Dear parents/caregivers

It has certainly been a busy few weeks as we have settled into Term 3. We have started our class blog, had incursions from Kaboom, Captain Cleanup and the Junior Crew, had an excursion to Cossack and WAMSE testing for Year Five students. We have also been following Olympic news and looking at the facts and figures generated by Australian athletes and sportspeople from around the globe. We now know quite a lot about past and present Olympians including Usain Bolt, Michael Phelps, Cathy Freeman, Lauren Jackson and we have learned about a range of sports from pole vaulting to fencing.

In Maths we have been focusing on measurement and discovering some interesting facts about the length of our undercover areas and the dimensions of our play areas. We have also been recording the growth of our seedlings in our garden beds – we now have sunflowers and tomatoes alongside our rocket and onions. We are moving on this week to measure the area and perimeter of spaces in the school environment.

The twilight fete is coming up on September 15th. We are seeking volunteers to help run our ‘lob the diunny roll’ stall at the twilight fete. If we have lots of volunteers, no-one has to do more than an hour on the night. Please place your name on the roster on the noticeboard in the classroom.

We have started the DRUMBEAT programme on Tuesday afternoons. Students are enjoying the opportunity to work together to produce some fantastic rhythms. In the next few weeks we will practise a number of rhythms for our performance on the evening of the twilight fete. As we only have access to seven djembe drums, we would like to supplement our rhythm with some household buckets. If you have a
spare bucket which you would like to donate I would love to hear from you. The bucket needs to be made of plastic and have a smooth base. It doesn’t need to be pretty and doesn’t need a handle so old buckets are fine!

Some students haven’t yet returned their classroom blog permission notes. This makes it difficult for me and for our class journalists to decide whose photographs to include in slideshows so please return the notes with your preferences ASAP. We have been adding new items each week and the blog has now had more than 80 visitors. It has been interesting to note how motivated students are to write comments and to get involved in making slideshows. Check it out at http://room5wickham.edublogs.org

Please remind your child to bring their homework folder to and from school each day. Some children have a habit of losing their Spelling Journals and it is difficult for me to monitor their spelling and other homework if they continually leave their homework folders at home. Children should still be reading to you for a short period every night. I would like to see their Home Reading Record every day, even if they are reading novels or books other than classroom readers; the Home Reading Record gives me an insight into their reading habits. Please check that your child has an adequate supply of red and lead pencils, an eraser, glue sticks and a ruler, as many children are still in need of renewed supplies.

Please make an appointment if you wish to meet to discuss your child’s learning; I have met with most parents/caregivers at this point regarding the end-of-semester 1 report, but there are still some people who have been difficult to contact. Please remember to let the school office know if you change phone number or address as it is time-consuming to make calls to inactive numbers. It is also really important to let us know if your child has ongoing health problems; a medical form needs to be completed so that we can be prepared and aware of health issues.

Regards

Mrs M Nealon
13.08.12