Both boys have also moved more quickly than their ultimate friends outside helping younger students in their preparation for the zone and divisional finals, with success at the zone level – full story below.

older students in the class. Older

Unified classes can provide significant benefits to those who learn more quickly and assist those who are slower.

It makes sense then to group children who are going through the similar stage so they can relate, help and experience together. Even within a straight grade (the same year level together), children will be at different stages. Teachers recognise this and usually extend the work of those who learn more quickly and assist those who are slower.

Composite classes provide significant benefits to both the younger and older students in the class. Older students can benefit from helping younger students in co-operative learning situations. The younger students have the opportunity of enhanced learning experiences where they are ready for it.

Overseas research has shown children in composite classes do no better or worse academically than their peers in straight grade class, but that, socially, their development is enhanced. They are more confident, can operate better as part of a group, are more assertive, become more independent learners and better problem-solvers. They also make friends outside of their standard age-groups.

Further to this, as a school we have a strong and viable commitment to operating in teams and ensuring that professional learning is supported accordingly. Smaller teams would be less viable and would not allow our current structure to be effective.

**BEHAVIOUR POLICY**

A draft Behaviour Policy has been distributed to a random sample of parents for feedback. This has been developed as an adjunct to our Student Engagement Policy. We look forward to the feedback we receive, to consider possible alterations, prior to taking to School Council for ratification. If you believe you would like to be involved in the feedback process please ask for a draft copy from the Office.

**KIDS MATTER - PARENT SURVEY**

*What is KidsMatter Primary?*

KidsMatter Primary is an Australian initiative that aims to improve children’s mental health and wellbeing. It recognises the important role that parents and carers play in the lives of their children and encourages effective working relationships between school staff, parents and carers as well as the broader community. For further information, including information sheets especially written for parents and carers, visit the KidsMatter Primary website: [www.kidsmatter.edu.au/primary](http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/primary)

*What is the survey about and how long will it take?*

The survey asks your perspectives on your child’s school and what you think is important for the school to consider in supporting children’s mental health and wellbeing. We expect that it will take you approximately 10 minutes to complete the survey.

*Why are you being asked to complete this survey?*

KidsMatter Primary encourages schools to reflect on how they are doing things - what they are doing well already and also what they can improve upon to promote children’s mental health and wellbeing. School staff are surveyed to hear their views and it has been recognised that including the voice of parents and carers will also add valuable information to assist the school with planning.
What choice do you have?
Completing this anonymous survey is entirely your choice. Whether or not you decide to participate, your decision will not disadvantage you or your child. However, we hope that you will contribute to helping us improve our school community. Please feel free to discuss any concerns you may have about completing this survey with any of the staff.

How is your privacy protected and what happens to the answers?
The answers provided by parents and carers are completely anonymous and it will not be possible to identify you or your child from your answers. Data is stored electronically by KidsMatter Primary in a password secured database. Only summarised results that align to the four components are used by the school to assist with school planning. KidsMatter Primary may also use data summarised at a state level to inform the national development of KidsMatter.

What do you need to do to participate?
Please read this Information Statement and be sure you understand its contents before you consent to participate. If there is anything you do not understand, or if you have questions, please talk to a staff person at your child’s school.
If you consent to participate, please complete the online survey at: www.kidsmatter.edu.au/primary/parentsurvey

Thank you for your support.

DON’T FORGET IT’S A PUBLIC HOLIDAY ON MONDAY!

Best wishes, Phil, Andrew and Pete

CURRENT NEWS
PFA
Thank you to everyone who came along to the welcome afternoon tea this week, we look forward to working with you! Thank you to the PFA and Friends of the PFA for volunteering their time to gather donations for our Easter Raffle.
Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 10th March at 2.30pm, sub committees at 2.00pm.

SWIMMING SPORTS
A great night was had by all and we were so proud of the all-round efforts of our team.
Two of our swimmers qualified for the zone swimming finals which were held last Monday. Ben C in his first representation for the school was outstanding in Backstroke and Freestyle and moved through to the Regionals. Coby H, now a seasoned performer in the pool for Killara, also swam a great race in his Freestyle and also qualified to swim at the Regionals next Wednesday.
Thank you to the teachers who attended and assisted our team on the night. Also, many thanks to the parents that came along and supported our team so enthusiastically, it was great.
Andrew Pizaro
Physical Education

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
With Athletics approaching quickly, I am having 2 training sessions after school next Wednesday and Thursday (weather permitting) on our oval and on the track. The sessions will run for about 1 hour. I will forward a permission note for you to complete allowing your child to participate.

PREPS AND PE
With the Preps moving to full time this week and having PE lessons all on a Thursday, they are going to be working their little bodies rather hard. Could parents ensure some fruit be a definite part of lunch or snack during the week and a drink bottle containing only water for use in the gym.

PARENT HELPERS YEAR 5/6
Could any parents who wish to help in a Year 5/6 classroom please contact their child’s classroom teacher. A current working with children check and completion of the parent helpers program is required.

PUPIL OF THE WEEK
TERM 1, WEEK 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Junior School Preps</th>
<th>Middle School Demonstrating organisational skills in the classroom</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cordelia B/Cooper C</td>
<td>Leila N</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charlotte E/Cohen S</td>
<td>Taryn P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jamie S/Elizabeth S</td>
<td>Felicity J</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isabella B/Lucas A-M</td>
<td>Keely C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Will M</td>
<td>Amber M</td>
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<td>Felisha C</td>
<td>Thomas D</td>
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<td>Emmerson J</td>
<td>Alex L-Z</td>
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<td>Finn B</td>
<td>Lilia P</td>
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<td>Natalie A</td>
<td>Ben R</td>
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<td>Harrison L</td>
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<td>Isaac F</td>
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<td>Alexis C</td>
<td>Charlotte D</td>
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<td>Lachlan R</td>
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<td>Oscar B</td>
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Performing Arts
5/6 NS – Nancy Smith
The way they work together in groups
Visual Arts
3/4 RS – Robyn Smith
Their fantastic help in keeping the art room tidy while completing their work
Physical Education
3/4 JS – Julie Stanley
Great passing and moving in play
Library
5/6 NS – Nancy Smith
Enthusiasm shown while creating book posters
Ausslan
1/2 CM – Cynthia Marchment
Being super awesome when singing Auslan songs