Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to the families that have already booked a parent teacher meeting time for Wednesday 20th February. A notice was sent home last week to provide parents/carers with information about how to book a time online. Please contact the office if you require any further support.

Don’t forget that we also have our annual ‘Younger Sun Bookshop Pop Up Shop’ event occurring at the same time. This event allows parents to purchase a book or two for the school library. Our goal is to add an extra 250 books to the library. An information notice about this event was sent home today.

I also wanted to use the letter this week to remind families that although the newsletter is produced each week on Thursday - one week it is sent home as a hardcopy only and the next week it is sent home via Flexi buzz only. This week is a Flexi buzz newsletter only.

Harmony Day 2019 Thursday March 21
Harmony Day is an important event that we celebrate each year as a school community. We use the event to show case and celebrate how well our students play and learn together. We are currently in the planning stages of the event and will inform families of the 2019 plan in the coming weeks. Keep the diary free so you can join us for the day.

So what do you actually do?…

At the beginning of each year, I like to take the opportunity to learn more about the Preps to find out how they are settling into school and to also get some feedback on whether they think I am doing my job properly (something which they are pretty open to share and discuss).

So I took the time to catch up with Bea, Karissa and William from Prep C.

I have to start by saying that to begin the discussion I was keen to find out how to correctly spell their names for the newsletter. I was then asked (you could say directed) to provide a piece of paper and pencil so they could write it down for me. I was then told that my pen was too hard to write with, and the surface of my table was too rough. I was even asked if I preferred the shorter or longer version of their names. William even said that he could write his name and include next to his name the sentence, ‘dinosaurs have sharp teeth’. William must have thought that I didn't believe that he could write the sentence, ‘dinosaurs have sharp teeth’ so he insisted that I give him another piece of paper so that he could draw one as well.

I could sense that this was going to go longer than I thought.

Before I could even start asking questions, Bea asked why I have books in my office. For those that don’t know, I have a bookshelf in my office for students to borrow books. It is my very own classroom library – a collection of my current favourites.

I explained my classroom library to them and asked whether they wanted to borrow one. They decided that this was a good idea and started browsing through the books.

After a few minutes of browsing, I suggested that they take one home with them for the night.
‘Yes, we will but we just need to look at them first.’

I was then told that the books were too dusty. I was kicking myself as I usually dust them on Friday afternoon but I forgot because I had a headache.

As they needed to get back to their class, I thought it was a good idea to ask them questions while they were browsing.

‘We need to choose our books first.’

‘Ok.’

After a few more minutes (which was actually several minutes), they had all chosen their book. Karissa decided that she would take one to keep at home, and take one to bring back tomorrow.

When I explained that they were all for borrowing and that it is nice to leave some for the other children to borrow, she gave a look like I was in deep trouble with her teacher Mrs Langer.

Finally, after all books were chosen I decided to continue with the question I started asking over 24 minutes ago.

‘So (I began)…

‘Why do you have a TV in your office?’

‘It’s not a TV for watching shows. It’s so people can see what is on my computer.’

‘Can we see how it works?’

And that is pretty much how it went. Unfortunately, I don’t have much more to share with you as the next conversation we had was about my windows and how they look like the windows in their classroom, and then about the pictures on the wall.

I have to say even though I didn’t achieve what I set out to do, it was a very entertaining experience. I learnt a lot about what I actually had in my office. Some things I didn’t even know existed.

Anyway, as I have said many times, having the opportunity to work with and chat to Preps, especially during first few weeks of school is often the best part of the day.

To all our prep families I hope your child has settled well into school and please chat to your child’s teacher if you have any questions.

Alex Artavilla
Principal

‘2019 Pop Up Book Shop’
Fundraising event!
Wednesday 20th of February from 1:00pm until to 7:00pm