Principal's Report

Year 7 Howmans Gap - Camp Champ

The annual Year 7 Howmans Gap orientation & adventure camp was held two weeks ago. Students, as well as teachers, experienced three action-packed days filled with activities such as the giant swing, climbing wall, high ropes and canoeing, just to mention a few.

Students from Rutherglen High School demonstrated what the spirit of Rutherglen is all about: Teamwork, Encouragement and to “Give things a go”. All students are to be commended for their overall behaviour and conduct. It was impressive to see the level of energy during activities, and thoughtfulness and respect towards one another and the leaders.

In particular two students are to be celebrated for their enthusiasm in activities as well as their kind and caring nature towards their peers. They were both seen being supportive to others whilst taking initiative to help out with tasks around them. A true Rutherglen High School spirit displayed by; Bylee Alison & Bayley White.

As you would be aware, the RHS Writing Competition entries can be handed to your English teachers by the last week of this Term or the first week of Term 2, so you have the holidays to complete your written piece. Entry forms are available from your English Teacher. The requirements and various categories have been on the Daily Bulletin for the past week and are placed on flyers around the school.

There is a Junior and a Senior section in each category.

The categories are: Persuasive writing, Narrative, Poetry and Short Story.

Prizes will be awarded to all winners, and certificates of participation will be awarded to all who enter and follow the guidelines.

I am delighted to inform you that Emma Gaston has been invited to attend the UBS Young Women’s Leadership Academy at Sydney University from Monday 11 April to Friday 15 April this year.

The objective of the Academy is to: introduce Year 11 students to a diverse group of contemporary women leaders, demonstrate the possibilities and satisfaction of a career in business, encourage leadership aspirations in young women, and provide leadership skills development. The program is residential at The Women’s College, Sydney University. The course is a creative mix of practical and theory with industry exposure, field visits and syndicate work. There will be a chance to develop leadership skills and develop new relationships with peer groups from other schools.

Regards, Phil Rogers Principal
We are all aware that helping our children to comprehend what they are reading and assisting them in improving their vocabulary, punctuation and spelling is vital in ensuring their future in our increasingly demanding society.

In each newsletter our school intends to highlight and share with our community some tried and tested approaches to improving literacy skills. If we all take ownership and work towards helping our kids improve their reading and writing approaches, then everyone is a “winner” in the literacy stakes.

Karen Obrien is our very experienced and knowledgeable literacy assistant at RHS and we are delighted to be able to share with you each newsletter, the tips she has been placing on the weekly bulletin for our students and staff. We are also including Karen’s spelling strategies that explain rules, provide hints and give examples.

Our school has just launched its annual Rutherglen Writing Competition with categories open to junior and senior students. Book prizes will be awarded to the winning entry in each section and certificates will be presented to all students who enter the competition. The categories include best persuasive writing, best narrative, best selection of 4 poems on one theme and the best micro story (100 words exactly) that must include the sentence, “It wasn’t possible, and yet there it was.” somewhere in the story.

Refer to the entry guidelines in this newsletter, posters around the school and notices on the Bulletin each day.

Finally, to our community of readers, if you are interested in entering the competition we would be very happy to create a new section just for you. Each newsletter we plan to expand our ideas and suggestions regarding literacy improvement, and we would value and welcome your input. Let the school know, or contact Kerrie Ware if you have some interesting strategies to use, some success stories to share or even some questions you would like to pose.

Affixes: Explanation of the term.

To affix means to attach. There are 2 kinds of affixes: prefixes and suffixes.

Prefix (pre-fix): a word or syllable joined to the front of a word to change or add to its meaning. e.g. disorder, pre-war, pronoun.

Suffix: a letter or set of letters joined to the end of a word to make another form of the word e.g. analyse/analysis/analyses/analytical/analytically

Importance of this skill

Our vocabulary is the collection of words, with their correct meaning, that we know. Many words in English come from Latin and Greek. Becoming familiar with common affixes helps decode new words and helps spelling. I have attached some common Latin and Greek affixes/bases and a list of other common affixes, with their meanings.

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Writing Competition: Rutherglen High School

Requirements of entry:

All work must be original and must have been carefully edited.

Work must be typed, single sided, on A4 paper and not stapled.

The author’s name and the section entered must be displayed on the front page of the entry.

Entries will be accepted from Week 7 Term 1 and up to Week 1 Term 2 2016.

All entries that comply with the above requirements will be displayed and prizes will be awarded to winners of the various sections.

Prizes donated by the Rutherglen High School Library and the Rutherglen High School English Learning Area.

Junior Section: Years 7-9
Senior Section: Years 10-12

Winners announced Week 3 Term 2.

Categories:

There is a Junior and a Senior Section for each category.

Persuasive writing: presenting an argument about an issue. (Your own choice of issue) Length

Narrative writing, Any topic.

Poetry: A selection of 4 poems (any form) on one theme (Your own choice of theme).

Micro story: 100 words. The story must have exactly 100 words and must include the following sentence somewhere in the story: “It wasn’t possible, and yet there it was.”

Please give entries to your English Teacher and ensure the entry form, below, is attached.

Happy Writing!