ATTENTION …..
EVE RY MOTHER, FATHER, GRANDMA, GRANDPA, AUNTY, UNCLE, SISTER AND BROTHER!!!!!!

Life changing ‘hot tips’ from Australia’s leading children’s author Mem Fox on bonding with your child!

WHY TO?
- Bonding with children and forming strong attachments early is VERY, VERY, VERY IMPORTANT! We form close attachments with the adults in our lives and it is important for language development.
- What happens between 0-5 years is critical for forming those attachments and parents and primary care-givers have to be RIGHT IN THERE!
  - By 4 months the neural pathways for learning are already set down.
- When reading aloud to children emphasise the FUN, LOVE, CLOSENESS AND LAUGHTER, don’t treat it as an educational experience, this is something that evolves naturally.
- Read aloud 3 books a day (approximately 10 minutes.) this makes up only 1% of our day. Who doesn’t have that time??!!!
- We have no time to lose with our children. They are so precious and we never know how long we will have them for.
- Dad’s bonding with their kids is very important!
- Children are not born clever, this happens through the interactions they have with the adults around them.
- Children need to hear 1,000 stories read to them before they start school. Over time unfamiliar print and language information, becomes familiar.
- Rhyming stories play a very important part in language development.

HOW TO?
- Make sure you are familiar with the book first. E.g. know where the exciting bits, sad bits are etc. and practice using different tones with your voice. This will make the ‘experience’ so much more interesting and engaging for the child.
- Be enthusiastic—sell the ‘story experience’ before starting.
- Check your body and book position. E.g. if reading to a group, children should be directly in front of you and fairly close together so as to include everyone. If reading to a child on your knee, ensure you are both comfortable, that they can clearly see the book and that there will be no interruptions.
- Use a lot of eye contact (particularly if reading to a group), especially in the first pages and exercise vocal variety.
- Read aloud with enjoyment! We are all ‘painters’ as well as ‘musicians’ with our voices.
- By ‘musicians’ she means imagine your voice on a musical scale and practice beforehand moving it up and down. The faster they pick up the tune of the words, the faster they will remember and learn. If reading the same story over and over, try to maintain the same vocal tune if possible.
- If we just read aloud without the ‘emotional experience’ of the book—it is dead. That is why it is so important to know the material before reading it to the child.
- On the other hand, don’t be SO OVER THE TOP that your antics detract from the very book itself!
- Avoid the ‘cutesy, patronising’ voice and try not to ‘talk down’ to children - they are not idiots!!

Much of the work JPs completed in term two was based on reading fairy tales.
- Use ‘vocal gymnastics’!
- Use loud and soft voices
- Use high and low voices
- Very fast and very slow voices
- And remember to pause, especially at moments of suspense or sadness!
- Use your book as a reading instrument also—e.g. if the character jumps, make the book jump etc.
- Look for what we call ‘red flag’ words. These are usually verbs such as ‘crawl’, ‘slither’ etc etc and try to use your vocal gymnastics to portray these words. In this way you are acting as a dictionary and children will more easily associate a meaning to these words.
- It helps to see the story in your own mind like a ‘movie’.
- Sell the book with the opening line ensure eye contact.
- Endings are SOOOO important. Make sure you don’t ‘stuff them up’ (in Mem’s words) by knowing yourself what will happen at the conclusion.
- The first time or two you read a book, don’t deviate off into other conversations or the pictures etc. This is particularly important if it is a rhyming book as children will not be able to hear the rhythm if it is interrupted. Once it is familiar, then make correlations with the story.
- Children (and adults) need permission NOT TO FINISH a book if they find it boring or unengaging. Forcing them to finish will do nothing to fire their passion for reading. If a child is not interested, abandon it or choose some different material—fast!

We don’t need speech training to do these things.
Read aloud to your children everyday and enjoy the very enriching and rewarding experience. Remember we are only talking about 1% of our day to make a very big difference to the relationship you form with your children.

Happy reading!

More information, along with a complete list of Mem’s books including her new release and her famous “Possum Magic” can be found by visiting her website www.memfox.net
This term we are learning about the human skeleton in Health lessons R—7.
If you have any books on the subject to add to our collection we will appreciate them.
We need some old bones that you may have laying around the farm that nature has cleaned up so that we can have a look at them and try to guess what animal they may have come from.
We also require some chicken bones that are also free from any meat.
If you are able to help out with books or bones we require them in the next few weeks.

The Junior Primary class theme for this term is Dinosaurs. We will welcome any books or figurines on the topic.
In R—7 Art we will be making models of dinosaurs with paper mache and junk materials.
In R—7 P.E we will be continuing with Auskick and then hopefully we can learn to line dance with Brayden’s grandmother.

How long is the longest car?
A: 50 m
B: 80 m
C: 30 m
D: 100 m

*TAFE Courses - Cleve Campus*

Phone: Valmai Crosby
86 282456

*Office Hours: 9am to 5pm Tuesday to Friday*

Senior First Aid
Monday August 14th and Tuesday August 15th
Cost: $153.00

Please ring the Cleve Campus
Port Neill’s Bay to Bay Fun Run/Walk
Is on again!
Sunday 6\textsuperscript{th} August

(Note the earlier date this year as a few of our last years contestants have decided to enter the City to Bay on the 17\textsuperscript{th} Sep.)

12 km Meet at Cowley’s Beach for a
10:00 am start

5 km Meet at Carrow Wells for a
10:30 am start

$5.00 per adult
$2.00 per child under 18
$12.00 per family

Each year proceeds are donated to a different organization.
THIS YEAR PROCEEDS GO TO THE PT NEILL SCHOOL

Every participant to go in a draw for a prize!
A prize also for the participant who improved their time the most from last year in each category!

Dress up and you could win a prize!

Sausage sizzle afterwards $1.50 per sausage

Please complete entry form to assist us with catering. Pass on to Lisa Masters, Michelle Ottens, Lou McDonough, Pt Neill School or Pt Neill Store.

Name:
1. Event: 4. Event:
2. Event: 5. Event:
3. Event: 6. Event:

Event categories to chose from: 12 km walk, 12 km run, 5 km walk or 5 km run

We would like to order ..............sausages. Signed ...........................................