I couldn’t believe it! She now lives in Healesville and I haven’t seen her for more than 10 years!

As I mentioned last week, the key note of the two day conference was Dr. Robert Marzano who spoke about 5 key levels that schools needed to work through and focus on to become a high reliability organization. Robert Marzano was also fond of sharing ‘dad’ jokes to try and further engage the audience. Fortunately, I am very fond of ‘dad’ jokes as they are can be used at any time of the day for any situation.

My dad was also a big fan of dad jokes and probably used about 14 of them a day. This included a lot of repeats especially if it attracted a few laughs the first time. However, something that use to amaze me when I was a kid, was that my mum never found his jokes funny. I suppose this is why they called them ‘dad’ jokes. As I mentioned in a previous newsletter, my daughters are starting to not find my jokes as funny as I would hope they would, or how they did when they were a few years younger.

Listening to Robert Marzano speak and try to entertain the audience with jokes he probably used over 14,000 times on his children, made me wonder whether he uses opportunities to speak at conferences to build up his self-confidence or material for his family.

Homework
You may have noticed on the weekend that the homework debate was once again raised in the media. Homework is hands down the most controversial thing in education!
This is why our school policy in relation to Homework is based around the idea of supporting the students to create a place at home where they can work effectively and to practise something they are learning about in class.

The use of the word ‘Homework’ is probably the main reason for there being so many mixed views. Personally for me, I prefer the term ‘Home Practice’ as it highlights an important component of learning, which is to practise what you know. This means that students will learn something new at school and practise what they have learned at home. For example, in reading, students work with the teacher to develop a ‘reading goal’. The students practise this in class during independent reading time and at home. This is what good learners do. This is an important thing for the students to understand. For example, being a big soccer fan I once read that Real Madrid star Ronaldo arrives 2 hours early at training. I’m not sure whether aspiring soccer stars understand how much work elite players put into their profession. For me, if I arrived at training as a kid two hours early it would have been because mum just bought me a new pair of boots and I was too excited to wait until 5:30pm. I still remember the time I was lucky enough to get a pair of New Balance boots that were super soft and fitted like a glove! I felt like I hit the big time! I didn’t care that Maradona weaved his magic in a pair of Pumas. For me, my new ‘New Balance’ boots were the greatest thing in the world. I actually think they made me faster! The only thing with getting new boots is that you spent half the week keeping them clean. I remember after every training session scrubbing the sole clean of green grass stains and polishing up the big grey ‘N’ that was on each side of both pairs. I became so obsessed with my ‘New Balance’ boots that I nearly had a mental breakdown the day I accidently got some black boot polish on one of the ‘N’s. No matter what I tried the ‘N’ on the outside of my left boot was permanently stained! It messed with me mentally during games as each time that I misdirected a pass I’d blame those five strips of black on my previously perfect ‘N’. Players on my team and the coach were looking at me with disappointment. All I could do was point to the stain. Just to let them know that it wasn’t me it was the disfigured ‘N’. I tried to explain that if that ‘N’ was in its original condition I’d be scoring a hat trick every game! But no one understood! They all acted like I’d lost the plot! I actually think I blamed that stain on why I didn’t get picked for Australia at the age of 9!

Anyway, back to the homework issue, we must also value the learning behaviors the students receive from participating in music classes, sporting clubs or dance classes or craft clubs after school etc.

All these activities support the students with understanding how important it is to practise something that you have learnt to move to a new level – not to just rely on new boots (unless they are black New Balance with 4 clean ‘N’s). This is why we encourage parents to inform the teacher if they have a child that is actively involved during the week with after school organisation. This is because the demands on a student to participate in out of school activities and complete a homework task can be extremely challenging and cause a bit of tension at home. This is something that we don’t want as they both should be valued. It is important to note that if a child’s learning in a specific area needs attention then the teacher will meet with a parent to look at how things could be structured to ensure that the student continues to be part of the out of school activity as well as enhancing their learning. It is also worth chatting to your child’s teacher if you are concerned that your child has a busy after school life.

Our policy is focused on supporting the students to understand the importance of practise. It’s a fact of life that if you want to do well at something that sometimes you need to put in extra time – whether this is a job, learning an instrument, being able to cook etc. People who master things don’t just rely on natural talent, they also put in a lot of work practising and refining their skills. This is what we want the students to understand whether through participating in out of school activities or through allocated work provided by the teacher.

Parents can access the Homework Policy on the school website. Don’t forget to please speak to your child’s teacher if you have any questions regarding Homework.

Hope everyone had a great week,
Alex Artavilla
Principal
Over the next few newsletters we will be sharing some of the procedures that we have in place to ensure that we have a safe and orderly environment:

Students who arrive late for school

Our goal is to ensure all students arrive after 8:45am and prior to 9:00am. This allows the students to enter the classroom with their grade. However, we also understand that sometimes things can’t be helped and for different circumstances, at times, students may arrive to school late. Students are regarded as being late if they arrive after their class has entered the building. The processes that we have established for students that arrive late include:

- Students to go straight to the main office where they collect a late pass. This pass is then given to the teacher.

The reason as to why we track and monitor lateness to school, is that if a student is continually late to school it can have a negative impact on their learning development as they miss the start of a lesson. When late, students may also feel nervous about entering the grade. Lateness is monitored by Sharon Noel our Primary Welfare Officer who works with and supports families that have students that are regularly late to school.

Our expectation is that if a parent brings their child to school late that they still need to bring the student to the office for a late pass. This is because we also need to ensure that we reduce any distractions for the teacher once the learning begins. If a parent would like to speak to the teacher about why their child is late, please let the office know and they will have the teacher or the Primary Welfare Officer contact them as soon as possible. Unfortunately, to ensure we maintain a constant approach, parents as with all visitors are unable to go to the classroom directly while classes are operating. The office staff have been informed to organise for any late students to be taken to the classroom by a staff member or on their own depending on their age. Parents are unable to take their child directly to the classroom if they are late or to collect their child from the classroom if they pick them up early. Thank you for your support with this as it ensures that we maintain a consistent, safe and orderly environment.

Important information from the Department of Education:

Student Accident Insurance

Neither the Department of Education and Training (DET) nor Sunshine Heights Primary School have insurance for injuries to students. Parents/guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs, e.g. ambulance.

Personal Goods Brought to School

The Department of Education and Training (DET) reminds parents, students and staff that private property brought to school is not insured and that DET accepts no responsibility for loss or damage. This can include mobile phones, electronic games, calculators, toys, musical instruments, sporting equipment, and cars parked on school premises. Parents, staff and students are discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.
STUDENT OF THE WEEK
Presentation at Friday Assembly

Prep:
A  Brooklyn Moa
B  Lukas Cameron
C  Oliver Harris
D  Audrey Wintringham

One:
A  No award this week
B  No award this week

Two
1/2A  No award this week
2A  Crystal Ivanoska
2B  Edith Melzer-Franzke

Three:
A  Willow Howatt-Cikos
B  Arek Gob

Four:
A  Jaysee Calingacion
B  Elijah Meunier

Five:
A  Maka Tangikara
B  Vanessa Le

Six:
A  Marika De Fazio
B  Abdul Khaliif

Multimedia:  Zachary Pelegrino (6B)
Sport:  Manh Tran (1/2)
Spanish:  Audrey Wintringham (PD)
Art:  Erbar Koyu  (4B)

Congratulations Everyone
Great Achievement!

PE NEWS

Hi Parents, Guardians and Families,

Well this week was a rough week for all our teams, with all our teams missing out on a win. None the less students performed well but as they say sometimes you win and sometimes you lose. Our loss only builds our appetites to perform better next week.

The scores were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Team 1</th>
<th>Score 1</th>
<th>Team 2</th>
<th>Score 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>Sunshine Heights</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Our Lady’s</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>Sunshine Heights Mixed</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Our Lady’s</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>Sunshine Heights Girls</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Our Lady’s</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bat Tennis</td>
<td>Sunshine Heights</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Our Lady’s</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cricket</td>
<td>Sunshine Heights</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>Our Lady’s</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This week we are playing at home after Harmony day at 1:30pm against St Paul’s.

If you haven’t paid for inter-school sports please make sure this is done before the end of term.

So keep wishing us luck, as it seems to be working.

Kind regards Rasha
**Twilight School Organisational Details**  
**Thursday 21st of May 2015**

To showcase and celebrate the learning experiences offered at Sunshine Heights Primary School, on **Thursday 21st of May 1:00pm – 7:00pm** the students will have the opportunity to experience a ‘Twilight’ school day. On this day the students will arrive at school at 12:45pm for a 1:00pm start with school finishing at 7:00pm.

Twilight School will give parents/carers/grandparents the opportunity to visit and enjoy their child’s classrooms in action. We will also use this event to invite our kindergarten friends and families!

The school day times on our Twilight School Day will be as follows:

1:00 – 3:00pm  
3:00 – 3:30pm  
3:30 – 4:30pm  
4:30 – 4:40pm  
4:40 – 5:30pm  
5:30 – 7:00pm

Session 1 and 2  
RECESS  
Session 3  
Eating time  
OUTSIDE TIME (this may vary depending on the time that the sun will be setting)  
Session 4 and 5

Students will be expected to arrive at class/school at 12:45pm. At the end of the school day parents will be asked to pick their child up from the classroom. No child will be allowed to walk home from school – this is the same policy that applies for school concert nights. Parents will also be asked to inform the class teacher in writing prior to the day of alternative picking up arrangements (e.g. uncle/friend picking up student).

We are currently looking at the idea of pre-ordered meal arrangements for the students. More information regarding food arrangements will be provided in the coming weeks.

Parents/carers are encouraged to arrive at any time of the day for as long as they would like to stay. However, it will be important for parents to remember that it is a normal school day and that students will be expected to stay at school until the end of the day (unless they have after school sports/music session - the decision to attend the session is up to the parent/student – parents are encouraged to pick up their child from school at any time to attend the training session/lesson).

We have contacted ‘World 4 Kids’ and before care will be provided on the morning of the Twilight School Day from 6:45am – 8:45am. We are providing parents with extensive notice to allow them the opportunity to make arrangements prior to the start of the school day. Parents are asked to contact the school closer to the date if they are unable to make arrangements for their child/ren.

More details regarding the day are currently being finalised with staff to ensure it is a successful school event and will be shared with families weeks prior to the event.

**Other important information:**

- Police will be contacted to support at school crossings if official school crossing personnel are unable to man crossings before school starts – between 12:30 – 1:10pm.
- Staff members will man all school crossings (not just the ones around the school boundary) used by students before school starts. Crossings supervision will commence at 12:30pm. It would also be good to have parent volunteer’s assist with school crossings.
- A map of the school crossings that will be manned between 12:30pm and 1:10pm will be provided to all families.
- Parents will be required to sign in at the school office prior to visiting their child’s classroom.

**Twilight School will prove to be an exciting day for the students and the whole school community!**

Please contact the school if you have any further questions regarding 'Twilight School'.

Instrumental Lessons at School

Did you know that Music:
Develops mind, hand & eye coordination
Enhances listening skills
Improves self esteem
Is fun!

Lessons starting from $14.00
5% Discount to Parents wishing to enrol more than 1 child.

Enrolment forms are available from the School Office or contact Genesis Music School Direct on 0421 426 674.
Leadership Day

On Monday 16th March, we had Leadership Day. The point of Leadership Day was for the Grade 5/6’s to develop qualities that allow them to be a good leader. We (Grade 5/6’s) had to teach the grade 1, 2, 3 and 4’s a new skill in a rotation of small groups. 5A taught cricket, origami, dancing, board games, paper planes and puppet shows. 5B taught how to make slime, volcanos, olden day games and dancing. 6B taught how to play down ball, soccer skills and soccer stars, DIY (Do It Yourself) project and craft. 6A taught soccer, writing/drawing, hip hop, sewing and Italian. We did this because our unit of work is about being leaders and having skills to develop teamwork, co-operation and also making good choices while becoming more confident.

By Vuk and Imogen from 5A
ONLINE & ENVELOPE ORDER INSTRUCTIONS FOR:
Sunshine Heights Primary School: 23 April 2015
School photo order envelopes have been or will be distributed to every student and it is important that the order instructions (below) are followed.

SCHOOL PHOTOS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR SECURE ONLINE PURCHASE

4 EASY STEPS TO ONLINE SCHOOL PHOTO ORDERING

STEP 1: Go to www.advancedlife.com.au before photo day and enter your 9 digit school code: S37 Z9R NG7
STEP 2: Enter your student's details
STEP 3: Choose the package that best suits your needs*
   *All orders will be returned to the school for collection.
STEP 4: Pay for the photos via the shopping cart (upper right corner of the page).

PLEASE NOTE: Late fees will apply once orders are closed (5 days after photo day).

SIBLING/FAMILY PHOTOS
NO ENVELOPE REQUIRED IF ORDERING ONLINE

STEP 1: Go to www.advancedlife.com.au before photo day and enter your 9 digit school code: S37 Z9R NG7

- Online orders will be closed 2 working days prior to the day of photography.
- You can find your online order close off date on the top right hand corner of your sibling order envelope, which is 21/04/15.
- Orders can also be placed with a cash or cheque payment by returning a sibling order envelope up until the day before photo day.
- You can collect a sibling order envelope from your school office.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ORDERING USING AN ENVELOPE

STEP 1: Complete the student details section on the front of the order envelope. Please use black or blue pen.
STEP 2: Complete the purchase details on the front of the envelope.
STEP 3: Select your payment method using one of the following options:
   - Credit Card – Online Only at www.advancedlife.com.au
   - Cash – Please enclose correct money – no change given.
   - Cheque – Make payable to Advancedlife with your name & address on back of cheque.
     - Allow 60 days for your cheque to be finalised.
     - A $25 fee will apply to any dishonoured cheque payment.
STEP 4: Return your completed sibling order envelope to school the day before photo day.