



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the end of Week 5.

### 2025 Staffing and Enrolment Update

I would like to provide an update on staffing and student enrolment numbers for 2025.

As previously informed, the principal vacancy that is being created by my retirement is to be filled through merit selection ready for the first day of the 2025 school year. The position has been advertised and it is anticipated that the successful candidate will be finalised towards the end of the term. It is hoped that the students, staff and community will be informed of who the new principal will be and have an opportunity to meet them prior to the end of the year. I am looking forward to meeting with the new principal to showcase our school and complete a detailed handover.

At the end of the year, Mr Luke Coombe will be leaving Rossmore Public School as he is relocating interstate. Mr Coombe has been a valuable and well-respected member of Rossmore Public School for the last four years and he will be missed greatly by everyone. I thank Mr Coombe for all he has done for the students, staff and community at Rossmore. His contributions and impact have been outstanding and far reaching and I wish him all the best with the next chapter in his life.

Earlier this year, the catchment area for student enrolments for Rossmore Public School was updated to include a portion of the Austral area. As a result, new enrolments have started this semester and the anticipated student numbers for 2025 is consistently increased.

I am very pleased to inform the community, that the increase in student numbers for 2025 has resulted in additional staffing in the mainstream for the start of the year. We anticipate that we will begin the year with 3 mainstream classes and at this stage they will be a straight Kindergarten class, a 1-2 composite class and a 3-6 composite class. Please be aware that this organisation is not confirmed and it will depend on the final enrolment numbers at the start of the year as to how the classes will be organised. The 3 MC support classes will continue to operate under the current structure.

### 2025 Student Start Dates have CHANGED

With the recent announcement of additional School Development Days (often referred to as student free days) at the start of the 2025 school year, I draw your attention to the new start date for students. **ALL students in Kindergarten to Year 6 will now start** on the same day, **Thursday 6 February 2025**. Staff will participate in four School Development Days from Friday 31 January to Wednesday 5 February 2025.

### 2025 Student Leaders

Shortly, I will be speaking with students about the 2025 student leader elections, speeches and voting. In previous years, elections for both the School Leaders (Captain and Ambassador) and Sport House Leaders have been held prior to the end of the year. Students also nominated themselves for the non-elected leadership positions for the following year. This term, only the elections for the School Leader positions of Captain and Ambassador will be held with the elected leaders being announced at the end of year presentation ceremony.

*The Sport House Captains elections and non-elected leadership nominations will be held early in Term 1 2025. This will be a great opportunity for the new principal to be involved in the process and begin to build strong relationships with the students. Information about the Sport House Captain elections will be provided at the start of the year.*

Further information about this term's 2025 Captain/Ambassador elections will be provided shortly.

### **Uniform – Updated supplier information and procedures for purchasing uniforms**

Due to the steady growth of student enrolments at Rossmore Public School, it is no longer manageable for the administration staff to facilitate the sales of uniforms on site. After discussion with our uniform supplier, we are moving to an online platform.

Our supplier of uniforms, **Lupco Fashions**, is now providing a convenient **online platform** for purchasing all of Rossmore Public School uniforms. Parents and carers now order directly from the online uniform store. Lupco will stock the existing polo shirt, caps, and jumpers.

Lupco will also be stocking cullottes, shorts and long pants for purchase. Please note, the cullottes, shorts and pants do not contain the Rossmore PS logo or name, so these items are not required to be bought through the online uniform store. Families still have the option to source these items from other stores.

After many enquiries from the community about the possibility of introducing a **bucket hat** for students, these will also be available. As the school does not have a specific sport shirt to represent student house colours, the bucket hats will be **reversible**. They will be navy blue with RPS on one side and either green, red or yellow on the other side with the name of the **student's sport house** for sport days/events. Please ensure you confirm with the school the colour/name of your child's sport house, prior to making the purchase.

Student assistance will continue to be available to support parents with the purchase of uniforms in times of financial stress. If you are seeking student assistance, please *do not* submit a uniform order online to Lupco, simply contact the school office on 9606 5551 to discuss the process.

Please see the attached price (included at the end of the newsletter) list for the online uniform store. Please take note of the school specific password that will allow you to log on to the Rossmore Public School section of the Lupco online uniform store to make your purchase.

If you require further information, please contact the school office.

### **Attendance**

**The target for student attendance each school year is 90 - 95%. To achieve 90% or greater attendance, students need to have 10 absences or less in the whole year.**

Currently there a significant number of students with attendance less than 90% which is concerning.

The impact poor attendance has on a child's academic progress is alarming. Children with high numbers of days absent from school and late arrivals/early leaving can have difficulty adjusting to school routines, and can fall behind in their schoolwork as they lose valuable learning time.

There continues to be a number of students regularly arriving late to school each morning and this remains a concern. I understand that at times, situations beyond your control occur, and partial absences will result. However, I seek your support in ensuring that your child/ren arrive at school by 9.30am on each day the school is open.

If your child is arriving late, please go to the gate with them and speak with the office staff via the intercom or present at the office to provide an explanation for their partial absence. Please do not drop students at the gate and drive away before ensuring they have entered the school safely.

### **Absentee Notes**

Notes explaining your child's absence need to be provided to the school when your child returns.

Alternatively, a phone call to the office is also acceptable and many parents find this an easy way to explain an absence on the day. Please check your notifications from School Bytes as the school will send a request for an explanation (for full days or late arrivals) if none has been provided. You can provide the explanation directly through your School Bytes parent portal. This information is then automatically available to the school and the attendance record updated to reflect the reason provided. An explanation for all student absences is a legal requirement. Habitual absences and continual late arrivals/departures are referred to the Home School Liaison Officer for action.

### **Semester 2 Student Reports**

The semester 2 reports will be sent home on Thursday 12 December 2024. There are no formal interviews scheduled for Term 4 but if you would like to meet with your child's teacher to discuss their achievements and progress, please make contact with the class teacher who will be happy to organise a mutually convenient time to meet. Phone interviews are also an option.

### **Smoking on School Grounds**

I would like to remind our community that smoking on the school grounds is prohibited. School grounds include, school buildings, gardens, sport fields (playground) and car parks (including the kiss and drop zone) under the Smoke-Free Environment Act 2000. Further to this, from July 6 2015, smoking was banned within 4 metres of a pedestrian entrance to or exit from a public building in NSW. This law is called the '4 metre law'. Please be aware that the current boundary of the school is the black fence at the front of the school and the mesh fencing (opposite the kiss and drop zone) that runs the perimeter of the driveway and car park (not the internal black fence and gate). I ask that all parents and visitors refrain from smoking (including cigars/vaping) on or near school grounds (including when inside your vehicle).

### **Bus – School Opal Card for students**

School bus services in the area are currently limited and many parents have made enquiries about a possible service from the new Austral catchment area to Rossmore Public School. To ensure the Dept. of Transport has improved data to understand the community need, parents and carers are encouraged to register for a School Opal Card (even if a bus service is not currently operating from where you live).

The School Opal Card gives eligible students free or discounted travel between home and school. For further information and to apply, please visit <https://transportnsw.info/school-travel-apply>

Students who use the current bus services are reminded that it is a condition of travel that all students must tap on at the beginning of a trip and tap off at the end of a trip at an Opal Card Reader, when they travel to and from school. This information is also used to determine the continued demand for the current bus services. If students are not recording their trip by tapping on and off each time they travel, this could give the impression that the service is not being used and services may be reduced or cancelled. If your child uses the current bus services, please remind them to tap on and off for each trip.

### **Opportunity Class (OC) and Selective High School Applications Open**

Selective high schools and opportunity classes are specialist school settings that group together *high potential and gifted students*. Learning with classmates who have similar abilities helps students' academic development and wellbeing. Students still follow the NSW curriculum, but teachers may use special strategies for high potential and gifted learner.

If you feel an opportunity class or selective high school is suitable for your child, please apply online.

Apply now if your child is in **Year 3 for entry into an opportunity class** or **Year 5 for entry into a selective high school**, in 2026. Applications close 21 February 2025.

Students are required to sit a placement test. The test will be held across a 3-day period from Friday 2 May to Sunday 4 May 2025 (students only attend one day). If successful, entry will be in 2026.

For further information or to start your application, please visit

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/parents-and-carers/choosing-a-school-setting/selective-high-schools>

### **Term 4 Upcoming Events**

Term 4 is well and truly underway with fabulous programs up and running in our classrooms. In a few weeks' time we will begin to hold our end of year special events.

Please note the following important dates:

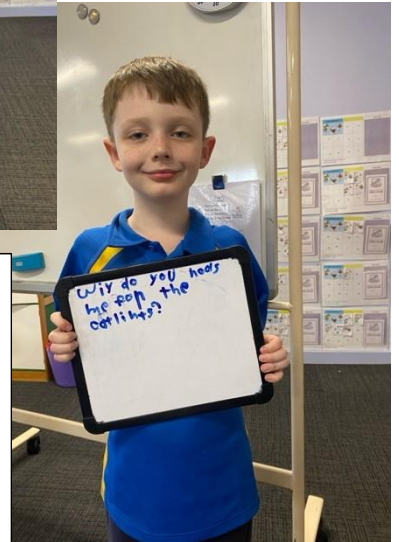
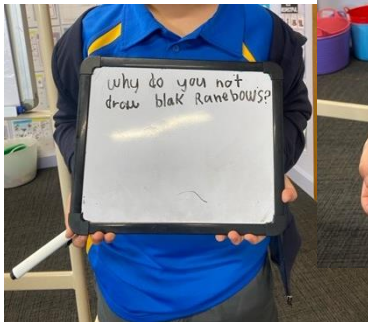
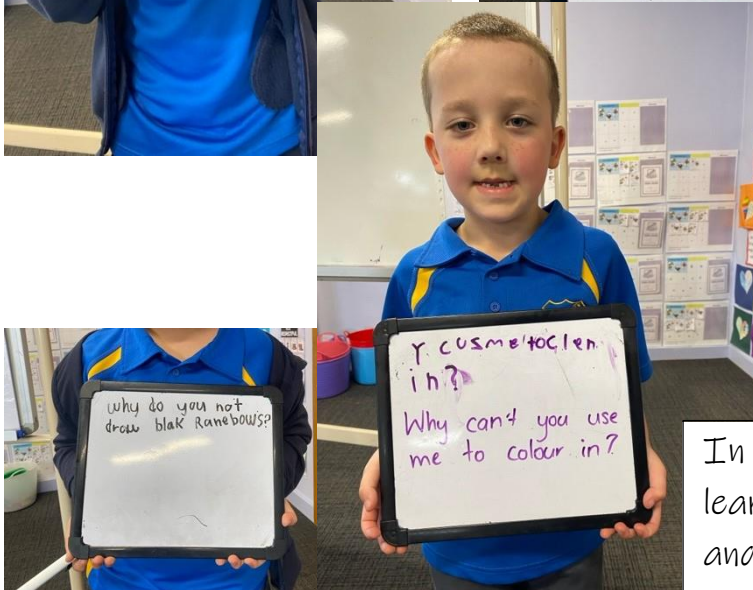
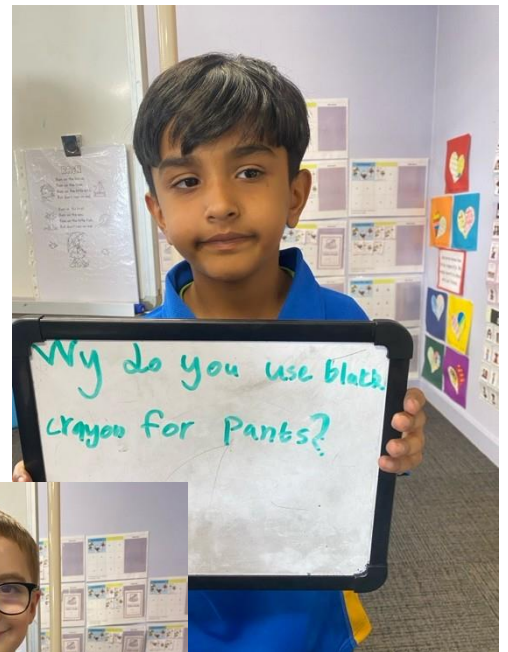
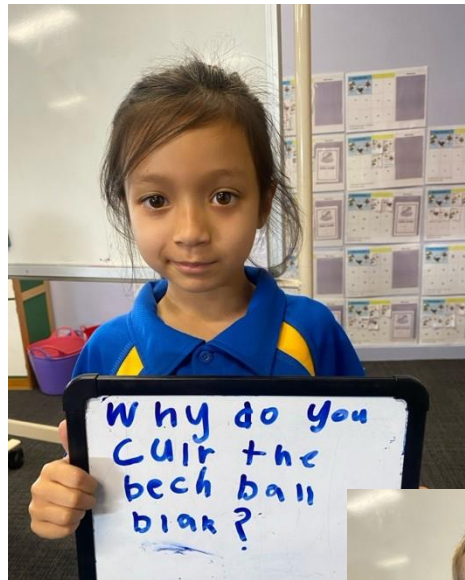
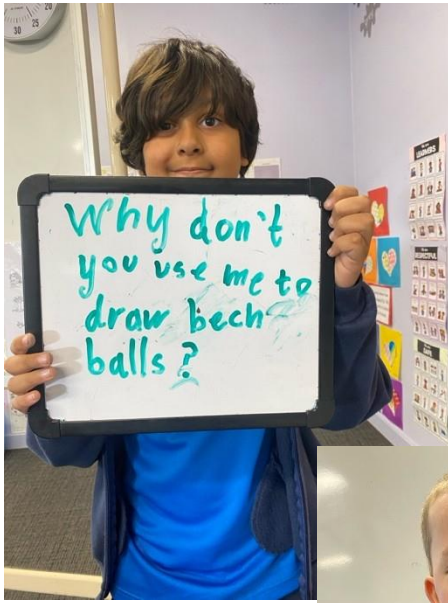
- 2025 School Leaders (Captain and Ambassador only) speeches and election: Date will be communicated shortly.
- Presentation Ceremony: Wednesday 11 December (11.30am - lunch will be at 11am)
- Term 4 Reports home: Thursday 12 December
- Year 6 Farewell: Thursday 12 December (5.00 – 8.30pm in the RPS Hall)
- Fun Day – Friday 13 December
- Students' Last day: Wednesday 18 December

*Parents and carers are reminded to please inform any therapists of the dates/times of the special events that will prevent them from delivering their services on those days.*

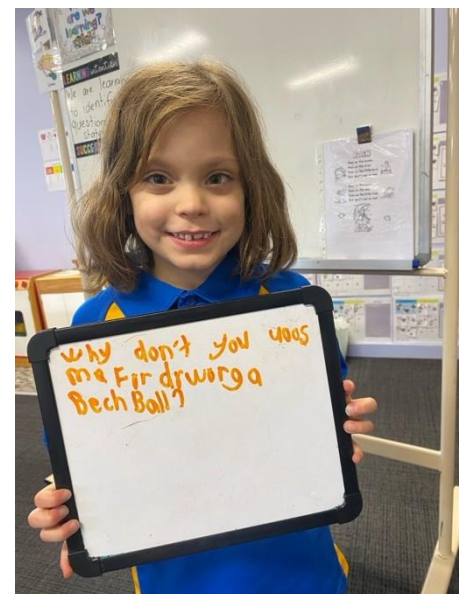
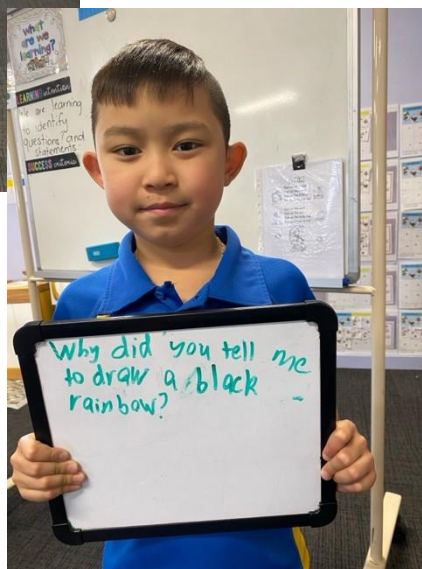
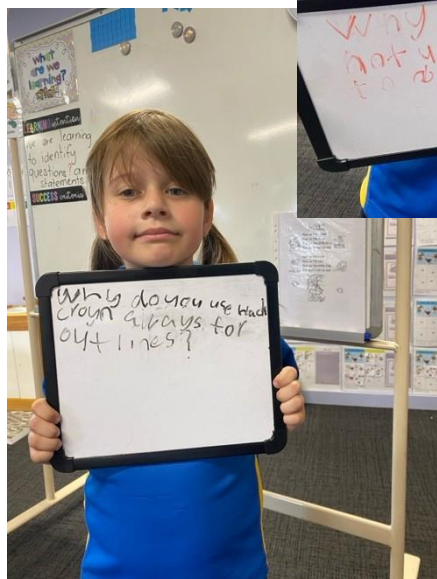
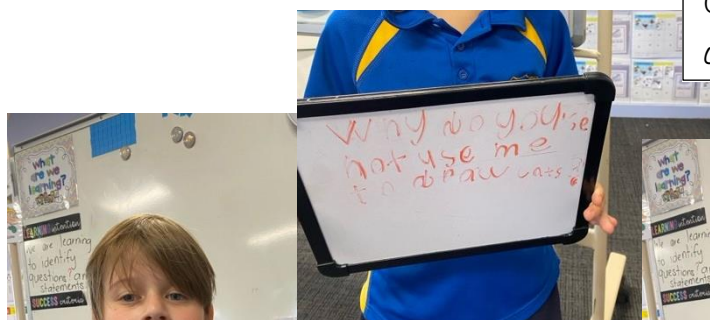
**Have a wonderful weekend.**

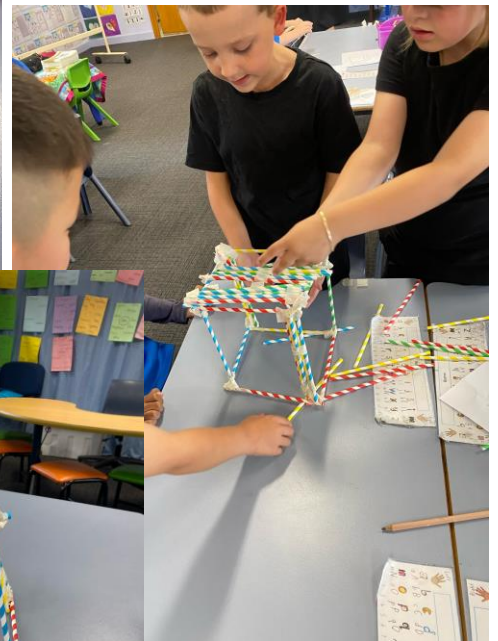
**Sandy Juleff**

*Unicorns News:*

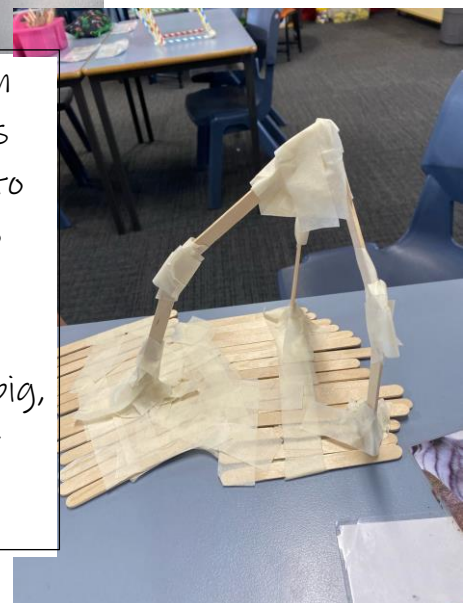


In English, we have been learning about questions and statements while reading "The Day Crayons Quit". Have a look at some of our questions!





In science, we have been learning about materials and how they are used to make objects. We had to design and build a house from straws or paddle pop sticks so that the big, bad wolf couldn't blow it down.



## Elves News:

The Elves have been busy this Term! We have been engaging in fun and creative projects and discussions around our book *The Day the Crayons Quit*. Writing sentences about our book is helping us deepen our understanding of the story while building our writing skills!



In maths, we have been diving into our Mass unit, exploring weight and measurement through fun, hands-on activities. With this fun worksheet, we're exploring the concepts of heavier and lighter, comparing objects to build our understanding in a hands-on, engaging way!



Fluency is the key to strong reading skills, and our daily practice is making a big difference! We're not only improving every day but also discovering how much fun reading can be. We love diving into new books and building our confidence along the way!



Sorting activities are a fantastic way to strengthen fine motor skills and work as a team while learning! By sorting colourful animal shapes, we're not only practicing co-ordination but also discovering new colours and animals. It's hands-on learning and fun rolled into one!



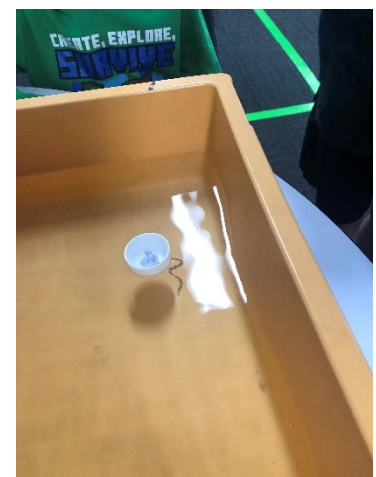
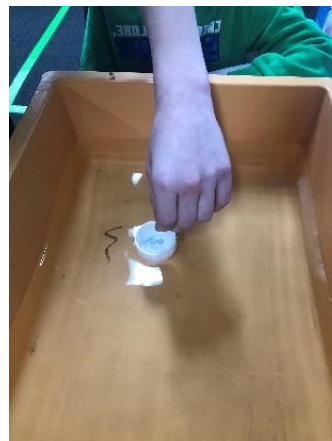
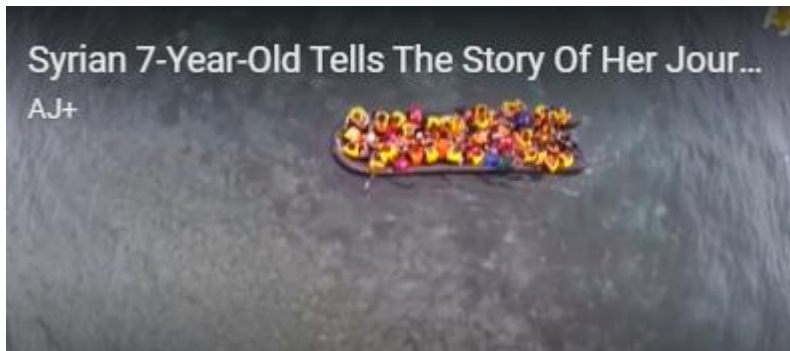
Puzzles are a fun way to boost our thinking skills as we explore our ABC's, 123's and learning to spell new words!

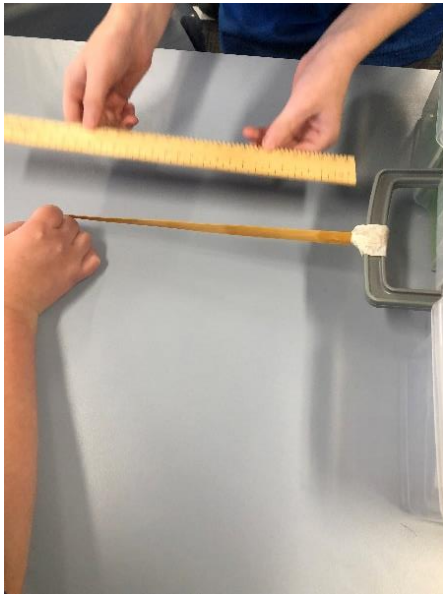




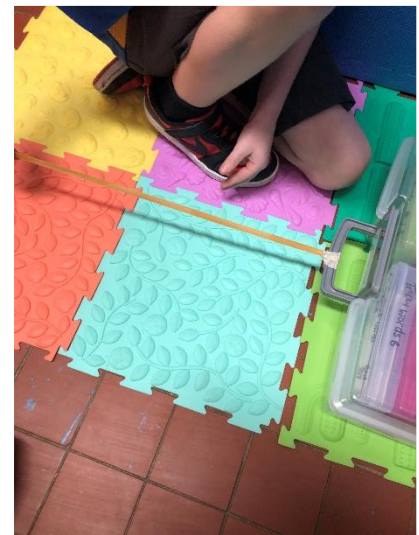
## Sea Serpents News:

This term the sea serpents have been learning about connecting emotionally to the experiences of characters in texts in English through the study of various texts around the topic of refugees. In order to understand the plight of those who are forced to flee their home, we as a class investigated some of the struggles they may face. After reading the story 'flight' Sea serpents wanted to find a way to relate to the personal struggles of the family in the text. As a class we came up with different ways to understand how they would feel and what their experiences would be like. We simulated how traveling on a boat in our classroom and discussed how being in a situation like that would feel.



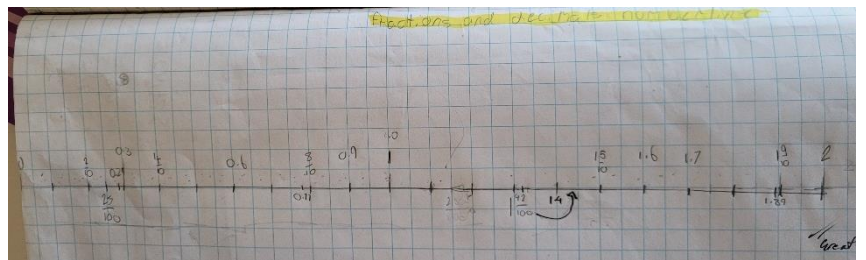
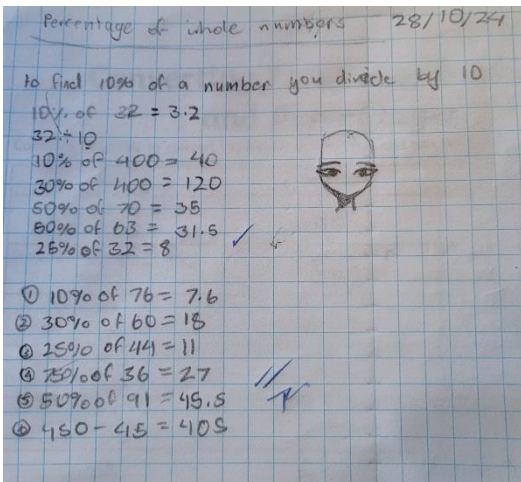
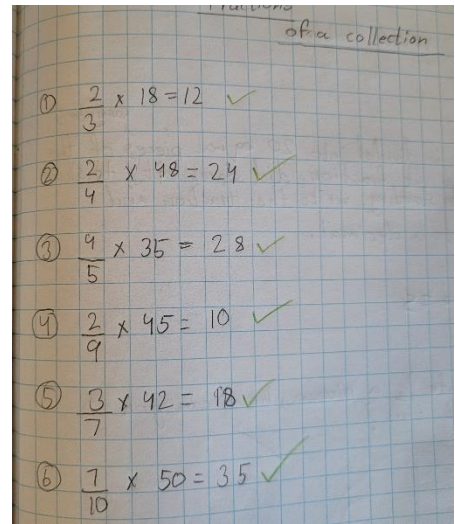


In science we have been investigating friction and how it changes the way things move. As a class students conducted an investigation into different surfaces around our classroom and if they had high or low amounts of friction. We designed an experiment to test how far we could pull a rubber band attached to an object before it moved. Sea Serpents discovered the further the rubber band was able to stretch the higher the friction was.



### Phoenixes News:

For the first 3 weeks of term 4 we have been working hard on our understanding of percentages and fractions. We have been finding a fraction of a collection, calculating discounts and placing them on a number line.



As part of our English unit, Phoenix students have been learning about refugees. We researched about some animals whose habitats are being put at risk causing them to flee their homes to find safety.

## SUGAR GLIDERS

**Scientific Name**  
PETAURUS BREVICEPS




**Habitat**  
Coast lowlands and inland eucalyptus and rainforests of northern and eastern Australia



**Threats to habitat**  
Deforestation - Humans destroying trees for room for buildings  
Fragmentation - Their habitats being broken into many smaller areas.

## CHIMPANZEES

To be free is the key for chimpanzees



### ANIMAL BIO

<b>Common Name</b>	The common name for our animal is a chimpanzee also simply known as a chimp.
<b>Scientific Name</b>	While chimps is their name they have another name which is their scientific name known as a Pan troglodytes.
<b>Habitat</b>	Most chimpanzees live in central and west of Africa's tropical and savannas of equatorial
<b>Threats</b>	The main threats of chimpanzees are, disease and hunting. Some of the diseases that chimps suffer from are, cerebral infarction, pulmonary arterial hypertension, diabetes mellitus, obesity and nephrotic syndrome.
<b>Threats to Habitat</b>	There are many threats to chimpanzees habitats but the main ones are degradation and deforestation. Degradation meaning chimpanzees habitat conditions declines due to factors like pollution, invasive species and more.

## KOALA

**Scientific Name:**  
Phascolarctos cinereus.

**Habitat**  
Koalas live on the east coast of Australia. They live in eucalyptus forests sleeping and munching on eucalyptus leaves.



Did you know that koalas aren't bears? That news is so much for me to bear! In fact they are marsupials cool right!

**Threats**  
Deforestation, chopping down trees, climate change, drought and diseases like chlamydia impact the koalas.

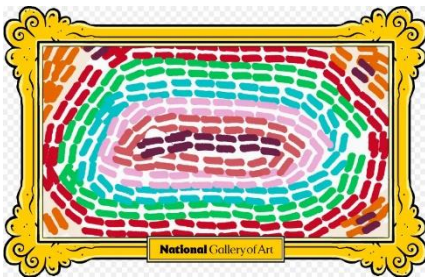


by Arya with the help of Jemima

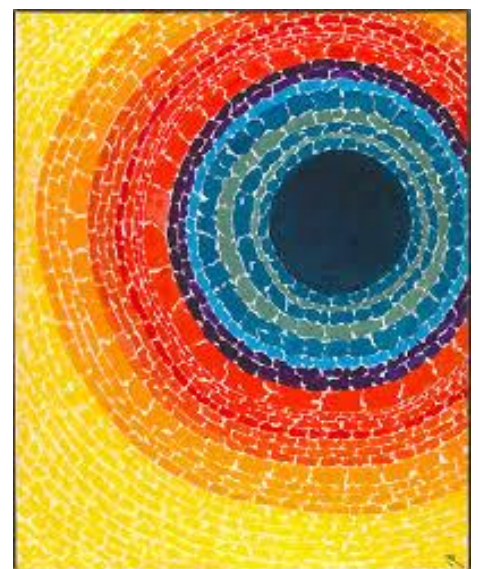
In our visual art unit this term we have been examining the style and techniques of various artists. We have then created our interpretation of their style using a nifty program called 'paint n play.'



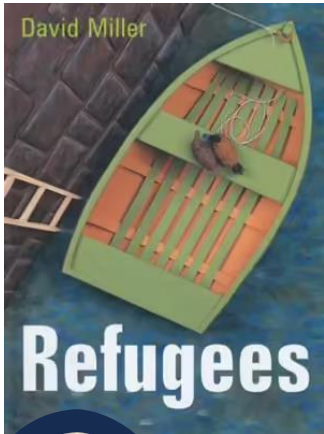
The first artist we examined was John Constable who was a famous British landscape artist. How'd we do replicating his style?



The second artist we looked at was Alma Thomas. She was an American artist who was famous for her bright, abstract paintings.



Dragons News:



The Dragons have been studying the book Refugees by David Miller.

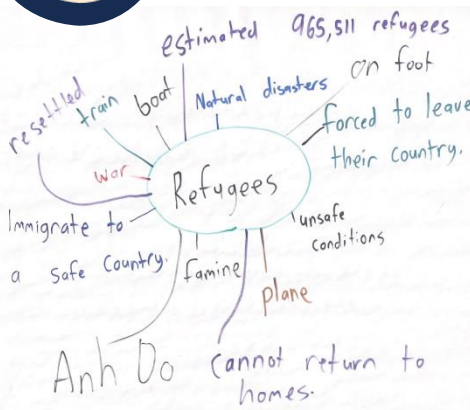


The book Refugees by David Miller is about ducks whose swamp was destroyed by humans and the ducks must run away and look for a safe place to live.



A refugee is a person forced to leave their home country as it is unsafe to live there

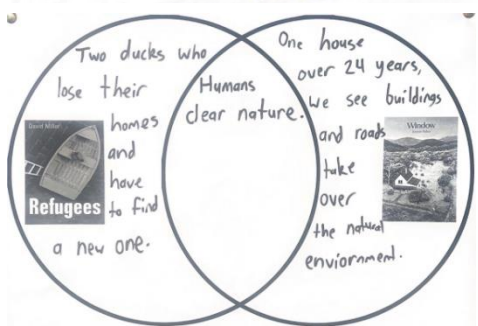
We mind mapped what we already knew about refugees, then did some research and added it in as well.



Did you know: The author of the popular WeirDo book series; Anh Do is a refugee.



We compared the story of Refugees with the previously studied Window by Jeannie Baker, discovering that both books shared a theme of humans changing nature.

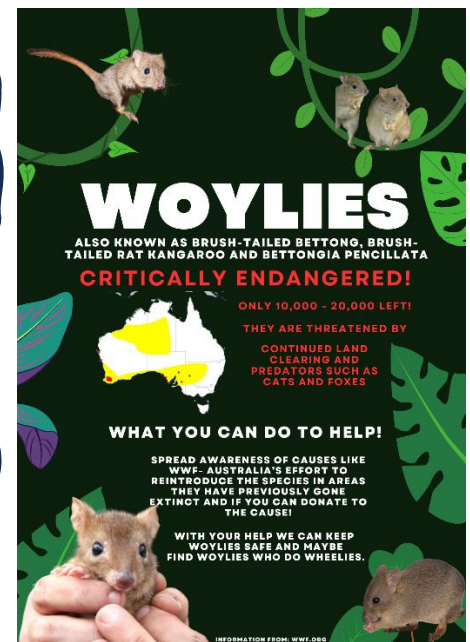


Onomatopoeia	Alphabet
a. AHHH!!!	l. lalala
b. buzzzz	m. Moosoo
c. crack	n. neigh
d. Ding-Dong	o. off
e. eeeek!	p. prrrr
f. FSSHHH!!!	q. quack
g. GRRR!!	r. RAWR!!!
h. hahahaha	s. ssshhh!
i. ick!	t. tick tock
j. jingle	u. ugh
k. knock	v. vroomm!
	w. whoosh
	x. Xing
	y. Yap
	z. Zip



Refugees uses onomatopoeia, onomatopoeia is how you write sounds like quack!

We looked up Australian animals that are endangered due to habitat loss, we decided to pick Woylies because they are very cute.



The Dragons have explored didn't mediums to create artwork, experimenting with technology to create art.

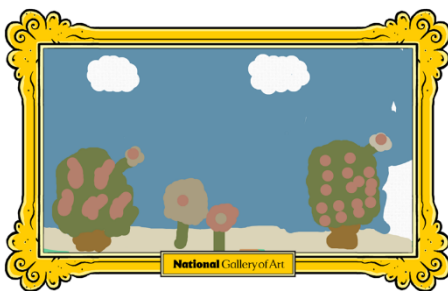
We painted and used the computer to make a picture of a landscape of a farm, I preferred painting as it was easier to control the brush than the mouse.



Farmer Wan by Tyson



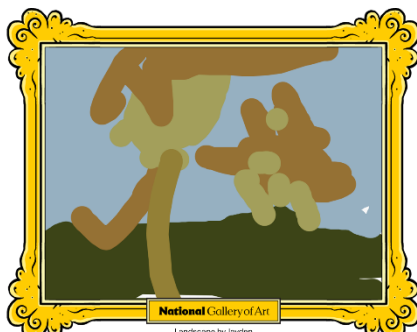
Catnap by Cyrus



Good by Neven



Farm by Zalaan



Landscape by Jiyden



Painting with the computer was fun!



Name \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

## ROSSMORE PUBLIC SCHOOL ORDER FORM

STUDENTS NAME:		CLASS:		
SUMMER	PRICE	SIZE	QTY	TOTAL
POLO SHIRT Sizes 4,6,8,10,12,14,16	\$28.00			
POLO SHIRT Sizes S,M,L,XL	\$30.00			
UNISEX SHORTS Sizes 4,6,8,10,12,14,16	\$22.00			
UNISEX SHORTS Sizes S,M,L,XL	\$24.00			
CULLOTTES Sizes 4,6,8,10,12,14,16	\$22.00			
CULLOTTES Sizes S,M,L,XL	\$24.00			
<b>WINTER</b>				
JACKET Sizes 4,6,8,10,12,14,16	\$35.00			
JACKET Sizes S,M,L,XL	\$37.00			
BOYS PANTS Sizes 4,6,8,10,12,14,16	\$30.00			
BOYS PANTS Sizes S,M,L,XL	\$32.00			
BOOTLEG PANTS Sizes 4,6,8,10,12,14,16	\$28.00			
BOOTLEG PANTS Sizes S,M,L,XL	\$30.00			
CAP	\$15.00			
REVERSIBLE BUCKET HAT	\$18.00	<b>Colour</b>	<b>R Y G</b>	
PLEASE PAY BY / /		Subtotal	\$	
		Deposit	\$	
		Total Due	\$	

NOV 24

Order online at [lupcofashions.com.au](http://lupcofashions.com.au)

To start ordering, simply select your school in the drop down menu

Enter your schools unique password **RossmorePS** to begin.

You can have your ordered delivered or pick up from our store



- Schoolwear
- Sportswear
- Corporate
- Workwear
- Custom made garments

# Christmas Closure Dates

We will be closed from  
Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024

We are re-opening on  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025

**Get prepared for 2025.  
We recommend purchasing school  
uniforms early.**

**Order online at  
[www.lupcofashions.com.au](http://www.lupcofashions.com.au)**

Unit 3A  
9 Lyn Parade Prestons NSW 2170  
P 02 9608 4653

W [www.lupcofashions.com.au](http://www.lupcofashions.com.au)  
E [sales@lupcofashions.com.au](mailto:sales@lupcofashions.com.au)





## Back to School Trading Hours for 2025

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January  
9.00am - 4.00pm

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January  
9.00am - 12.00pm

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January to Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January  
9.00am - 4.00pm

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January to Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February  
9.00am - 4.00pm

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**Lay-By available or**  
**Order online at**  
**[www.lupcofashions.com.au](http://www.lupcofashions.com.au)**

Unit 3A  
9 Lyn Parade Prestons NSW 2170  
P 02 9608 4653

W [www.lupcofashions.com.au](http://www.lupcofashions.com.au)  
E [sales@lupcofashions.com.au](mailto:sales@lupcofashions.com.au)

Regular trading hours resume on Monday the 3rd February 2025

## HELPFUL INFORMATION

### Social Media

Follow Us on Facebook for school updates and exciting news about your child's learning.



### SCHOOL BYTES

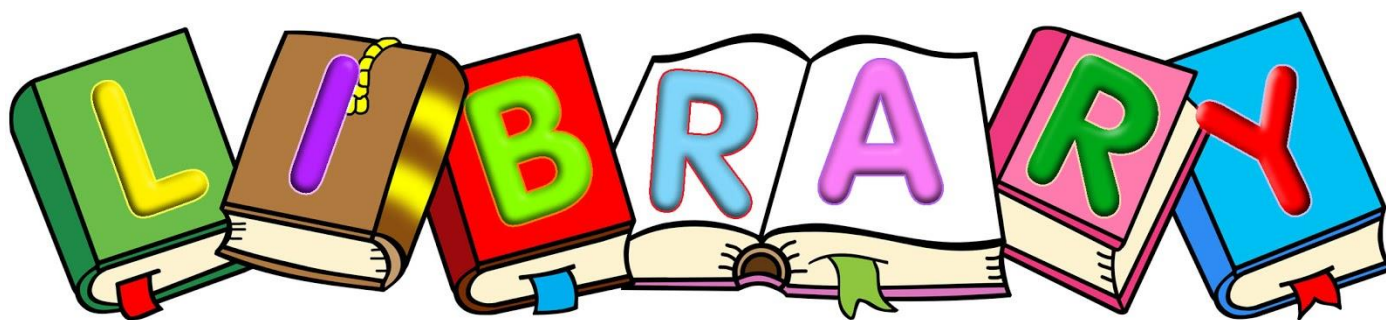
Important information, updates and notifications will be published on School Bytes

## Class Library Days

Monday: Dragons

Thursday: Elves and Sea Serpents

Fridays: Unicorns and Phoenixes



## Home Reading

Every day!



### Rossmore Public School

Bringelly Road, Rossmore 2557

Phone: (02) 9606 5551

Fax: (02) 9606 5844

Email: [rossmore-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:rossmore-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Website: [www.rossmore-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.rossmore-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

