



Tweed Heads South Public School

TERM 4 WEEK 9 2023

NEWSLETTER

CALENDAR DATES

- Wednesday 6
December -
Presentation Day
& Year 6
Graduation
Assembly
- Wednesday 6
December -
Preschool Camp
Day
- Thursday 7
December -
Preschool Camp
- Friday 8
December - Year
6 Day Out
- Wednesday 13
December - P&C
AGM 9:15am
- Thursday 14
December - P&C
Colour Run
- Busy Bees
Playgroup - Every
Thursday 9:15am
- 10:45am

Principal's Message

Count down to end of school year

On Wednesday 6 December at 9.15am is our P-6 Presentation Day Assembly where we will celebrate the academic, citizenship and sporting achievements of our wonderful students. A big congratulations to all the students who will be the recipients of the school awards and for the new leadership team for 2024. Calendar Items in Week 10: Stage end of year excursions/incursions, class parties, Colour Run, Year 6 Graduation and Year 6 tunnel.

Preschool Graduation

On Wednesday evening we held our Preschool Graduation Assembly and concert. The children performed the Acknowledgement of Country with immense pride and preformed items excitedly for their families. It was fantastic to watch and to see the class of 2023 graduate. Congratulations on our graduating students. As R/Principal I am so wrapped up in the administration side of things that I often go into classrooms and preschool to just take some time to be with the students. I am so proud of our preschool classes and am so looking forward to seeing them all at 'Big School' next year.

Farewell Class of 2023

On Wednesday 6 December 2023 at 11am we will hold our Year 6 celebration morning tea and Graduation Assembly. I will have the pleasure in farewelling our 2023 Year 6 cohort. You have come to the end of your time at our wonderful school. Soon you will be starting afresh in high school. Treasure the time that you have had in primary school, it is a time that you should never forget. Take the fond memories away with you and store them in the back of your mind. You have made many friends here and hopefully these friendships will continue and last a lifetime.

To the class of 2023, as you take the next step, I want you to remember the following advice. Never give up on your passions or dreams. All too often as adults we feel we may be too old to keep pursuing our dream or that we have "adult" stuff that is more important. There is so much we can learn from children, and especially the year 6 cohort on having dreams and chasing after them. That dream is part of you. When you leave Tweed Heads South Public School next week, continue to follow your dreams, continue to care about all of those around you, and live your life full of passion. I know you will all create something and be great! We wish you all the very best for your future endeavours and hopefully you will visit THSPS from time to time to fill us in on your new stories and adventures. As Dr Seuss said "Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it's happened. Good luck, thank you and congratulations

Principals Message Continued

Thank you

As this is my last newsletter for the year and my time as Relieving Principal at Tweed Heads South Public School, I would like to take the opportunity to sincerely thank the students, staff, parents and community for their hard work and commitment to our students and for all your support throughout the year. I look back on the year I have had as R/ Principal of this wonderful school. So many positive things have happened, I look around at the talented and beautiful students, the gifted staff and the wonderfully supportive community. I have been privileged to lead this amazing school for the 2023 year. A year of challenges, improvements, excitement, and learning. It is a hidden treasure with so many fantastic authentic opportunities. I have loved every moment and thank everyone for their commitment to THSPS. The partnership between the school and community is valued and know that every decision made by both the school is to benefit our wonderful students here at Tweed Heads South Public School. Thank you once again.

This is one of the last opportunities that I will have to wish you all a Merry Christmas, a safe and enjoyable holiday with your families. Last day of school for the students and staff is Friday 15 December 2023. The first day of school 2024 for the students is Tuesday 30 January 2024.

Merry Christmas and happy 2024.

Felicity Henderson

R/Principal



Syllabus Section

Syllabus Section- Big Ideas in Number

What is Partitioning?

The teaching and learning of fractions, particularly in the middle years and beyond, is a key aspect of numeracy as it underpins the proportional reasoning used in much of our everyday lives. Previously it had been assumed that once learners can identify fractions from a given diagram, can identify a simple part of a given whole, or can shade a diagram to show a given fraction, then they are ready to start renaming fractions. However, with pre-partitioned fraction diagrams, learners are often focusing only on the number to shade in rather than attending to all relevant aspects of partitioning: the unit/whole, the number of parts in the whole, the size of each part, and the number of parts required. In fact learners need to explore examples of correct and incorrect fraction representations if they are to recognise that equal parts/equal shares are necessary. Without focusing on the connection between fractions and partitioning, learners may adopt a narrow rule-based approach resulting in difficulties in:

- reading, renaming, ordering, interpreting and applying decimal fractions and common fractions, particularly those greater than 1
- recognising the applicability of ratio and proportion and justifying this mathematically in terms of fractions, percentage or written ratios (Siemon, Virgona & Cornielle, 2001). Partitioning is the process of dividing an object or objects into more parts.

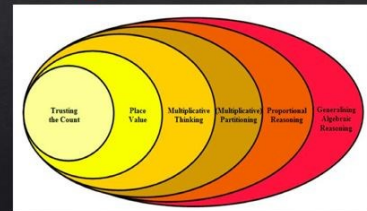
The whole should include all of these parts, with no parts left over. When working with fractions these parts must be equal. Fractions are a difficult concept for learners to grasp as there are so many different uses for fractions and so many different contexts that they appear in. Fractions differ from whole number in that they are relative to the whole. For example, not all halves are the same as they depend on what the whole is. In addition, other key ideas need to be established, namely the need for equal parts, the number of parts helps to name the part (eg 5 equal parts are called fifths), and that as the number of parts increases (halves to quarters) the size of the part decreases (they get smaller).

An understanding of fractions through partitioning helps to develop these ideas. Paper folding experiences in order to generate halving, thirding and fifthing strategies enable learners to create their own fraction representations. In contrast, there is considerable evidence to suggest that learners who do not create their own fraction diagrams through these generalised partitioning strategies have difficulty making sense of template fraction diagrams and formatted number lines (Empson, Junk, Dominguez & Turner, 2006; Lamon, 2007; Wong & Evans, 2008). Counting and colouring/shading someone else's pre-partitioned diagram is merely practice for existing knowledge and also encourages learners to apply whole number-based strategies. An example of whole number thinking is where a student might identify that 1 third is larger than 1 half because three is larger than two.

<http://bit.ly/BestAdviceSeries>

Research has indicated ... that 90% of the most commonly encountered texts in households require knowledge of fractions, decimals, percent, ratio and proportion.

'Big Ideas' of number



Hurst & Hurrell, 2014, adapted from Siemon, Bleckley & Neal, 2012

FIA End of Year

Education Hardship Fund

The NSW Department of Education established the Education Hardship Fund in 2022 to support students with sustained education recovery from the 2022 floods. The funds can be used for school-related expenses where activities are centrally organised by the school or for goods that are generally procured by the school on behalf of students.

Funds must be used before the end of the 2023 school year. To ensure funds are being utilised, we are asking families if they would like to prepay for uniforms, school items, canteen and incursions for your child/children in 2024 by using Education Hardship Funds that are currently available in their account.

If your child/family has Education Hardship Funds available in their account, the eldest child in each family received a note from their class teacher yesterday advising how much funds they have left and what they can use them for in 2024.

Notes must be returned to the office by Friday 8 December 2023

Notes returned after this date will not be accepted

Colour Run

The P&C Colour Run will be on Thursday 14 December. This will give students more time to raise funds and earn more cool prizes.



School Bus Pass Notification - Term 1 2024

School Bus Pass Notification – Term 1 2024

Who should apply / reapply?

- All students transitioning from Primary School to High School / Year 6 to Year 7
- Students with a 2023 bus pass who need to update or change any of their details
- Students without a bus pass wishing to travel on a bus.

Who doesn't need to apply / reapply?

- Students who currently have a bus pass for 2023 which do not fall into the above categories
- Students without a bus pass not wishing to travel on the bus

Please visit the below links for more information on applying for a School Bus Pass.

<https://transportnsw.info/tickets-opal/ticket-eligibility-concessions/school-student-travel>

<https://transportnsw.info/tickets-opal/ticket-eligibility-concessions/child-student-concessions>

Maths Fun

Guyaany have been enjoying the daily maths warm up games this term. We have also been learning about capacity and mass. We love working together in small groups with each other.



Who is Who at School? - Kate Williams

Staff Name: Kate Williams

THSPS Role: Classroom Teacher - My degree has an Early Education

How long have you been a teacher/SLSO? This is my 21st year of teaching!

What do you like about your job? I love that we can work with the students to learn and investigate so many different skills, in so many different subject areas. In what other job do you get to be an Author, Reader, Mathematician, Scientist, Artist, Actor, Dancer, Musician, Sports Person, Historian and Geographer all in one week? I feel truly honoured that our families allow us to share a small part of their child's learning journey and I try to further develop and foster the curiosity and love of learning that our students naturally have. The best bit is watching a student discover a new interest or skill.

Fun Facts:

Favourite Colour - Red

Favourite Animal – Tiger

Cat or Dog person – Both! But I currently have a dog called Benny.

Favourite Teams - Diamonds Netball Team

Interests: Netball, Piano, Swimming, Dance and watching my daughters at their dance concerts / competitions.

Photo - Here is a photo of myself, my husband, our kids and some of my extended family at the recent NSW Public Schools School Spectacular Festival in Sydney where my eldest daughter danced with her high school dance group.

