

Courage Chronicle

Term 4 2019

Principal's Address

It's been a busy 4th term at Kotara School with lots of exciting progress made by our students, fantastic lessons and programs created and delivered by our teachers and fabulous support from you, our wonder school community. Sadly this term we farewelled Mr Rodd our principal as he moved further afield to Shortland Public School. Anthony Moylan has kept us up-to-date with Mr Rodd's adventures there and has been supporting Mr Rodd well and his Deputy Principal. In the next few weeks we will find out who our new principal will be prior to them starting in 2020.

Within the staff we are also farewelling the wonderful Miss Drew who is moving to Mt Hutton Public School as their new Assistant Principal. Miss P will also be sadly missed by her Blue Class boys as Hunter River Community School celebrate securing her permanently there. Miss W-who has led Green class in Term

4 this year is starting her first permanent teaching position at Glendale High School. Even though the Green boys will be sad to see her go Bailey and Michael will be going with her to start year 7 to ensure she is reminded of her time with us.

I would like to thank all the staff for their hard work with our students this year. I cannot praise our teachers and SLSO's and Miss Finn and Miss A in the office enough for their unceasing dedication to our students and unwavering belief in them. The results of this are all around us with all students increasing their reading levels, written work, maths strategies and knowledge and skills across the other subjects every single term. I would like to say a special thanks as well to Uncle Perry for his continued passion for our students having access to cultural lore and knowledge.

Finally I would like to say thanks to Miss Drew and Miss Osborne. They have been amazing Assistant Principals and our school has been blessed with their creativity, knowledge and infinite capacity to make our school run well.

I wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and I thank you for entrusting the education of your children to us a Kotara School. It's our honour to work with them, see them progress and equip them with the tools they need to return successfully to their home schools and work towards a bright and fulfilling future.

As we say here at Kotara School... Yarloo.

Mr D



Blue Class

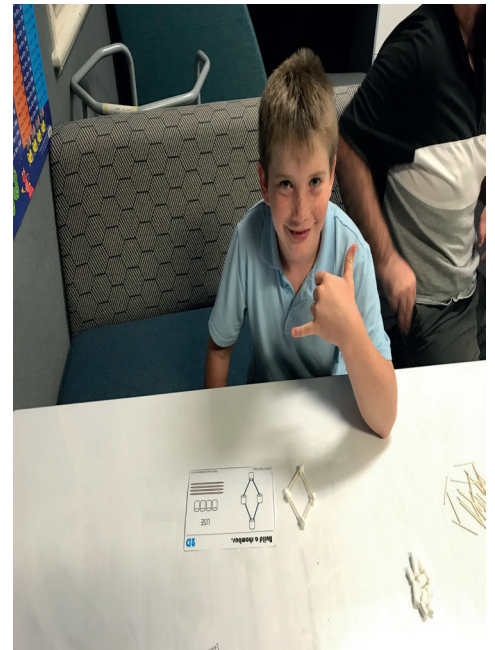
Blue Class have enjoyed learning about Australia and the urban, ocean, bush, desert and rainforest environments during their Daily 5 rotations. The students have engaged well with writing tasks by producing narratives, information reports and debates on a variety of animals located within a specific environment,



engaged in Numeracy learning topics of multiplication, division, time, area, length and position. Students were actively engaged with academic games and enjoyed demonstrating their understanding of mathematical concepts using digital technologies such as Matific and Prodigy. Blue Class have continued to develop strategies such as the number



Epic.com. This has had a significant impact on student reading levels and their understanding of the text read. Recently, students have participated in Health Week and enjoyed watching the decay of an egg when placed in Coca Cola to mimic the impact of sugar on the teeth. During Term 4, Blue Class have



demonstrating their understanding of a variety of adaptation features to assist in its survival. Along with writing, Blue Class have worked hard and continued to develop a love for reading by reading to an adult daily, showing a great interest in a variety of books on

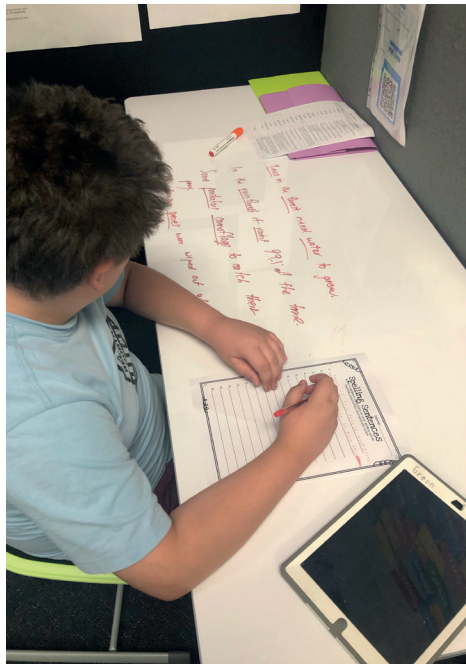


line, partitioning (dividing into parts) and algorithms to demonstrate their mathematical thinking. Number of the day has given students opportunities to work with numbers that they understand while building upon their addition, subtraction, place value and literacy properties which was enjoyed by all students.

Green Class

This term green class have explored many aspects of Australia. They have studied the bush, ocean, desert, rainforests and urban areas. They have done so through books, visual media, maps, videos and class discussions. These units have allowed us to become more familiar with the places where we live and become more knowledgeable about sustainability and pollution and how this effects these environments.

Green class this term have worked on specific topics position, area and perimeter, time and multiplication and division. Some of these topics were easier than others for our students but they all enjoyed participating in game based activities to learn about each topic, alongside guided maths, Matific, and number of the day. Green class have also dedicated themselves to setting per-



sonal mathematic goals in which they work towards improving an area of maths in which they believe they need development. This has allowed all students to take control of their learning and recognise and reflect on their strengths and weaknesses.

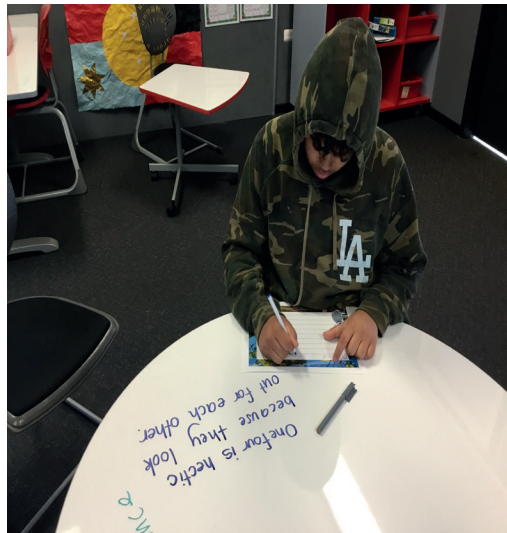
Green class have also been participating in K-Street lessons on specific emotions each week. We have been able to identify what it looks and feels like when experiencing different emotions like angry, sad, happy and frustrated. Student have then been able to identify way in which they would deal with each emotion, describing what they do currently and what other strategies they could be using. Green Class have also completed some science experiments in which they record their hypothesis, method and results. One popular experiment has been the Skittle rainbow.



Red Class

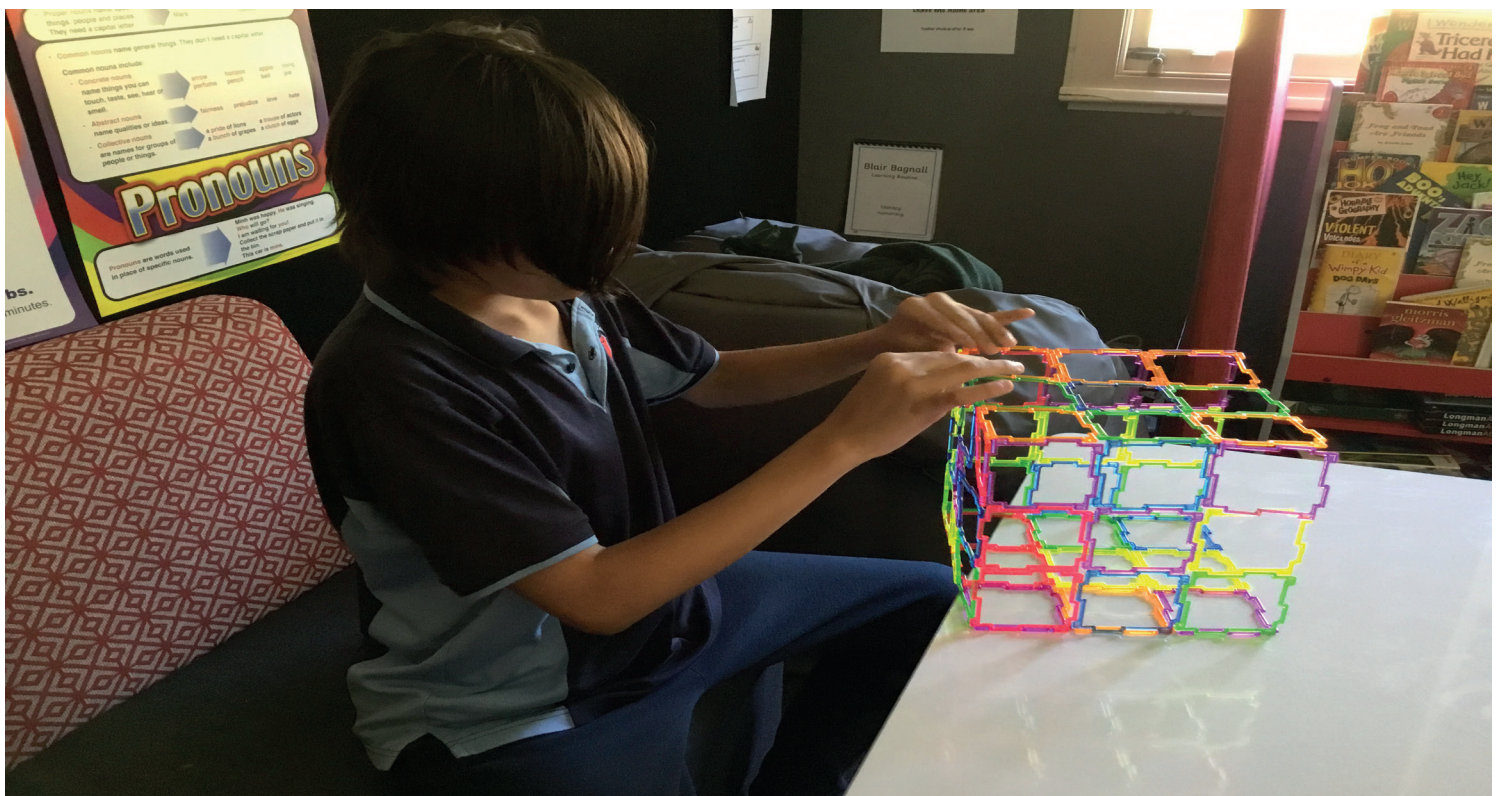
This term in Red class we have been focusing on rounding the year off in a positive manner, with students really getting into their P.L.P. projects. It is an exciting time with four of our six current class members getting ready for their transition to high school next year. We will really miss Anthony, Terrell, Steven and Lachy but at the same time share their excitement about entering into this next important chapter of their educational careers.

In literacy this term we have studied the book Fox for our accelerated literacy module and staff were delighted to see Terrell take the lead and read the book



each day for the class. Students have also improved their reading outcomes across the board and as a result have become better communicators through targetted literacy rotations encompassing a focus on spelling and sentence construction.

For our focus in numeracy students have worked really well going through our whole school targetted numeracy rotations and the guys have made some really impressive gains, with all students recording improvements in our numeracy post testing. We wish all the Red class gang a happy holidays and great things for their futures.



Yellow Class

This term in Accelerated Literacy, yellow class has been investigating Australia and its many different environments.

We have been looking at Australian oceans and deserts. We have been researching the features of each environment, how they function, the animals and the Indigenous perspective. The students loved reading the different texts and watching save the reef and outback Australian videos, we have learnt how adaptations help our unique animals to survive. We have also had health week and beach safety week in term 4. Students have enjoyed learning how to brush their teeth correctly and also how a rip is formed and how to avoid them.

In mathematics students have been studying a range topics. Practising our multiplication during our Maths card games. We have also been focusing on length and area, students have enjoyed find areas of different objects in the school.



We have also been looking at positioning and how to read a map and students have used compass point to pot point and make their own maps. In Science we have looked at the effects of cola on our teeth by soaking an egg and observing the effects. Also in Science we perfected our slime techniques and also started our own little vegetable garden.

We have continued to enjoy our K-Street programme in class each Thursday. This programme focuses on giving students the tools to understand why they feel the way they feel and then gives them some tools to help deal appropriately with their emotions. Students have been working on their own individual ready to learn plans and mapped their own daily Escalation map that they can reference to see at what times of the day they can practice their mindfulness exercises we learn in our K-Street programme.



Aboriginal Education

Yaama Everyone

Its been a great finish to the year in the Aboriginal Education room with all students working really hard and engaging in the cultural learning we have been doing.

Students have shown great respect while in my room and have had some really positive outcomes as a result. We have concentrated on learning some more traditional indigenous artistic styles and the students have managed to create some really fantastic artworks.

Another focus this term has been on students exploring their own family histories and the totems specific to their mobs through our P.L.P. projects and it has been extremely rewarding for both students and staff to gain this insight into our student's traditional heritage and the sense of belonging and connection this has fostered in them. We have also begun to try and initiate a new Yidaki program for our young indigenous students which while still in its fledgling stages has been very well received by the boys. I wish you all a happy and safe holiday season and look forward to seeing you next year.

Yarluu Everyone, Uncle Perry
Aboriginal Education Officer



Swimming

Students have enjoyed participating in their weekly sport of Swimming during Term 4. From body boarding, body surfing, Wahu beach balls, sand castles, human mermaids and seaweed modelling, a blast is an understatement for the fun we have had. It has been positive to watch the students develop their teamwork and communication skills on the surf and sand as they help one another catch waves and build creative castles. Aside from all of the laughter, the students have continued to build upon their knowledge of surf safety and swimming between the flags in preparation for the summer holidays ahead.



Health Week

In Week 7 of Term 4 all classes at Kotara School participated in Health Week. Students studied four general topics of health; oral health, personal hygiene, cyber safety and personal safety linking to the PDHPE Syllabus. Classes explored these topics through class discussion, educational videos and worksheets.

The first topic was Oral Health. The students looked at the importance of brushing your teeth effectively and participated in an egg and coke experiment to see the damages of soft drink on your teeth.

The next topic was Personal Hygiene. Students discussed why it is important to wash your hands, shower, put on deodorant, change to clean clothes, eat healthy and exercise.

The third topic was Cybersafety. Students watched a clip from the Department of Education about the effects of Cyberbullying. Students also discussed as a class, ways to avoid being unsafe on social media.



The final topic was Personal Safety. Students discussed what to do in an emergency situation and what they would do in many different scenarios including if someone enters their personal space.

All classes enjoyed participating in Health Week as many important discussions were had about students everyday lives.



Surfing

Through term 4 students have loved surfing with Miles. We have surfed at Caves Beach and Blacksmiths. With students showing some awesome progress over the term. Some of the most popular surfing poses have been the Cactus performed by Austin and the Lay Back Surfer performed by Calum. All in all it has been a fantastic term for surfing with the students exhibiting awesome PBL behaviours the how time at surfing.



V8 SUPERCARS

My favourite thing about the V8s was the loudness and the sound of the V8 engines – Mykah

The thing I most enjoyed at the V8s was spending time outside the classroom with my favourite teachers and getting to know them in a social setting. We bonded over coffee and learnt many fascinating things about each other. I learnt that Jase has a great sense of humour and he made me laugh a plethora of times during the excursion. – Lennox



EVERY DAY COUNTS...

A day here or there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...	that equals...	which is...	and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is...	This means that the best your child can achieve is...
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ a years of school	Equal to finishing Year 11
1 day a week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 10
2 days a week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 7
3 days a week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 4

*Give your child every
chance to succeed...*

Every day counts!



Lids4Kids

Leave us the plastic lids from your milk, water, juice and soft drink bottles and they'll be converted into prosthetic hands for kids.

From this



To this



For more information check out:



<https://envision.org.au/envision-hands/>

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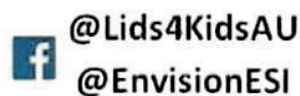
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WHAT LIDS CAN WE USE?



Milk bottle



UHT Milk



Water



CLEAN LIDS ONLY Soft drink

500 lids



= this