Dear Parents,
It is hard to believe we are already into the second half of the year! Until week 7 when Mrs Fuller returns, I will continue to teach Monday and Tuesday and Mr Gibbs will teach Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.
I have included a few Grade 4 Camp photos which show the wonderful time Grade 4 had on camp. This term it is Grade 5’s turn and I look forward to enjoying the exciting experience of going off to camp with the nine Grade 5 children in week 6. Mr Gibbs will remain at school with the Grade 4 children.

**Grade 5 Camp** is now starting to loom large on the horizon and excitement is definitely growing as we all look forward to our Mapleton adventure on 14th-16th August.
A huge thank you to our fearless and intrepid parents who have volunteered to accompany us. They are: Rhonda Acworth, Kassandra Cain, Tammie Corbet, Clynton Corbet, Kerry McDonald, Shaun Letham, Glen Long and Ross Morley. We will send special letters to each of those parents in the near future, just giving some extra inside information e.g.
How *not* to approach *The Giant Swing*
How to survive your canoe being attacked on all sides by over enthusiastic kids determined to give you a bath!!!
And how to remain alert and cheerful despite lack of sleep!! Just joking!!
We truly appreciate the support of these parents and we will also be lucky enough to enjoy the company of Mr Peter Campbell and Mrs Olga Mannion on Wednesday night and Mr Eric Ellems on Thursday night.

We must also apologise to you for an error we made with the permission forms. We really did not add enough specific information to the form and would greatly appreciate it if you could fill out the *new* form accompanying this newsletter. Our humble apologies for the inconvenience.
Please also be aware that you will need to collect a medical form if your child is likely to be taking any medication or if any medicine changes have occurred which we need to be made aware of.

**In Religion** we will be immersed in a unit which asks the question *Why do we need to pray?*
This focuses on the Old Testament Psalms and The New Testament Beatitudes. We will also be looking at the Bible as a whole Library – which includes books on History, Songs, Prayers and stories. We will also look at special people of prayer like Mary McKillop and Mother Teresa.

**English**
This term the writing genre we will focus on is Report Writing. An information report provides factual information about a class of things, usually by classifying them, and then describing their characteristics. It is written in present or past tense and often requires the use of scientific or subject specific terminology. After the children have had experiences of writing using this genre, Grade 4 will have the task a producing an Information Report on a feral animal and then one on an endangered Australian animal. Grade 5 will complement their Gold unit for history by writing reports relating to the Goldfields.
History
Grade 5 will learn about the Goldfields. They will use an interactive website to learn about the conditions the Ballarat goldfields of 1865 and mine for gold. They will use limited financial resources to select and buy food, shelter and other requirements related to gold mining at the time to complete a successful dig. They will choose to dig by either alluvial or shaft mining, and must buy a miner’s permit, equipment and supplies appropriate for your chosen mining method. Prices are given in pounds and shillings and a currency converter allows you to convert amounts to current dollar values.
By completing this interactive, they will recognise the challenges that miners faced finding gold, and the importance of the Gold Rush era in shaping Australia’s population during the mid to late 1800s.

Grade 4 will learn about the nature of contact between Aboriginal people and/or Torres Strait Islanders and Europeans settlers. They will learn about the cultural differences between these two groups and how this impacted on both the life of the Indigenous population. We will also look at the impact European settlement had on the flora and fauna and how we live with the results of this in Australia today.

Maths
On Monday and Tuesday Grade 4/5 will continue to master Place Value, Number Patterns, the four operations of addition, subtraction, division and multiplication with Mrs Smith. On Wed - Fri Grade 4/5 will cover the Measurement Strand which covers, Length, Perimeter, Area, Volume, Capacity and Mass with Mr Gibbs.

Science
We are looking at how the earth’s surface changes over time as a result of natural processes and human activity. They will be discussing the features of rocks and soils and the impact of weathering and erosion on the environment. This unit will support with the History topic where we will look at the damage done by rabbits and other feral animals.

If any parents have any expertise with any of the topics covered, (especially introduced weeds) I would love to hear from you.
Once again we are really looking forward to a very busy but rewarding term.
Thank you very much for your ongoing support and encouragement.

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Grade 5 Camp
As a parent/carer with responsibility for ______________ I ______________ give my consent for my child to participate in the Grade 5 camp at Mapleton from 14th – 16th August.
I understand that the children will be travelling by bus to and from Mapleton (QCCC) Conference and Camping Centre and that they will be engaged in a number of supervised outdoor educational adventure activities and will be walking to the Mapleton Falls accompanied by staff and parents.
Signed_________________________ Date_______________
NB – If there is any other issue which you feel we should be made aware of regarding camp please let us know immediately by note or email.