



## GEMS 23/2/2016



## GEMS 1/3/2016

PRIZE	NAME	CLASS	EXPECTATION
Water Bottle	Lima	1B	We Are Team Players
UFO	Keith	1A	We Are Team Players
Sports Eraser	Destiny	1A	We Are Team Players
Coloured Pencils	Lyric	1A	We Learn
Year 5&6 Prize	Camelia	6A	We Care
Year 5&6 Prize	Jeremiah	6B	We Learn

PRIZE	NAME	CLASS	EXPECTATION
Glow in the Dark Stickers	Kaycee	4/5C	We Learn
Sticky Hands	Kevin	3A	We Learn
Bubbles	Lusia	1A	We Care
Air Force Plane	Leon	4/5C	We Learn
Butterfly Pen	Holly	Prep 2	We Learn
Yoyo	Shamaka	Prep 1	We Are Team Players

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We learn; we care; we are team players ....  
We are Serviceton South Sapphires!

# Newsletter

Website: http://servsoutss.eq.edu.au  
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59 Lorikeet Street, Inala 4077  
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3 March 2016  
PRINCIPAL - Ms Marni Morrison



a family on the run and a young boy facing a moral dilemma. Tristan spoke to the year six students, who greatly appreciated his visit.

### Mark - 6A

Tristan Bancks was telling us about what his book and that music helps him write stories. He talked about his new book that is called *Two Wolves*. *Two Wolves* is based on a true story.

### Kevin - 6A

Tristan Bancks mainly gets ideas for his stories while walking on the beach. He introduced trailers of his books. Tristan Bancks wakes up really early to write his books.

### Georgia - 6A

I remember when Tristan showed us a video of his upcoming book. It was very entertaining. He also showed us his video of *Two Wolves* with his sister being a news presenter.

### Author Visit

On Thursday 18 February the school was visited by Tristan Bancks, a popular Australian author. Last year Tristan's novel *Two Wolves* was a Book Week Honour Book, a runner-up for the Children's Book Council Book of the Year Award for Younger Readers. It is an exciting tale of



Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members

This week we welcomed our new Head of Curriculum, Mrs Gael Kennett, to our team. Gael comes to us from Inala State School and is working very hard to continue the good work begun by Mrs Munker.

Serviceton South has been working on an Attendance Policy which will soon be finalised and become a part of our everyday operating processes. This week, when we attended the Regional Principals' Symposium, we were reminded of the importance of contacting parents of students with unexplained absences ON THE DAY THEY ARE ABSENT. This has become particularly relevant of late, especially with child protection cases that you may have seen in the media. It is EQ's (and our) view that parents must be informed if their child does not arrive to school, so that, if the parent or caregiver is unaware of the absence, the student can be located quickly. This is currently being incorporated into our procedures and you can expect a phone call each day that your child is absent without explanation. Our students' safety is very important for all of us and we ask that you assist with this process by explaining all absences on the day of the absence. You can phone the school or email [absences@servsoutss.eq.edu.au](mailto:absences@servsoutss.eq.edu.au) with the date, your child's name and the reason for the absence. Student detail cards will be sent home very soon, to allow you to update your contact and other details.

Warm regards  
Marni Morrison  
Principal

One of the greatest books I have read.....  
with Mrs Kerville

Title: The Gruffalo  
Author: Julia Donaldson

I think the best thing about the book, The Gruffalo, is the very clever main character. His problem solving skills are great. I also like the rhyme, rhythm and the illustrations.

I think the Gruffalo looks pretty cute, not scary at all. Have you read the Gruffalo? Let me know what you think.

Children need to be exposed to lots of different text types. There are so many things to read when out and about in our community. Some ideas are: posters, shop names, catalogues, movie

timetables, road signs, bus/train timetables, shelf labels for products and food packaging.

### Music Notes

Congratulations to all of those outstanding students in years 4, 5 and 6 who have been awarded their white belt on recorder! The recorder is not just a toy but a serious musical instrument dating back to the Middle Ages. This year we have started a recorder system called "Black Belt Recorder" and I have devised a series of songs per level for the students to practise and perfect. Students in these year levels are expected to practise for 5-10 minutes per day in order to achieve these goals. Many thanks to those parents supporting and encouraging their children to practise.

Year 3 students are also learning the recorder but doing a slightly different aural based program, and students in Prep to year 2 are doing a lot of movement based activities consolidating the beat and rhythm.

Research has proved time and again the benefits of a music education; I have listed some below for you.

Here are 8 benefits of studying music for children!

1. **Music education improves math and reading skills** – So many kids struggle with math and reading in school. We all want to do everything we can to boost our children's productivity in school and help them succeed, and musical education is a great place to start! A lot of studies have shown that musical education creates neural pathways, connecting both sides of the brain, which is why it can help with math and reading skills!
2. **Improves memory and listening skills** – Children work on memorizing songs, and listening for their part in a musical piece, exercising great skills that they will use later in life, regardless of the profession or future interests.
3. **Develops language skills** – Learning to read music, is a lot like learning a new language! This can also improve their ability to learn a second, spoken language later in life.
4. **Improves hand/eye coordination** – The specific movements and gestures that must be done in order to play an instrument correctly greatly assist a child's coordination and muscle control.
5. **Focus** – Studying music helps a child learn to focus, which can improve their test skills

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

6. **Confidence** – Performing music can boost a child's confidence and help them to overcome stage fright.
7. **Creative thinking** – Music Education helps a child learn to consider problems creatively and encourages them to discover multiple solutions to problems.
8. **Discipline** – Constantly practicing and scheduling lessons improves a child's work ethic and teaches them patience as they must work hard to improve. These skills will be invaluable as the child grows into an adult.



If your child does not yet own a recorder and is in year 3-6 the office has limited numbers at the cost of \$8.50; the cheapest musical instrument you will ever buy.

Regards,  
Louise Brew  
Music Teacher

### Year 6 Shirts

Order forms for year 6 shirts will be sent home shortly. A \$10.00 deposit is required when placing an order. The shirts will cost approximately \$35.00 each.

### P&C AGM

Our P&C AGM is Monday 7th March at 9am in the parent room. A reminder that all our positions are vacated at the AGM and new nominations for the roles of President, Secretary or Treasurer will all be welcomed. Please come along, everyone is welcome.

### Preparing Catholic Children for the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion

An invitation is extended to Catholic children who are in Years 3 and above. Enrolment forms can be obtained by contacting the parish office by phone 3372 5658 or by email at [stmarks@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:stmarks@bne.catholic.net.au) or from the web page: [www.stmarksinala.com](http://www.stmarksinala.com). Enrolment forms are due by Friday, April 8.



We respectfully acknowledge the Jagera people, the Traditional Owners of the land on which this school stands.

### IMPORTANT DATES

4 March	Mt Coot-tha Botanical Gardens
4 March	Walkabout Creek -Year 1
7 March	P & C Meeting—AGM
9 March	Swimming Years 3- 6
10 March	Moreton Region Chess
11 March	Qld Museum -Year 6
16 March	Swimming Years 3- 6
16 & 17 March	Parent Teacher Interviews
21 March	Harmony Day
23 March	School Cross Country
22 & 24 March	Positive Behaviour Day
24 March	Last day of term 1.
25 March	Good Friday
11 April	First day of Term 2
25 April	Anzac Day