

## **P&C Report – August 2019**

Term 3 promises to be a very busy time with a range of exciting learning opportunities and extra-curricular activities for our students. Key features of Term 3 are Education Week, school excursions and camps, the Young Communicators' Public Speaking Competition and the School Concert in Week 10.

This term we welcome four new families to Mimosa P.S. across Kindergarten, Year 3 and Year 4. We have also welcomed Mrs Clare Gowing back to Mimosa following her maternity leave. Last term, Mr Fuller informed the Mimosa community that he had been seconded to Chatswood Public School to relieve in the Principal's position for a period of time while the position was advertised and filled permanently. At this stage, Mr Fuller is required to continue relieving in this role, most likely for the majority of this term. He is looking forward to returning to Mimosa soon to again work with the students, staff and families.

On the Staff Development Day, Mimosa staff actively engaged in quality professional learning. Our teaching staff participated in a session focused on reading. We analysed school data in reading, developed consistent practices for the delivery of quality reading programs across the school and spent time co-planning reciprocal reading sessions. In addition to this, our staff engaged in professional learning regarding student wellbeing programs and co-planned grade programs to meet the needs of our students throughout Term 3. A number of our Student Learning and Support Officers, (SLSOs) attended professional learning at Dee Why office. They further developed their skills in being able to effectively support the staff and students they interact with on a daily basis. Research indicates that high quality, continuous professional learning is critical for keeping teachers' skills and knowledge relevant. At Mimosa, we strategically plan our professional learning sessions so that they link with school priorities and maximise the impact on student learning.

Last week we celebrated Education Week by holding our annual 'Open Day'. This year's Education Week theme for NSW public schools is: "Every student, every voice." We were so excited to see that so many parents, grandparents and special friends were able to attend and share our open day activities. Our classrooms, library and playground were filled with visitors and it was fantastic to see the students conversing with their visitors about their school work. All students had the opportunity to perform with their grade and our creative arts groups entertained the audiences with dance routines, singing and musical performances they have been working hard on all year. The 'Book Fair' in the library was a wonderful success. I'd like to thank our school community for their generosity in donating over 150 good quality books to our school library and purchasing a further 100 books to take home.

Thank you to Amy Eaton and her team of helpers who prepared delicious morning tea treats and tea and coffee for our visitors. I would also like to express my thanks to all the K-2 families who supplied a plate of fruit or vegetables so that our students could enjoy a healthy morning tea.

Tomorrow our Year 5 students will embark on their overnight excursion to Bathurst which will complement the content that they have been studying in History. In Week 8, Year 6 will travel to Canberra for their three day camp. This will support the work the students have been learning about in History.

The annual Young Communicators' Competition is a long held tradition at Mimosa P.S. During Weeks 3 and 4 all students will have the opportunity to deliver a speech to their classmates. This program encourages students to develop their public speaking skills and their confidence to speak in front of an audience. We look forward to the finals event which will be held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

Book Week will be celebrated in Week 7 with a dress up parade scheduled for Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 2:00pm. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun. Mrs Mamott has organised author visits for all stages and these will take place over the coming weeks.

The training, intermediate and senior bands represented our school with pride and skill at the recent Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival. It was very exciting for the students to perform on a concert stage in front of a large audience. All bands performed admirably and achieved the following awards:

Training Band – Gold Award

Intermediate Band – Silver Award

Senior Band – Silver Award

I have recently met with a representative from the Department of Education's Assets team and our project to install sunshade over the bottom play equipment is well underway. I have been informed that the project should be finalised this year. The guided reading tables for the K-2 classrooms have also been ordered and we look forward to using them in the classrooms very soon. We sincerely thank the Mimosa P&C for their support in funding these projects.

Last week, new didgeridoo poles were installed in the garden near the school office and Year 6 eating area. Each pole has one of our school values on it and the 5<sup>th</sup> pole has the name of the Aboriginal land in which the school is located (Gai-mariagal).

I look forward to continuing to work in partnership with staff, students and parents throughout this term

Fiona Smith

Relieving Principal