

# Primary @ Reddam

#### IN THIS ISSUE:

- News from the Classrooms
- Online and Remote Learning
- Birthdays

#### Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It really feels as if we have been riding a rollercoaster this term, and now it's a rather pleasant sensation to be slowing and coasting to a stop as the ride comes to an end. While we might not know what the future holds as far as the pandemic is concerned, it is with a deep sense of satisfaction that the students, their teachers and their parents can look back on this term.

I hope that everyone in the school community will be able to take it a bit easier in the coming couple of weeks, to recharge batteries, catch a breath, and even just notice the pleasant spring weather creeping in. I was interested to read an article this past week, written by a professor in education who specialises in the study of wellbeing and happiness. It was an apt reminder that we all have choices of how to fill our days, and how to view the unfolding events in our lives.

The focus of the article was on what kids could do during their holidays, especially as their time at home might not be as special as it was in the past - now being merely an extension of what most students have been doing for the past term. However, I particularly enjoyed the writer's suggestion about finding new ways to share positive emotions, perhaps while sitting around the dinner table or lounging around the pool. Some of her suggestions are: each person saying three things they're grateful for; doing a random act of kindness for someone; and celebrating day-to-day achievements or trying something new. There is so much to be optimistic about, when we put our minds to it!

While on the topic of celebrating achievements, we were really pleased this week to receive news that five of our students have been selected as finalists for the Little Things Art Prize. These works were selected from 380 entries and will be displayed and exhibited online at the Saint Cloche Gallery in Paddington. Congratulations to Alma Napthali, Alon Olovitz, Ariel Briner and Ruby Levitt.





Earlier this term we announced the <u>winners</u> of our **Composition Competition**, and we are now proud to be able to share all of our students' work with you. Please access the video presentations at the link below. Each section is time stamped, and you may select the piece you wish to hear in the video's description. Congratulations again to all of the students who submitted their original work for us to enjoy. Year 3 to Year 6

I hope that all those in the Reddam House family enjoy this time of relaxation, despite still being under some restrictions. The break has certainly been earned! The students have shown incredible adaptability and resilience this term and I commend them for this. They constantly amazed their teachers with their excellent work and how hard they applied themselves to all they did, despite the circumstances.

In the same breath, I realise that this was with the backing and encouragement of the special adults in the lives – teachers, parents and other family members. It has not been easy for any of these people and yet through their sacrifices and their constant support, the students have continued to engage with their schoolwork, show creativity, and work incredibly hard on all their assessments.

I am appreciative too of the many people who have worked hard behind the scenes to streamline the systems in the school, whether on campus or in the virtual space. They have kept the campus running smoothly and have been an enormous help for the teachers. I am most grateful to all the admin, cleaning and support staff for all their efforts this term.

It is with much sadness that we bid farewell to Mrs Gayle Eitzen after 10 years as Deputy Principal and Kindergarten Co-ordinator. Gayle embodies our motto of 'We Shall Give Back' with her kindness and generosity in her contribution to our school, thank you Gayle you will be greatly missed!

We wish our Jewish families Chag Sameach, as they celebrated Sukkot this week. And then to all our families, enjoy this short break – the staff and I look forward to welcoming you back for the final term in a couple of weeks' time.

There have been many webinars about COVID 19 Vaccinations for young students and families. I would like to share two presented by Reddam parents Dr Brynn Wainstein and Dr Lynn Townsend as well as one presented by Dr Phoebe Williams to inform parents more about the risks and benefits of getting their families vaccinated. I share the three presentations:

Dr. Brynn Wainstein Dr. Phoebe Williams Dr. Lynn Townsend

Finally, to view this week's Assembly, kindly follow this link: <u>https://youtu.be/qmCoyOXIOkl</u>



#### Dee Pitcairn Principal



# Happy Birthday

#### **Reddam House**

Would like to wish a very happy birthday to

Hugo Grace, Gisele Green, Kai Flekser, Aotian Fu, Zoe Shaflender, Zachariah Boyd, Sophia Gracheva, Petra Saboisky, Janie Kogan, Harley Cadry, Ella Jacobs, Alexandre Laporte, Katarina Burazer, William Seddon, Eloise Shields & Eva Winkler



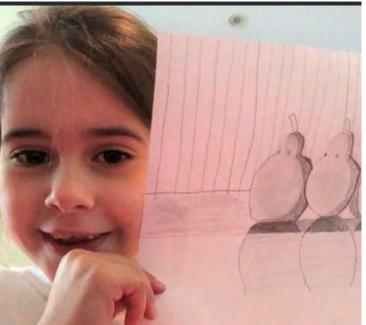
Who celebrated their special day this week

# **ART GALLERY**



# **ART GALLERY**











# **KINDERGARTEN**

It was yet another busy week as Term 3 came to an end! Although this term has shifted us into a new form of learning we have all worked so hard and come so far in our learning.

We went on an imaginative adventure this week as we put on our scuba diving kit and dived deep into the ocean to explore the many different sea creatures. We wrote creatively about our exploration and used lots of descriptive words to detail our amazing experiences.

After our scuba diving adventure, we jumped into a submarine as we began to learn about how objects move in water as part of our Science unit. The students were excited, testing objects that sink or float and then creating their very own boats using recycled materials.



# **KINDERGARTEN**

In Maths this week, we collected data and created graphs on the various sea creatures we saw on our deep sea exploration. We could see that the shark was the most common sea creature we came across!

Each afternoon, Kindergarten students have been delighted to share their favourite book with the class. We have been blown away by their expression as they retell the story and describe their favourite part. The teachers are so proud of their efforts and look forward to more exciting learning adventures next term!



This week, Year 1 went full steam ahead investigating area around the house. The children chose informal units of measuring to compare surface areas of household objects. Harry Wafer used a notebook to discover that his suitcase was rather larger than he thought. Martin Ding used a book to compare the area covered by his computer top and his desk top itself. Billy Hickman Taylor deconstructed his sofa in the name of maths to use the cushions to find the area of his bench top. Thank you so much for encouraging this explorative and playful investigation.

Our writing in response to the text 'Tough Boris' by Mem Fox allowed us to share our acts of bravery. In the story we learnt to understand that all of us are scared, sad and brave, sometimes even the toughest of pirates. We opened up about our own personal experiences of bravery. We retold tales of escaped dogs, being caught in rips and capturing snappy crabs at the beach. One thing is for sure – Year 1 is an adventurous lot!



History and Geography led us to creating our own 3D towns using different formats of housing. We were inspired by the story 'Iggy Peck the Architect'. We built cottages, tepees, tower building and we even included a few aquariums to protect our beloved marine life. Our future architects in the making have learnt that the landmarks of the future lie in their hands to manifest.

Science covered the energy cycle, reminding us that we need to nourish ourselves in order to replace the energy we have exerted moving and shaking on our dancing feet. We hope that the students feel proud of the energy they have put into this term! Well done, Year 1.



Year 2 have been making the most of remote learning. The teachers have been super impressed with the students' engagement and their ability to navigate Google Classroom to continue their learning.

This term we thoroughly enjoyed reading "Charlotte's Web" by E.B. White, in English. The themes of friendship, loyalty and determination were explored. The students made connections situations with the characters and related events to thev had personally experienced. Narratives have been a focus In English and the students enjoyed the opportunity to explore the structure of these texts. We continued to develop our skills in arammar which has also improved the quality of our writing.

In Mathematics the students have significantly improved their problem-solving skills and strengthened skills in Mental arithmetic. They have developed confidence when using digital and analogue clocks and particularly enjoyed activities relating to symmetry and plotting coordinates on graphs. A goal for next term is to continue to develop an automatic response when learning times tables.

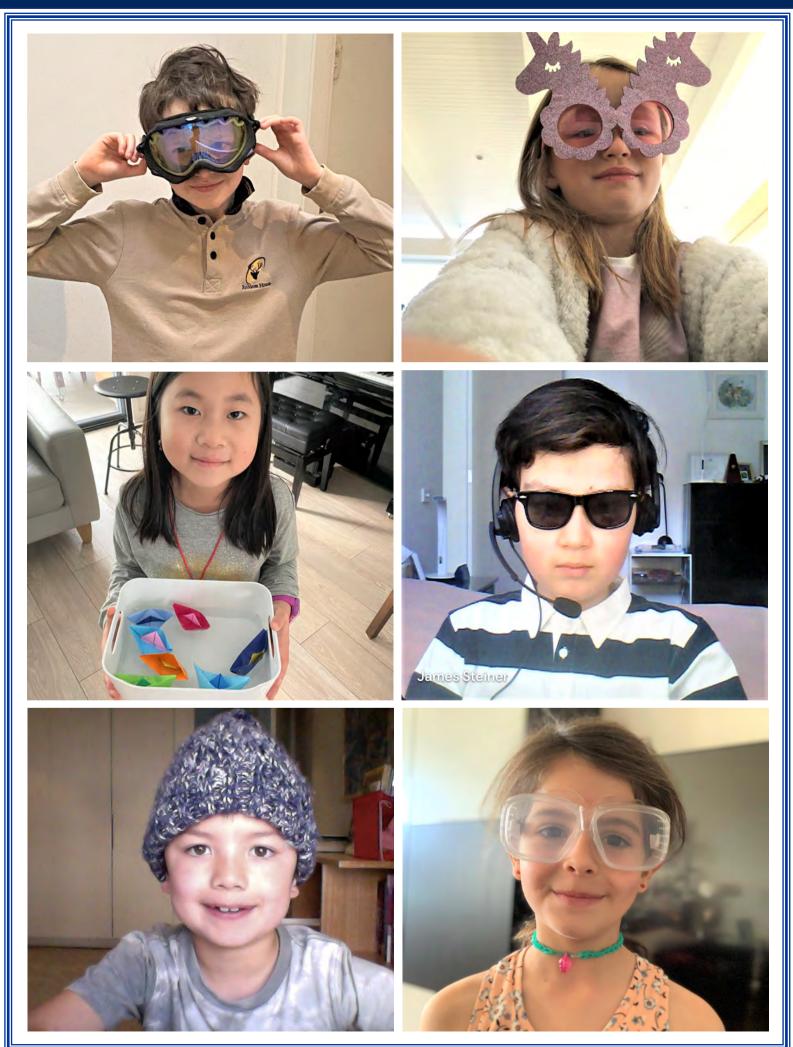


There is no doubt that Year 2 students are budding scientists. We relished every opportunity to design and create when exploring the concepts of "Forces". The children can identify the steps involved in the Scientific Method and we will continue to consolidate this area of learning next term.

In Geography we had many interesting discussions about the different environments in our world. The students certainly understand the impact humans have on the environment and the importance of conservation. Our rainforest animal presentations ignited creativity and a passion for the protection of Australia's native animals. The students have developed an awareness of the importance of aboriginal cultural connections in areas like Kakadu and the Daintree as well as exploring some aboriginal perspectives on sustainability. Our talented students relished the opportunity to create posters highlighting the need to "Save our Rainforests".

The Year Two teachers are incredibly proud of our students and their outstanding effort this term. We are grateful to the parent community and thank them for their support. It is now time to relax and enjoy a well-deserved break and special family time over the holidays.





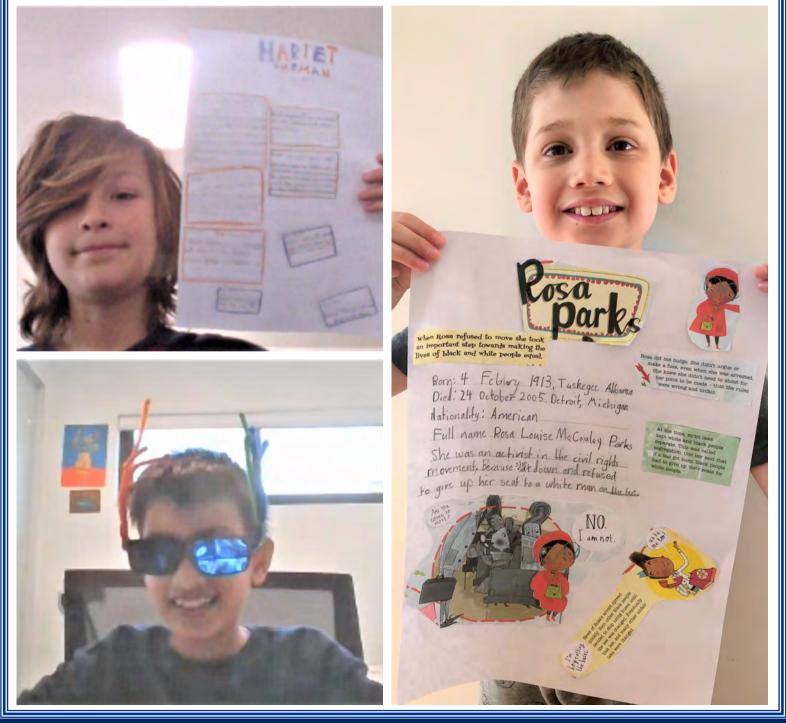
The Reddam House Primary School Newsletter Volume 21 Issue 26 Friday 24 September 2021



What a fantastic Term 3! The Year 3 students have worked extremely hard over the past ten weeks and enjoyed every minute of their education, navigating online learning and overcoming new challenges with perseverance and enthusiasm. Some of the highlights included hands-on experiments with chance and probability in Mathematics and writing dazzling descriptions of various settings and characters in English. The students have also enjoyed the opportunity to create their own insect species and building bee hide-outs in Science, as well as exploring the unique Australian landscape by researching distinctive landforms in Geography. All in all, it has been a diverse and fabulous term of learning.

As we head into a well-deserved school break, here are some of the things that the Year 3 students had to say about the past term and their upcoming holidays:

Marcello Russo: 'I've really enjoyed learning from home this term, and I can't wait to spend time at the beach with my friends next week.'



Thomas Jackaman: 'Playing Kahoots in Maths has been so fun! Over the holidays, I'm looking forward to spending time with my grandma's dogs, Frank and Gus.'

Charles Malavich: 'Learning about Fraser Island in Geography was really interesting. Did you know that there are lots of dingoes there and a shipwreck on the sand? Over the holidays, I can't wait to repair and fix my bike, get a dream pet on Roblox and maybe get a puppy.'

Leon Canturi: 'Term 3 has been great fun! The weeks have gone very quickly and the lessons have been awesome. Next week I'm doing a sleep challenge with my brother.'

Harriette Ho: 'I'm so happy that I've still been able to see my friends this term, even though it has been online. I'm going to train my new puppy over the holidays and build a baby Yoda out of Lego.'

Felix Bootlis: 'I've loved learning about the unique places in Australia this term. For the holidays my family are doing a 'prank week' which will be super fun!' Great work, Year 3s! Have a



Congratulations Year 4 on completing the first term of the semester. Despite being the final week, it's been great to see that the learning hasn't stopped and that all students have remained focussed and dedicated to their studies. During the fun-filled final week, the History presentations definitely stood out as a highlight.

To conclude our History topic on "Community and Remembrance", students prepared a presentation on a special celebration for their community. These wonderful presentations acted as gateways to learn about how diverse and culturally amazing our school is. Here is a snapshot of some of the amazing presentations:

**Tyler Cuthbertson** in 4R explained the importance of Burns Night for the Scottish community. Tyler even went to visit a statue of Robert Burns in Sydney's Hyde Park to showcase his deeper understanding. However, what stood out the most was that he amazed Year 4 by reciting a verse from the poem 'Auld Lang Syne'. What a great way to honour Robert Burns!

In 4E, **Krishna Inder** delighted in teaching students about Nyepi (A Day of Silence) which is significant for the Balinese community. Krishna concluded his presentation by discussing Balinese rituals for this celebration and talked about how other communities could get involved with the celebrations.

Finally, in 4D, **Kira Lowenstein** was able to educate everybody about Purim – the happiest celebration in the Jewish calendar. Kira explained that traditionally during Purim, Jewish people eat Hamantaschen filled with chocolate or jam flavour.

With such a delightful end to the term, Year 4 teachers would like to give their best wishes to all students and their families. We look forward to seeing all of you in Term 4.

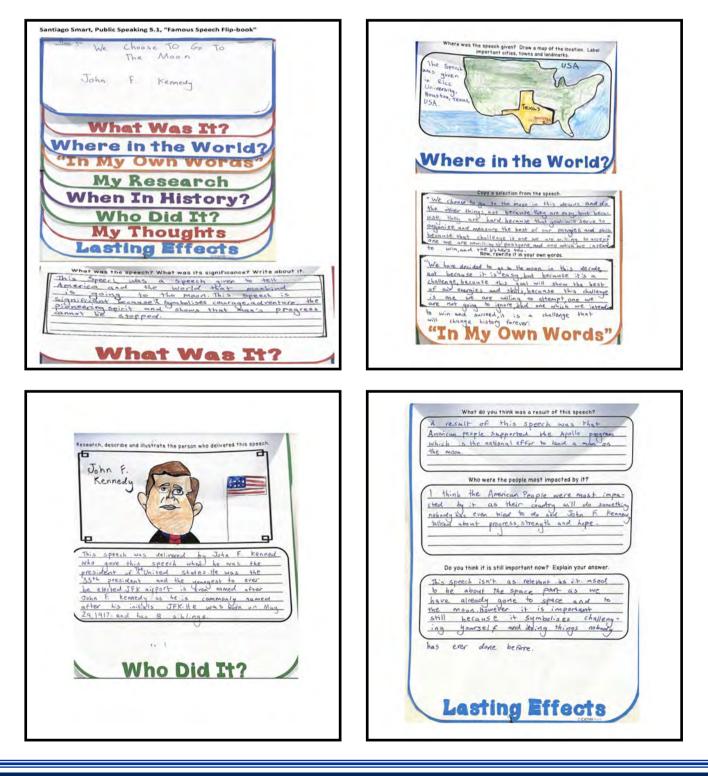


# YEAR 5 & 6 ENGLISH

In English this week, Year 5 and 6 students finished reading their novels in class. We have really enjoyed listening and talking, book-club style, about the plot, language, characters, setting and themes in these wonderful stories. Students have been working on creative writing activities, and they have received feedback this week on their analytical writing skills. Have a wonderful break, from the English Department.

# YEAR 5 PUBLIC SPEAKING

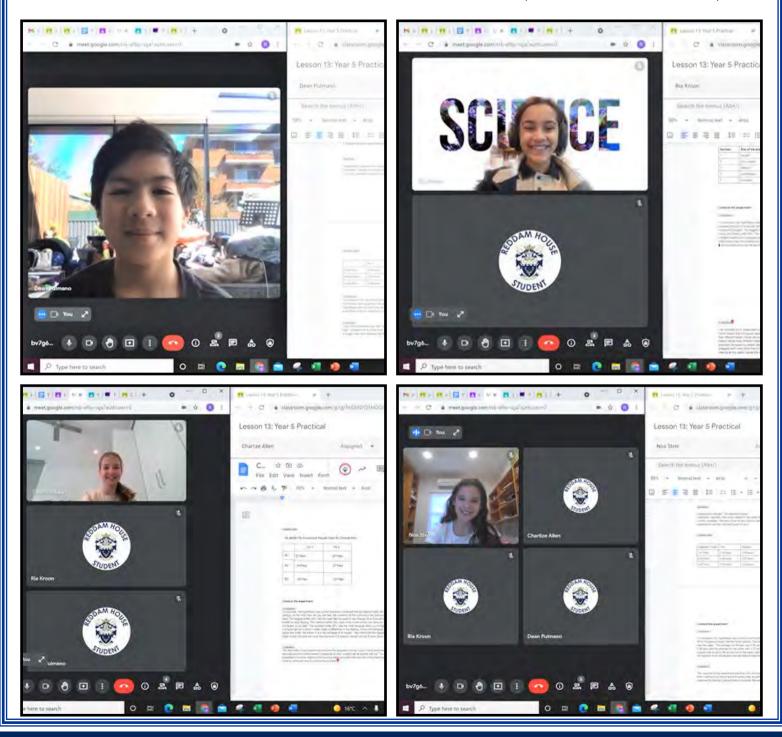
In Public Speaking this week, students are presenting their "Famous Speeches" flip-books. Students have had dun researching a well-known or influential speaker from history, and creating a small knowledge book about it. We also began initial work on Term 4's unit: Novel to Film.



# YEAR 5 & 6 SCIENCE

This week, Year 5 created and conducted their own experiments. This involved student completing all aspects of a scientific investigation. Students did extremely well with their investigations as they displayed creativity when conducting the practical and a deep level of understanding when writing the hypothesis, method, conclusion and evaluation. Students' scientific investigation skills will follow them through their school lives and beyond, so being this good at investigation now is a real advantage. Next term, Year 5 will be studying Earth and Space. Focusing on the Earth, stars and our solar system.

This week, Year 6 students have explored parallel circuits where they may come across this type of circuit in their everyday lives. Students had the opportunity to make parallel circuits using an online simulator, so students could fully understand how current flows in a parallel circuit and what happens if a bulb in this type of circuit blows. Students also completed an electricity escape room this week, using their knowledge of the electricity module to escape the virtual room in time! Next term, Year 6 will be studying Earth and Space, focusing on the Earth and how natural disasters such as tsunamis, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions



# YEAR 5 & 6 MATHEMATICS

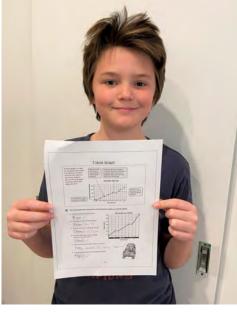
Another busy and stimulating week went by with an ongoing focus on data and graphing.

Students in Year 5 studied travel graphs and calculated the average speed travelled over a variety of distances and times. They calculated and compared the speed of a cyclist including and excluding 2-hour stops. Students contrasted the speed of the outgoing journey and the return journey. Mathematicians discussed and recognised that the sloping line of a speed-time graph represents an acceleration. **Hugo Holmes** observed that the sloping line showed that the speed of the cyclist changed. **Santiago Smart** noticed that the bicycle was either speeding up or slowing down, while **Rachel Kaplan** reasoned that the steeper the slope of the line the greater the acceleration.

In Year 5, students organised raw data into frequency tables, from which they were able to better interpret data and calculate the mean. Statisticians were challenged to find the missing score in a set of data given the mean. They were required to work backwards, applying their knowledge from Term 2.

Year 6 completed their data unit by collecting and analysing grouped data. They calculated the mean, median, mode, and range of given information. The stem and leaf plot were introduced as an excellent way to analyse the central tendencies of data. Students discussed the requirements of a good survey and investigated misleading graphs. A variety of graphs was studied, and Year 6 discussed how graphs can convey false impressions and furthermore what it was about each of the graphs that mislead the reader.





# MUSIC

In the last week of Term 3, K-6 online classrooms enjoyed the sounds of solo performances on individual instruments. The children were able to share their performance pieces from their private instrumental lessons in our online 'concert space' and it was fantastic to hear the progress they have made on their instruments. It showed that we have such a talented group of musicians across the year groups, who have clearly dedicated their time to regular practice in order to play their instruments so beautifully. Students also developed their musical vocabulary through actively listening to the performances and providing positive feedback for each performer.

Years 3-6 also finished the term with quiz games on 'kahoot' to recap their concepts of music knowledge in a fun way, whilst Year K-2 enjoyed some movement songs which explore tempo,



# **MUSIC PERFORMANCE**

We thank all of our music students for their incredible work this term. Most students have been fortunate to continue with their individual tuition throughout this term of online learning, and have even found that they have more time to dedicate to their instrument. One of the highlights has been preparing video submissions for each teacher's studio recital film. These were meant to be live opportunities to showcase repertoire to parents and friends, and have instead pivoted to virtual recitals. We look forward to sharing these next term. Our ensembles have also continued with inventive ways to maintain students' engagement and learning of new repertoire, so that when we are able to come together to rehearse and perform once more, we are prepared and in shape. Some wonderful virtual projects have come from these groups, and we are so appreciative of all our music staff and students.

#### Year 5-6 Piano Duets

Despite the challenges of the lockdown, the Year 5-6 Piano Duets students have done a wonderful job to make their online lessons very productive. The students have been busy working on their individual parts in groups and are now looking forward to creating virtual piano duet performances. Each student is going to record their duet parts on video and then both parts will be combined into a single file, and students are excited that soon they will be able to share their digitally mastered ensemble works with the school community. On top of that, the young musicians have been participating in another group activity that was greatly appreciated by everyone: the Music Quiz. This was a fun challenge that gave us all a good laugh and a chance to relax, while also helping to test our music knowledge. It has been wonderful to see the students continue to enjoy learning and making music together.

#### **Primary Chamber Music**

Term 3 has seen a very different approach to learning for everyone this year and the elective Primary Chamber music class was no exception! Students have met online with Google Meet to explore new repertoire and perform to each other in a supportive environment, finding different ways to rehearse music in small groups. Students have formed a woodwind trio to practise Tchaikovsky's waltz from 'Sleeping Beauty', whilst string players have sight read Grieg and Elgar in duos. Each week has seen students electing to perform solos to each other and



# LIBRARY

#### **BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### K-2: NOW WASH YOUR HANDS by Matt Carr

Doris the Doctorpus explains to the animals at school that there are some very very small things called GERMS that can be sent packing with soap and water...even though there are MILLIONS of them! Doris has even got her own hand-washing song. **Matt Carr** has delighted us one more time with this funny and helpful picture book. We loved the tropical fruit colour palette he has chosen to complement his engaging animal characters. Doris is particularly appealing (and any doctor will tell you that having eight arms would come in handy, particularly at the moment) although washing all eight limbs makes her late for her lunch. While Coronavirus isn't mentioned, this book is very useful to reinforce the importance of hand washing to minimise the spread of the virus. Ages 4+

#### 3-4: TIMMY FAILURE: THE CAT STOLE MY PANTS by Stephan Pastis

In the sixth book in Stephan Pastis's hilarious series, Timmy is being threatened and must rely on his partner to solve the mystery... and possibly save his life! new Timmy is in Key West, Florida, ostensibly for the honeymoon of his mother and Doorman Dave if they even got married, which Timmy doubts. Unfortunately for **Timmy**, crime doesn't take a vacation. And because Total (his business partner) has fled to Cuba seeking political asylum, Timmy must rely on a new partner for help: Doorman Dave's nephew Emilio. Meanwhile, a surprise newcomer shows up in **Timmy**'s life and, as if things couldn't get more hectic, his pants have been stolen by a six-toed cat. Ages 7+

#### 5-6: ALLERGIC (GRAPHIC NOVEL) by Megan Wagner

Allergic is a coming-of-age graphic novel about a girl with severe allergies who just wants to find the perfect pet.

At home, Maggie is the odd one out. Her parents are preoccupied with the new baby they're expecting, and her younger brothers are twins and always in their own world. Maggie thinks a new puppy is the answer to make her feel better, but when she goes to select one on her birthday; she breaks out in hives and rashes. She's **allergic** to anything with fur!

There is a lot packed into this graphic novel beyond the allergy storyline: how families' dynamics change when a new baby arrives, how kids struggle to fit in and find friends. But while the book addresses serious emotions, it is mostly packed with fun. Ages 9+





#### 2021 ILLUSTRATION CHALLENGE - WOMBAT BOOKS

The Art Department invites students from Years K-6 to create an illustration to be published in a unique picture book by the team at Wombat Books.

Winning illustrations will be published in the new book, 'Screen Free Holiday' which is due for release in 2022. They will be acknowledged on the Wombat Books website and social media.

Judging decisions will be made by the Wombat Books team of authors, editors and illustrators.

#### PROCESS

1. Choose **one** spread from 'Screen Free Holiday' to illustrate. Please find the link below to find a text you would like to work on:

http://www.wombatbooks.com.au/Filesforgeneralwebsite/ScreenFreeHoliday.pdf

2. Use an A4 or A3-size page. Your work MUST be illustrated in landscape (NOT portrait mode).

3. You may use mediums/mixed media such as: watercolours, oil pastels, soft pastels, colouring pencils, paint etc.

4. Please do not bend, fold or crinkle your illustration. It unfortunately cannot be considered for publication if it is folded.

Wombat Books do accept high-resolution photocopies of the original illustration if you want to keep your original safe (The Arts Department can do this for you).

5. Please write your name in pencil on the back of your illustration – neatly!

6. PARENTS/CAREGIVERS please fill in the form provided in the link below: http://www.wombatbooks.com.au/images/CompetitionEntryForm2021.pdf

(Please tick ALL boxes - Our Art Department have access to the purchase of previous Illustration Challenge books.)

7. Unfortunately Wombat Books are unable to send entries back after judging. They will find a special place in their Wombat office for them.

8. For any more information, please visit the Wombat Books website: <u>https://wombatrhiza.com.au/illustration-challenge/</u>

#### Entries must be submitted to the Art Department by <u>MONDAY 2<sup>2nd</sup> NOVEMBER 2021 (Term 4)</u> With the completed entry form and signed by parents/caregivers

Top entrants in Years 3-6 will earn points towards their Reddam Cultural Colours. If you have any questions, please ask the Primary Art Department (amanda.william@reddamhouse.com.au) Good Luck!









#### 2021 COLOURING COMPETITION - PARLIAMENT OF NSW

#### Looking for school holiday fun?

The Art Department invites year K-6 to enter the Parliament of NSW colouring-in competition created for budding young artists to show off their artistic talents!

Four lucky winners will each receive a Parliament of NSW Gift Box filled with goodies including parliamentary stationery, water bottle, delicious treats and lots more, valued at \$100.

#### PROCESS

- 1. ACCESS and PRINT the form/colouring in page (shown below) from the website: https://education.parliament.nsw.gov.au/school-holiday-fun-colouring-in-competition/
- 2. SCAN and ENTER your work online by OCTOBER 1, 2021 (midnight).
- 3. Once this has been submitted, please email <u>amanda.william@reddamhouse.com.au</u> with your entry.

Top entrants in Years 3-6 will earn points towards their Reddam Cultural Colours. If you have any questions, please ask the Primary Art Department

Good Luck!

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Year/Grade: Electorate: Parent/Guardian Name:

Parent/Guardian Phone Number & Email:



Calendar 2021					
Term 1	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> January Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> January Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> January Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Australia Day Public Holiday Year 7 Orientation & Testing Day Staff Development Day <b>Term 1 Students K - 12</b> Term 1 Ends			
Term 2	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April</b> Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> June Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Staff Development Day <b>Term 2 Students K - 12</b> School Closed - Queen's Birthday Term 2 Ends			
Term 3	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> July <b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July</b> Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Staff Development Day Term 3 Students K - 12 Term 3 Ends			
Term 4	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> October Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> October Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> December Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Staff Development Day <b>Term 4 Students K - 12</b> Term 4 Ends Teachers' Last Day			

Good Friday & Easter Monday: 2<sup>nd</sup> April & 5<sup>th</sup> April (Term 1 School Holidays) Anzac Day: 25<sup>th</sup> April (no replacement holiday as it falls on a weekend) Rosh Hashanah: 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Sept (within Term 3) Yom Kippur: 15<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> Sept (within Term 3) October Long weekend: 4<sup>th</sup> October (Term 3 School Holidays)