/6 students appropriate language for talking about mental illness and increases their understanding of people who live with mental illness. It also helps to reduce the stigma of mental illness in the primary school community and in the wider community.

Our school has been running SKIPS during May and June, with professional development workshops for all staff on May 5th and 12th.

Grade 5 and 6 students are participating in classroom workshops on May 18th, May 25th and June 1st.

WE’RE IN TOWN

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Balla Balla Centre,
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15 - 19 June 2015

To make an appointment call 13 14 95
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BLOOD SERVICE