

George Street Primary School Newsletter



22nd April 2024 – Issue 5

Acting Principal's Message

It has been a busy start to Term 2. We welcome new staff members, Sally Trotter, Dakota Sciascia and Sam Eales. Sally will be working in the classrooms as a Learning Support Officer, Ms Sciascia has taken over the Grade 4/5 class and Mrs Eales has come on board in a leadership capacity overseeing school climate and pedagogy.

Last week I received communication from the VSBA with a letter from the Deputy Premier and Minister of Educations, the Hon. Ben Carroll.

As some of you may be aware, in Term 1, I submitted a grant application and worked with the VBSA to cost and design the scope for a project involving upgrading some areas of the school. This included fencing, external and ramped toilet access, and removal of the disused relocatable classroom.

I am beyond delighted to inform you that the grant application was successful and GSPS will be receiving \$1.5million dollars in funding.

It is also worth noting that at our last School Council Meeting, the Council elected to instate two separate sub-committees; Finance Sub-committee, OHS and Facilities Sub-committee. This is a fantastic opportunity for the school to function in a more precise and strategic manner.

Also of note, is the extensive works that are being completed at the school. We are continuing to work through a variety of tasks. Over the break, earth works were completed including the removal of broken and damaged bins and seating, unsightly and unsalvageable plants, removal of old tree stumps, removal of timber play equipment and leveling of some areas. The central hallway was painted, HUSH tiles have been installed in some areas of the school. Cabinetry has been installed and many many other minor works have been completed. Thank you to Andrew Sing for his continuing work in this area.

We have a busy term ahead and I encourage all students and parents to check the key dates at the front of the newsletter.

Finally, as the weather is cooling off, it's important to reach out should your child require support with their uniform. Megan O'Brien is our Wellbeing Officer and is the first point of contact. Please feel free to call the school or to give her a call or email.



From the classroom

Grade Prep

Welcome back to Term 2!

In our reading sessions, we've been immersed in "Pig the Pug." We've:

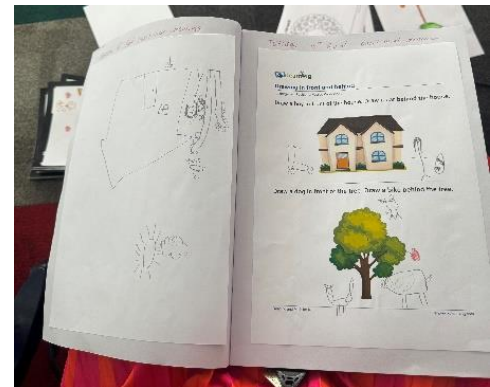
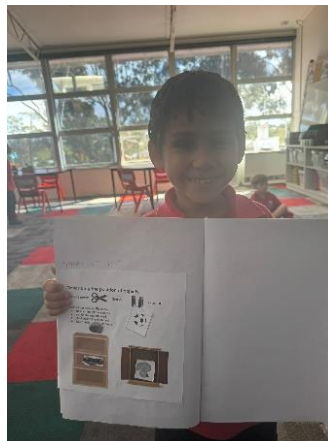
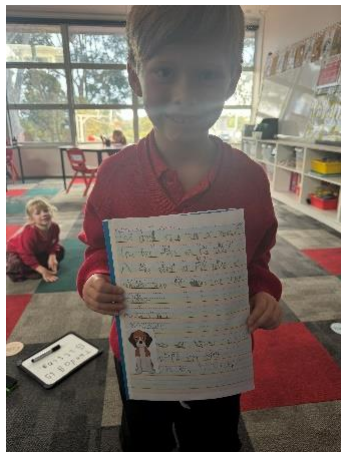
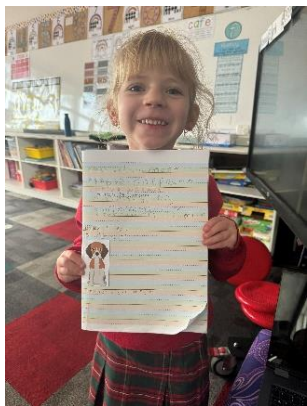
- Made predictions about the book, retold the story, engaged in discussions and comprehended the text through answering questions.

In our writing sessions, we've focused on speaking in complete sentences. We understand that a sentence should:

- Make sense and include a subject (who/what) and an action (what doing).

We are able identifying the subject and action of a sentence, and we've been able to craft our own sentences using visual aids.

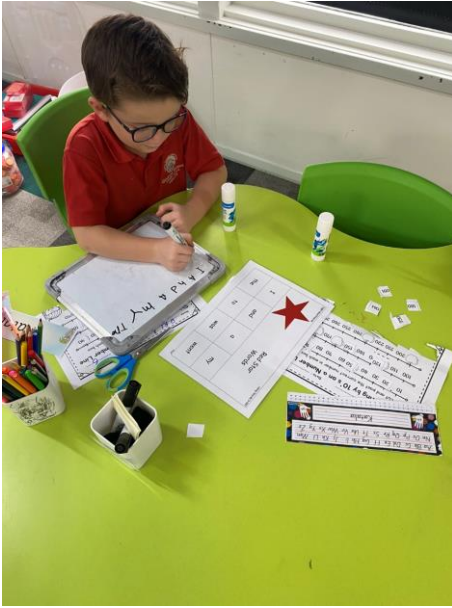
During our math lessons, we've delved into location and positional language, using terms like:



Key Dates – Term 2

- Monday 15th April – First day Term 2, Students return
- Friday 19th April – Curriculum Day – Student Free Day
- Tuesday 23rd April – School Council Meeting
- Thursday 25th April – ANZAC day – Student Free Day
- Thursday 2nd May – School Photos
- Friday 10th May – Mother's Day stall
- Friday 10th May – Assembly at 3:00pm
- Mon 13th May – Fri 17th May – Education Week
- Friday 31st May – Assembly at 3:00pm
- Monday 10th June – Kings Birthday Public Holiday
- Friday 28th June – 2:15pm Assembly, 2:30pm Student Finish – Last day of term

Grade 1/2



Grade ½ students have been settling in well this term!

With our altered timetable, students have been participating in daily Sounds Write Lessons. We have reviewed our initial code and extended code knowledge – by looking at the different spelling patterns that make the “long a” sound. In Writing, we have recapped our sentence structure knowledge and are working on stretching sentences out to include more detail.

In Maths, we have reviewed and extended our skip counting ability, by developing our number sequencing skills and using counting on strategies to understand what number comes next in a pattern.

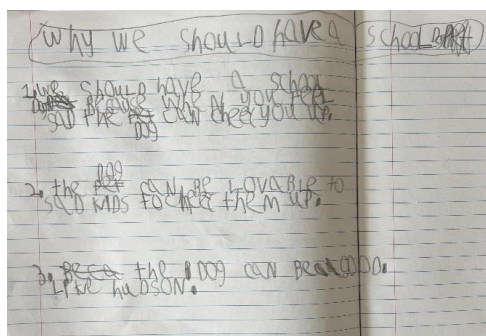
Grade 3

Grade 3 students have settled right back into their learning in Term 3. In Literacy, they have been reviewing and learning the different ways that long vowel sounds can be written, have continued to aim for writing fifty words in their texts, and have begun to work in Literary circle groups with a focus on summarising.

In Mathematics, students have revisited addition strategies and attempted to count and add a large amount of money. They are also working to complete their bar graphs started last term and will continue to use these to analyze data and make mini pizzas.



Grade 4/5

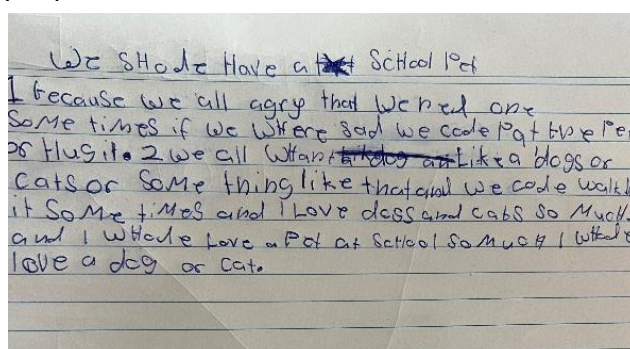


This week has been a change for the 4/5's as Mrs Smith finishes off her teaching to go on maternity leave and have now got Miss Sciascia (me) as their teacher. I am so excited to teach this class for the rest of this year and as I am originally from Hamilton can't wait to teach students from this community.

This week in English the 4/5's have been looking into persuasive writing in depth in terms of recognising it's features and in turn writing their own amazing persuasive introduction as to whether 'We should have a school pet'. Students planned these on whiteboards and also wrote these in their books.



In Maths this week the students have been delving into the world of chance and at the end of this week conducted a rock-paper-scissors probability experiment.



Grade 5/6

It has been absolutely wonderful to see everyone back at school after the Easter holidays, refreshed and ready for a busy Term Two! The Grade 5/6s have settled back into routine beautifully, and have been brilliant role models, successfully demonstrating our school values of respect, responsibility and resilience. I am also incredibly proud of how many Year 5/6 students have volunteered to participate in the ANZAC Day march; we are lucky to have such dedicated student leaders at our school.

Within Reading, we have jumped straight back into our whole-class text, *Our Race For Reconciliation*. Students are beginning to explore the points of view presented in the text, and the impact this has on the storyline and audience. Within Writing, students are refreshing their understanding of genres, their purpose and features. Maths has continued to see our amazing Grade 5/6 mathematicians extend themselves! We have been focusing on correctly reading, ordering and completing equations involving decimals. Our focus on decimals, fractions and percentages will continue this term, so please encourage your child to explore these in everyday contexts, such as when discussing money, cooking and shopping!

Lastly, our Grade Sixes finally received their long-awaited Grade Six shirts! Check out our happy students below!



Get to know our staff!

Megan O'Brien Student Wellbeing Officer



What is your favourite song? Shallow – Lady Gaga

What is your guilty pleasure? White chocolate

If you were a superhero, who would be your archnemesiis? Carly

What is your favourite animal? Dogs

What is your favourite season? Spring

What is something that always makes you smile? My daughter, Livana

What is one fact that few people know about you? I used to be a passenger in a speedway car.

Do you have any pets? Sea Monkeys

What are you passionate about? Making people happy

What is your greatest accomplishment? Being a mum to Livana

What is something on your bucket list? Travelling to England or seeing the Northern Lights

What makes you unique? My zest for life and I'm short and act like a child.