

ISSUE 5  
14/06/17

**Our vision:**

At University Park PS, we work collaboratively to ensure every individual learns to their full potential and is a respectful and responsible member of the community.

**Our Values:**

Respect

Responsibility

Learning

Honesty

Collaboration

**Our School Improvement Goals:**

**Student Achievement:**

To ensure that the annual learning growth for every student in literacy and numeracy is greater than one year.

**Student Engagement:**

To improve engagement by building student voice in their learning.

**Student Well-being:**

To enhance support for every student to thrive in a safe and stimulating learning environment.



Dear Parents,

What a wonderful day we had last Friday celebrating our National Buddy Day as a whole school. National Buddy Day is an initiative developed by NAB and the Alannah & Madeline Foundation to celebrate friendship, promote safety and connectedness, and help raise awareness of bullying in Australian Primary Schools.

It was lovely to see our staff and students taking part in the "Band Together" challenge, having fun and being active in the activities that were organised by staff and students through our Bluearth Program. This was a fun way to raise awareness to help reduce bullying in our schools. An extra element of fun was created by our Junior School Council who organised a pyjama day to help raise money for the Royal Children's Hospital. Thank you to the Junior School Council, Matt Ward from Bluearth and the UPPS staff and students of Grades 3/4 for their organisation of the day.



**New UPPS Partnership.**

This week UPPS committed to a partnership with the Smith Family to ensure that children and families in need can access, participate and succeed in education. It is our commitment to build deep relationships with the organisation through its Learning for Life program. We look forward to the collaboration that will emerge, as a result, and the improved student outcomes that we envisage in the future.

**Who are The Smith Family?**

The Smith Family is a national, independent children's charity, helping disadvantaged Australian children and young people to get the most out of their education, so they can create better futures for themselves. Its mission is to create opportunities for young Australians in need, by providing long-term support for their participation and success in education. Community-based Program Coordinators enact this commitment through the *Learning for Life* Program.

**What is the Learning for Life program?**

The *Learning for Life* Program provides emotional, practical and financial support to help disadvantaged children and young people with their education. This support starts in the early years of learning development and continues through primary and secondary school. The Program helps build skills, knowledge, motivation, self-belief and a network of positive relationships with parents, peers and significant others. This support increases a student's likelihood of remaining engaged with school, completing year 12 and developing realistic and informed study and career pathways for life beyond the school gate.

### ***Learning for Life* comprises:**

- Financial scholarships awarded throughout the primary, secondary and tertiary education years
- Programs comprising evidence-based national programs that support attendance, advancement and engagement, and short-term local activities that support access and inclusion
- Support to families to address the barriers to educational achievement and provide access to local community services.

The Learning for Life Coordinators will work under the umbrella of the school's policies and provide additional support to encourage higher attendance levels and optimal educational outcomes for our students. I look forward to sharing more information with you, as we develop this work further.

### **Quote of the Week:**

*The best partnerships aren't dependent on a mere common goal but on a shared path of equality, desire and no small amount of passion. Sarah Maclean.*

*Andrea Federico*

Andrea Federico  
Principal

As mentioned at Assembly on Monday, UPPS are very lucky to have the opportunity to use the Modular Pumptrack, it will be provided at no charge by the Bicycle Network. Basically, every Friday, House Captains will make their way around to all classrooms collecting students' mode of travel to school for the day. As a reward for everyone's amazing efforts, I have managed to enable our school to have this awesome opportunity! **Make sure you ride your bike, skateboard or scooter to school on Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> of June.** Please consider safety and set good examples for our students by wearing a helmet if you ride to school. Students without helmets will not have a turn on the Pumptrack and must walk rather than ride their equipment to and from school. Students will have the opportunity to use the Pumptrack during lunchtime and recess, it will be supervised by UPPS staff and the Bicycle Network Team.

Miss Elshaar  
Physical Education



### **IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:**

### **SCHOOL BANKING DAY IS EVERY TUESDAY**

- Monday, 19th June: School Council Meeting at 6:30pm**
- Thursday, 22nd June: P & F Disco 6-8pm**
- Friday, 23rd June: P & F Meeting at 9am in Staffroom**
- Thursday, 29th June: P & F Sausage Sizzle**
- Friday, 30th June: End of Term 2, Student dismissal at 2:30pm**
- Monday, 17th July: Term 3 begins**

## Family Maths

Welcome to the fifth installment of Family Maths for Term 2. Here is a simple and fun activity to enjoy for all ages. This game has several names but for this newsletter we're calling it 'Greedy Guts'.

Game: **Greedy Guts**      Equipment: 1 six sided die, paper and pencil.

The game:

Before the game starts decide on an 'out' number, any number from 1 to 6. The 'out' number applies to both players. If a player rolls the 'out' number they stop on the total that they have. Now to start playing. A game consists of 10 rounds. Take turns in rolling a number. As you roll numbers total them. The object of the game is to end up with the highest total. You can choose to 'stand' at any time and that remains your total. If you have chosen to 'stand' your partner can continue rolling and totaling their numbers. When a player 'stands', he or she safeguards all the points he or she has earned in the round, but is not able to earn more points until the next round. When the 'out' number is rolled, all 'standing' players lose the points they have accumulated in the current round. The player with the most points at the end of the game wins. There is a lot of maths involved in this game. It's not just about totaling numbers. Chance and probability play an important part in the decision making process as to whether to 'stand' or continue.

Remember... **MATHS IS FUN!**

**Mick Mirovic**



# Disco @ University Park Primary School

Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June

6-8pm in Building 3

\$5 entry includes a drink and a bag of popcorn

Disco items for sale include:

LED glasses \$3 each, Rings \$1.00 each, Temporary Tattoos \$1.00 each, Flashing hair extensions \$3 each, Finger Lights \$1 each, Coloured Hair Pieces \$1 each

Items are available until sold out

Games to be played and prizes to be won!!!

Hot Dogs (with toppings) for \$3.00 from 5:15pm...

Come dressed in your best to dance the night away!

UPPS Students only

*Non-school age siblings are welcome but must be supervised by an accompanying adult.*

All attending students are to be collected promptly by an adult family member at 8pm.

## Technology & Parenting

Secondary School Article

### Building self-esteem away from the screens

By Martine Oglethorpe

*As so much of a young person's social world revolves around their online feeds and connections, it is no wonder that 'likes' and comments have become a social currency and a reflection of where young people see themselves amongst their peers.*

There are certainly ways we can help ensure that a sense of self-worth is based on the achievements, the values and the qualities that make each and every child unique.

#### **Build their independence and resilience early**

From a very early age, provide them with opportunities to build their independence, have responsibilities, learn to fail, make mistakes and problem solve when things don't go to plan. These skills will become invaluable in a world that sees constant comparison and the inevitable negative interactions of the online world.

#### **Stay relevant**

Don't resort to the "in my day we...". We may well reminisce about the more carefree days where we got to switch off and hangout with mates in the neighbourhood oblivious to what the rest of the world thought of our latest picture. But that's not particularly relevant to our kids today. And shutting down their account, turning off their computer and walking away from social media altogether is really not an option for most. Be sure your kids know that you understand the role the technology plays and the challenges they face. That way you put yourself in the best position to have the right conversations and put in place the right boundaries.

#### **Provide other role models and community**

Getting involved in outside pursuits and interests away from the screens can help them form connections with other parts of the community. Coaches, youth leaders and other role models can all play a part in mentoring a child about the importance of balance whilst reminding them that there is a life beyond the screens.

#### **Give them opportunities to help**

There is no better way to feel better about oneself than to feel useful. Helping at home, helping in the community and volunteering can be great ways for kids to build self-worth away from the screens. It may be helping coach some kids at the local sports club or getting involved in a cause or issue that matters to them. This will give them a sense of purpose that revolves around their actions and their input and not just what others perceive about them.

#### **Family rituals**

Regular meals and time where no devices are present can be crucial to providing the stability and security young people need. Mealtimes have been proven to be an effective way of letting kids know they always have a place that is familiar, secure and unconditional. This may not be a reality for every family every night, but trying to incorporate any sense of ritual into a family, especially one where screens are not involved, will certainly provide a positive impact.



## TALK HOMEWORK

A big thank you to our school community for your efforts in supporting children with their TALK HOMEWORK. TALK HOMEWORK is an important component of the new writing program, BIG WRITE, that we have implemented at University Park Primary School. The main philosophy behind this homework is:

*"If they can say, they can write it!"*

Discussing the weekly writing prompt enables students to practise their oral language skills and develop ideas to write about. Therefore, it is important to remember:

- It is not necessary for students to write at home – just *talk...*
- The discussion that takes place about the BIG WRITE topic should be the focus of the homework task.
- Students may write down some WOW words or jot down ideas, if they wish, but this should be written by the students, so that they are able to easily read the ideas the next day.
- Most importantly... make the conversation **enjoyable!!!**