Welcome to our first class newsletter for 2016! Read to find out what’s been happening in B4.

Regards,
Julie Cummings

English

The students have learnt some basic strategies to decode unfamiliar words and are continually striving to increase the number of Sight Words they can read. The “Fred” books have been very popular, with the students keen to read and re-read them on a regular basis. It has been great to see so many children remembering to change their reading book regularly. Well done!

Sentence structure has been our focus in Writing. In Modelled Writing sessions, the students have looked at capital letters for sentence beginnings, names of people and places, full stops and exclamation. The students are trying hard to remember to use these in their writing. The students are endeavouring to include more detail in their recounts and to correctly spell words we have learnt in our spelling lessons.

Handwriting has been a focus this semester with the introduction of dotted third paper. The students have been practising to position the letters within the dotted thirds and to form their letters and hold their pencil correctly.

Our Billboard

Term Two we welcomed Mr Luke Gonnella to our class as he completes his final school experience.

Sport: Sport is on Thursdays. If your child could wear shoes appropriate for sporting activities on this day it would be appreciated.

Crunch ‘n’ Sip: Everyday at 10:20am Please send along a piece of fruit or a healthy snack with your child each day.
Technology

Technology is a popular subject with the students in B4. We made paper planes, flew them, modified our designs and then had a paper plane flying competition. Well done to Ivan whose plane flew the greatest distance! We used paper to make something that could carry a small toy, without the toy falling out. Design modifications were made and the students did a great job to ensure their toy was able to be transported safely. We investigated, designed, made and appraised door knob hangers. It was fun coming up with messages to write on them. A big thank you to Paul Muncey for supplying B4 with 24 door knob hanger cut out of ply wood.

We have been using the laptops and can turn them on/shut down, open Microsoft Word, type our own name and names of our friends, enlarge and change the font. With the iPads, we are learning to code and to create texts. It is awesome!

In Term Two, we looked at Systems and realised the importance of following steps to achieve the desired outcome.

Mathematics

This year Caralee Community School has introduced a whole school approach to the teaching of Mathematics through the implementation of the Australian Curriculum aligned Stepping Stones program. The program is proving to be popular with the students and they are keen to engage with the activities.

In B4 we have completed Modules One, Two, Three and Four and are making headway into Module Five. We have learnt to read and write numbers to 100, make groups of ten and ones for numbers to 100 (place value), ordinals, beginning to read and understand calendars, counting forward by 10 to 100, adding single digit numbers, telling the time to the hour and learnt about Australian coins. We enjoy using the interactive whiteboard during our Math lessons to reinforce the concepts being covered in each module.

As stated by a child: “Maths is the best fun ever!”

Science

In Term One we looked at Biological Science and focused our lessons on Mini Beasts. We have learnt The Code of Conduct and know to handle small creatures with care and respect. We brainstormed all the mini beasts we thought we might find within the grounds of Caralee and then we went on a Bug Hunt. It was lots of fun and we even managed to find some bugs! We used magnifying glasses to look closely at the body structure of our bugs and found most of them were insects. We drew some mini beasts before and after, observing them and our after drawings were more detailed and structurally correct.

In Term Two, we looked at Physical Science which focused on the senses of sight and sound. Mr Gonnella organised lots of interesting lessons. We need light to see and sound is produced by vibration. The darkest place in the school is the Admin storeroom!

Humanities and Social Sciences

In Term One we learnt about rules and why we have them. We found out that rules are everywhere...at school, at home and in the community. We also started Personal and Family History. Our initial focus was the language used when talking about the past, present or future. We have watched some silent, black and white video clips and some black and white cartoons and compared them to the movies and cartoons many of us watch nowadays. We have talked about how we get to school each day and found it interesting that 100 years ago, children mostly walked to school, maybe arrived by horse or in a cart pulled by a horse.

In Term Two, we continued our History topic and went on an excursion to the WA State Library to participate in their “Then and Now” program.