Hello parents and welcome to week 4 of term 1.

WHY IS READING IMPORTANT?
We live in a world where it is vitally important to be able to read and interpret all kinds of texts effectively. Why is reading important? Reading is important because words – spoken and written – are the building blocks of life. We, as human beings, are the result of words that we have heard, read and believed about ourselves. People, families, relationships and even nations are built from words. Without the knowledge to speak, read and interpret words, functioning in society becomes very difficult. Listed below are other important reasons why we are striving to improve the reading ability of our students.

1. Reading is a vital skill in finding a job.
2. Reading is important because it develops the mind. Understanding the written word is one way the mind grows in ability.
3. Through reading we discover new things. A person who knows how to read can educate themselves in any area of life they are interested in.
4. Reading develops imagination. With reading, a person can go anywhere in the world, or even out of it. A reader can be a king, an adventurer or a princess…..the possibilities are endless.
5. Reading develops the creative side of people.
6. Reading is fundamental in developing a good self-image.
7. Good reading skills can help improve ability in spelling and expand vocabulary.

At Mungar State School, our students engage in activities aimed at developing their ability in reading every day. We focus on particular reading strategies such as – Inferring, Activating Prior Knowledge, Making Connections, Summarising, Questioning, Self-Monitoring, Visualising and Predicting. Good readers use these strategies before, during and after reading to ensure full understanding of what has been read.

It is of vital importance that students continue to practice reading each night at home to consolidate what has been learnt at school. Reading is like everything else we do in life, the more we practice, the better we become.

Therefore, I would like to encourage all parents to develop a routine of reading each night for your child and take the time to ask them questions around what they have read in order to develop their comprehension skills. In the next newsletter, I will outline some generic questions for parents to use on a nightly basis.

SPORTS CAPTAIN SPEECHES
A note was sent home yesterday that informed parents that our sports captain speeches have been postponed until Friday 24th February. However a clash of dates means they will now be held the day before on Thursday 23rd February at 9:00am.

We apologise for the inconvenience.
CROSS COUNTRY
Our inter-house cross country event will be held on Tuesday of week 9 (21st March) from 1pm. It is a requirement for any cross country event that students train for a minimum of 6 weeks, which means we must start training this week. We do understand that it is very hot at the moment and as a result will ensure training occurs at the coolest time of the day and all students are well hydrated. Please contact the school if for some reason, such as illness, your child is unable to participate in training.

P& C MEETING
The next meeting and the AGM and it will be held on 9th March, 2017. A free sausage sizzle will be held from 5:30pm as a meet and greet followed by the AGM at 6:30pm with the first P & C meeting for 2017 at 7:00pm. Although all positions on our Executive Committee will be declared vacant for the AGM, our current Treasurer and Secretary have both indicated they do not wish to be considered for these roles for 2017. Please give consideration to taking on a position. P & C membership forms will be sent home on the next newsletter.

TEXT BOOK INVOICES
Thank you to those parents who have already paid their invoices. Please remember that the preferred payment option is direct deposit or Bpay (bank details are on the heading of every newsletter). Cash is not kept on school premises so if you do not have the correct money it is difficult to provide change. Also please remember to send the payments in an envelope or plastic bag clearly marked with your child’s name and what the payment is for.

LATE ARRIVALS AND EARLY DEPARTURES
Please remember your first port of call if your child is late or departing early is the office. A late or early slip will be produced for you to give to the teacher. The child must be accompanied by an adult in these instances.

HEADLICE
It seems we will never be rid of these nasty pests. Please ensure you check your child’s hair regularly and treat lice immediately. Children are not permitted to attend school until treatment has been applied.

STUDENT AWARDS:
Cody Kummerfeld for trying his best during all class activities.
Isabelle Sears for trying her best during all class activities.
Lexie Hensley for working hard and persistently trying her best and showing enthusiasm on classroom tasks.
Korby Neilsen for working hard and trying his best on all classroom tasks and displaying enthusiasm towards learning.
GOTCHA WINNERS ARE:

| POSITIVITY          | Lexie Hensley – C & E  
|                    | Aaron Moore – F        
|                    | Ellen Drane – F        
|                    | Luke Bargenquast – F   
|                    | Trea Browning - C      

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| INTEGRITY   | Jason Dorey – RE   
|             | Connor Searle – RE  
|             | Layla Koelbel – C  
|             | Lexie Hensley – RE  
|             | Aaron Moore – C    
|             | Shelby Dowsett – R  
|             | Mackenzie Hawken – C |

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| RESPECT | Mackenzie Hawken – P  
|         | Ebony Poke – A        
|         | Aaron Moore - A       |

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PREP/1/2 NEWS
Over the past two weeks Preps have been continuing to learn a number a day. They have also been busily working to learn some sounds as well as phonological awareness skills and strategies. Home readers will start at the beginning of week 5 for Prep. These will be sent home daily. Please read the story with your child and then ask them to have a go to read the book to you.

Year 1 have been learning about emotions in stories and relating how the characters are feeling to own personal experiences. The year 2’s have been reading stories and discussing texts where animals display human relationships and feelings. The Year 2’s have also been learning about compound sentences and noun groups and will be continuing to build on these skills in the coming weeks.

In mathematics we have been completing our daily calendar as a class to work out past, present and future days. We also change the date daily and have been learning about months and seasons. The year 1 and 2 students have been exploring different strategies to solve addition problems. Some of these strategies include the use of tens frames, part-part-whole tables and drawing pictures.

In History we will be exploring events that have happened in the students past. Students will need to bring in some photographs relating to life events they have been a part of. Some examples of photographs the students could bring include them learning to crawl, walk, attending a wedding, a sibling being born or a family holiday. Could students please bring these photos in a sealed and labelled envelope by 24th February?

As always if you have any questions please don’t hesitate to come and see me. – Christina Myatt.

3 – 6 NEWS
I have been very impressed with the level of enthusiasm demonstrated by all year 3-6 students during all English activities. Yesterday our school was visited by the Regional HOD Support for English who was wanting to see our students engaging in English activities. She was most impressed with the level of knowledge year 3-6 students demonstrated in regards to verbs and verb groups, nouns and noun groups, adjectives, adverbs and their ability to use specialised words in sentences. For example, instead of using the word happy they would substitute it with delightful.

In mathematics we have been focusing upon graphing and working towards undertaking the first assessment task for the year. All year 3-6 students conducted a survey on the favourite animal of
students at Mungar State School (which happened to be a snake), placed this into a table, produced their own bar graph and then devised 3 questions for another student in the class to answer based on the information. The homework activities for all students will be sent home each Monday afternoon. **Traditionally I have asked for homework to be returned on a Friday morning, however, due to some timetable changes this year, homework will now be due each Monday.** Therefore students will have an extra 3 nights to complete their work.

**CALENDAR ITEMS**

P & C MEETING & AGM – THURSDAY 9TH MARCH, 2016

**ATTACHMENTS**

SCHOOL BANKING COMPETITION

**REMINDERS**

Please remember that cash is not kept on school premises. When sending in cash for payments it must be in a envelope of plastic bag clearly marked with the student’s name and what the payment is for. It MUST then be placed in the note return box located in the office. We ask that you do not come in and hand cash over the counter.

**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

LOUNGE SUITE FOR SALE: Brown suede fabric. 2 single recliners and 1 x 3 seater which has a recliner at each end. The 3 seater is in very good condition however the 2 recliners showing some wear. Price - $200 ONO. For more information see Mrs Smith in the office or phone 41296291.

**Granville Football Club are looking for Junior Players!!!**
All ages from Under 6 - Youth
Family friendly Club with great social activities through the year!
Registered for “Get Started” vouchers
Come and join us today!
All are welcome!!
All NEW players to the Club will receive FREE shorts & socks.
Returning players will receive shorts!
For more information – please email granvillefootballclub@outlook.com & keep an eye on our Facebook page!
Or contact Donna 0408 712 621

**TINANA KINDY TRIVIA NIGHT**

Upcoming trivia night on Saturday 25th March at Aldridge State High School. Teams of 4-8 people, $10 per head (only $8 per head if booked and paid at Kindy prior to the night), fantastic cash prizes. Canteen will be open serving food and drinks (including alcohol). The doors will open at 5.30pm for a 6.30pm start. We would love to see you all there!