



DEPUTY DIARIES

K-6

Dear parents & carers,

As we pass the midway point of the term, it's been amazing to reflect on all that has happened in this busy term. Our school community has once again come together to create a dynamic and enriching learning environment, and we are immensely proud of the strides we've made.

Camps

It was great to see our Year 5 students have such an incredible time at their camp visiting Bathurst & Dubbo. The students had an amazing time visiting the goldfields, Old Dubbo Gaol and Dubbo Zoo.

Year 6 will be attending their camp to Canberra next week 28/8/23 - 1/9/23

Year 4 will be attending the Great Aussie Bush Camp 4/9/23 - 5/8/23

We hope you all have an amazing time!

3-Way Conferences

We are excited to extend an invitation to our Semester 2 Three-Way Conferences. These conferences offer a valuable occasion for you, your child, and their teacher to build upon the discussions about learning objectives and effective strategies for academic achievement from Semester 1.

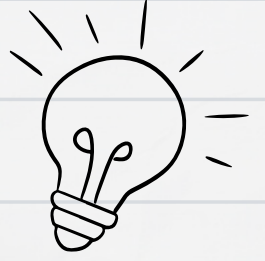
Throughout the conference, your child will be encouraged to take the lead in presenting their learning journey. This empowers students to communicate with confidence, highlight their achievements, and engage in conversations about areas where they might require additional support. Furthermore, it presents a fantastic opportunity for all of you to come together and celebrate the successes achieved so far! Please refer to the note sent out 24/8/23 on dates, times and the process for booking a time.

We want to extend our heartfelt congratulations to all our students for their hard work and dedication. Your academic achievements, creative endeavours, and participation in extracurricular activities have not gone unnoticed.

Warm regards,

Mrs Roberts, Mrs Wright, Mr Rudolph

3G NEWSLETTER



OUR TERM SO FAR!

3G have had an extremely busy Term 3 so far.

We've had our Intern Mr Godwin join our classroom and teach us wonderful lessons.

We've had events like the Book Fair, NAIDOC Week, an excursion to Taronga Zoo, Education Week and the Athletics Carnival. We also have the Book Week Parade this Friday which is very exciting.

TARONGA ZOO

3G had a wonderful time at Taronga Zoo. We saw a seal show and visited and learnt about many different animals. A class favourite were the Capybaras.



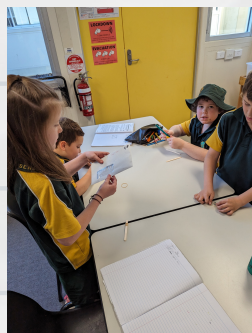
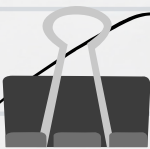
NAIDOC ARTWORKS



As part of NAIDOC Week, each class created an Indigenous Artwork. 3G read the book 'Come Together' which gave us a lot of knowledge about Australia's First Peoples. For this reason our class chose a class totem. We decided our class totem was the Rainbow Lorikeets who always steal our fruit break compost and this was how we designed our artworks.

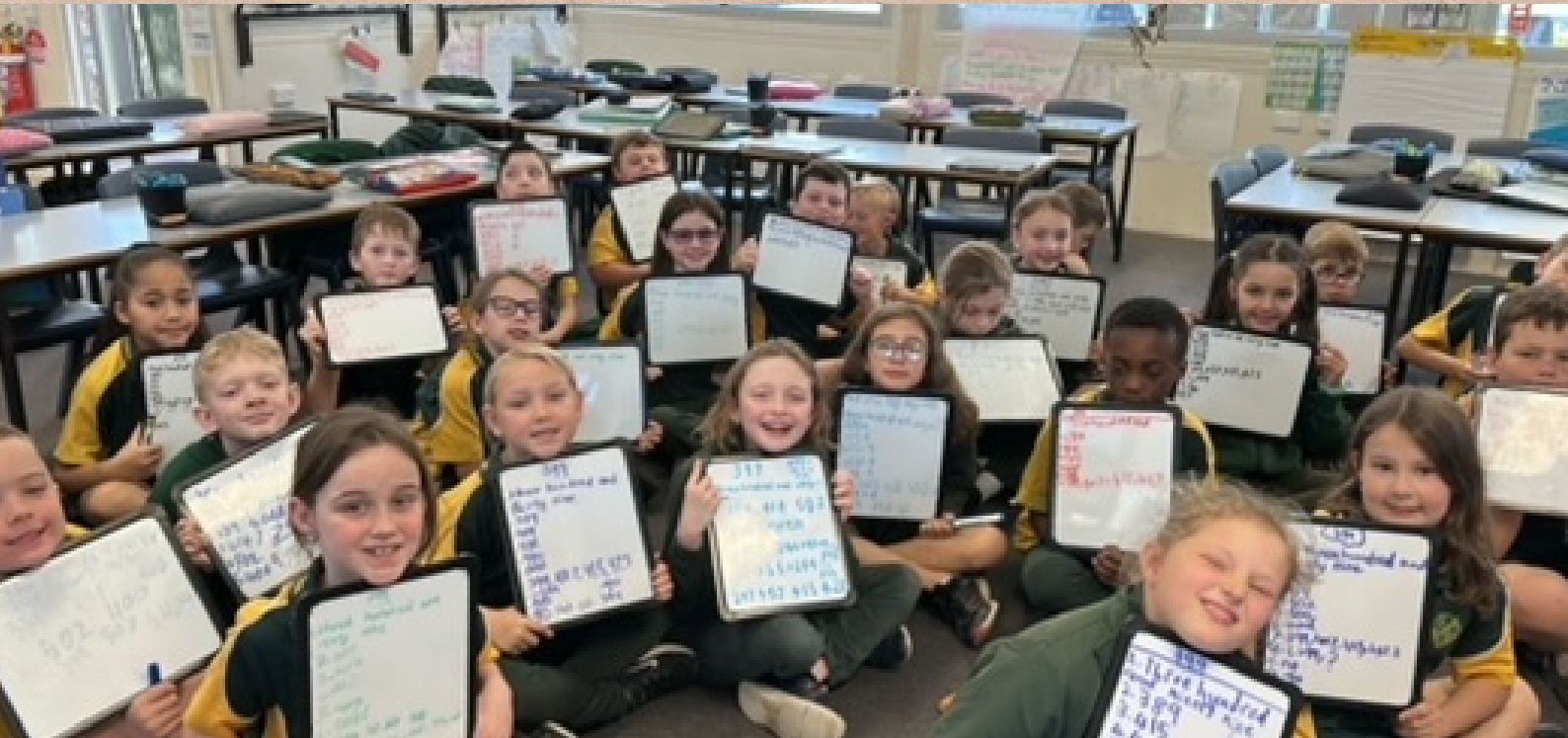
STEM CHALLENGE

In Education Week we participated in a STEM Challenge. Our winners went on to represent our class at the Stage Final.



THORNTON PUBLIC SCHOOL

3T NEWS



NUMBER SENSE ACTIVITIES

We are developing our sense of numbers each day with a variety of short activities at the beginning of our maths lessons. Here we are completing the Number of the Day on whiteboards. We use the whiteboards to record our thinking. Some other activities we love to help us learn are Solvemoji and creating number bonds with playing cards.

We know that we get sweaty brains when we are learning something new and we persist when learning gets tough. That's how we know we are learning something new!



REMEMBERING BLUEY

We were very lucky to have a blue tongue lizard we affectionately named 'Bluey' take up residency outside our room. Sadly, Bluey passed away recently. 3T students have been fierce protectors and educators in caring for Bluey and other animals that we share our school with. The class organised their own memorial for Bluey during their lunch eating time. It was heartwarming to see the students pay their respects.



Term 3

3W CLASS NEWSLETTER

TARONGA ZOO

3W had a fantastic time at Taronga Zoo. All students displayed an excellent level of responsibility and it was an amazing day for everyone.



WHAT WE ARE WORKING ON

3W are working hard on extending their additive strategies knowledge and looking closely at equivalent number sentences. They are developing an understanding of the inverse relationship of addition and subtraction to support them in solving problems and checking answers.



TOUCH FOOTBALL

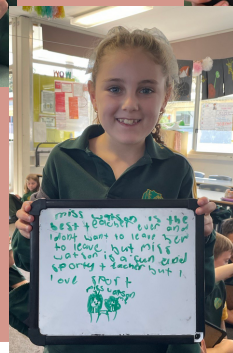
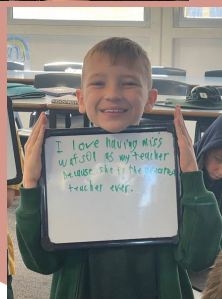
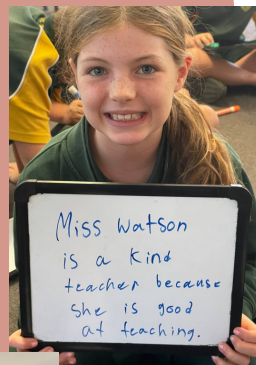
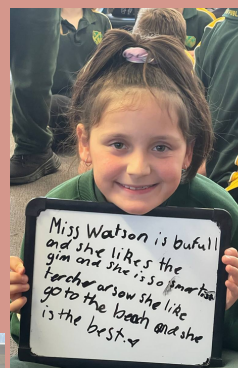
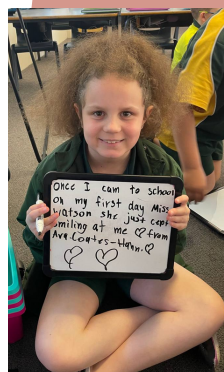
Well done to these girls in stepping out of their comfort zone and trying out for the Touch football gala day coming up.



3W have been learning about complex sentences and surprised Miss Watson by practising with some thoughtful sentences.

CONGRATULATIONS EMILY

Congratulations Emily on receiving a Deputy Principal's award



3/4M CLASSROOM

NEWSLETTER

TARONGA ZOO

Year 3 went on a fantastic excursion to see lots of animals at Sydney's Taronga Zoo.

We had an interesting trip on the bus and we arrived around 9:30.



OUR DAY AT THE ZOO

While at the zoo, we saw capybaras, lions, meerkats, tigers, gorillas, giraffes, elephants, zebras, camels, turtles and even a fennec fox!

We were lucky enough to catch the seal show, which was outstanding! They were so smart and lovely.

Year 4 are looking forward to their camp soon!



3/4M have been having fun lessons on Minecraft Education Edition!



Our students have been working really hard and have earned heaps of awards so far this Term!

4AS NEWSLETTER



MINECRAFT EDUCATION

4AS have been using Minecraft Education to design a compass for our Geography unit. We love engaging with technology as a tool to support our learning!



NAIDOC WEEK

Students enjoyed participating in different activities celebrating NAIDOC Week!



STEM CHALLENGE

We completed a STEM Challenge to build a catapult! What a challenge it was! Some very interesting and creative designs and some wonderful teamwork!

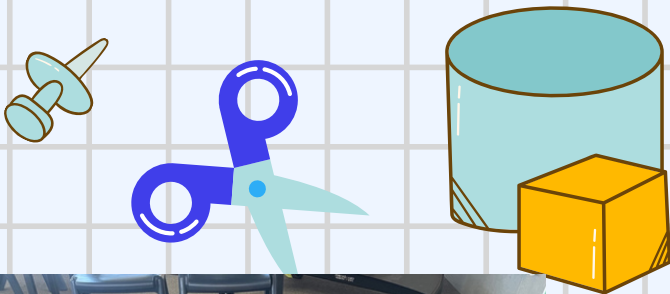
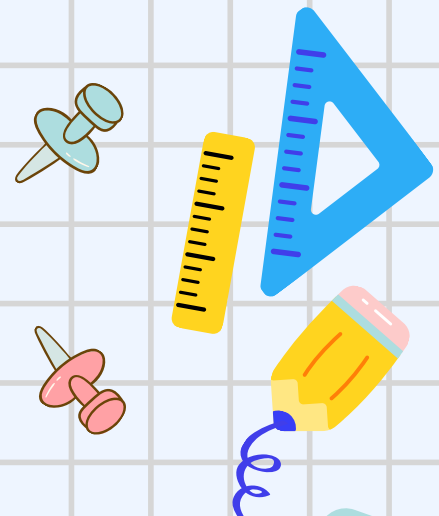


WINNERS ARE GRINNERS!

4AS were the winners of this year's Book Week display!

4D THE PLACE TO BE...

4D HAD A GREAT TIME
PARTICIPATING IN THE STEM
CHALLENGE TO MAKE A
CATAPULT.



4R News



STEM

STEM CHAMPIONS. STEM is an approach to learning and development that integrates the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.



Book week

We decorated our windows for book week. Come check out the photos of us holding our favourite books and why we like reading.

MISS CLIFF

Miss Cliff has been teaching 4R more and more. She is doing a great job on her internship.



4/5A NAIDOC WEEK



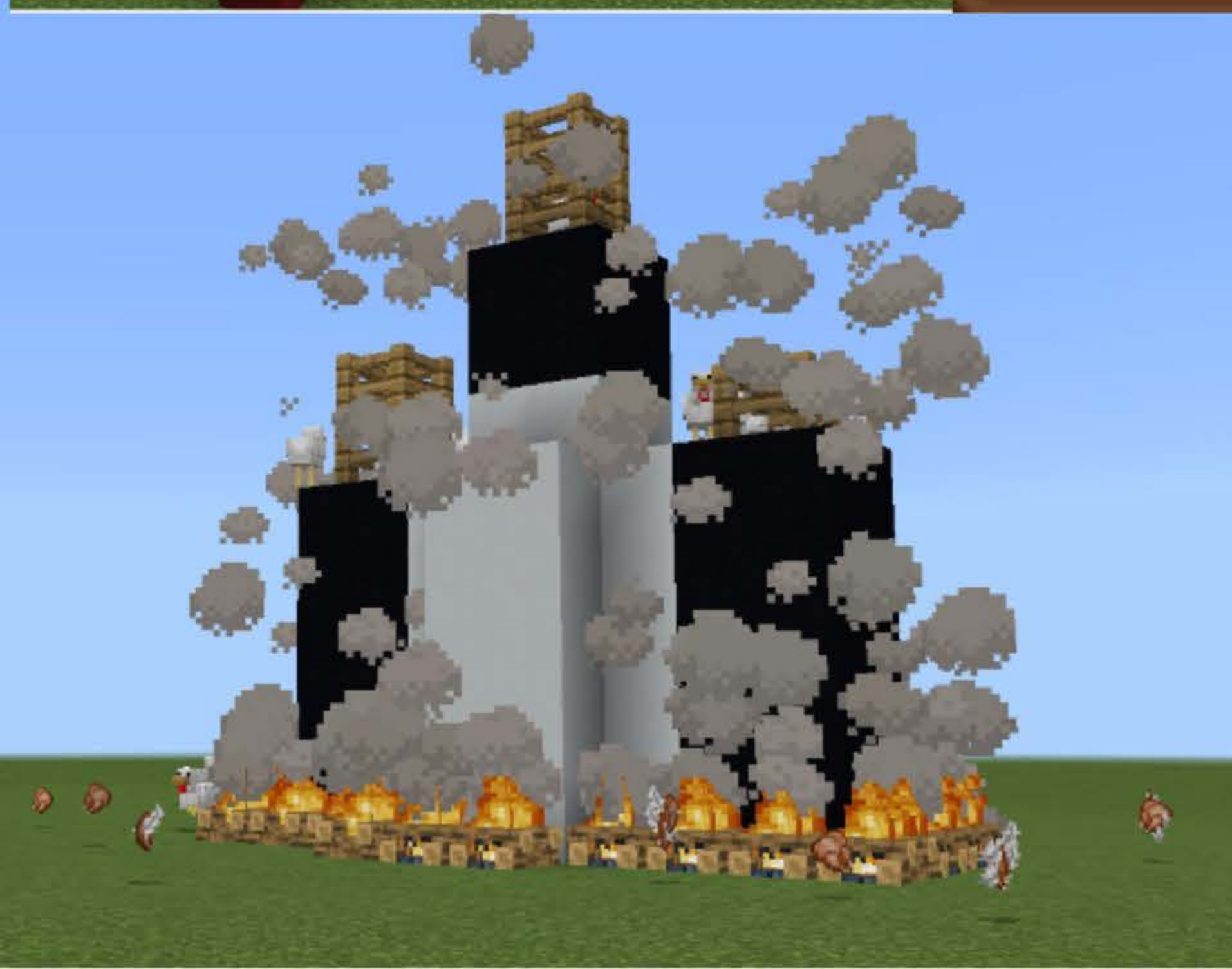
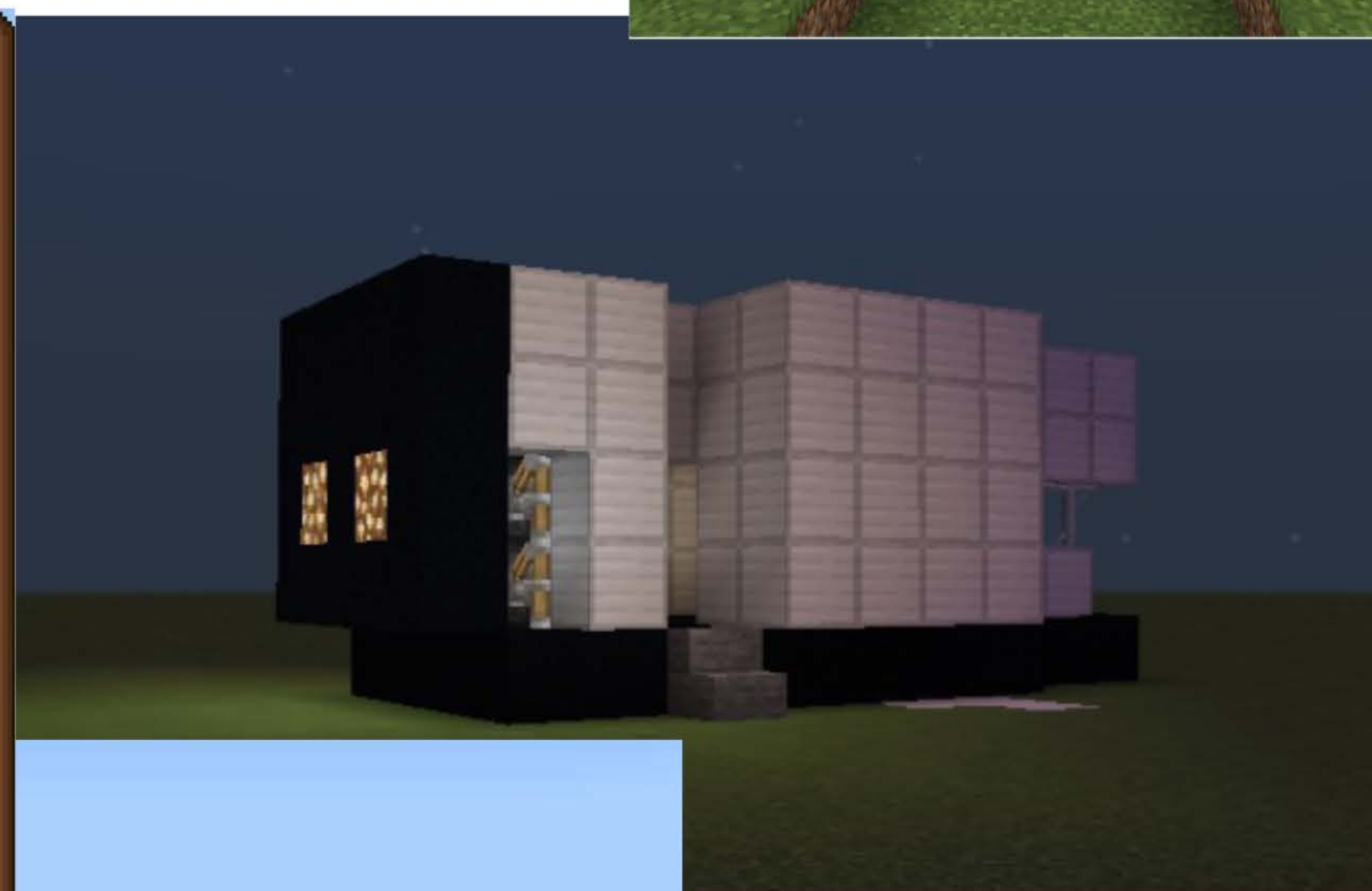
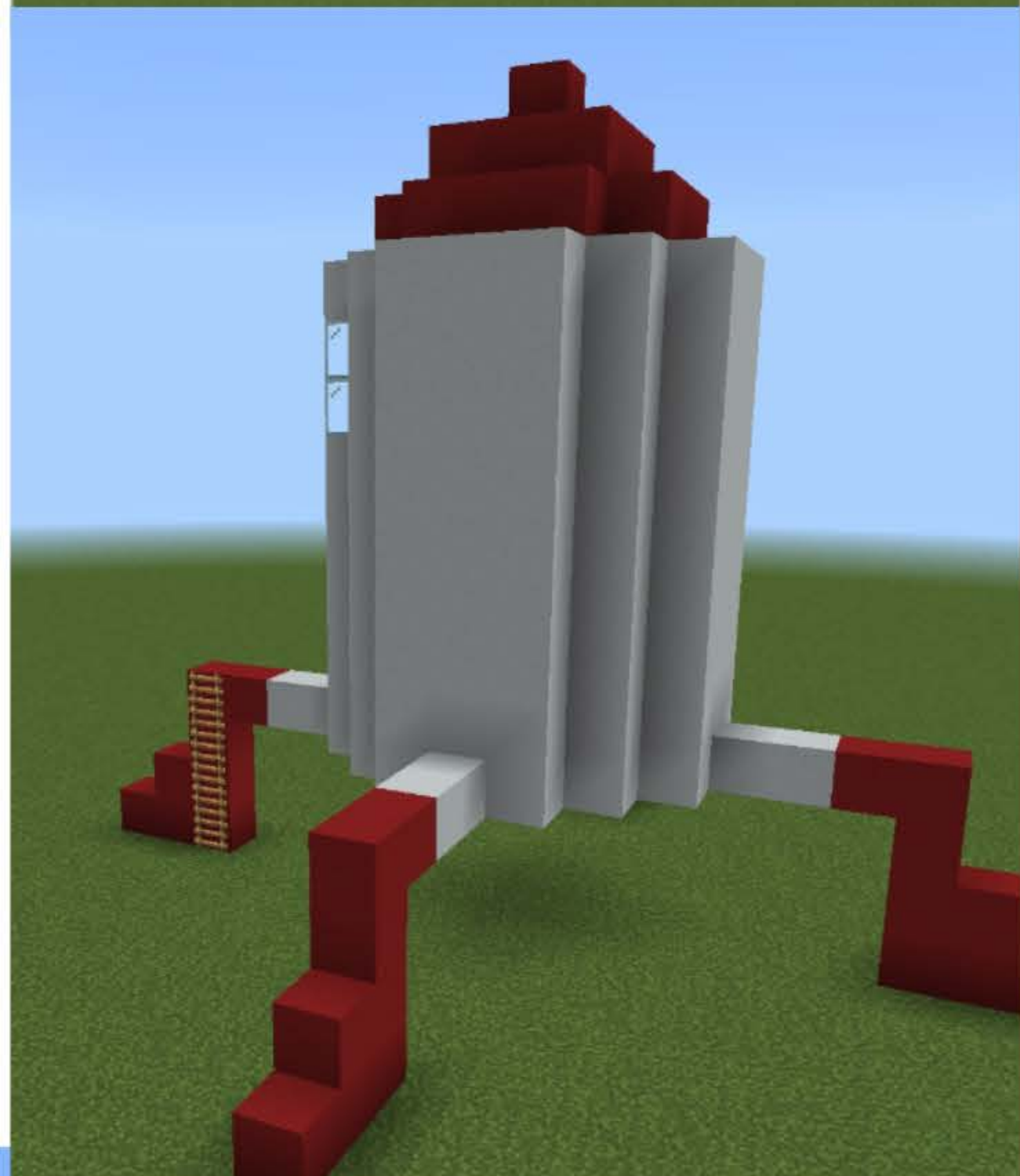
4/5A incorporated what they have learnt about the style of pop art and combined it with their knowledge of Aboriginal symbols to create a bright canvas of pop-art inspired NAIDOC themed artworks.

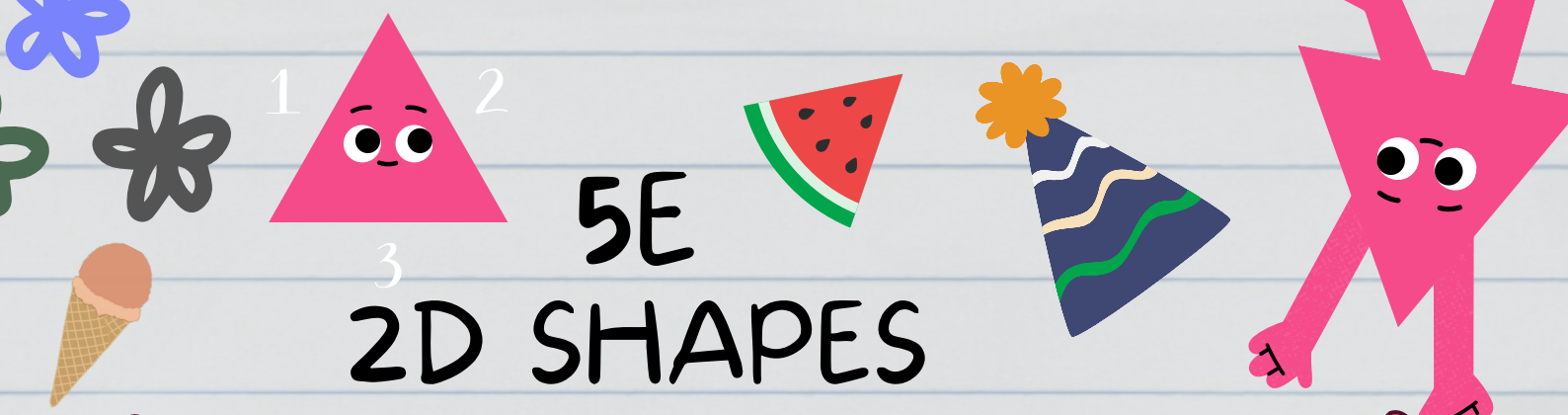


4/5A TRAVEL INTO THE COSMOS!



4/5A have been learning about the solar system and first stop was designing and building their very own rocket in Minecraft capable of blasting them into space!





TYPES OF TRIANGLES

In 5E, we have looked at the properties of 2D shapes. During a lesson, we focused on triangles. In class, we identified equilateral, isosceles, scalene and right-angled triangles based on the properties we could see.

We took our lesson outside and had a group challenge to create each type of triangle using objects found in the bush. This activity was a fun way to apply knowledge of a new concept while working together as a team.



Some great times were had by 5L during our excursion to Bathurst and Dubbo in week 5.

All excited for the fun bus trip.



During week 5 of Term 3 Year 5 went on our overnight excursion to Bathurst and Dubbo. A great time was had with plenty of adventures and learning.

Here are some pictures taken on our trip.



Here we can see Rubie cooking up a storm whilst Xavier decided to take a bit of a rest.



Travelling on the bus for 5 hours with your bestie!



At Dubbo Zoo with classmates.



Back to school after a long, exhausting trip.

50 Newsletter

Whats been happening in 50?

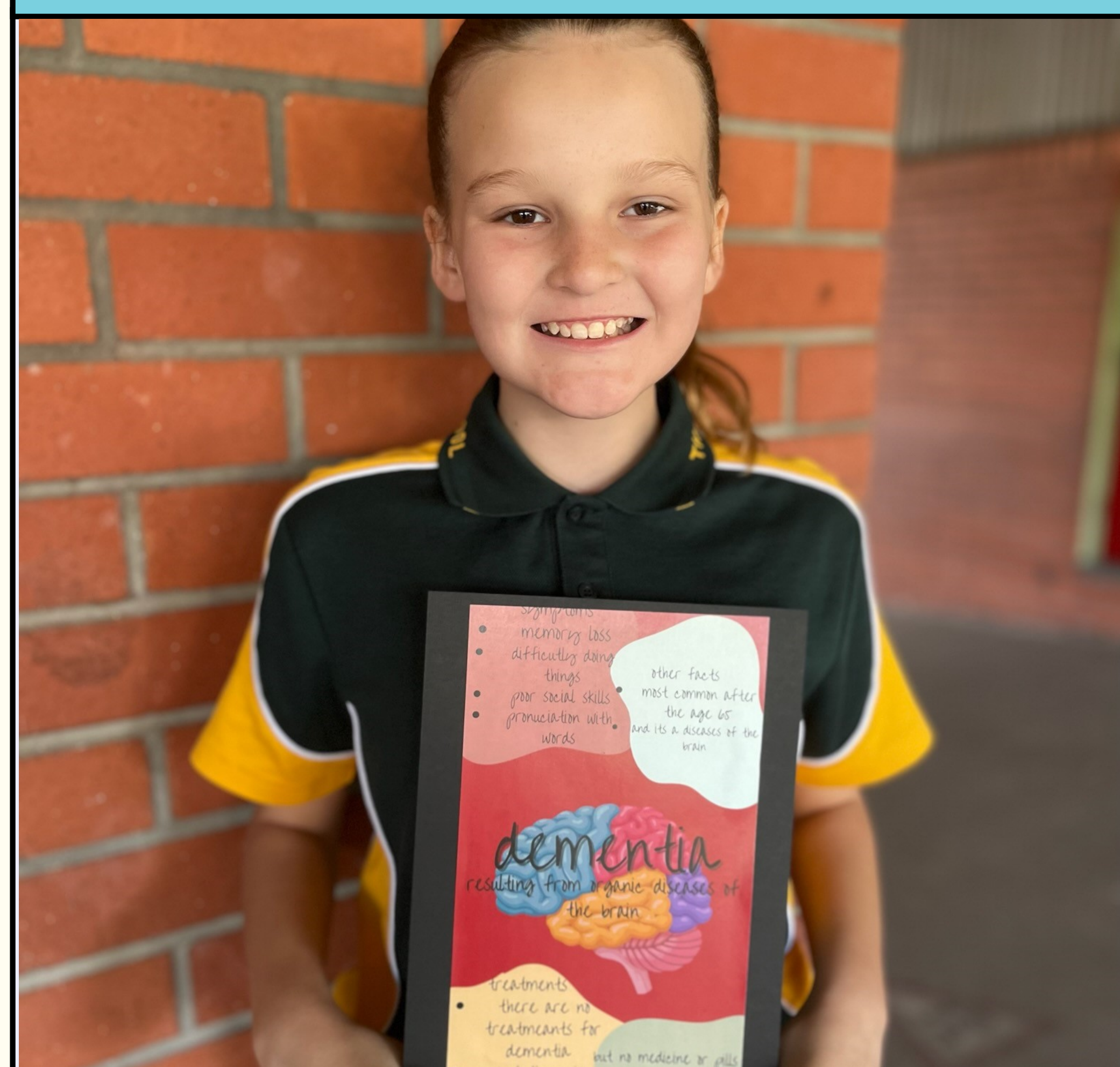
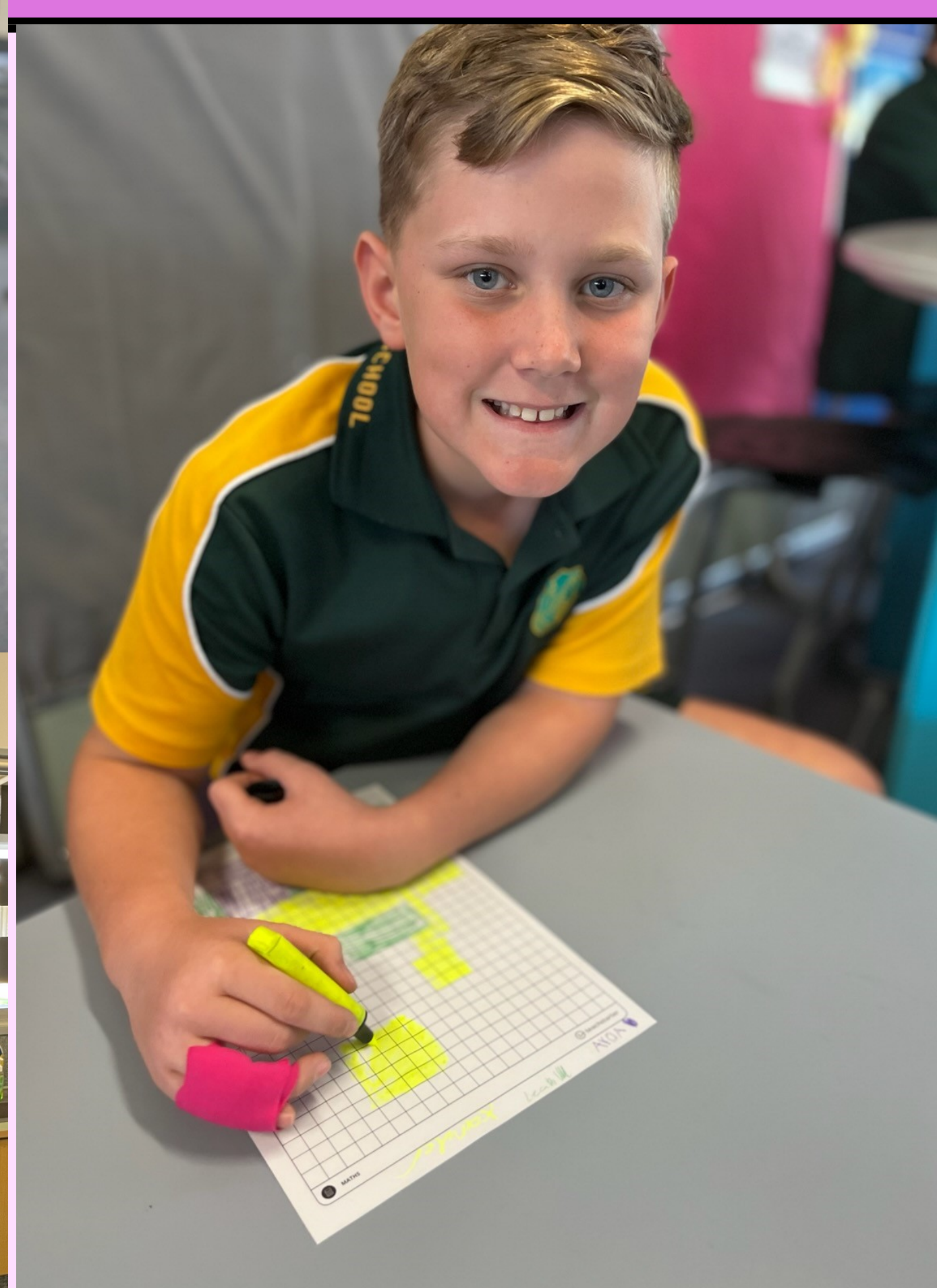
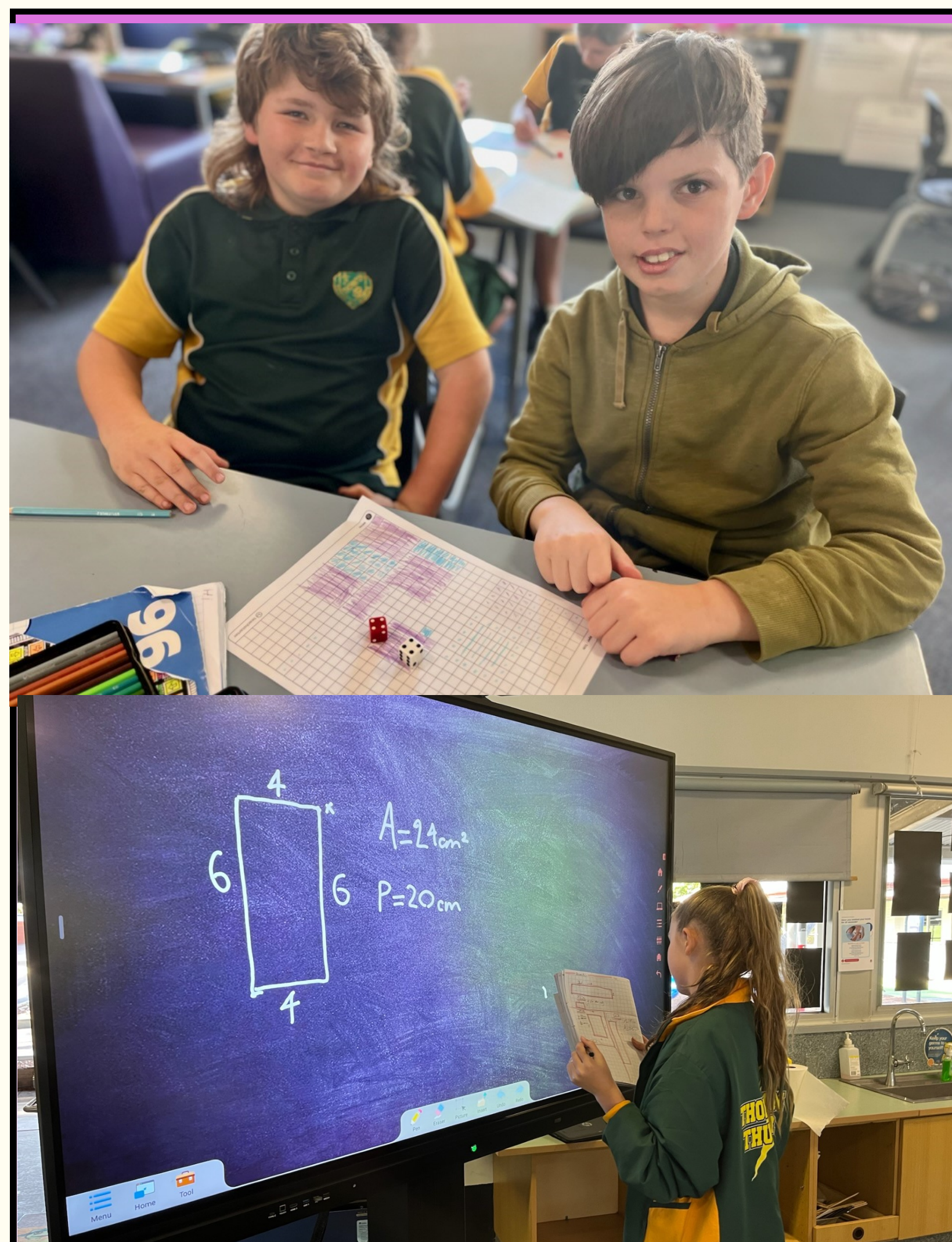
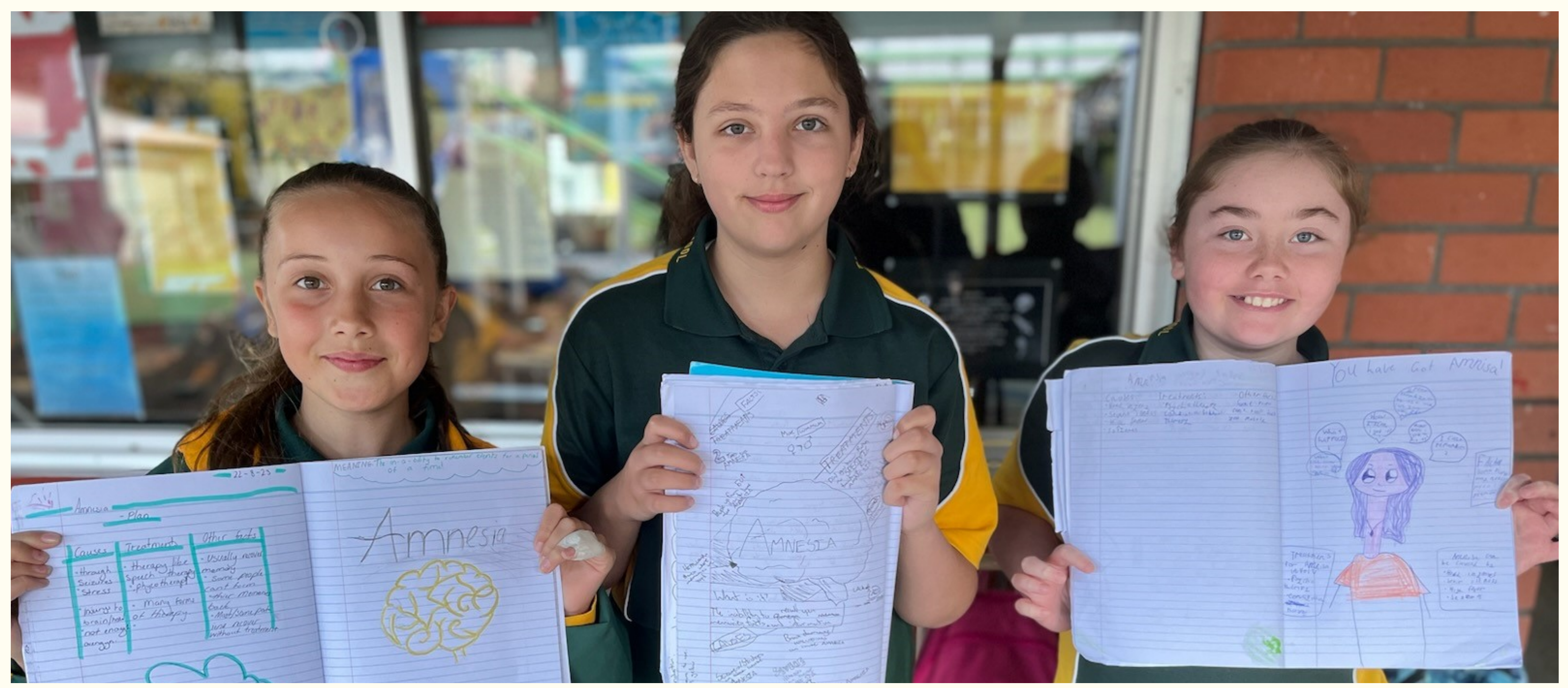
Our excursion to Bathurst and Dubbo was amazing. We learnt about life on the goldfields, how to pan for gold and about the largest gold nugget ever found. We also got to scream really loudly when we went on the steepest passenger railway (52 degrees) in the world, the Scenic Railway. We also got to do an early morning walk around Dubbo Zoo, checking out the tigers, hippopotomus, lemurs and the gibbons.

Thanks Ms B

We were also very lucky to have an amazing intern on our class for the first 5 weeks of term - Ms B. She taught us a lot of maths and literacy and read Two Weeks with the Queen to us.



5/6K Class Newsletter



Super 6A!

Check out some of 6A's
awesome success this year!



Emmey, Brooklyn & Lexi won
the Stage 3 STEM Challenge.
Sarah won the NADIOC Week
Art Competition for Stage 3
Layla won the Stage 3 Public
Speaking Competition and went
on to Represent Thornton at
the Zone Public Speaking
Charlotte represented
Thornton Public School at the
Multicultural Public Speaking
Competition

Our Class won the Book Week
Window Display for 3-6!



Great effort 6A!

Term 3 Week 6

6P Newsletter

This Week In 6P

Happy Father's Day!

Students have had the opportunity to carefully create the perfect gift in class or select one from the TPS Father's Day Stall.

6P are reviewing their packing list and getting ready to make tracks for Canberra in Week 7. The five-day fun filled adventure around the Nation's Capital will be one to remember.

6P says Bullying. No Way!

If you are being bullied...

- Hand Strategy
- Don't React, Walk away
- Tell a trusted adult

If bullying happens online...

- Block and Report
- Tell a trusted adult

If you see someone being bullied...

- Tell a teacher
- Help the person
- Call for help

If you need help...

- Ask for help

6P acknowledged National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence by discussing strategies to follow when faced with bullying in different circumstances.

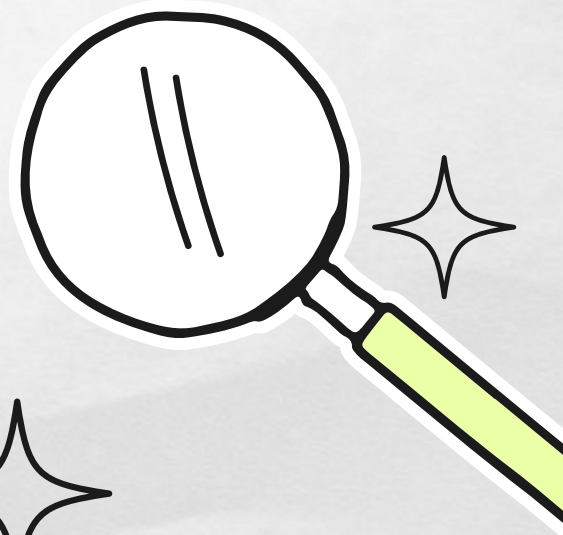
6P says Bullying. No Way!

Honorable Mentions

- Evie Walker represented TPS at Zone Public speaking!
- Ryder Grogan represented TPS at touch football!
- Corbin Babb and Luis Hughes are working hard at War Hammer Club constructing the map for the table top game.
- Tyler Gilbey made a game changing catch at the First 11's cricket game on 10th August.
- 6P challenged 4/5A to a dance off during Just Dance at during sport.



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



THIS WEEK IN 6M

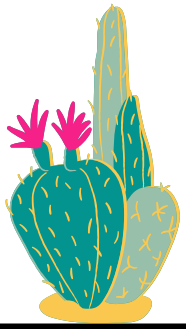
WE HAVE BEEN READING TWO WEEKS WITH THE QUEEN, AND ANSWERING THE RELATING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS. WE HAVE ENJOYED LISTENING TO THE SAD BUT TRUE REALITY OF A BOY ILL WITH CANCER. SOME STUDENTS HAVE ALSO USED THEIR TIME TO ENGAGE IN DEBATING AND CRICKET, HAVING MUCH SUCCESS.



1 UPCOMING EVENT

THIS WEEK IN 6M WE HAVE BEEN GETTING READY FOR CANBERRA NEXT WEEK. WE ARE SO EXITED TO SEE THE PARLAMENT HOUSE AND THE WAR MEMORIAL.





35H news



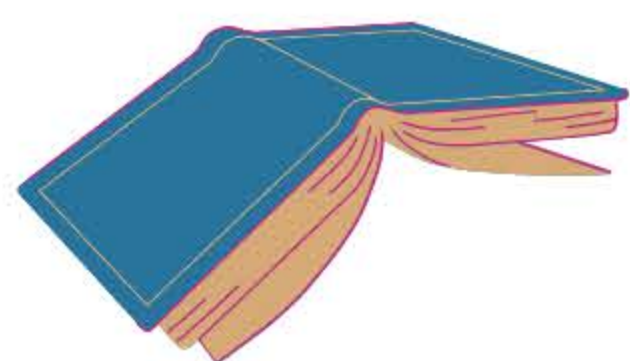
THIS TERM IN 35H:

We have a gardening bed! 35H is very lucky to have been granted our very own garden bed to look after, we have planted silver beet and snow peas and are looking forward to watching them grow! We also took advantage of the beautiful weather and went for a bush walk on the school grounds!



AUSTRALIA OVER TIME

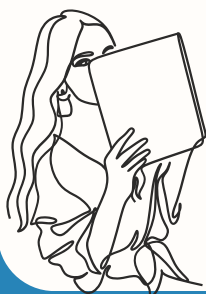
This term 35H have been learning about how Australia has changed over time. We were so lucky to be able to explore different artefacts from the past. This has inspired some great writing samples during our literacy sessions!



"Way to Cool" Live Performance..

On Tuesday the 22nd August students in 7R sat and watched the Way to Cool live performance. We enjoyed contributing to the online discussion about friendships, what it means to be a good friend, and how to be respectful and kind towards others. This is something that we have been talking about in our afternoon sessions and it was great that we were able to relate to this session and put these ideas into practice as we join together in some shared play experiences in class. One of our students particularly enjoyed the dance component and did a great job of following along during the show.





Library News

Years 3-6



TPS Book Club

Our book clubbers have been meeting every Tuesday to discuss what they've been reading and having a sneak peek at new additions to our collection.

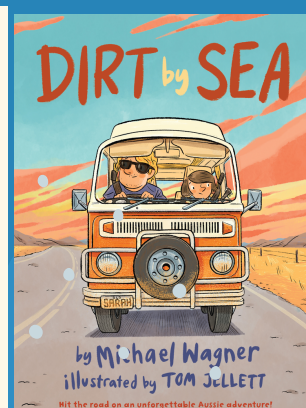
All are welcome so if you are interested please come and see Mr Hense in the library!

Term 3 Program

CBCA Shortlisted Books

This term in stage 2 and 3 we have been studying a variety of 2023 including "My Strange Shrinking Parents" by Zeno Swords which won Picture book of the year.

Students also participated in the Book Week live stream: Way Too Cool on Tuesday 22nd August.



[READ MORE](#)



Book Fair and Author Visit!



Thanks to all the families who purchased books at the Book Fair! Funds raised went towards purchasing new books for the library and having author / illustrator Aura Parker visit TPS and conduct workshops with K-4 classes. We read loads of her books before her visit including her latest, "Bowerbird Blues."



Borrowing & Overdues

Please make sure students are returning their books and borrowing week to week as much as possible. Overdue notices have gone out so if we can get these returned asap that would be super! Regular borrowing improves reading and literacy skills, and confidence, and is an important step in creating life long learners.



Premier's Reading Challenge

Student entries are now closed for the PRC. Thank you to all students and families who supported this initiative. 4R is the class with most students to complete so well done to Mr Rowe and 4R students! – Certificates will come later in the year.





Thornton Public School

Respectful, Responsible, Resilient



Education

Government Road
Thornton NSW 2322

Phone 4964 1369

thornton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Dear parents/carers,

I am writing to advise you that our Thornton Public School is in a bushfire prone area and is identified as Category 2 on the NSW Department of Education's bushfire risk register. For this reason, the school has been working with the Department of Education's Work, Health and Safety team and our director to update our risk assessment, completing emergency planning and arrangements for the upcoming bushfire season. On the 1st of September I will send more information regarding this.

This term we will be conducting two practice evacuation drills to support our emergency planning. There will be a Thornton Public School onsite drill on the 8/9/2023 and there will also be an off site drill on the 19/9/2023 where we will walk all students to Alan and Don Lawrence Oval.

We will talk to students before these drills to discuss the reason and provide adequate support for all students. Students who require additional support will be catered for and this will be communicated to parents/carers via the classroom teachers.

If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school email address or the school phone on 0249641369.

Kind regards,

Nathan Collins

Principal (relieving)



Thornton Public School

Respectful, Responsible, Resilient



Education

Government Road
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Phone 4964 1369

thornton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

School Bytes

We are excited to announce our school will be transitioning to an upgraded School Bytes finance system on 29 August 2023!

In preparation for the transition to a simplified finance system for both you and the school, we will be required to implement a short payment lockout period where we will not be able to receive any payments.

What this means for you

- No payments can be made online from 9am, Tuesday 22 August 2023.
- Last day to make cash, cheque or EFTPOS payments will at 1pm on Wednesday 23 August 2023.
- We will advise you when payments can resume closer to the above date
- Any existing payment links that have been sent to you previously in emails can still be used after the transition and will automatically redirect to the new system
- After the transition, a School Bytes portal will be available for you to register and begin using (Link: <https://portal.schoolbytes.education>)
- All previous payments made will be migrated to the new School Bytes finance system and portal
- Moving forward, when making a payment online, you will be redirected to a Service NSW page to complete an online payment. This is the new payment platform for online as directed by the NSW Department of Education.
- Payments made online will display as OSCHOOLSONLINE 0000 PARRAMATTA AUS on your bank statements moving forward.

What is the School Bytes portal

The School Bytes portal provides flexibility for you to conveniently:

- Make school payments online (including paying for multiple siblings at once)
- Use a family credit to pay for an activity or school contributions
- Download a receipt for payments made
- View all historical payments in one place
- Complete and submit digital permission notes
- View the status of all permission notes
- Request a refund if required

This can be done where you want at any time: day or night. Through the portal, you will easily be able to download a receipt once a payment has been made and have access to view all historical payments when needed. Online payments are processed in real-time and can be viewed by school staff immediately. While our preference is for payments to be made via the portal, we will still accept payment via cash, cheque, money order and EFTPOS.

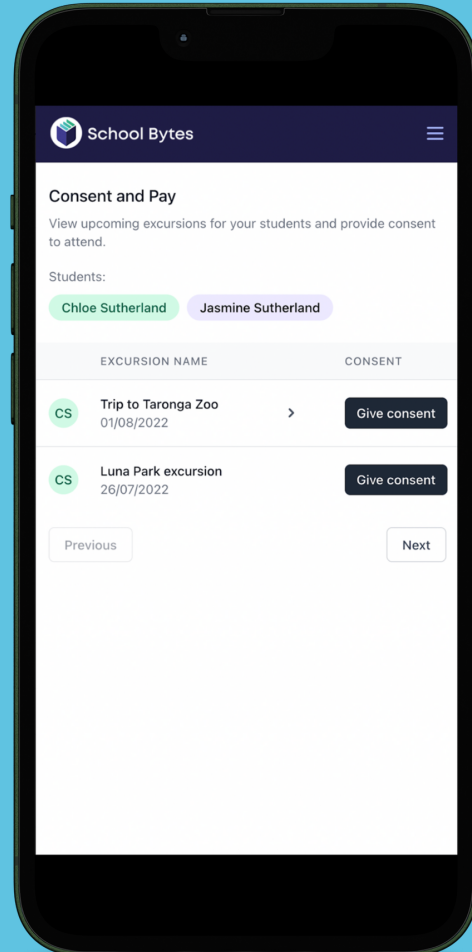
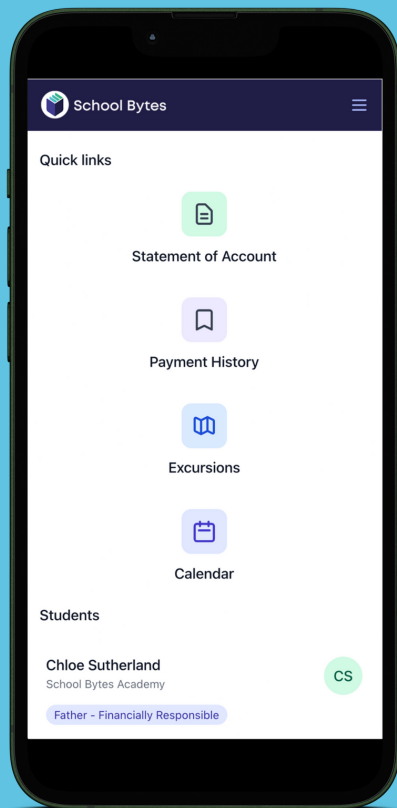
Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions.

Kind regards

Jessie Wright
Deputy Principal

AVAILABLE NOW!

We are excited to announce our school will be transitioning to a more flexible and simplified way parent/carers can make payments



The Parent Portal

- Easily make a payment online
- Download your receipt
- Sign and return permission notes digitally
- Use any credits on your account to make payment
- View your complete payment history
- Request a refund



School Bytes

AVAILABLE DURING

TERM 3

Register for the Parent Portal via the QR Code or visit

<https://portal.schoolbytes.education>





Compulsory school attendance

| Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my Legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age of 17 years. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the NSW Education and Standards Authority for home schooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The Importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.

My child won't go to school what should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The NSW Department of Education recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

1 day per fortnight

= 4 weeks

= Over 1 year missed

1 day per week

= 8 weeks

= Over 2.5 years missed

More information

Further Information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's Policy Library AND The Department's Attendance Matters Website

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's Wellbeing and Learning website

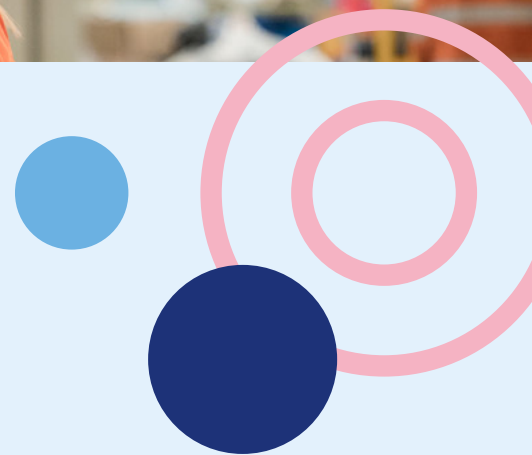
Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on **131 450**. You will not be charged for this service.





We want to work with businesses within our school communities



Work is available maintaining our schools

School Infrastructure NSW manages a large maintenance program for more than 2,000 schools across all parts of NSW. To do this work, we are looking to engage local businesses, including Aboriginal owned businesses and people.

We want to go local

We have changed our approach. We are now directly managing our facilities and enlisted the support of new facilities maintenance contractors and tradespeople to work directly with us.

Why go local? We want to:

- be more responsive to maintenance issues reported by schools
- ensure we are working with local trades and spending our money in our local communities
- provide better working conditions for local tradespeople, including faster payment terms
- increase employment opportunities for apprentices and trainees in local communities.

Opportunities for Aboriginal businesses

As part of our engagement of local contractors, we are also seeking to grow the number of local Aboriginal businesses we work with and increase employment opportunities for Aboriginal employees, apprentices and trainees.

Our Aboriginal Senior Program Officers are able to help Aboriginal businesses, and local contractors who already employ or are looking to employ Aboriginal employees, apprentices, and trainees.

The trades and services we are looking for include:

- Plumber (including roof and gas)
- Electrician
- Lift Technician
- Refrigeration mechanic
- Glazier
- Hazmat
- Arborist AQ3 / AQ5
- Locksmith
- Cleaner
- Pest control
- Carpet / vinyl
- Data technician
- Security technician
- Painter
- Plasterer / renderer
- Tiler
- Landscaper
- Brick layer
- Fire management
- Sheet metal
- Concreter
- Removalist
- Playground specialist
- Pool technicians and cleaner
- Carpenters
- Gasfitters
- Test and tag
- Lighting
- Construction
- Gutter cleaning
- Equipment construction and maintenance
- Engineering
- Fencing services building and repair
- Roofing

How can I participate?

We're looking for a wide variety of maintenance services and trades to work with us.

Reach out to our team to find out more and access the documents to apply to work with us.

On approval you'll be setup in our systems and onboarded, with induction covering how to work with us and use our systems. It's easy to work with us! Reach out using the details below.

Get in touch

To register your interest please select a region below or email the relevant office:

Southern NSW Regional Office – snsf.fmct@det.nsw.edu.au

South Western Sydney Regional Office — sws.fmct@det.nsw.edu.au

Sydney Regional Office — syd.fmct@det.nsw.edu.au

Western Sydney Regional Office — ws.fmct@det.nsw.edu.au

North Western NSW/New England Regional Office — nwnsw.fmct@det.nsw.edu.au

Hunter Central Coast Regional Office — hcc.fmct@det.nsw.edu.au

North Coast Regional Office — nc.fmct@det.nsw.edu.au

Northern Sydney Regional Office — ns.fmct@det.nsw.edu.au