Dear Parents & Carers,

Yesterday morning saw many excited and happy faces in anticipation for the arrival of the Grade 5 and 6 camp bus ... …..and that was just the parents! With all joking aside, it was lovely to see the enthusiasm of all students. I am sure that they will have a lovely time. Mr Maynard, Mrs Carroll and myself are travelling up early today to assist with the supervision of the many activities on offer.

For the past 2 weeks students have enjoyed the benefits of the new grassed area. Total Turf are continuing to monitor the condition of the ground to ensure that it is of the highest quality. Work has commenced on our path from the School entrance to the front office area. I would like to congratulate all parents and students for their patience and flexibility throughout the works program, it will definitely be worth the wait. Last week Grade 6 students organised their own Leap Frog Championships, an activity which would have not been possible on the old play area surface.

In the last newsletter I mentioned that our whole school focus this year is on the teaching and learning of spelling and ways in which parents can be a valuable influence on their child’s development. Already we are seeing some pleasing results with over 45 students from Grade 3-6 having their names on our Magic 200 Word reading and spelling tree, with many other students only a couple of words to conquer. Students need to have these basic words consolidated as well as their core grade list if they are to succeed with their literacy skills. Thank you to the many parents who are supporting us to maximise your child’s learning, 10 minutes each night in relation to reading or spelling can make a major difference!

Our Grade 3-5 students have now completed their Water Awareness Program for this year. Gaining confidence and skills in relation to swimming is vital for students at Evandale because of the likelihood of children around rivers, dams, home swimming pools, etc. It has been wonderful to hear about the many individual achievements in relation to increased confidence over the past 2 weeks.

Harmony Day was a hive of activity on Thursday 20th March due to the enthusiastic efforts of Mrs DG. Activities included cooking from different cultures, face painting, dancing and sketching of a 1958 Renault car built in France. Thank you to the many adults who worked with students at various work stations. Australia is a multi-cultural country and students enjoyed learning about the different food, customs, dance, dress and languages.

A reminder to parents that this year NAPLAN (National Testing) of Reading, Spelling, Grammar, Punctuation and Mathematics will take place for students in Grade 3 and Grade 5 throughout Week 2 of Term 2. We have included a brochure with this newsletter for your information, or you may like to visit the Department of Education website at: www.education.tas.gov.au.

Regards
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