June 2, 2015

Welcome to Week 7 of our learning focused Term 2.

Canberra War Memorial Excursion Report

Congratulations to our students, parents and teachers for a wonderful and rewarding excursion last Friday 29 May. Our students represented themselves, their families and their school with pride. Our students were fine ambassadors for our community as they asked pertinent questions, and followed all instructions.

Valuing Our People: Meet Neville Quarmby, Band Master Extraordinaire

Neville has continued to work with our students who have been learning a band instrument at Bargo PS. Music is not only part of our creative arts opportunity, but also part of our program to provide students with a well-rounded quality education. Mrs Sarah Adam, is our School Coordinator and supports our school band.

What happens in band each week?

Students receive a lesson on their instrument and also practice as a group ensemble to learn how to play and listen to each other. The advantages of learning and playing in a band are huge! Students learn to practise cooperation, persistence, collaboration and great listening. These are skills that go beyond learning an instrument. Our students, over time, also develop another sense of belonging. I encourage students to continue learning and to join high school bands in their future educational pathway.  Read Neville’s Band update over the page!
K, 1, 2 and Year 6: Excursion to Picton High School Performance: 2 June 2015

Our local high school is presenting a great musical called “The Great Australian Musical” suitable for K-6. I also encourage parents to book and join the general performance. It is sounding very good! I am looking forward to it! Use this website to book your ticket today for this week’s performances.

Buy tickets online: [http://www.trybooking.com/HQVL](http://www.trybooking.com/HQVL)

Together Arts Exhibition held at Tahmoor Community Centre: 28th May

Thanks to the fabulous Mrs Ritchie and teachers, our students shared their Art Work celebrating the theme, ‘It’s time to change it up’. Here is just one of our artworks developed by 2-6W.

Reconciliation Week 27 May to 3 June: Celebration with School Performance Monday 22 June

Tomorrow, there will be a note sent home regarding our visiting Aboriginal performance, Fred Reid as part of our Reconciliation and Naidoc celebrations. Thank you Mrs Kent for your organisation!

Invitation to P&C Meeting: Wednesday 3 June 2015, 7:00pm

I am looking forward to meeting again with our parents, next Wednesday evening. I would like to thank our President Carol O’Dowd for the new P&C articles and presence in our newsletter.

Interviews and Reporting: Week 10

During the next few weeks, teachers will be assessing and writing reports. We will be conducting interviews in the final week of this term. Interviews are an exchange of information. We look forward to report on progress and listen to your feedback in return.

Netball, Soccer and AFL Gala Day New Dates:  
A) 12 June 2015  
B) 19 June

Parents and students will receive new notes as required by Mr Hockey.

Building Links and Learning Connections with Picton High

This Friday, 5 June, local principals and their Year 6 Coordinators are meeting at Picton High to continue to share programs and develop ideas to strengthen student learning pathways. Mrs Kent and I look forward to promoting programs that cater for the needs and capabilities of our children. In return, Picton High will showcase their hospitality department. I’m looking forward to sharing the success of our high school students as they grow and mature. As we look to the future, we are planning the success of our current children.
SURVEY: What key messages do you want me to share with Picton High? If you have any ideas about how we can support our Year 6 to Year 7 transition to Picton High, please add your thoughts and return the quick survey back to the front office by Wednesday 3 June.

My ideas include
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________

How to help at home: Focus: How to improve memory
I encourage mums and dads to read and enjoy these activities from this online article. Improving memory and recall is great for all of us. I will certainly be building many of these key ideas into my family routine.

Jenny Quist

8 ways to improve memory

ARTICLE BY AMANDA MORIN

1. Teach visualization skills.
Encourage your child to create a picture of what he’s just read or heard. For example, if you’ve told him to set the table for five people, ask him to come up with a picture in his head of what the table should look like. Then have him draw that picture. As he gets better at visualizing, he can start describing the image to you instead of drawing it.

2. Have your child teach you.
Being able to explain how to do something involves making sense of information and mentally filing it. If he’s learning a skill, like how to dribble a basketball, ask him to teach it to you after his coach explains it to him.

3. Suggest games that use visual memory.
Give your child a magazine page and ask him to circle all instances of the word “the” or the letter “a” in one minute. Alternatively, play games in the car in which one of you recites the letters and numbers on a license plate you see and then has to say it backwards, too.

4. Play cards.
Simple card games like Crazy Eights, Uno, Go Fish and War improve working memory in two ways. Your child has to keep the rules of the game in mind, but also has to remember what cards he has and which ones other people have played.

5. Make up category games.
When words and ideas are put into categories, they’re easier to remember. Playing games in which you name as many animals as you can think of can eventually lead to playing games with more complicated concepts. For example, you may ask your child to name as many clue words for addition as she can (such as “all together,” “in all,” “total” and “plus”).

6. Number your directions.
Beginning a sentence with words like “I need you to do three things…” can help your child keep all of the different points in his head. You can do the same thing with other information, too, like shopping lists (“We need to buy these five items…”).

7. Connect emotion to information.
Processing information in as many ways as possible can help your child remember it. Help him connect feelings to what he’s trying to remember. For instance, if he’s learning about how the pyramids in ancient Egypt were built, ask him to think about what it felt like to have to climb to the top of one of them pulling a heavy stone in the hot sun.

8. Help make connections.
Connections are the relationship between things. Finding ways to connect what your child is trying to remember with things he already knows can help him learn the new material. For instance, show him that the twos times table is the same as his doubles facts, such as $4 \times 2 = 8$ and $4 + 4 = 8$.

Memory-boosting tricks and games are just some of the ways you can help improve your child’s executive functioning skills. Check out more tips from experts based on your child’s specific needs.

Have a terrific week! I’m loving the learning at Bargo PS!

Living and learning together in the 21st Century!

Jenny Quist
R/Principal
Dear 34G, and nutritious lunch for me – YUM, and my buddy Olivia
I just wanted to write a quick note to let you know I had a fabulous day
with you all on Friday at the War Memorial.
What a marvellous class you are!
All of you are so friendly and cheerful, and so well behaved.
Everybody in this class has such beautiful manners and I am so impressed
by how kind and thoughtful you all are, and how you look after each other.
While all of you are gorgeous I would just like to give a special mention to
a few of you—
Lachlan the Sleeping Lion Champion for making me laugh on the bus,
Macey for being so kind and generous and swapping seats with me, Sophia
for being funny, Melanie and Tennille for the photography skills, Lucas the
learner for reading every plaque and studying every exhibit, Willow for
packing a delicious for making sure I wasn’t lost.
You should all know that you are all the BEST and most lovely class I have
ever spent time with and your parents should be very proud of what fine
Ladies and Gentlemen you are.
Thanks so much for taking me on your excursion, it was a pleasure to
spend time with you all,
Jennifer