



**URAILDA PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER:**

8 May 2020

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Dates to Remember

**Yr 6/7 Tuck Shop
School Photos**

**Fri 22 May
Thurs 4 June**

Gold at the end of the rainbow!

We are all just so happy to be back together at school this term. On the second day of term, I stood at the gate welcoming kids as they arrived, and I don't think I have ever seen bigger smiles!

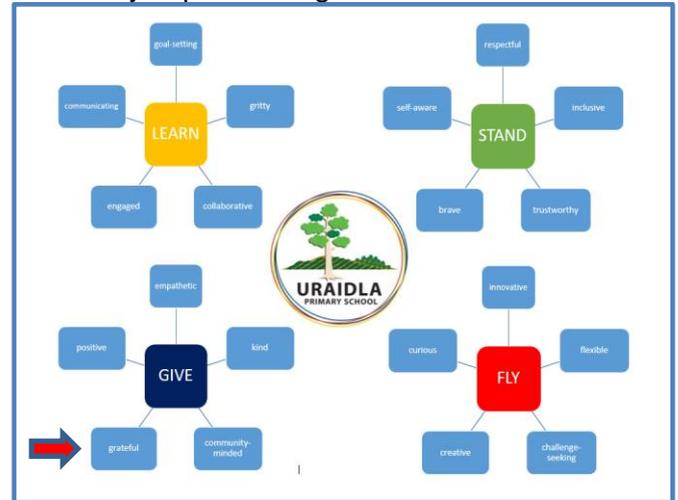
Thank you to Cristina Blefari for sharing this lovely and symbolic photo of a rainbow welcoming everyone back to school last week. You'll see that the end of the rainbow lands right in the middle of our school, which is hardly surprising... wouldn't you agree we have found the proverbial Pot of Gold here at Uraidla Primary? I feel so grateful to be part of this school community, and there is strong evidence that the students, staff and families feel the same.



Being intentional about expressing **gratitude** is our focus for this term. Each term we are choosing another element of our **Learn Stand Give Fly** framework, developed last year through consultation with students, staff and families.

You may remember that last term's focus was teaching students to be **collaborative**, under the

category of LEARN. **Grateful** fits under the category of GIVE. In the current climate we are all keen to explore the benefits of feeling grateful for the positives in our lives, and are also feeling a need to give something back to others; so we practise both the skills of learning to reflect on things we are grateful for daily, and also how to effectively express our gratitude to others.



We have started an autumn gratitude tree at school, and classes are growing gratitude walls. We will be finding all sorts of ways to focus on gratitude this term, so we can train our brains to focus on the positives in our lives.

I encourage you to practise gratitude as a family by each sharing 3 things you are grateful for each day at the dinner table. I have spoken of this before and I mention it again since the evidence is so strong that this simple daily practice shows significant wellbeing benefits for the whole family.



Assemblies with a difference

We have been having a bit of fun holding our Zoom assemblies. Last week we had just the presenters in the Hall, and each class in their own classrooms to conform to current physical distancing regulations. If you'd like to join us from home, check the Skoolbag app for the link!



Friday Week 1 Assembly 'Zoom' style



I have been hearing from some parents that they have enjoyed the extra family time that has come with isolation, and aren't necessarily in too much of a hurry to get back to the normal routine. This is certainly the case in my household! 😊

If you are looking for more inspiration for activities to do with your family I have included Nature Play SA's [35 things to do as a family during COVID-19](#) as an insert into today's newsletter (also available through the link above).

Katie Martin (Year 1/2 teacher) is taking 3 weeks leave starting Monday, to very generously donate a kidney to her cousin who is suffering from kidney disease. I know you will join me in wishing her all the very best for the operation and recovery. During this time Kelly Charlton will be teaching Katie's class, and Kimberley Kloeden will be teaching PE and Science in Kelly's place.



Finally, on behalf of the staff I would like to express my gratitude for your overwhelming support for us during the past number of weeks while we have been navigating the changing conditions due to the coronavirus. It has been a challenging time for educators, and your kind words and deeds have nurtured us through. I call that a pot of gold!

Margie

Round the Classes

Reception: Coming back to school and having the class together has been great. We are using our iPads for our phonics and maths, being able to send some of our learning home on Seesaw. We attached the microscope lenses to the iPads and took photos of crystals and leaves. It was amazing to see magnified details of these things.

Year 1/2: We have been learning about our 'friends of 10' and doubles. In HASS we have been learning about the history of toys.

Year 2/3: We have started learning about food security. Our first goal was to define what food security means. Our next step was to investigate some things (droughts, war cyclones) that can cause food security problems for people.

Year 4/5: This term our class has been learning how to use Google Classroom. We are now doing our spelling and writing through this platform. In maths we have been learning about measurement. We have been estimating measurements of our head, the town oval, our desks, the art room and our classroom. We then measure these items and compare our estimates to the actual measurement. We have also been working out the perimeter of various rooms around the school. This term we are learning about Australian History, specifically the Australian gold rush.

Year 6/7: I am grateful that I have my lovely students back. We are in the thick of term two learning already. We have started our research assignment on ancient China and are in the process of making ancient Chinese opera masks. In design and technology we are designing and creating a laser tag arena. We have switched genres for writing and are honing our skills in narrative writing. Google classroom has become my new best friend and the students are adept at using this new technology. Spelling, reading comprehension, and writing proformas are all accessed via this goggle app. In maths we are following the Tierney Kennedy 'back to front' maths program that she designed for remote learning - always good "thinking" maths applications.

Science: We are focusing on Earth and Beyond this term. Last week all students had an introduction to the topic and discussed what they knew about Earth and outer space. With the Reception to year threes we discussed what we knew about Earth. It was great to see the children talk about the seasons, day and night, gravity and what lives on Earth. This week we looked at day and night and were given the task

to illustrate how day and night looks. They haven't completed the task yet, however when they do, I will place pictures on the display board in the hallway.

The year 4-7 classes also looked at Earth. They discussed what they knew about Earth and had to research five interesting facts about the planet. This week the students had to list as many natural disasters as they could as well as five human impacts that change the environment on Earth. There were great discussions about viruses, global warming, what constitutes a natural disaster and what has been caused by human activity.

PE/Health: Hockey was introduced into the Reception to year 5 classes this week. We discussed safety of holding the hockey stick, weaving and dribbling the ball. So far all the children have been really safe handling the hockey sticks.

The year 6/7s this term have to come up with their own physical skill. They have to plan a 20 minute activity that focuses on the skill. They are being assessed on how well they explain the activity, give instructions, organise the set up and pack up of the equipment and if they run the activity on time.

So far Miley and Jayda got the students to work on a soccer skill and James, Axel and Jessie got the students to work on a baseball skill. I was impressed with how well they communicated and structured the activity.



Indonesian: This week we are starting our new topic 'Binatang-binatang di Pertanian (Animals on the farm). All classes are completing activities to become more familiar with these new words.

Gardening: The year 2/3 gardeners were met with a very 'woolly' day last week and so after running through the rain to empty the compost bins we headed for the gym to design seed packets and draw special Autumn leaf patterns. We had a delightful Autumn day this week shovelling mulch, dismantling the 'Leaf Lasagne', raking up leaves and jumping in them. Harvesting some tomatoes and Tromboncini filled the afternoon.

Learning Discussions

We are disappointed at not being able to hold our Learning Discussions last term. We are still trying to work out the best way to communicate with parents but if you have any pressing concerns please see your child's teacher.

Book Club

As per our Skoolbag message there will be no hard copies of Book Club brochure this term but you can still order online at

<https://scholastic.com.au/book-club/virtual-catalogue-1/>

Please have orders in by Friday 15 May.

Spare Clothes

Our stock of spare undies and track pants is running very low so if you have any spares at home (especially small sizes eg 6-8) we would appreciate them.

OSHC News

Back to normal! (Kinda!)

We are happy to be getting a stream of regular bookings flowing back in this term and have plenty of space should you need to utilise our service during these strange times. It's a perfect excuse to see the new clean and freshly painted OSHC room!

Just a couple of reminders from OSHC leadership:

1. Andrew is now using WhatsApp to be contactable outside of hours for emergency bookings or queries. If you need to contact OSHC outside of their normal hours of service, simply message the OSHC mobile number through the WhatsApp app.
2. The term's program is almost finished - so if you want to see what kind of activities or themes we will be exploring this term,

come and see Andrew for a copy of the program.

Any questions - see Andrew or Connagh!

A Note from Emily

This term as a school we are focusing on gratitude and being grateful. I have taken it upon myself to do a little research into the benefits of gratitude in practice and have found a paper by the 'Greater Good Science Centre' titled "The Science of Gratitude". The paper outlines several benefits to gratitude in practice for both the individual and in groups such as;

- Increased happiness and positive moods resulting in more satisfaction with life.
- Better physical health
- Better sleep and less fatigue
- Greater resiliency
- Strengthens relationships
- May increase job satisfaction and effectiveness
- Encourages the development of patience, humility and wisdom.

And there are many more! By showing gratitude and being grateful, especially in times of trouble and uncertainty, we can be significantly improving the happiness of ourselves and those around us. I encourage you all to continue to show and express your gratitude to others around you and see the benefits it can make in your day to day lives and for your families.

Hope you all had a restful and enjoyable Easter break! ☺

Emily Morgan Pastoral Care Worker

School Banking

Message from Commonwealth Bank

The health, safety and wellbeing of our communities and our people remains our highest priority. Due to the ongoing uncertainty surrounding coronavirus, the School Banking program will remain on hold. We will continue to monitor the situation and keep you informed with any updates including how we will be managing Dollarmite tokens for students.

Community News

Maria's Kitchen

Maria's Kitchen is offering home-cooked meals, fresh or frozen, to all local Hills families.

Please visit our website www.marias-kitchen.com.au and click on 'Catering', then "Ready Made Meals" on the Options menu.

Children's meals also available.

Free local delivery. Ph 0403 163 576.