This semester for the year one technology unit, students had to investigate how 2D and 3D shapes are used in the built environment and explore their specific characteristics to meet a particular design challenge. The students had to use their prior knowledge and imagination to design, create and reflect on this process. They all had a really enthusiastic attitude towards this task and had a lot of fun with the building and painting creative aspect. Well done year one!

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Students, Parents and Community,

Some hints for NAPLAN

As a parent it helps your child if you take a positive view of the NAPLAN tests. It’s better to see them as learning opportunities for kids as well as opportunities for them to overcome any anxieties or nerves that these tests may bring on. It’s also worth remembering that many children don’t stress over these tests. The vast majority take them in their stride, wondering what all the fuss is about. Whether your child stresses or takes them in his/her stride here are some tips to help prepare your child or young person for the NAPLAN tests:

1. Take your cues from your child: If your child doesn’t worry about them then neither should you. Be careful not to create a problem that doesn’t exist by incessantly talking about, or worse, worrying about the test.

2. Focus on doing their best & trying hard: Choose your words carefully when you speak with your kids. As with all their learning activities place your focus squarely on effort rather than results. The only pressure on kids should be to try hard rather than to do well.

3. Listen to any concerns they have: If your child confesses to some nerves then validate their feelings, rather than shut them down with a ‘get over it’ response. “Yes, sometimes tests can be a little scary, but they get easier every time you take them.” Use this as an opportunity to develop some emotional smarts, which starts with recognizing how kids feel.

4. Give them some relaxation ideas: Anxious or nervous kids will benefit from some simple relaxation strategies. Taking some deep breaths, changing their thinking and exercising the morning of the test are some simple ways to help kids get some feeling of control.

5. Help them retain their perspective: One way to help children who become excessively anxious about an event is to ask what’s the worst thing that could happen? Okay, they may not do as well as they would like but the sun will stay rise tomorrow, if they don’t do as well as they’d like. Keeping perspective is a life skill that we all need to practice.

A positive, caring parent attitude is one of the best gifts you can give a child when they are apprehensive or nervous about approaching any different situation whether it’s going on school camp, joining a new club or sitting a NAPLAN test.

From the Principal’s Desk
Dave Bosworth
HEALTH NEWS
With the onset of winter please be aware of illnesses and infections within the school and wider community. These may include: head lice, cold sores, scabies, head colds, flu symptoms, vomiting, diarrhoea. If your child is unwell PLEASE keep them at home. Please let admin know if they are unwell and the length of time expected to be away.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK
Preps - Rhianna, Callum Year 1 - Isaac, Zeek
Year 2 - Jayce, Madisyn Sarai Year 3 - Josianne All Class 2A, 2B.
Year 4 - Zachary Year 5 - Jarrod
Year 6 - Aashyn Year 7 - Hayley, Jake, John

Well done to all these students!

Oakey State School Word List
Yellow Words - Isabella and Willow
Red Words - Daniel and Shakira
Blue Words - Kaleb

Music Notes for this week!
The Preps and Year 1’s are doing well singing “Never Smile at a Crocodile” - great singing voices! The Year 3’s have enjoyed creating rhythm patterns on different percussion instruments.
Mrs Playsted, Music Teacher.

Mothers’ Day Competition
It was a very difficult job judging the many wonderful poems that were written for the Mothers’ Day competition. All entrants received a chocolate rose for Mum and a laminated copy of their poem. The eight winners also received a laminated copy of their poem along with a mug that could be decorated especially for Mum and a book about marvellous mums. Here are a few of the winning entries. The other winners are: Madison Richters 2A, Ariel Morris 3B, Rayannah Wassall 3B, Sophie Broy 5/6A and Gisaan Cherry 6A. Congratulations to everyone for your great writing.

Newsletter

COMMUNITY NOTICES: Between Oakey and Toowoomba on a Tuesday and Friday a bus service will be operating. At this point the service is free. Enquiries can be made at Aussie Helpers on 0488220567. A full timetable is available on the Oakey Community Website: www.oakey.qld.au

Rigg’d Oakey Hip Hop Crew: Hip hop, Jazz, Contemporary Fridays 6-8pm, at the Oakey State Primary School Hall. The cost is $3 per lesson, ages 6 years and up. Contact Sarah Kay 0438321928.

THE KIDS’ CLUB: Commencing Thursday 17th May, 2012 at Oakey Uniting Church Hall John St Oakey from 3.30pm to 5.00pm. For more information Phone: Rev Kate Dix on 46911880.

CENT SALE: The Friends of McDonald Nursing Home are holding their Annual Cent Sale at the Senior Citizens Hall Cultural Centre Oakey on the 23rd June 2012. Doors open at 12noon for a 10’clock start. Tickets $5 adults $2 children which includes afternoon tea and a sheet of tickets.