Well our Wheelathon last week was a success. The girls and boys enjoyed the physical activity, they enjoyed the safety checks on their bikes, they enjoyed the festive atmosphere and back in class they enjoyed related art and literacy activities!

It looks like we might gross about $6000 from the Wheelathon and hopefully our nett proceeds will be over $5000 – so thank you for supporting this fundraising, and learning, venture.

I waved farewell to our Year 6 Canberra/Sydney excursion on Sunday night. They slept through the night while travelling and woke to a crisp minus 1 degree Canberra welcome for breakfast before a very long day in our nation’s capital. I’ve just gotten off the phone and all reports are good. Another long day and evening today and tomorrow they travel to Sydney. They are expected to be back here at about 9pm Thursday – check the school website and the school’s Facebook page for arrival updates.

Today I spent some time in 3C and 3/4A where the children were super engaged in a range of science activities. Lots of scientific thinking, predicting, experimenting and reporting was evident. Wow!

Our new support program continues to evolve carefully. Tomorrow some teachers and I will travel to Frank Partridge VC Public School (Nambucca) to observe their integrated support class in operation. We have already visited Tyalla PS, Bayldon PS and Coffs Harbour PS for ideas. Our aim is to pick out all of the best features of the support programs in other schools so that we can come up with a model that fits our needs here. It’s interesting, important and exciting work designed to make the learning environment for all children at our school even better.

Parents and community members may be interested to know that some of the funding from State education reforms and some of the funding from the Federal school reform agenda (Gonski) will be flowing to schools from next year. Our school will receive some modest increases in funding. We will not be getting a huge increase in funding because our school’s Family Occupation and Education Index (FOEI) shows that we are relatively “well off”, compared to some other local schools and certainly way more advantaged than some really isolated and poor schools across Australia that will get the big money.

So, while we won’t get lots of money, it looks like we will get a little more, in real terms. Be assured that we will put any additional funds to good use for your children, while they are here. We won’t be putting it away for a rainy day!

If you would like to know more about our projected finances for next year, come along to our next P&C meeting on the 25th November which will include the Annual General Meeting followed by an Ordinary meeting. So it’s a good night to come along to, to show your commitment to your child(ren)’s school.

We know that schools with strong parent involvement are successful schools. Investing time and effort into your child’s school will probably be one of your most lucrative investments. That, and reading to them every night!

Don’t forget to check out our GALLERY on the school website for an amazing view of the vibrancy of our school.

Regards

Ray Rincheval, Proud Principal