This week on school parade I spoke to the students about “Being involved and doing their best.” This week we have witnessed students taking on this concept in a number of activities.

1. On Monday 11th February the school swimming team attended the 2013 Redlands District Primary School Swimming Trials. Congratulations to Grace Moreton-McDougall, Jamella Olgilvie, Kiara Mazzoni, Marli Lawlor, Piper Blewitt, Kimberley Townsend, Riley Shilling, Reo Wall, Joshua Prior-Dallas, Namuli Ruska-Fisher, Zane Jenner, Paris Prior-Dallas, Lynise Coghill and Sylah Costeloe for representing the school and doing their very best. We are proud of you.

2. On Thursday 14th February some Year 6 students commenced “Project 600”. This is an extension program that is delivered in a virtual classroom and will extend the students in problem solving mathematical concepts and technology skills. Well done to the students and Mrs Connell, the Year 6 teacher, for being involved in extension programs. I know the students will do their best.

3. Tuesday 12th February was the very first session of Active After School Care (AASC) and the surfing session was really well attended by the students. Special mention goes to the many parent who also attended the session. It is great to see parents being involved in school activities. Thanks to David Christie who is the program co-ordinator and Murray Taylor who is the surfing session coach for kick starting the program on Tuesday. The program will run on two afternoons a week for this term with Surfing on Tuesday and Games/Touch Football on Thursday. If you are interested in registering your student for either of these afternoons collect a form from the office.

The school parade. The Year 6 students are to be commended on the sterling effort they are putting into the school parades and the Year 2 students shone this week with their performance of the poem “The Owl and the Pussycat”. I invite all community members to be involved in the school. Each morning Breakfast club is held at the Community Block. Special thanks go to Carmel Karkalis who volunteers each morning to prepare a healthy breakfast for the students. If you are willing to volunteer to assist in Breakfast Club, in the classrooms or at lunch hours please call the school office.

We are a very proud school and for very good reasons. An open and extended invitation goes to any community members who would like a “Principals Guided Tour” of the school. Contact the office to make an appointment.

The students were reminded on parade that the best thing to be involved in is learning every single day. Remember:-

“It is not ok to stay away because we learn everyday”.

Jenny Wilson Principal
The Owl and the Pussy Cat

“The Owl and the Pussy cat went to sea in a beautiful pea green boat ……..”

I like this poem because it has good expression, it is a good poem that you can speak. I like to say this poem to my parents and teacher and to other children who may have never heard the poem.

Grace Costelloe

I think the Owl and the Pussy Cat is a good poem. The Owl and the Pussy Cat sailed away and they got in love and they ate some food by the edge of the sand and the light of the moon. The poem was written by Edward Lear in 1871 which is a long time ago, he is dead now.

Jai Jenner

The Owl and the Pussy Cat got married and they had slices of mince and quince and a runcible spoon.

I like this poem because it is good and I love it; it makes me feel happy.

Edward Lear wrote this poem. I like to say this poem to my parents.

Johnathan Myers

I like The Owl and the Pussy Cat poem because it has lots of expression. I like to say the poem to the class. The Owl and the Pussy Cat fell in love so they sailed away and got married, they ate mince and quince to the light of the moon. I would read this poem to other children. I like to draw the Owl and the Pussy Cat, the Owl has big eyes and the Pussy Cat has long finger nails.

Lucy Moreton-McDougall
Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students:

Oscar Brewster, Shaye Doyle, Mikka Vende, Jesse Dwyer, Denzel Hammant, Lucy Moreton-McDougall, Chevelle Buscombe, Grace Costelloe, James Eugarde, Genevieve Leighton and Jake Trail.

DENTAL VAN NEWS

The dental staff have handed out dental forms to Years 1,2,3,5 and 6 with Prep and Year 4’s forms going out in the next few weeks. Please check your student’s bag for dental forms and reports. We invite children who are 4 years old and over who have not started school yet to get a free check up at the van by ringing and making an appointment. If you have any enquiries please contact the dental van on 0407735445.

DISTRICT SWIMMING AT CLEVELAND

Monday 11th was a great day of sport for students from Dunwich who Swam in the District Swimming Carnival held at Cleveland Aquatic Centre.

All the nominated students had a great team spirit and participated and displayed great team spirit. Students swam some of their some of their best times on the day. Congratulations Dunwich..

SCHOOL AGE CARE COORDINATOR NEEDED

Please contact Graham Pearse on 0413592071 or at graham.pearse@pcyc.org.au

Expression of interest INDIGENOUS LIAISON OFFICER (AO3) Dunwich State School temporary position from 4th March to 21st June (with possible extension). Proposed 21.75 hours per week.

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR THE POSITION OF TEMPORARY INDIGENOUS LIAISON OFFICER BASED AT DUNWICH STATE SCHOOL.

Please contact Dunwich State School for Role Description, Application Process and Interview Criteria.

SWIMMING TIMETABLE

Year 1 Wednesday 12.10
Year 2 Wednesday 11.20
Year 3 Wednesday 1.30
Year 4/5 Wednesday 2.15
Year 6 Thursday 2.15

Parents please check that all students have the necessary swimming equipment. Togs, wetshirt, swimming cap and a towel. Also if anyone would like to donate their time to help during these sessions please contact Jocelyn Keid.

Thank you.
Suzy was a constant reminder of how fragile urban koalas are, she faced many threats on a day-to-day basis. For instance Suzy had to cross very busy roads (like the East Coast Road). She had done it for many years and she was pretty good at it – sometimes with the help from her many fans at the School. Suzy also was sharing her home with dogs which can be dangerous to koalas. Finally Suzy relied on trees that were in gardens, schools or in local parks, and all these trees can be cut down for various reasons, each time taking a little bit of the koala’s food and shelter away. Suzy was thus a great reminder that we can all be involved in preserving koalas by being careful drivers, safely stopping the car when a koala is crossing the road, keeping our dogs on leash and restraining them to our garden, or keeping and planting native koala trees in our garden.

Suzy was special for many more reasons. She was a successful mum, contributing many insanely cute additions to the koala population. Suzy was a respectably-old lady; she could have been around 15 years old when she died, which is a great achievement for a koala. Suzy didn’t seem to mind visitors, as once when I was tracking her, she was in a tree at my eye level, and she peacefully looked at me while I was taking my scientific notes. Most of all, Suzy decided to live in close proximity to us all in Dunwich, giving us the amazing privilege to call her our neighbour. It certainly always made my day when I could spot her. In fact I could see her so easily it was almost like visiting an old friend.

Suzy will be greatly missed by all of us that love to take a walk and enjoy our wildlife. She blessed Straddie with her presence for many years and I can now only hope her descendants will keep the family tradition and stay around and that we can protect them to make sure we can live together for many years to come.

Rest in peace, lovely Suzy

By Romane Cristescu

One of Straddie favourite koala past away recently: we called her Suzy, although I’m sure she had a different name in koala language… Suzy was special in many ways.

Suzy was a very cultured koala, she spent many years attending schools in Dunwich. Suzy was particularly assiduous to the Elementary School of Dunwich. Indeed the pupils there saw her on a regular basis. Dunwich pupils ended up knowing her very well: as they recorded her presence every day for a few months in 2009, they were able to map her movements across the trees of the playground with their teacher Nicole. They then determined where her favourite trees were and could protect these trees when the library was extended. That’s conservation in action!

Suzy was also quite famous, she had been in numerous presentations and scientific articles, she even made it in the SIN (“From Seuss to science” SIN Winter 2009, “Living dangerously: Straddie urban koalas” SIN Summer 2012/2013). I’ve also seen many tourists from all around the world stopping along the road and taking pictures of her, so her fame probably extends through many countries!

Suzy was a great help to science, twice she was part of research projects by the University of Queensland and Sibelco that were aiming at increasing our knowledge of koalas on Straddie. Suzy’s first encounter with science was in 2004, but personally I first met Suzy in 2008, when she was caught in front of the Dunwich High School. On each of these occasions, Suzy was fitted with a radio collar. This collar was used to follow her movements and record which areas and individual trees of Dunwich she liked. It always puzzled me that she spent most of her time in very urban areas, like the schools I mentioned before. She never seemed to mind having lots of noise and activity around her during the day, even though that’s the time

Tracking Suzy with Year 2 in 2007

GET STARTED VOUCHERS TO HELP CHILDREN GET ACTIVE

Get Started is a new State Government funding program offering up to $150 per student towards sport club registration or membership fees to help families. Children with a parent or guardian who holds a Health Care or pension Concession Card and submit a form will qualify, while other families will also need to submit recommendations from two referral agents with their application. Details from Department of national parks, Recreation, Sport and Racing’s Get in the Game website.