Hello everyone

On Friday our teachers worked with staff from Bracknell, Meander, Mole Creek and Deloraine Primary Schools. It was a very productive day in which teachers shared examples of best practice around the teaching of spelling and how to embed oral language into the daily learning program. When teachers come together on professional learning days it is a great opportunity to work on developing consistency of student assessment across schools. To do this, teachers worked together in like grade groupings looking at student work samples, identifying evidence, making collective decisions about how that work sample would be graded and generating feedback for the student to help take them to the next step. A major focus for the day was on how to move students forward in their learning and to ensure teachers are challenging students well enough for them to be able to demonstrate their understanding at a higher level. Time is always made available at the end of these for teachers to reflect on their learning and I was impressed by the enthusiasm of our teachers and the energy they possess in providing the best possible learning environment for our students.

Our teachers at Westbury are currently working with some of the larger Launceston primary schools to develop strategies and protocols for identifying ‘A’ students and progressing ‘B’ students towards an A grade. This has involved the setting of targets and goals, making learning intentions explicit to students and using the strategy of ‘bump it up’.

This strategy helps students to identify which aspects of their work need improvement and teaches them how to explicitly do this. You are probably thinking “isn’t this what happens anyway?” This is true but using this technique the teacher and student focus on a very particular aspect of the work and work collectively to ‘bump it up’. The student assumes the responsibility for his or her learning rather than being the passive recipient.

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I have included a couple of examples from Grades 2-3 and 4-5 in this newsletter. If you have any questions about this process please talk with your child’s teacher.

Congratulations to our school choir who won a Westbury Week Wonder of Westbury Award for their lovely singing. It is so nice to know that they are appreciated. The choir loves performing and are looking forward to the Westbury Show where they will sing again.

Enjoy your week

Alison Brooks

PARENT NOTICE BOARD
A reminder that notices are put on the Parent Noticeboard outside the Kindergarten room. Please check this for local Community Notices.

PROBUS COOKING ROSTER
November 21  Tammy Sheahan
            Justine Hartam
            Alison Wightman

Please leave cooking in the Parent Room by 9.00am on the morning of Probus

HOT LUNCH ROSTER
October 31  Kathryn Pearton
            Simone Triffitt
November 7  Lorna Schonefeld
            Cindy Chung

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
The staff, students and wider Westbury community wish the following students a very happy birthday for next week:

Patrick Brown, William Fitzallen

On Wednesday 23 October Prep-I Shaw and Kinder Riley went on an excursion to the Launceston General Hospital and the YMCA.

The children had an exciting day filled with learning and fun activities. This included a tour of the Children’s Ward, an informative talk, role play patients and doctors (with real hospital gowns and equipment), morning tea and then a play in the Children’s Ward Hospital Playground. A huge thank you to Tash Pursell of the LGH for making the children’s visit a positive learning experience.

The afternoon was spent at the YMCA where the children were involved in a variety of challenging physical fun activities with the centre’s sports co-ordinators.

We would also like to thank the parents who assisted us on the day. Parent help allows us the extra supervision required to ensure each and every child has a safe and positive experience.

It was a great day for all involved :)

Karen Shaw - Prep-I
Kim Riley - Kinder
Arthur and his friends found a cave. (Stimulus that student was given)

Arthur the lost soldier and his sergeants, Fred and Barry found a cave for shelter. It was raining and the battle scarred hills of Gallipoli were raining with bullet as well as water. When they climbed into the damp dark cave Barry retrieved his trusty sniper out of his backpack and shot at some dented enemy tanks that passed the opening to the cave. Then they heard a loud rumbling sound, “uh-oh” said Fred, I can hear the bomber planes in the distance.

(Bumped up introduction that was generated by the student)

Noah Curtis (Gr 2-3)

The lady smiled.
Bump it up!
The young pretty lady smiled happily as she walked through the door because she was excited to see her new, playful, cheeky tabby kitten.

The boy crept.
Bump it up!
The six year old boy with fiery red hair quickly and quietly crept down to the small dingy basement so that not a soul could find him.

The lady wept.
Bump it up!
The lonely frail old lady wept as she saw two young men fighting like starving animals for food in the cold, miserable streets.
JANUARY 2014 SCHOOL HOLIDAY LEARN TO SWIM PROGRAM
Monday 20th to Friday 31st Jan 2014
30 minute lessons available from 9.00am each day
Same Instructor each day
Qualified experienced Austswim Instructors
Ages: 4 to 12 years – small classes
all levels catered for
Just Swim – Kings Meadows 63 442244
www.justswim.com.au
email: info@justswim.com.au

MILO IN2 CRICKET
Westbury Cricket Club is hosting Milo In2Cricket for 5-10 year olds at the Westbury Cricket Ground, Franklin Street, Thursdays 5-6pm until 12 December 2013. Cost is $65.

It is not too late to register!
For further details, contact Kieran on 0458 858 701.

Invitation to local
Eat & Greet
first Friday night every month

We invite you to the monthly social tea and family get together at 63 Meander Valley Rd, Westbury (Westbus shed) 6.30pm

Join us in a social and informal “old fashioned” evening of community friendship.

We invite you to come in the following months:
1st November
6th December
3rd January
7th February
7th March

Please bring food to share and enjoy a pleasant evening with new and old friends. Please also feel free to bring games or a musical instrument

Grant & Jo Bingley ph 6393 1830
jbingley@westbt.net.au

GIANT PLANT SALE and Fund Raiser for the
Westbury Community Health Centre
100s of plants
Including herbs, cacti, succulents, ground covers,
Greenery, trees, vegetables, bonsai (name),
Perennials, hydrangeas, bay trees, natives,
And many more

Priced from 50 cents
And including plants professionally grown
at less than Wholesale prices!

When: Saturday 2nd November 2013
Where: Westbury Community Health Centre
89 Meander Valley Road, Westbury
Time: 9:00 am start

Car boot sale—$10.00
White Elephant Stall—Op Shop
Sausage Sizzle — $2.00
Craft Stall and Books
Cake Stalls and Devonshire Teas
Raffles

DONATIONS OF PLANTS WELCOME and may be left at the Health Centre Phone 6393 5800
All proceeds go towards the purchase of ideal resources for the Health Centre

Aspergers Parent Support Group
Thank you to all parents who have expressed interest in the parent support group. The first meeting will be held on Monday 11th November from 1:30 – 2:30pm in the New Hall at Deloraine Primary School.

Any queries please contact Bernadette Bennett on 6362 2742 or Penny Burbury on 6362 2012.