



Nullawil Primary School

May 1st, 2020

RESPONSIBILITY RESPECT ACCEPTANCE HONESTY COOPERATION



The staff and students at Nullawil Primary School would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we gather and pay our respects to their Elders both past and present.

Dear Parents and members of the School Community,

Principal's Report

Unless you were writing a science fiction novel, no-one could have imagined the world we are now living in. As a result of the rapid changes I have not had time to publish our usual weekly newsletters. However, I would like to try to produce at least 2 or 3 newsletters during this term so that we can share what our school life looks like with our community.

Most of my communications with parents is via the Skoolbag app, which I believe is also open to members of the public to download and use.

Like most of the world we have transitioned to “remote teaching and learning”. Given the difficulties we have with Internet and mobile phone services at Nullawil PS we decided not to go with online learning. In an effort to be fair to all families Mrs Curnow, Mrs Wight and I have developed At Home Learning Kits (AHLKs) which are mainly paper-based activities. Students are also continuing to use their Reading Journals to record their thoughts and wonderings as they read books, and to use their Writer's Notebooks to create stories.

Just like for each school, each family is dealing with this “at home learning” in different ways. Most families are setting a dedicated 2 hours in the morning to complete the Literacy and Numeracy tasks. Then the pattern varies ... some families do their own thing (crafts, cooking, gardening, household chores, games...), while some families take advantage of the additional activities we have suggested in the AHLK. We have always recognized that not all learning happens at school.

We also are considerate of the fact that many parents are also trying to adapt to working from home at the same time as supervising their children doing school work. It is not going to end the world, or affect the long term development of the children, if they do not complete every task we put in the AHLK.

I have deliberately avoided calling this situation “Home Schooling” because it is not. Home Schooling is a deliberate choice made by parents to take responsibility for teaching their children in line with the state curriculum. This is not the current expectation ... the teachers are still working to ensure curriculum is prepared at an appropriate level for each child and can mostly be done as independent work. We try to check in with the families at least once a week.

The day we look forward to is our “over the gate” check-in and changeover which happens every second Friday. Last week was our first “over the gate” chat but it was lovely to see and talk to the students (and parents) as they excitedly shared what they had been doing. This is also the day we changeover new activities and take in the work students have completed.



Clockwise from the top:

Rhett Hogan , Kelly Hogan and Jessie Fawcett working on their Literacy and Numeracy tasks.

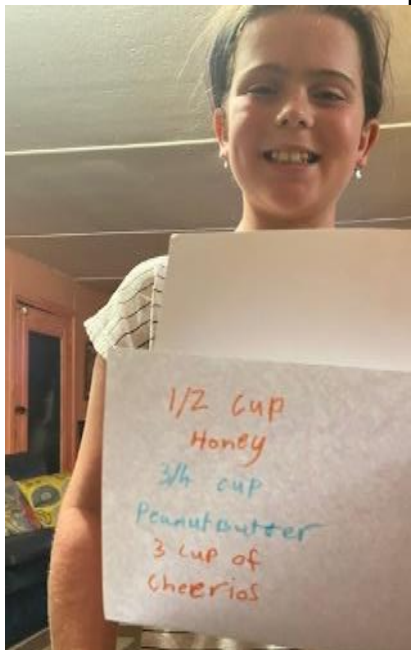
Ashlei Poyner using the listening post resources for Literacy.

Jenna Hogan set herself a cooking challenge using only the Breakfast Club ingredients.

Miss Digby ready for an "over the gate" chat.

Students at school for on-site supervision.

Cooper Harrison reading to his dog.



Have a good weekend, everyone.
Helen Digby