A very warm welcome back to Term 2. We hope that you enjoyed a restful break and have recharged your batteries for what will be a very exciting term of learning and opportunity for both the students and families.

We speak often with the students about the urgency and excitement of learning. We have a window of opportunity each day to ensure the best educational opportunities are provided by our very capable staff to maximise each student’s learning. The support of the families to then hear each child read and complete their homework is a very important component of this process.

Each morning at 8.35 the students are in their rooms completing independent reading for fifteen minutes prior to the 8.50 bell. This opportunity to read and further develop reading stamina is really important. In term one during this session I listened to all of the Year six students read. It is vitally important that we hear students read aloud. Feedback was provided to each student and recorded in their student planner. I focussed on the student’s ability to answer inferential questions that often involve reading between the lines. Inferential questions ask the reader to draw a conclusion from facts or something implied in the story. They start with a fact or evidence, and then use reasoning (such as predicting) to draw a conclusion.

Examples of questions asked include:
- What do you think will happen next in the story?
- Why or why not will the character’s plan work?
- Did the main character like or dislike _____?
- What do you think the character will do next?

As students become more capable readers they often read independently. Whilst this is appropriate it is still very important for families to hear their older children read aloud and ask questions such as those above. I look forward to hearing each of our Year fives read over coming weeks.

**New Staff**

Quality staff make a school great, high quality instruction being crucial to success. Please join with us in welcoming our new staff who bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to our school:

**Ms Katie Abela**
Ms Abela has a Bachelor of Education (Foundation-Year12) from Victoria University. She comes to Truganina College after many years teaching at schools in Melbourne’s west. She has held many positions of responsibility including team leadership. Ms Abela enjoys teaching English and using information technology both of which are important areas of learning at our school.

**Ms Vanessa Saffin**
Ms Saffin has a Bachelor of Education (Foundation-Year12) from Victoria University. She comes to Truganina College after teaching at Coburn and Albionvale Primary Schools. Ms Saffin has expertise and passion for the teaching of English and Humanities.

**Ms Kirstin Sawyer**
Ms Sawyer has Bachelor of Education (Primary) from Deakin University. She comes to Truganina College after teaching at Bentleigh West and Tucker Road Primary Schools. Ms Sawyer has strong skills in the teaching of Literacy and information technology, both of which are important areas of learning at our school.

Jenny Crowle and Nicole O’Brien

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**Term 2 Curriculum Days**
Thursday May 21st and Friday May 22nd
The Importance of Community Involvement at School

There are many ways for our school community to contribute at Truganina College. Currently we are seeking volunteers from our community: parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, family friends to help with reading and establishing our school library.

Are you free to help? Do you know someone who might be interested in being involved with important learning opportunities at our school? We would like to invite all families and their friends to express interest on the final page of this newsletter and return it to school as soon as possible.

Listening to students read is a rewarding opportunity to be involved in learning and to involve our community with learning experiences at our school. Establishing our library is another rewarding experience where families can contribute their help to get the library up and running.

We are opening a Library Club on Thursday and Friday lunchtimes where students can sit and draw or sit and read with their friends. Maybe you might be interested in helping with supervising this Club? Please let us know. The students are always filled with pride when their family and friends can help at school.

All we need is a current Working With Children’s Check and you could be helping with reading experiences and working in our library. Please fill out the slip on the back of this newsletter and we will reply to you shortly.

Nicole O'Brien
Assistant Principal
School Council Report

School Council is the major governing body of the school, it plays an important role in school accountability and improvement processes. School Council endorses key school planning, evaluation and reporting documents. The main objectives of School Council is to support and assist in the efficient governance of the school, ensuring students' best interests are at the forefront and to enhance the educational opportunities for students.

School Council responsibilities can include:

- Contributing to the development of the Strategic Plan
- Approving the annual budget
- Working with the school to develop, review and update policies
- Representing the views of the school community
- Arranging for items needed for the running of the school
- Raising funds to support school initiatives and programs
- Making sure school grounds and buildings are maintained
- Creating positive interest in the school within the community


Some of the main features from Jenny Crowle’s Principal Report covered the responsibilities of school council, draft Strategic Plan goals, Professional Learning, Assessment and Reporting, Active April, Student Engagement and Wellbeing. Jenny acknowledged the staff and their families for their work over the January school holidays to ensure that Truganina College was ready to provide wonderful educational opportunities for the students from the first day of term one. The school started the year with 150 enrolments and as of March 16th 2015, the student enrolments have increased to 207 students.

School Council approved two curriculum days for this term. Each year schools receive four student-free days (when student instruction does not occur) for professional development, school planning, curriculum development, student assessment and reporting. The two curriculum days this term will be on Thursday May 21st and Friday May 22nd.

A warm congratulations to Marilyn Jefferies for being elected School Council President, MD Moniruzzaman Khan for being elected Vice President and Rachel Jones for being elected School Council Treasurer. School Council will meet next on Monday 27th April.

Nicole O’Brien - School Councillor
Curriculum Days

**IMPORTANT**
Term 2 Curriculum Days

Thursday May 21st
Friday May 22nd

Camp Australia will be offering full day care on each of these days. A note will be sent home shortly with instructions requesting expressions of interest for care on these days.

Term Dates

Term 1
28 Jan to 27 Mar

Term 2
13 Apr to 26 Jun

Term 3:
13 Jul to 18 Sep

Term 4
5 Oct to 18 Dec
Foundation Students Writing

Arsh was one of many students to be extremely proud of completing their recent music homework task. He worked with his family to plan, design, create and build his very own guitar.

It is so rewarding to see students engaged in their learning at home and sharing learning experiences such as this one with their families.
Visible Learning in Room 8

This is a picture of us preparing to write a draft about our Tuesday Morning. The big pieces of paper had key words written on them such as: First, Then, Next, After, Finally and because.

We all brainstormed our ideas about the sentences we could write, remembering to use the key words.

Look at all of our ideas!

We then had three minutes to begin writing the draft of our recount about Tuesday Morning. This is one example of someone achieving the success criteria.
Backyard League is an exciting initiative introducing students to Rugby League in a safe, non-competitive and fun environment.

For more information contact Lusi Aveli 0411 129 244 or lavaiki@nrl.com.au
Student Name _________________________

Teacher Name _________________________

Parent Name____________________________

Please let us know how you would like to help at our school

( ) Yes, I have a Working With Children’s Check

( ) Could you help me with my application for a Working With Children’s Check

I am available to help on:

( ) Monday ( ) 8:30 - 9:30

( ) Tuesday ( ) 9:30 - 10:30

( ) Wednesday ( ) 11:30 - 12:30

( ) Thursday ( ) 12:30 - 1:30

( ) Friday ( ) 2:00 - 3:00

I would like to help with:

( ) Listening to students read

( ) Assistance in the School Library

Thank you for your feedback