NEWSLETTER TERM 4 Week 7

We are all glad to have the power and internet back on!  
We have been busy completing teaching and learning activities for term 4. Assessments will begin next week in preparation for reports. The weeks after that will be spent working on items for the concert (Friday 11th December) and some Christmas craft and swimming.

Yesterday Paul Loxley Director of Western Plains visited the school as he does each term. Sadly this will be his last official visit to the Marra School as he is retiring at the end of the year. We all wish him well.

The students and staff completed a first aid course thanks to Sam from Assurance First Aid Dubbo for travelling out the day to run the course for us.

Sophia and I have been completing some professional learning in the area of finance and Sophia participated in a SAM network day last Friday.

We have been learning about Bees. This week the primary student’s skills such as listening, note-taking and finding key works to summarise and wrote an information report on why bees are so important on Earth.

Wet weather and various other reasons have seen our Kinder Starters miss a couple of weeks. Happily, they are back on deck this week.

On Tuesday the 27th October the students took part in a Tyke-Oh Japanese Drumming workshop. This took place at the Marra Hall Quambone, Carinda and Girilambone Public Schools travelled over for the day. It was a fantastic opportunity for all students to catch up and to experience an amazing exhibition on Japanese Drumming which encompassed discipline, the ability to follow instruction and rhythm. The students also had a ‘how to’ origami session that produced some wonderful paper animals. Thank you to Kyimo for the origami tips. A big thank you to the parents/staff for organising morning tea and bbq lunch for us all.
Macquarie Marshes Trip – On the 21st October the school joined Nicola Brookhouse Macquarie Marshes Ranger and Paul Keyte Wetlands and Rivers Conservation Officer for a field trip in the Marshes. The students looked for birds and played bird bingo, checked for small insect life in a sample of water caught in nets. We talked about the cultural significance of the Barwon in the creation of the Marshes and their importance to wildlife species not just in this area but globally as well. The kids enjoyed trudging around in the water. Thanks to Leanne Hall for organising Nicola and Paul. It was a great day.
AUTHOR VISIT- DAVID LEGGE on the 5th November Due to wet weather only 2 of our students were able to travel to Carinda Public School to meet the author David Legge. The students took part in workshops involving illustrations and engaging with his published children’s books.

Dates to Remember

November
24th – Bogan Bush Mobile 10am to 12
27th – Kindy Start Day

December
4th – Kindy Start Day
8th-Bogan Bush Mobile
11th End of Term Concert
16th – Last day Term 4
19th Marra Community Christmas Tree
Why are Bees important?

Bees are important because they give us honey and pollinate food and flowers to keep our world beautiful and alive. We are losing bees because of something called Colony Collapse Disorder known as [CCD]. Bees are suffering because it is spreading across the world. Animals and plants rely on bees. Animals rely on bees to keep the plants alive to eat. Plants rely on the bees to pollinate them.

So here are my 5 reasons why bees are important.

Without bees we will not have food. Bees make food for us and help our food grow. They make honey in the hive but they also help vegetables and fruit grow like tomatoes, blueberries, grapes, watermelon and more.

Without bees the planet will be less bio diverse. Other animals like badgers rely on bees to keep the plants alive so the badgers can eat the grubs in the ground that eat the roots of the plants. The flowers also rely on the bees to keep them alive and to pollinate them.

No kidding, bees really do fight crime. In 2008 scientist got a box full of bees with a red light over them to detect their tongues sticking out to find bombs and drugs. So the bees know when there something bad is around.

Bees know when the environment changes. When the environment changes bees know because they die or don’t breed as much as they should. Bees react to the use pesticide when farmers spray it on their crops.

Bees do a lot of hard work for free! They do their own ecosystem services for the planet. If humans had to pollinate plants and do all the other jobs bees do it would take a lot of time and money. Bees make new flowers and trees to suck up carbon dioxide so flowers can grow big and strong. We are lucky that the trees and plants suck up the carbon dioxide and make oxygen so we can live on Earth.

Toby Josephs Yr 4
The Importance of Bees

Bees are in trouble. They’re suffering from Colony Collapse Disorder and hives are found abandoned, this is because of the change in Agri-culture. CCD is caused by fields being ploughed up, hedges being ripped up and pesticide usage has risen a lot. Also humans are keeping bees in small boxes causing diseases. There is also small parasite called a Voroa mite which attacks the hive. Bees are important because they give us food, save plants and animals, fight crime, care for the environment and they contribute to ecosystem services.

Without bees we would have no food. Bees pollinate flowers to help us grow berries, nuts, tomatoes and much more. If we didn’t have bees to pollinate flowers we’d have to do it ourselves using small vibrating wands which collect all of the pollen and nectar which is a service we take for granted and would cost a lot of time and money. Bees do it for free!

Other animals rely on bees, this is called Biodiversity. Badgers eat all of the grubs that the flowers attract. Flowers depend on the bees to pollinate them so the flowers would grow healthy and strong.

Bees have an excellent sense of smell and have been used to fight and detect crime. In 2008 scientists started training bees to sniff out bombs using their tongues. Scientists use infra _red lights to check if bees react to smell. This could also be used to detect drugs.

Bees are indicators of environmental disturbance. Normal bees sensed the change in the environment when the Tree Bumble Bee arrived. They are known as ‘watch ‘ bees because they react to small changes in the environment.

Bees perform ecosystem services. Bees pollinate flowers and trees and help them grow and live much longer. When they grow, the roots bind the soil together to prevent erosion and reduce floods.

Bees are important because they provide us with food, save plants and animals, fight crime, take care of the environment, and care for the ecosystem. Without bees, Earth would not look so nice and would not support as much life as it does now.

Acacia Carter year 5