Hello everyone,

Swayneville Community, your work this past weekend coming together to fundraise through the Blue Mountain Camp Draft, not only proved highly successful (estimated $7000) it also demonstrated how special and community minded this school community is. Most of our 56 families + staff supported this event – in one manner or another. How awesome is that! On the behalf of the current students and staff of Swayneville School – THANKYOU.

Please take the time to read the feedback provided throughout this newsletter, regarding your efforts. I would also publically acknowledge and acclaim the work done by Mel Hamblin.

On another note, there is currently a few viruses that are tearing through classrooms. Year 3/4 is hard hit at the moment. High temps and vomiting is one, while the heavy cold / flu is the other. Conjunctivitis has also been reported in the lower grades.

All the best to our OptiMINDS teams as they perform on Sunday! They have worked really hard to get ready in time.

-- Roslyn Waldron (Principal)

Campdrafting can be a small world. The same families travel around and compete, sharing in a drink and a story, mostly the conversations revolve around the cattle and horses and how the judges scored but on the weekend, at the Blue Mountain Campdraft, there was only one thing that everyone talked about.... THE FOOD! The Swayneville State School food, all the food that each of you lovingly cooked and donated, the food and drinks that you so generously donated and the food that was prepared each day by hardworking, dedicated teams of volunteers from families past and present at the school. (Continued next page ….)

Blue Mountain Campdraft

Sent: Tuesday, 18 August 2015 10:30 AM
To: Strathdale <Strathdale@hamblin.com.au>
Subject: Blue Mountain Catering

Morning Mel,

Congratulations on a super weekend!!! Could you please pass onto the hard working group of school parents that were the catering team -- Well done and a top job! The food for the weekend was wholesome; great variety, tasty and good prices. Also thank you for catering for Adam. I had family members that came for Saturday night. They were so impressed with Saturday night tea -- they will return. To cater for an event like that is such a huge effort for all involved. Once again well done to all involved!

Important Dates:
20 August – Seniors Morning Tea – Rock Pop Mime performance
23 August – OptiMINDS Performance
4 September – Father’s Day Stall Gifts $2 or $5
4 September – School Disco @ 6:00pm – 8:00pm
14 September – School Photos
Food for Thought
Complaining and Arguing

Friends and Peers

Friends – The people you spend most of your time with will have quite a marked effect on the way you live and act as you will find yourself adopting a lot of their habits and hobbies. Peer pressure is often referred to as being a bad thing, but that’s not always the case. If you choose peers whose ways are good, then they will probably influence you to behave in the right way. On the other hand if you choose friends who are constantly getting themselves in some sort of strife, then it won’t be long before you find yourself being led into doing things you don’t really want to do.

Remember, it’s your choice. Think of the characteristics that you like most in people and then look for friends who display those characteristics.

A message from Chappy Di.

Year 3/4 are collecting empty match boxes and plastic bottle tops and would appreciate any donations.

Friday night’s home cooked meals were an outstanding success, so much so that every last tasty bite was consumed by over 200 competitors. Regular campdrafters have begun to remember their favourite meals and seek them out from the outstanding array of crockpots. To all of you that took the time and effort to make delicious, healthy food and deliver them to school, THANK YOU!

The wonderful home baking made for two nights of desserts. Again the quality and variety of desserts was so delicious. People were amazed to be eating homemade apple crumbles, sticky date puddings, delicious slices, cakes and cheesecakes. ‘Spoilt for choice’ was regularly mentioned by people selecting their desserts. People enjoyed having freshly baked snacks to have with their tea and coffee and some even bought whole cakes to take home for morning tea. To all of you that delivered to school the wonderful cakes, slices, biscuits and desserts, THANK YOU!

The profits from this campdraft will be greater thanks to the wonderful donations of goods and equipment from our families. Whole roast beef and sausages, Cold room, the spit for cooking, Bain Marie, tea, coffee, soft drinks, ice, tinned items, mayonnaise, sausages, cash for purchases, meat and fillings for sandwiches; the donation of all these items meant we were able to deliver the great food at an exceptional price which meant families kept coming back to eat our food. To all of you that donated goods, THANK YOU!

And finally to the families that camped at the grounds all weekend and to those that came to work a shift over the weekend, all this would not have been possible without you and your families. From 3pm Friday until 6pm Sunday, your hard work and effort has not gone unnoticed. The wonderful dads that cooked the barbeques and roast meal and manned the fish/chip cookers worked tirelessly and it seemed endlessly to turn out fresh hot food. The wonderful mums, friends and sisters that made burgers and sandwiches’, served food, washed up and kept smiling through all the exhaustion. To our staff members that turned up and helped and supported their school on the weekend. And a special mention to the past and present students of Swayneville State School who worked side by side with their friends and parents over the weekend lending a hand at all meals and in all areas. To all of you THANK YOU just doesn’t seem enough.

And on a personal note I have never been more proud to be part of this school community. Your support to me in organising and running this event has been unwavering. Not only does everyone readily put up their hand to help but you all encouraged me to ride and participate in the draft myself, which resulted in my personal best achievements at a Campdraft so far, for that I say thank you too! Mel Hamblin

Our Learning Objectives: 1. Reading and writing must make sense! 2. Student know what they know, and know what they need to know next!
Talking Groups
We are beginning to see many improvements in the Prep and Year 1 writing this term due to the introduction of “Talking Groups”. Prep and Year 1 have begun the OLSP Metalinguistic Program this term. You may have heard the children say we had “Talking Groups” today. This program was developed by Speech Therapists to assist children improve in their talking and writing skills. The program specifically addresses concepts of what is a sound, word and sentence. It teaches children how to hear the sounds within a word which is very important in writing when they are trying to record these sounds to communicate. Syllables are also a central focus to Metalinguistics. Being able to break or “chunk” words into syllables is extremely important for decoding unknown words when reading and once again recording words when writing. Rhyme is the last fundamental focus of the groups. Quite simply if you can rhyme it you can spell it. If you know how to spell ‘cat’ then you can spell ‘hat’. But simply changing the first sound (called onset) the children can spell many more words when writing.

OptiMINDS nearly here!
Where has the time gone? This weekend, a number of students will be competing in the OptiMINDS challenge. The students have been working incredibly hard to finish their challenge presentations. They are really inspiring and the students are very proud of their work. It has been amazing to watch each group face challenges and work together to solve the problems. There have been many times where things have gone wrong, but the persistence of the students involved has not gone unnoticed and is something that should be acknowledged. This has been a tough week, coming on the heels of the Blue Mountain Camp Draft, but each student has continued to shine brightly and give 100% of their energy to the cause. A huge THANK YOU to the parents who have volunteered their time in the afternoons to help out. It is something that has been appreciated by the OptiMINDS team.

Good Luck to the Science Engineering and the Language/Literacy Teams! You can do it!

Year 4/5/6
Cheyenne Palmer & Kenneth Malayta: fabulous effort to stay on task & work hard.
Year 3/4
Tarrell Mooney: showing improvement in counting amounts of money & calculating change.
Jakob Wallace West: super listener award.
Year 1/2
Shania Craig: good attitude in literacy.
Heidi King: working hard in literacy & maths all week.
Prep/1
Charli Milton & Reina McFadzen: helping the relief teacher & showing beautiful manners.
P.E. award.
Jack Clarke: great sportsmanship & trying hard.
PMP Helpers.
Cheyenne Palmer, Clayton Wallace-West, Kenneth Maylata, Peerson Mooney, Ehlana Tromba.
50 Bee Stamps: Koden Crawford, Jazmyn Newton, Lachlan Marsh, Madde Eames, Evanadah Skien, Olivia Hauwert, Will Hamblin, Louis Cauchi, Frankie Cameron, Katie-May Jones, Cooper Appo.
100 Bee Stamps: Xavier Anson-Kissier.
Donohue: 52. Jackson: 72
Queen Bee: 4/5/6.