

Puckapunyal Primary

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Striving
for Excellence

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Wednesday Notes

Next Wednesday, 26 or so of our Year 5/6 students will head off for the annual **3 Day Bike Ride**. The Bike Ride will also involve Avenel Primary School and Seymour College. There will be about 65 or so students involved altogether! The riders will begin the journey at Mansfield and end the journey in Tallarook. The students will cover about 150 km. over the 3 days following the Great Victorian Rail Trail. It is a huge event and requires a high degree of dedication by all participants. Mr. Warne, Ms. Atkinson, Mrs. Ranger and Mr. Harcourt are going with the students with the help of several parents and other staff. Good luck to all riders. Below is the itinerary in case you would like to visit.

Day 1	6:45 am - All riders are to meet at Puckapunyal PS to load bikes for transportation and to catch the bus to Mansfield. 8:30 am - All riders and schools arrive at the Mansfield end of the Great Victorian Rail Trail 9:30 am - Depart Mansfield and ride along the rail trail until we reach Bonnie Doon 11:00 am - Arrive at Bonnie Doon for morning snack 11:30 am - Depart Bonnie Doon until we reach Merton 1:00 pm - Arrive at Merton Park for lunch Cnr of Maroondah Hwy and Euroa-Mansfield Rd 1:45 pm - Leave Merton and ride along the rail trail until we reach Kanumbra 2:45 pm - Arrive at Kanumbra for afternoon snack 3:00pm - Depart Kanumbra and ride along rail trail until we reach Yarck 4:00 pm - Arrive at Yarck and set up camp on the Yarck Recreational Reserve 6:30 pm - Dinner (dinner provided by Avenel Primary School)
Day 2	7:30 am - Breakfast and pack up camp 10:00 am - Depart Yarck and ride along the rail trail until we reach Koriella 10:30 am - Arrive at Koriella for morning snack 11:15 am - Depart Koriella until we reach Alexandra 12:30 pm - Arrive at Alexandra Recreational Reserve for lunch 1:45 pm - Leave Alexandra and ride along the rail trail until we reach Molesworth 2:45 pm - Arrive at Molesworth for afternoon snack 3:00pm - Depart Molesworth and ride along rail trail until we reach Yea 4:00 pm - Arrive at Yea Primary School and set up camp in the school grounds 6:30 pm - Dinner (dinner provided by Yea Primary School)
Day 3	7:30 am - Breakfast and pack up camp 9:00 am - Walk around Yea and discover town 10:00 am - Depart Yea and ride along the rail trail until we reach Kerrisdale 11:00 am - Arrive at Kerrisdale for morning snack 11:30 am - Depart Kerrisdale until we reach Trawool 12:00 noon - Arrive at Trawool for lunch 1:00 pm - Leave Trawool and ride along the rail trail until we reach Tallarook 2:00 pm - Arrive at Tallarook and finish the ride 2:15pm - Students are collected by their families at Tallarook

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Coming Events

Thursday 22 nd October	Pucka PS Big Breakfast
Wednesday-Friday 28 th -30 th October	3 Day Bike Ride
Friday 6 th November	Foundation Excursion Jets Gym Kidstown
Friday 6 th November	School Review
Saturday 7 th November	School Working Bee
Tuesday 10 th November	Family Fun Day
Tuesday 10 th November	School Council

3 Day Bike Ride

Family Safety Reminders

***We love dogs!** However, we have many students who have genuine fears of dogs. Unless your dog is a 'carer's' dog (eg, guide dog, etc) you must have permission from the school before entering the school grounds with the dog (even puppies!)

*We do not allow our students to **ride their bikes, scooters**, etc in the school grounds because it can be dangerous. We must also insist that our visiting pre-schoolers do the same. We have had too many near accidents at the front of the school lately.

Happy Birthday²

Happy Birthday to Bryce Williams, Carter Grant and Layla Chivers who are having their birthdays this week.

On behalf of the Puckapunyal Primary School Community, we wish **them** a very **Happy Birthday!**



School Canteen

The **School Canteen** is open for Lunch Orders again this term. Each and every Friday students can order lunches from the school canteen. The menu will be different each week. Please see the term's menu from last week's newsletter.

This week the menu is -

Party Pies/Sausage Rolls	\$1.00 ea or 3 for \$2.50
Chocolate or Strawberry milk	\$2.00
Orange or Apple Juice	\$1.50

Regional Athletics Carnival



*****Sunday Nights - a great night to check for Head Lice.**



D.S.T.A. Report

Walk to School in October and BREAKFAST!:

Well done everyone! It's great to hear that so many students have taken the challenge to walk or ride to school rather than taking the car. Keep it up! To support this program we are having a healthy breakfast this Thursday (tomorrow!). There will be a range of healthy cereals, some fruit and yoghurt and some pancakes. All families (mums, dads, siblings etc.) are invited to come and enjoy a healthy breakfast, courtesy of the school and generously funded by the Mitchell Shire.

Mystery Bags for the Family Fun Day: There should be a plastic bag with instructions, accompanying this newsletter. If you are able to fill the bag with some goodies and return it to the school, we would be most grateful. We always appreciate your support!

Have a great week.

Sue Ranger, Defence School Transition Aide

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR REWARD UPDATE

There was clearly lots of positive behaviour last week. Well done everyone who received a ticket last week and to Melba house for a terrific effort.

CURRENT SCORES

Melba: 164 points

Hume: 150 points

Bradman: 144 points

Chisholm: 136 points

Well done to the **Xtina Chalson-Riley, Claudia Carrick, Nannah Taylor, Naomi Pennycook, Mackai Harriden, Amy Franks, Francina Oti, Aiden Mackay, Kian George and Carter Grant** who competed at the **Regional Athletics Carnival** in Albury last week. These students have been successful at school, district, divisional and now regional levels. Just to get this far, they have competed against 150-200 schools. A big congratulations to **Claudia Carrick** who won her Discus event at Regions! She is now heading to Melbourne next Monday to compete in the State Championships. Good luck, Claudia!

Results of Your Fundraising!

Last year, two departing families, the Billens and the Allens, financially contributed to the purchase of basketball tops. Money raised from fundraising made up the difference between the cost of the tops and the gift from each family. These tops have been used by our years 3/4 and 5/6 'Hooptime' teams. One of our year 3/4 teams made it to regional finals last week in Melbourne and looked terrific in their uniforms. Thanks everyone for your continued support of our school.

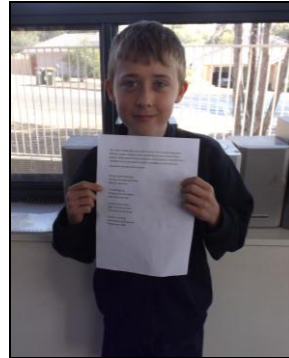


Public Holiday

Tuesday November 3rd is Melbourne Cup Day and therefore a public holiday.

There will be **NO** school on this day

Assembly Reading



Did you hear **Kade Altas** read a Haiku Poem at assembly this week? We did! He did a great job! Come along and see who reads next week.

Before School Swimming Starting on Monday, Years 3-6 students can participate in our **before school swimming program**. This will continue throughout Term 4. It is not a swimming training session but a lap swimming opportunity session. It should only involve students from Years 3-6 who are capable of swimming at least 1 complete lap at a time. We encourage those students to come along and swim some laps, especially those training for the Individual Triathlon this term.. There will be a teacher from Puckapunyal Primary School at the Pool each morning to supervise.

Pupil Free Day

Friday 27th November is our next **Pupil Free Day**. Therefore, students are not expected at school that day.

It is **Report Writing Day** for staff. It gives teachers an opportunity to ensure that all students' reports are accurate.

Rule Reminders

Each week at assembly, SRC representatives remind our students of a few **important school rules**. This week, SRC representatives **Jarrah Noel-Macpherson** and **Layla Chivers** reminded our students of the following rules:

- Chasey is a game for children – it does not involve kangaroos and emus.
- Scaring is for Halloween and not for birds.
- Digging is only for the sand pit.
- Just a reminder – keep your hands to yourself.

Please discuss these rules with your children to help ensure that they understand.

School Shirts For Sale

Our school is currently changing our **school shirts** to have a more modern look. The new school shirts will still have the same school colours and the same school logo but look modern. They will be integrated over the next few years starting at the beginning of 2016.

However, the current shirts will still be part of the uniform for a few years yet! We still have many current designshirts for sale which we will now sell cheaper at \$16.50 instead of \$22-\$24 (short and long sleeve). Please see the office if you like to buy these reduced priced

shirts

Value of the Week

At assembly this week **Compassion** was announced as our **School Value of the week**. That means teachers are looking for students who are demonstrating '**Compassion**' to be eligible for the **Student of the Week** award. We encourage parents to talk to their students about our values throughout the year.

What is **Compassion**? Year 5 student, **Somaiya Harriden** read out the meaning of **Compassion**. Assembly MC, **Jack Chetcuti** conducted a quick quiz with the audience about '**Compassion**'. Well done, Jack.

'**Compassion** is caring about someone who is hurt: physically, emotionally or psychologically. It's being kind and understanding because the other person matters to you. **Compassion** is forgiving someone who has hurt you. It's caring deeply and wanting to help even if you do not know that person.'

Awards for the Week

Students of the Week

Authors of the Week



Congratulations to the following students who were 'Students of the Week' for last week. Winners – Isabella Quintana, Lachie Balmer, Clodagh McCarthy, Abby Chetcuti, Tobias Rayner, Teagan Nabbs, Liam Irwin and Emily Adams. These students were selected because they were modelling 'Tolerance'. This week teachers are looking for students who are modelling 'Compassion.'

Congratulations to the following students who were 'Authors of the Week' for last week. Winners – Connor Barclay, Phoenix Miller, Riley Gilmour, Lake Robertson, Casey Cousins, Kayla Gardner, Kade Altas and Jarrah Noel-Macpherson. These students were selected because they showed great skills as an **author**.

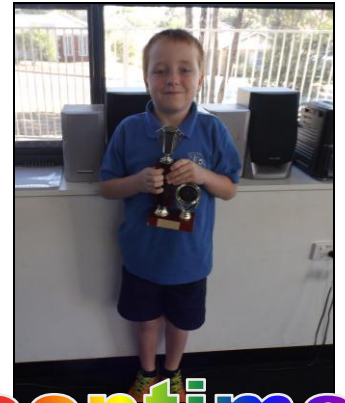
Times Tables Awards



5/6 P in Room 1B won the **Senior School Times Tables Trophy**. Cayleigh Cousins and Emily Adams are delighted to win the winning trophy this week!

3/4 A in Room 11 won the **Middle School Times Tables Trophy**.

Trey Ward was very happy that his classroom won the winning trophy again this week!

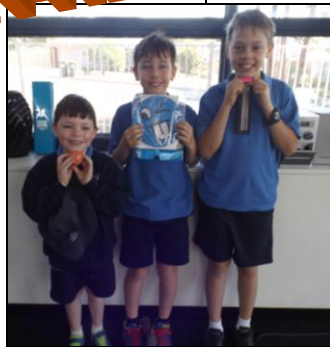


'Yard Duty' Award



5/6 P in Room 1B won the **Yard Duty Competition**. Cherie Gourlay and Samuel O'Connor-Hudson will look after the winning trophy this week.

Quiz Prizes



Congratulations to **Lachie Tschiderer, Lachlan Thompson** and **Luke Golder** who each received a **Prize** for guessing correct answers at the assembly 'Compassion Quiz' conducted by MC, Jack Chetcuti. Well done, boys!

Hooptime



Congratulations to our Year **3/4 Basketball Team** who made it to the **Regional Finals** last week. They each received a certificate at assembly on Monday.

ARTWORK OF THE MOMENT!

Starring Artist
Joe Gilmour

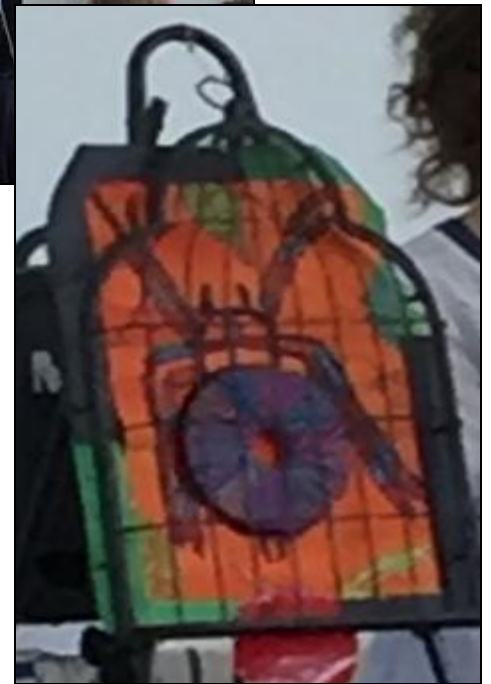
His speech

I am proud to be chosen as the 'Artist of the Moment'. My masterpiece was developed from wool, pastels and dye.

I am most proud of the colors I used.

Dani told me she loved how I did the wool. Mr. Warne likes it too. Those who know me know that I am Joe Gilmour from class 3/4 Atkinson. Please view my masterpiece in more detail when it is displayed in the foyer and in the school newsletter.

Visual Art teacher Mrs A-W is very proud of Joe.



Pluto Planet Update

By Nathan Hopkins

Did you know?

A few months ago, the New Horizons mission space probe passed Pluto for the first time after being launched in 2006 when Pluto was still considered a planet. As a result New Horizons has discovered that the dwarf planet Pluto has methane gas escaping from its atmosphere. The information about other discoveries that the probe made when passing Pluto will be gradually sent back to earth over the next 13 months.



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Family Fun Day

An invitation is extended to all parents of Pre School and Primary School children and members of the community to attend our Family Fun Day.

When: Tuesday 10th November, 2015

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Where: Puckapunyal Primary School



Since 1998 we have been holding a **Family Picnic Day** at the school with parents bringing lunch to share with their children in a family atmosphere.

* At 1.00 pm parents, students and teachers will meet on the bank near the oval and eat lunch together.

* There will be a Sausage Sizzle available on the day as well. Look out for pre order forms in the Wednesday Notes. Drinks can also be purchased.

* A variety of games and activities will be set up on the oval and the asphalt areas by each classroom for students, families and staff to enjoy. They will go ahead after lunch at about 1:30 p.m. Examples of the activities are - egg & spoon races, sack races, 3 legged races, horse shoe throwing, vortex throwing, cricket, skipping, bubbles and lots of others.

* We will also conduct the annual **Fun Run**. The Fun Run will start at 2.45pm. Parents are encouraged to join their children for the Fun Run. We will also provide a free icy pole to all students, parents and visitors who join in the Fun Run.



* And of course, there will be our famous mystery jars to purchase!

Please come along and spend your afternoon enjoying time with your children.

FAMILY FUN DAY BBQ LUNCH

To celebrate our **Family Fun Day** on Tuesday 10th of November we are holding a BBQ lunch. Anyone interested in participating please pre order by returning your completed form (with money) by Friday the 6th of November.

Sausage Quantity _____ X \$2-00 = _____

Fruit Juice Apple _____ Orange _____ X \$1-50 = _____

Flavoured Milk Chocolate _____ Strawberry _____ X \$ 2-00 = _____

Total _____

Student Name: _____

Room Number: _____

Week 3 in Term 4 Teaching/Learning Focus....

Each week in the newsletter, we will give families a summary of the **Teaching/Learning Focus** for the week. **That can help families by:** being aware of what classrooms are covering; with discussion topics at the dinner table when discussing school (eg. 'How are you going with addition in Numeracy this week?'); helping their children study at home, etc. Parents have indicated that this information would be very useful. We also ask families to be aware that schools are very busy places and events can be unpredictable at times. We therefore must remain flexible. That means, we can plan to cover certain topics at particular times and have to change them according to arising needs.

Junior School – Preps/Foundation Rooms 3 & 6

Literacy: We are continuing to develop our writing skills with a focus on sounding out and using the golden and red words in our writing and learning about the vowel sounds o and u. We are practising Kung Fu punctuation and talking about WOW words.

Numeracy: We are continuing to learn about subtraction as well as measurement and location words. We are using Mathletics as a tool to support our learning.

Junior School – Year 1s Rooms 3, 8 & 9

Literacy: We are focusing on verbs and continuing punctuation skills (Kung Fu punctuation). We are looking at the difference between facts and opinions.

Numeracy: We are looking at doubles and near doubles as well as counting patterns. We are using Mathletics as a tool to support our learning.

Junior School – Year 2s Rooms 8 & 9

Literacy: We are looking at the difference between facts and opinions and learning about contractions and verbs.

Numeracy: We are learning about addition and subtraction with one and two digit numbers and ordering and sequencing numbers. We are looking at doubles and near doubles and using Mathletics as a tool to support our learning.

Middle School – Years 3/4 Rooms 10 & 11

Literacy: During writing sessions over the next few weeks, we will work on Poetry. We will continue to focus on commas with compound sentences.

Numeracy: We will continue to focus on calendars. Another continued focus will be the four processes. Tables facts will be practised throughout the week.

Senior School – Years 5/6 Rooms 1A & 1B

Literacy: During writing sessions over the next few weeks, we will continue to focus on Poetry. We will continue to focus on commas used in direct speech. In reading we will be focusing on strategies, fluency and expression.

Numeracy: We will continue with work on the four processes, the order of operations, place value, number patterns, decimal fractions, common fractions and percentages. We will continue to complete work relating to Symmetry (line and rotational). Tables facts will be practised throughout the week.

Indo Lingo

Foundation-Year 2

The children are making a class book about **bagian kepala** (head parts) this week. Focus will be on the following vocab:

kepala saya = my head

kepala = head

muka = face

mata = eyes

hidung = nose

mulut = mouth

telinga = ears

rambut = hair

Salam (Regards)

Bu Hooper (Mrs Hooper)

Guru Bahasa Indonesia (Indonesian teacher)

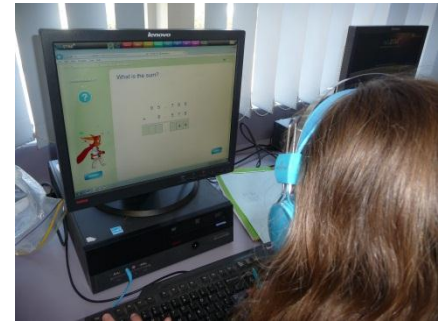
LOOK AT WHAT IS HAPPENING AROUND OUR SCHOOL

Photographs and writing by Year 5/6 students Jake, Ryan and Jarrah.

Mathletics/Spellodrome

This term we are trialling Mathletics and Spellodrome. Mathletics is a game where you start off with an avatar and complete maths activities set up by your teacher on different topics like place value. There are also quizzes in which you earn points for your character. Every point you earn can be saved up to buy more clothes or accessories for your character.

When you start off, the first quiz you do is called 'Are you ready?' It tries to help you revise all of your tables and different skills. When you have finished one activity you can go onto the second one.



You need to get above 85% to move on. If you don't get it at first, you keep on trying until you do.

Spellodrome is a program similar to Mathletics, except instead of quizzes where you challenge different people around the world, school or classroom, or you can just play against the computer. It covers many Literacy areas.

Yard Marking

This term the 5/6s have been inspecting the yard for rubbish. As we all know, the class with the least amount of rubbish in the week wins. There are 2 teams of two people checking each class's areas for rubbish throughout the week. At assembly on Monday they announce the winning class and give out the trophy.



They start searching at 2:30, which gives students 5 minutes to get all of the rubbish out of their area. Each week, one of the two 5/6 classes is assigned the duty of yard marking.



PDNC are holding a **Halloween Party** on the 31st October from 3pm-5pm. This will be followed by 'Trick or Treating' around the base. Information flyers and colouring competition entries can be found outside the school office or by visiting Deb at the PDNC.

Wondering what to do with the extra hours of daylight?

Why not make a family scarecrow to put in the gardens at school...

Our fabulous veggie garden is currently being besieged by pesky birds that are snipping off the tops of our plants before they have a chance to bear any crops for the students.



We could really do with 3 scarecrows in the veggie garden and any more than this, will be put into different gardens around the school.

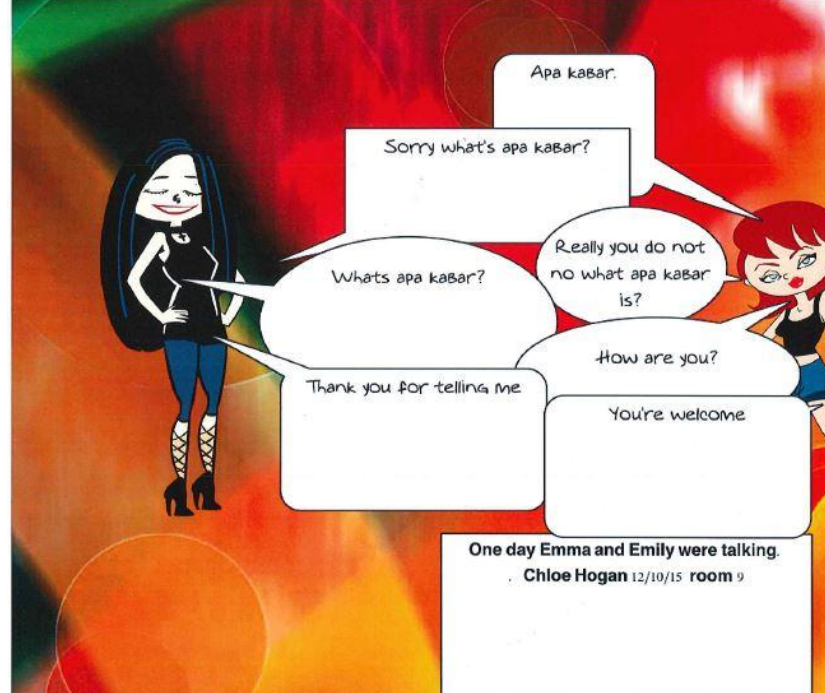
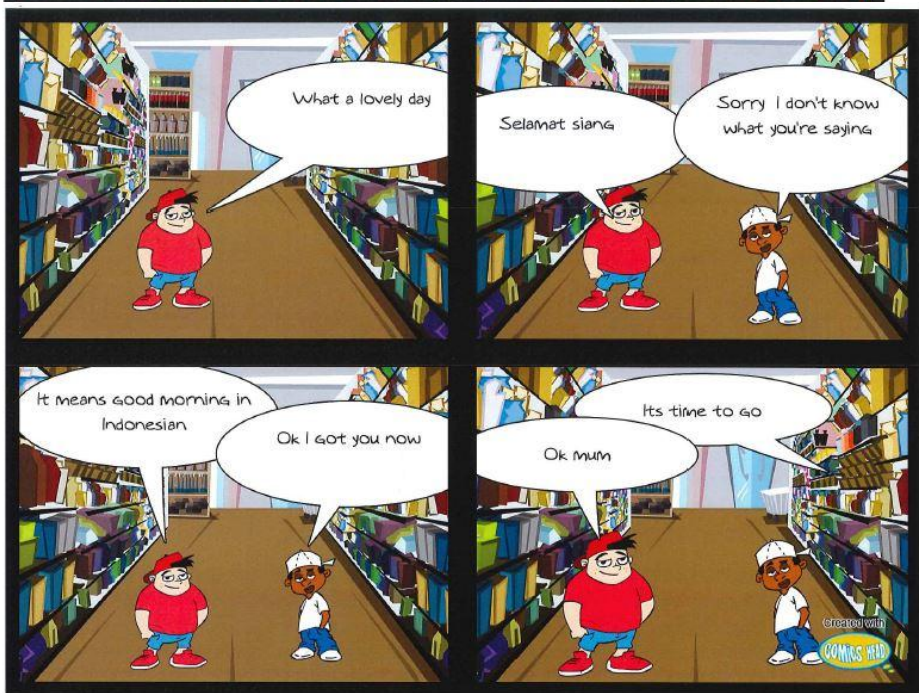
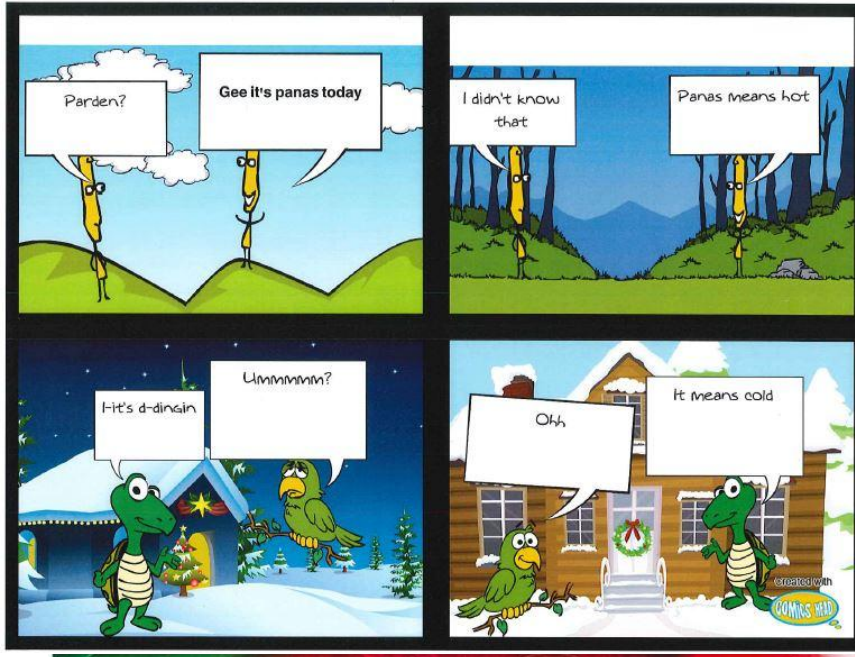
Prizes will be given to the 3 best scarecrows as voted by the students.



Scarecrows should be at school by Friday October 23rd for voting to take place that day. Winners will be announced at the following assembly.

Enjoy creating!





Mr Itter's class used 'comic head' on the ipads to make a comic using or explaining Indonesian words or phrases. Here are some examples of their efforts. Clockwise from top left: Tessa Thompson, Charlie Skipper, Chloe Hogan and Adam Harbert.