As mentioned in our last newsletter, report cards are in progress and currently being finalized. Report cards are a part of communicating with parents and building the school-parent partnership to improve student learning. Our students have worked tremendously this semester and I am very proud of what they have achieved. These reports are an overview of where each student is at this point in time. They are based on evidence collected over the semester. Each year level has a 5-point scale nominated for their year level. In 3-6 an A-E scale is used, 1-2 have Very High-Support Required and Prep it is Applying-Becoming Aware. A ‘C’ ‘Sound’ or ‘Working With’ achievement means that the student has typically demonstrated an ability to produce work of that year level standard, this is a good result. Students achieving higher than this are going beyond the expectations for that year level. Please pay equal notice to both the effort ratings and achievement ratings as both play important roles in establishing the next step for children.

At our most recent staff meeting our staff undertook some professional learning on developing students’ impulse control and distractibility. The fast pace nature of our ever changing technological world is having a big impact on our society. We are becoming ever expectant of quick answers and entertainment. In a recent study students that had to wait between 5-10 seconds for internet pages to load lost interest or even gave up. The implications of such attitudes are enormous. Students that are able to delay gratification are proven to become more successful in their later lives. Parents and teachers play an enormous role in helping develop these self-control skills. It is vital that all young people experience the discomfort of not getting or waiting for whatever it is that they want or wish to do. Some key strategies that are effective in developing impulse control are:

1. Use Motivation
2. Build a Positive Mindset—focus on effort
3. Play Memory or Focus Type games
4. Discuss Emotional Responses—discuss constructive ways of working
5. Encourage Planning—remind children to plan, think of the problems and set goals for the things they are doing—this is particularly relevant for new games.

This Saturday is the Oxfam trail walk fundraiser. We have a roster on the A-Frame notice board. If you are able to spare some time to come and sell some food to the walkers please put your name on the roster. Our checkpoint is Checkpoint 5 at the Northern end of Gold Creek Rd at Gold Creek Reservoir.

Kind regards,

Zan Branford
Principal
Junior Class

We are almost half way through the school year! It’s hard to believe that only a few months ago our Preppies began their school journey and now are active and important participants in our school community.

As we have been busy testing and writing report cards over the past few weeks, it has been wonderful to reflect upon the progress made by all of the students in the junior class across the semester. In the Early years, it really is not so much about the ‘grade’ awarded on the report but about progress made over time. Development is an important factor in Early Years education, and each individual develops and matures at different rates. Whilst some students race out of the stalls with the enthusiasm of a racehorse, others take a slower approach. It is not how one begins the race however, but how they finish it that counts the most.

We often think of our role as early childhood educators as being like gardeners. There is so much that happens beneath the surface with young children, like soil that is fertilized and tended to in preparation for years of growth ahead. One day, the rain comes and the sun shines and out of the blue it seems, all of the seeds sewn begin to send up shoots that will grow into glorious plants and eventually trees. For each child this process takes a different amount of time. So, when you look at your report next week, remember that the grades on the page are a snapshot of where they are developmentally right now but it is not the full picture of where they will be in a few years’ time, or even next month!

Every day at school important learning takes place and every day really does count. Thank you for the privilege of teaching and taking care of your children each and every day. Our P-2 garden is buzzing and thriving!

Kind regards,
Kellie, Glenys and Annette

Student Work

Tightening tension - before Pria’s race

Written by Pria Yr6

The lady was calling the names for the 2004 girls. Pria was called and her heartrate quickened. She was racing 4 other girls who looked extremely fast. They all lined up waiting anxiously. The buzzer went off for the 2006 boys and there was an outbreak off cheering people on as they ran their hearts out. Half way on the course Jacob started to dance…HIS SHOE HAD FALLEN OFF! People started to overtake him but he caught up. The race was over and it was Pria’s race. She started to shake with nerves; she re-tied her shoes just in case they fell off. Then the sound of the buzzer pierced the air.

C.W.A. ‘Greenland’ Colouring Competition

Once again Upper Brookfield State School has made a clean sweep of the board in the C.W.A. Annual Colouring Competition. Congratulation to the three first place winners from Upper Brookfield State School; Anya (Prep), Mitchell (Year One) and Rory (Year 2). Well done to all those students who took part.
**Music Notes**

Years 3-6 played 2 songs on their recorders with backing tracks on assembly on Monday morning. Both songs were performed from memory! Well done everyone!! (You even made Mrs Mullane cry with the lovely performance of “Hear me Now” – she must have been proud to see her former students growing up!)

Our beginner recorders have made great progress in just 2 terms! Thank you to Mrs Stanfield for taking recorder groups during music lessons each week. We have completed Level 1 Rock Recorder and are moving on to Level 2, which includes two-part harmony. Congratulations Years 3-6!!

Prep/1/2 have been learning a note solfa not “lah”, which is a step above “so”, and enjoying music games and movement to music – with colourful streamers this week!

Our whole school choir is working on some Aussie songs for the upcoming School Centenary on Sat 30th July. We are all getting excited about our school turning 100! WOW!

Have a good final 2 weeks – and a great holiday break!

Kind regards,
Mrs Alison Pomerenke

**Small School Sports day**

What an amazing turnout from our school – we were there bright and early all ready to race.

The heats of the 200 were up first; Mr Branford waved his arm to get the whole thing started. There were a lot of close races and quite a few UBSS kids would be racing again in the afternoon finals. Next came the 100m sprints and once again there were exciting races from all the students involved – this time all ages had a chance to run! It was wonderful to see everyone smiling as they finished the race – no matter what place they came. 2004 – 2006 babies had a chance to make the finals and once again UBSS had a group that went through to the 100m finals. There was one race that had the first and second place separated by only a few centimetres!

After the 100m finals we started the individual field events for 2004-2006 born athletes and everyone else played a variety of tabloid games. At each field event there were tales of greatness, big efforts and most importantly sportsmanship between all athletes. During the tabloid events there was cooperation and positive talk between all the students from all schools. We had a break for lunch and then the names of the 200m finalists were read out. This was the last of the events. Every student that took part in sports day had determination in their eyes and reached their potential, nothing was left behind! Congratulations to all the students involved, you did UBSS proud.

Kind regards,
Wendy Farren-Price

**Ekka entries**

This year we are going to enter student work into the schools Ekka competition. The senior class have started their projects. The 3-4 group are writing a report on the life cycle of their endangered animal to be displayed as a poster. The 5-6 group have a choice to create a wind powered vehicle, create a working weather vane or creating a 3D model of an animal or plant that survives in a hot and dry environment.
Last week P-2 had a visit from the Fire Brigade to talk about fire safety. It is always lots of fun!
Friday 24th June is the last day of Term 2, have a safe and enjoyable mid-year break.

Monday 11th July is the first day of Term 3. Welcome back, be bright and early for a 8.45am start to the day!

**Oxfam Trail Walk**

On Saturday 18th June (this Saturday) the Upper Brookfield State School Parents’ and Citizens’ Association will be holding a fundraising event.

They will be selling breakfasts to over 450 hungry Oxfam Trail Walkers.

If you are interested in helping out on the day please contact a member of our wonderful P&C Executive.

**Date Claimers:**
- 24th June—Friday—end of Term Two
- 11th July—Monday—Term Three commences
Do you want to have fun, party but also burn calories without even knowing?! Well look no further!
Join Mar-li’s Zumba Fiesta Fitness class!
Starting on the 1st of March
Tuesday nights from 6:00pm – 7:00pm at
Upper Brookfield community Hall
All is welcome, no fitness level required!
Enter
$10 per person
Requirements: please bring a water bottle and towel
LET’S ZUMBA!!