Dear Parents and Caregivers

Does anyone know what the record is for the number of students you can squeeze into a single cubby house? I doubt I have ever seen a cubby house get such a workout as this one did last week! Our thanks to the parents and students who attended the working bee on the first Saturday of the holidays – you must have done an excellent job, because it is still standing despite all the love and attention it is receiving!

A lot of rubbish was also cleared up from around the school during the working bee, with the greenhouse reorganised, a garden bed re-arranged (Mr Calley has since done a fabulous job on the path) and the fence fixed. Wood was also chopped up for sale at a nearby property, so it was a busy and productive morning all round. Thankyou to everyone who gave up their time that morning, it was much appreciated.

In other news, NAPLan testing for students in Years 3, 5 and 7 begins next week. Students have already had opportunities to view and work with previous tests and examples in an effort to give them some idea of what to expect and to think about what the questions are asking of them and how to work out their answers accordingly. That way, when faced with the actual tests, the students may be more confident and relaxed and able to give of their best on the day. Please contact me or your child’s class teacher if you have any queries about the tests or their management. Results from the tests are expected later in the year.

Two other opportunities for students at Manoora Primary School in Years 4 - 7 to show their skills are the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) competitions in English and Maths. These competitions are run each year by the University of New South Wales and are highly regarded, with students receiving a certificate detailing their level of achievement against others, both nationally and internationally. Sitting dates are early next term, but registrations must be finalised before the end of the term. As in previous years, the school will fund the cost of these competitions for interested students. Please fill out the registration form at the end of this newsletter if you would like your child to take up this offer.

As well as Choir this term, students in Years 5, 6 and 7 will also be participating in ‘Drumbeat’ sessions on Thursday afternoons at Saddlesworth Primary School as part of the student leadership programme developed by members of the Horrocks Hill Hub group of schools. The programme teaches the fundamentals of drumming using ‘djembe’ drums. I had to look it up, but a *djembe* is a rope-tuned skin-covered *goblet drum* played with bare hands, originally from *West Africa*. According to the *Bamana* people in *Mali*, the name of the *djembe* comes from the saying “*Anke dje, anke bé*” which translates to "everyone gather together in peace and defines the drum’s purpose. As well as drumming, the sessions are about helping students to develop relationships with others and positive, problem solving strategies, fitting in very nicely with the statement above. As a requirement of the programme, I will also be attending the session at Saddlesworth on a Thursday afternoon. I will also be the most poorly coordinated person in the group, guaranteed!

Assemblies this term will be on Thursday 23 May at 9 am and again on Thursday 4 July at 2.30 pm. I hope you will be able to join us for these events. The students do appreciate an audience with whom to share their work and activities.

Ms Kayla Siviour will be on leave later this term, for five weeks starting on Monday of Week 5, ie 27 May. During her absence, we have been fortunate to secure the services of Mrs Nagamma Hill, an experienced teacher who worked with the Year 4 – 7 class last term on a couple of occasions. Kayla and Nagamma will meet prior to Kayla’s departure to work through the programme so that the students’ learning continues without disruption. Kayla is travelling in Europe for five weeks and will return for the start of Week 10 this term.
Keep the ‘Earn and Learn’ stickers coming in! Thankyou, too, to those members of the Parent Club who thought to get a box set up at Woolies in Clare for us, much appreciated!

Finally, this week we have said goodbye to Joshua Watkins and his mother Annette who are returning to Queensland. The students made Josh a gorgeous card that we all signed and we wish them all the best for the future. Josh’s departure brings our enrolments back to 23.

Happy Mothers’ Day to all our mums! Enjoy your special day with your children and thank you for all you do for them.

**Tracy Griffin**

**PARENTS’ CLUB NEWS**

Parents Club have again organised some small gifts for Mother’s Day this Sunday, that are available for purchase in the Front Office. All gifts are priced at $5.00.

Just a reminder that our next Special Lunch Day is organised for next Wednesday, 15th May. Helpers on the day will be Donna Quick and Rachel Willmott.

A Term 2 Uniform Order is attached. Please have any orders with money attached back at School by Friday, 24th May.

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

- **Thursday May 9th** – Parents’ Club Meeting 9 am
- **Friday May 10th** – Year 6/7 Leadership
- **Tuesday May 11th** – Governing Council Meeting 7.30 pm
- **May 14th – 16th** – Naplan Testing
- **Wednesday May 15th** – Special Lunch Day
- **Thursday May 23rd** – Assembly 9 am

On Thursday the 2nd of May I went to Blyth to play footy for the Burra Hub. Our coach was Neil Croughan. He was a great coach. First we played Balaklava. We beat them by a goal. Next we played the 2nd Clare team. We beat them by 3 points. Next we played the 1st Clare team and we beat them by a point. Lastly we played the 1st Clare team again. We finished 1st and the 1st Clare team finished second. Balaklava played the 2nd Clare team. We won the last game by 4 points. We ended up undefeated and won it for the 5th year in a row. We got our photo taken. It was a great day and I really enjoyed it.

Lachie Behn

**Saving Lil and Archie**

Last Thursday we went to a performance at Saddlworth. It was called Lil and Archie. It was about kindness, forgiveness and not bullying other people. At
the start Zig and Lil did a funny dance. They lived on a planet called Arkon. Lil came down to Earth and met Archie. I liked it when when they did the dances because it was funny.

By Georgina Eckermann

At saving Lil and Archie I learnt that everyone needs a little bit of fear and anger to keep us safe. They also showed us that you shouldn’t bully and that you should use the internet carefully. My favourite part of the performance was when Lil the robot was playing video games.

By Alister Behn

ICAS English and Maths Competitions for Students in Years 4 – 7

I give permission for ____________________________(insert child/ren’s name/s) to sit the following competitions early next term:

☐ English

☐ Maths

Name: ______________________________________

Signature: ____________________________ Date: _________

Please return to school as soon as possible so numbers can be finalised. Thankyou
MUFFIN COMPETITION
CLARE VALLEY CUISINE GOURMET MARKET
SATURDAY MAY 18TH ENNIS PARK CLARE
(next to town hall)

Can you use local produce to make Clare Valley’s best muffin?
Great prizes to be won!
Age groups :- up to 6years
7 – 12years
13 and over
Entries to be taken to the Auburn Primary School
stall by 11am on sat 18th May
Special guest judging at 11.30am with winners to
be announced.
Please provide name, age and contact number.
Enquiries to Phil 88434360/0418636299.