

# SOTA *Speak*

School of the Air Newsletter



February 2021 Term 1

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF CAMPUS



There are many aspects of SOTA that make coming to work enjoyable: the warm collegiality of staff; thoughtful discussions about students and teaching; light-hearted banter; pitter patter of SOTA students when they are on site; and the thumping sensation when teachers perform star jumps or jumping jacks with their students. The latter is certainly an experience worth visiting SOTA for.

We are certainly speeding through term 1. I'm pleased to report that our new staff are working through the myriad of processes and expectations of SOTA, OAC, and DfE. The enthusiastic input by students, and collegial support provide a guiding light as they navigate their new labyrinth. We are grateful for the encouragement and support from our SOTA community.

Induction week showcased the capabilities and dedication of SOTA staff. Despite a tight timeframe, they worked enthusiastically to ensure a meaningful and enjoyable induction experience for students and supervisors. Kristy's effort in decorating Outback Centre provided a warm welcome for our new and returning students and families. As well, her organisation of swimming and aquatics ensured a smooth and safe offsite learning experience. One of the highlights of Induction was the theatrical performances by our students and teachers. Together, they gave us a glimpse of the creative potential that exists in SOTA.

My colleagues and I are determined to provide a quality learning experience for our students and maintain the strong relationships with our SOTA community. We know our community is, and has always been supportive in providing a conducive environment for our SOTA children to learn, and grow. My colleagues and I are grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the education of children in outback South Australia. We value the trust accorded to us, and place SOTA students at the heart of our work. We will refine our delivery over the year, and work with our community to make learning rewarding and enjoyable.

**Best wishes**

**Lai Kuan Lim**

*SOTA Head of Campus*

## EVENTS

Student Free Day: **22 February**

Adelaide Cup Public Holiday: **8 March**

Governing Council AGM: **24 March**

Good Friday Public Holiday: **2 April**

Easter Monday Public Holiday: **5 April**

Camp: **6 to 9 April**

School Experience Week (Naplan): **10-14 May**

Mini Schools: **20-24 September**

Get Together: **3 – 5 December**



## OPFA AND SOTA CGC

### Outback Parents and Friends Association (OPFA)

An opportunity for the parents, supervisors and staff of students enrolled with the Port Augusta School of the Air (SOTA) to discuss any aspects associated with the school.

### SOTA Committee of Governing Council (CGC)

The SOTA CGC discuss governance issues that require further discussion from OPFA meetings.

#### OPFA/CGC upcoming meeting dates

#### All meetings at 3:30pm on WebEx

OPFA: Week 7 (T1) Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March

CGC: Week 8 (T1) Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March

Well Induction 2021 has been and gone and we are well on our way to counting down the days until camp. How does that even happen?? Port Hughes will be upon us in no time and for those of you who have missed the last 12 months of us mentioning it, camp will be taking place from the 6<sup>th</sup> until the 9<sup>th</sup> of April so because of it's shortness, expect it to be jam packed full of fun!

This term OPFA will be finalizing details for Port Hughes, as well as planning ahead for SEW with discussions also well underway for the 6/7 Canberra trip. Fingers crossed COVID keeps away from our state (and ACT) and the kids can go.

CGC will be discussing the recurrent funding, year 7 – high school, communication and numerous other agenda items throughout first term and the rest of the year.

A reminder that any feedback or emails to our teachers should be held off until AFTER 1pm to allow our teachers the chance to give their full attention to our kids during the hours they are on lesson. If you wish to speak to a teacher, please call after 3pm when their day is done with the kids and they have time to discuss concerns/feedback. Please be aware that communication can be taken many ways so when writing an email, sit it in your draft folder and re-read it later to ensure you aren't coming across the wrong way. Nothing is so urgent that it can't wait until after 1pm. As we often tell our kids, if you can't do it, move on to the next thing and come back to it. Same goes for us and contacting our teachers. Move on to something else and ask later.

Cheers

Petie – Chair SOTA CGC

Leisa – Chair OPFA

“TEACHERS  
ARE MIND  
ENGINEERS!  
TEACHERS  
ARE LIFE  
DIRECTORS!  
DON'T EVER  
UNDERMINE A  
TEACHER!”

— ERNEST AGYEMANG YEBOAH



## Fundraising Term 1 - Cadbury Chocolates

To order please PM on Facebook or email Hollie: [hollieruth@hotmail.com](mailto:hollieruth@hotmail.com) with what you would like with total amount owing and payment preference.

You can direct debit payment to: Open Access College BSB 105-069 Acc 278824640  
Please put FR OPFA and your name as the description and then send copy of that receipt to [accounts.payable@openaccess.edu.au](mailto:accounts.payable@openaccess.edu.au) & [Kristy.Harding@openaccess.edu.au](mailto:Kristy.Harding@openaccess.edu.au)

- **Goody Box** 60 Units – 12 x 35g Toblerone, 16 x 32g Timeout, 8 x 35g Cherry Ripe, 8 x 38g Boost, 16 x 30g Crunchie
- **Europe Bars**  
50 Units - 25x 40g Europe Nougat Honey Log, 25x 40g Europe Summer Roll
- **Natural Lolly Box:**  
20 units assorted, Snakes, Chewy Fruity Mix, Party Mix, Sour Squirms.

**PLEASE HAVE ORDER IN BY MONDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH** (Pick up at Camp)

### **CADBURY ALL BOXES \$50**

- **Freddo & Caramello Koala Fun Pack**  
60 units – 30 x 35g Freddo Frogs, 30 x 35g Caramello Koalas
- **Freddo & Friends Box**  
120 Units – 40 x 12g freddo, 40 x 15g Caramello koalas, 20 x 15g freddo strawberry, 20 x 12g freddo milky top



## ICPA Competition **HEY KIDS!**

Here is something fun to keep you busy and win some fantastic prizes for your creative designs.  
All Logos to be displayed at ICPA State Conference!!!

### **What you need to do**

Have you ever noticed the cool things Google do with their name when you go to 'Google' something? That is called a badge or a Google doodle, and they change their badge almost daily into some pretty cool designs. There are some snapshots below of Google Doodles done by kids and artists alike. Pretty cool aren't they?

We reckon SA ICPA could do with something fun like that, and we think you amazing bunch of kids out there would be able to create us some fabulous, original and creative designs to rival Google. You can do that can't you??

### How do you do it?

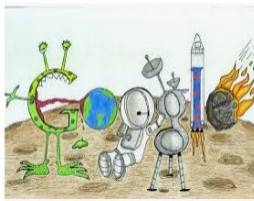
You can use the template provided on the next page or create your own if you like. You just need to make sure you use SA ICPA. Then get inspired! Turn SA ICPA into something exciting, momentous, fitting and thrilling!! Just let your mind wander and your hands create.

Entries close on March the 1<sup>st</sup> 2021. You can email me a scanned copy or post the original. Don't forget to include your name, age and phone number on the back or in the email. Get an adult to help you with this if you need. Email your entry to [northwell@activ8.net.au](mailto:northwell@activ8.net.au) OR post to Lynly Kerin, North Well Station, PVT 100, Port Augusta SA 5710.

### What Can you win?

Some cool prizes, that's what! There are 3 age groups with each age group winning a pack of fantastic art equipment and an arty farty book full of all things wonderful, prize packs are valued at \$100 each.

The age groups are :    A) Up to 10-year-olds                      B) 11-to-14-year olds                      C) 15 and over



Doodle 4 google, Google doodles ...  
pinterest.com



Doodle contest for kids reveals ...  
cnet.com



Google's Annual Doodle Contest Is Now Open  
news.artnet.com



Google doodle contest ...  
pinterest.com



So what are you waiting for! Get your Crayola's, Sharpies and coloured pencils out, get creative and send in your SA ICPA creations. Your designs will be used at our conferences, on our letterheads, webpage and newsletters.

*Your artwork will be famous!*

Winners will be judged and notified by April the 1<sup>st</sup> and prize packs delivered soon after.

We can't wait to see what you do!! If you have any questions, just email them to [northwell@activ8.net.au](mailto:northwell@activ8.net.au)

## DISTANCE EDUCATION SUPERVISORS

What a positive start to 2021 it has been! We have had some lovely, enthusiastic new faces join our DES Governess group this year Madi at Arcoona, Kasey-Rae at Nilpinna, Tori at The Peak, Georgia at Upalinna, Kayla at Martins Well, Matilda at Dulkaninna and Tegan at Todmorden. We also had three return for their second year of governing, Kayla at Muloorina, Julia at Durham Downs, and myself, Amelia at Commonwealth Hill. I have also taken up the head govie role this year and am keen to see what 2021 has install for us all!

As a group, we have been discussing fundraising ideas, as well as ideas for a resource to provide for our SOTA families. We have come up with merchandise ideas, the idea of a Port Augusta SOTA Cookbook, and some possible events. In the way of a resource for families we are looking at making a checklist of different sports equipment to meet the needs of families, and then look at purchasing identified equipment.

We also still have some fundraisers left over from previous years which include: DES caps, stubby holders and, card packs.

Prices Include:

- Caps \$25
- Stubby Holders \$10
- Card Packs \$5



### DES GOVERNESS TRUCKER CAPS

\$25

Low Profile and High Profile available

Payments can be made by direct deposit to:

ACCOUNT NAME: Open Access College Council

BSB: 105 069

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 278824640

DESCRIPTION: Name, DES Cap/s

Email Receipt to:

[kristy.harding435@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:kristy.harding435@schools.sa.edu.au) and

[finance.matters@openaccess.edu.au](mailto:finance.matters@openaccess.edu.au)



After dealing with COVID we are ready for this coming year. Mary and I spoke to the govies at Induction and we have our first placement for this year about to happen. If you would like a visit, please get in contact. My mobile is 0437168796 and either of the following emails will come to me [tellin44@bigpond.com](mailto:tellin44@bigpond.com) or [manager@revise.org.au](mailto:manager@revise.org.au)

A couple of our teachers are in schools this term but we have teachers available. I hope you have all shared some of the rain and are looking forward to a much better year.

Regards Trish.



## SOTA CLAIMS

Internet claim forms can be submitted to [accounts.payable@openaccess.edu.au](mailto:accounts.payable@openaccess.edu.au) by end of week 10, Term 1.

Face to Face travel forms for Induction Week can be submitted with the Camp claim form. Please submit to [accounts.payable@openaccess.edu.au](mailto:accounts.payable@openaccess.edu.au) by end of week 1, Term 2.

The program provides an opportunity for primary school aged children from Reception to Year 7 to receive up to a \$100 discount on sports or dance membership/registration fees.

The purpose is to increase the number of children playing organised sport or participating in dance activities by reducing cost as a barrier.

For more information on the program including how to receive your voucher go to: <https://www.sportsvouchers.sa.gov.au>

## TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT



Telephone support for all students is available from the Help Desk on **8309 3500 option 3**. Support is available 8am to 4pm Monday to Friday.

Additionally, the college website has a Help Desk section with [help sheets](#) on how to accomplish common tasks. Details for contacting the Help Desk are also available on the OAC website.

*Reminder that Jordan can be reached on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday by contacting 8642 2077*

## LIBRARY NEWS

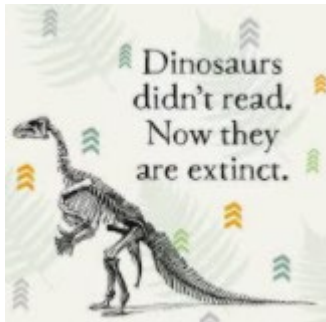
It has been a rocketing start to 2021. It was a highlight coming up to Port Augusta to begin the year with such an enthusiastic group of people. Students eager to learn, parents wanting to provide opportunities for their children and govies (both old and new) keen to support the teaching and learning of the students. This year Jodie and myself will offer lessons during assembly meeting times and have an induction term mapped out so that all students will have access to all the resources available to them. I have put together a checklist to make sure that you have all the online tools in your tool belt.

Check off the resources you have access to on own library treasure hunt:

- Clickview
- Encyclopaedia Britannica
- Flipster
- Epic
- Storybox
- Reading A-Z

## \$100 SPORTS VOUCHER FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

The Sports Vouchers program is a Government of South Australia initiative administered by the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing.



- o Reading Doctor (still to be activated)

Don't forget to check out our library webpage for other resources that may interest you.

Thanks for your patience and understanding as we restore our catalogue. It hasn't been an ideal start and we are working overtime to get things back to normal.

We look forward a fun and adventurous year filled with rich learning experiences. Jodie and I just love entering competitions and remember, it is not too early to start the PRC. For those of you who are reluctant to read, remember:

Reading opens the doors to so many things in life. We want to encourage everyone to find something they can enjoy reading.

If you need to contact us at the library, please email [library@openaccess.edu.au](mailto:library@openaccess.edu.au)

Kind Regards,

Zoe Elliott – Your Friendly Library Manager and Information Ninja





## STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC)

The Student Representative Council (SRC) helps support their fellow classmates and be a voice for any student concerns. They also fundraise to support a variety of educational and charity ventures throughout the year.

We had our first meeting last week and have already had some great idea. I am very much looking forward to seeing what this creative group come up with to help support the students of SOTA!

Meetings this term will be at 8.30-8.50am on Thursday mornings in Weeks 6, 8 & 10.

Name	Role
Clem	Reception Student Rep
Alex	Reception Student Rep
Martin	Year 1 Student Rep
Tilly	Year 1 Student Rep
George	Year 2 Student Rep
Lara	Year 2 Student Rep
Nelson	Year 3 Student Rep
Magenta	Year 3 Student Rep
Micah	Year 4 Student Rep
Winsome	Year 4 Student Rep
Beau	Year 5 Student Rep
Abby	Year 5 Student Rep
Todd	Secretary
Holly	Treasurer
Logan	Vice-Chairperson
Elke	Chairperson



## MK'S HOME VISITS

Hi all

Week 3 took me to my first visit to Commonwealth Hill to catch up with Connor and Asher. That makes 52 stations I have visited since starting at SOTA. Plenty more to go maybe!

Week 4 took me back up the Strez to visit Shaquille and Sanaisha at Innamincka. I was last there in March 2019 when Shaquille had the classroom to himself. Now Sanaisha has entered Reception it is a busy space.

MK



### TEAM CAPTAINS

Congratulations to the following senior students who will be leading their teams this year:

**Red Eagles - Logan , Ruby and Aurelia**

**Blue Dingoes - Jacob and Holly**

**Yellow Brumbies - Todd and Elke**

### CHOIR

If any student is interested in participating in the Combined Schools Choir this year please contact MK for details ASAP.

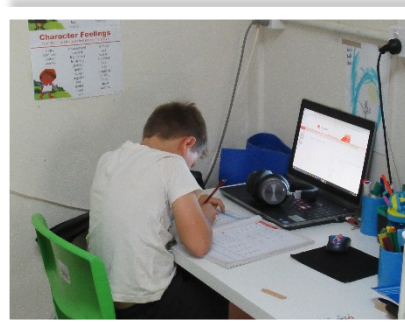


## MR ERIC'S HOME VISITS

I arrived at Todmorden station homestead on Tuesday just before 1pm and found PJ and Lisma in the classroom with Tegan. At the end of the school day PJ and Lisma took me for a tour around the main buildings and down to their bike track in front of the house.

Unfortunately, due to the hot weather, we were not able to engage in many outdoor activities on this visit; so I have started to teach PJ the game of backgammon. Lisma was keen to show me her unicorns and was happy to play alongside me and we also played games in front of the camp kitchen on the nice green grass. On Thursday with storms approaching from the west, I left at 12pm and headed for the highway only to run into light showers 30km from the homestead.

I would personally like to thank everyone for making me feel welcome.



In Week 3 I made my first visit as an Itinerant Teacher. I travelled to Peake Station and helped Lucy and George with some of their learning. It was fun, rewarding and a great introduction to how the students approach their lessons with the teachers who help online from SOTA headquarters.

## MISS MEGAN'S HOME VISITS

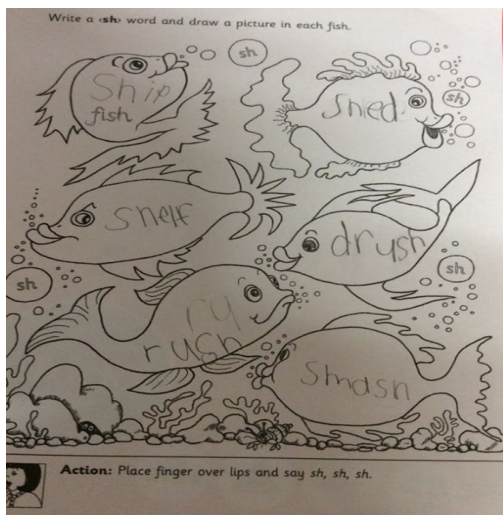
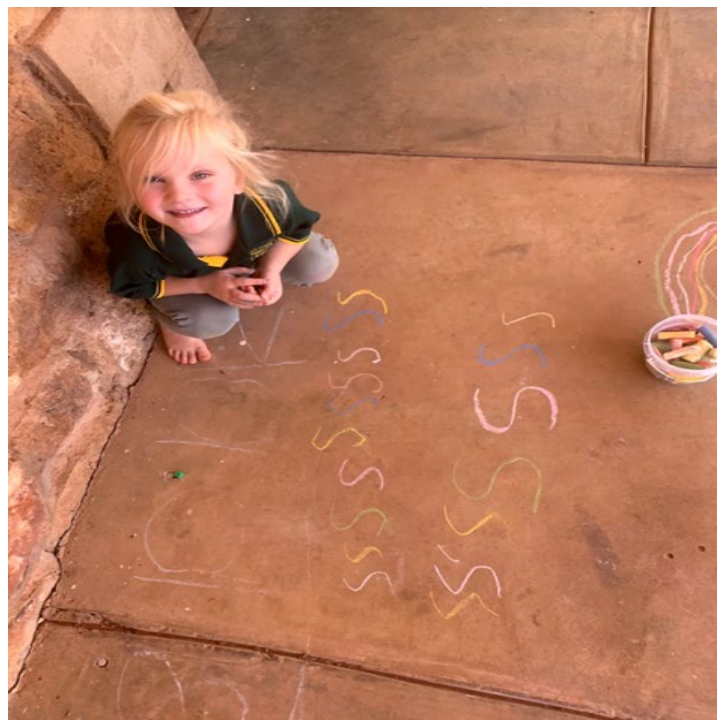
Each day Lucy and George played the elastics game I loved as a child. It is excellent for promoting jumping skills and gross motor development. Lucy and George are bound to become experts! Lucy and George showed me their 'Old Town Road' dancing and I am really looking forward to the dance videos they will upload for their PE feedback in Week 6.

I will be teaching Bonnie elastics next week and I look forward to showing all the children how to play.

Miss Megan



## MR CLAYTON'S RECEPTION & YEAR 1



This term the Receptions have been working extremely hard with developing their recognition of their single letter sounds. The Year 1 students have also been working super hard to develop their ability to recognize their 2 letter sounds, as well as their recognition of capital letters.

## MISS MILLY'S YEARS 2 & 3

### Year 2:

For our English unit on the narrative genre George described characters from a fairy tale with adjectives. In Mathematics, Eli and Jayden built place value castles to represent numbers to and above 1000. For the Integrated unit Shaquille has been looking for objects from the past around his home. He posed questions to find out more about them. Lara identified the main characters from the book 'Tashi' that we are currently reading together.

### Year 3:

In Art we have been exploring different techniques like using short brush strokes in paintings (Lachie) or collage (PJ, James). As part of our English unit we are reading 'George's Marvellous Medicine' together and students complete weekly comprehension tasks (Mareike, Nelson). For the Integrated unit we have been looking at objects with history and significant people from the past (Magenta researched Sonora Webster Carver).





# MISS TENNESSEE'S YEAR 4 & 5

This term in the year 4 class we have been learning about place value of 5-digit numbers. We have been practising how to read, write, order, and expand numbers. We have also begun looking at the First Fleet. We have learnt about what life was like for kids back in 1700 Britain and compared it to our life in 2021 Australia.

The image displays four pieces of student work:

- Top Left Venn Diagram:** Compares the life of a 10-year old in 1700's Britain and 2021 Australia.
  - 1700's Britain:** children not anuth died, no thones, no ipads, no shoole, they were sik.
  - Same:** We are still wearing clothes, we still have ink.
  - 2021 Austral:** we have thones, we anuth food, we have ipads, we do school.
- Top Right Venn Diagram:** Compares the life of a 10-year old in 1700's Britain and 2021 Australia.
  - 1700's Britain:** not going to school, Bad clods, chimni sweepers.
  - Same:** many inke families, lead, BOBS.
  - 2021 Australia:** lots of meshens, Like ipads, cmputers, cars, L+S, elekilise, y, Solipar, 15, Snaks and Logoots of food.
- Bottom Left Venn Diagram:** Compares the life of a 10-year old in 1700's Britain and 2021 Australia.
  - 1700's Britain:** clothes, No electrisite, Had to get water in buckets.
  - Same:** ipads, com, car, planes, Water - in taps, internet.
  - 2021 Australia:** (empty)
- Bottom Right:** A long division problem:  $12703 \div 13722$ . The student has written the numbers and a grid for the calculation.

# MS MEL'S YEAR 6/7

We have an assortment of activities to share with you all this week. In Art we explored the Elements of Art and used famous paintings to identify different elements. In our integrated lessons we have explored the forces that circus performers use, with a particular focus on *push and pull* forces. We are also exploring different types of businesses, include the manufacturing, merchandising and service businesses, with students producing their own creative business ideas . Finally, in English we have been studying the short story *A Sound of Thunder* and identifying key features of narratives.

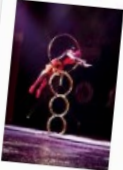
**Integrated Project- Physical Sciences**

**Activity One:**

List of circus performances that include push and pull forces:  
Trick roping



Hoop diving



Fire performance

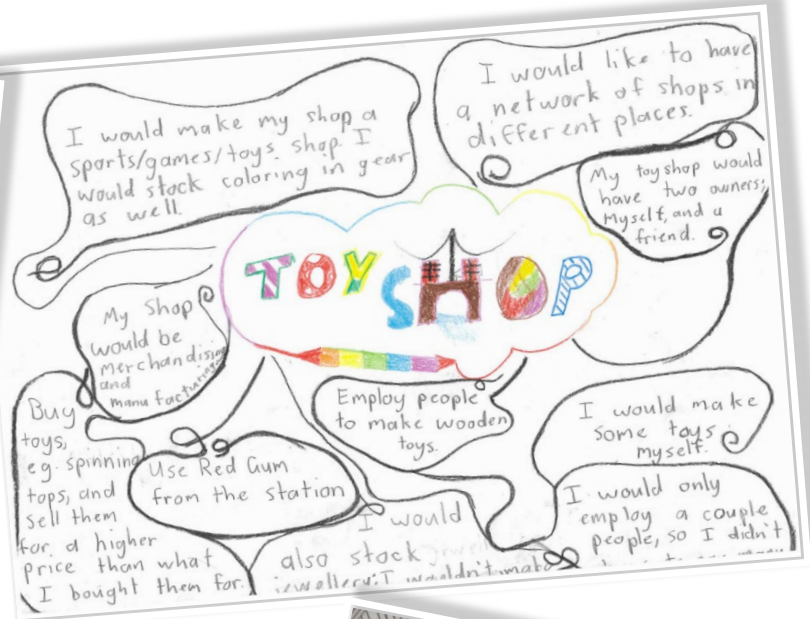


Cyr wheel

Static trapeze



Russian bar



**The elements of art that are shown!!**

- Color - dark
- Texture - the way it has been painted
- Value - dark
- Shape
- Contrast

**A Sound of Thunder Comprehension**

Identify - Who were the two candidates for president of the United States? Circle their names. Which one won the election? *near 3 lines J*

Keith and Deutscher, Keith won

Identify - What clues are there that Eckles's actions have had an effect on life in the present?

The spinning was different, Deutscher won the election and there was a chemical smell in the air.

**Cause & Effect** - Between lines 130 - 155, Travis explains the possible effects of stepping on the path and killing a mouse. Each effect, in turn, becomes the cause of another event. What is the final effect Travis mentions?

That there might have been a world state at all.

**Clarity** - What does Travis mean when he says he's not sure whether "missing around in Tene can make a big roar or little rattle in history"? (Lines 169-171)

Because no one ever gone of the path or ever made a difference to history.

**Infer** - Why do you think the two hunters, Billings and Kramer, do not want to take "trophy pictures"?

Maybe because if you take a picture in the past, it may change the present.

**Style** - Ray Bradbury uses rich figurative language to describe the Tyrannosaurus fearsome dinosaur.

Evil God, Each lower leg was like a piston, Examined men like toys, tin of meat, ivory and steel mesh.

**Comprehend** - How does Eckles react when he sees the dinosaur? What do the guides tell him to do? What does he do instead?

The guides tell him to shoot but he runs of the path.

**Compare & contrast** - Compare the sign at the end of the story with the one at the beginning. How are they the same or different?

The spelling of the words are different, IT'S just spell as you would say the words, it still reads the same sentence.

**Interpret** - What is the "sound of thunder" in line 365?

A gunshot to shoot Eckles.



### Term 1 Week 2

**Reception:** Alex for her participation and excellent listening skills throughout the week.

**Year 1:** Connor for his willingness to give all learning activities a go and his enthusiasm for learning.

**Year 2:** Lara for supporting others in class and for her contributions to our performance.

**Year 3:** Mareike for her positivity and her kindness towards others.

**Year 4:** Katie for working cooperatively in group activities and trying hard.

**Year 5:** Sam for having a go at everything and for participating in class discussions.

**Year 6/7:** Logan for effort and a persistence to do his best in all tasks.

### Term 1 Week 4

**Reception:** Asher for her participation and enthusiasm in each and every Webex lesson.

**Year 1:** Martin for pushing himself in all areas of learning from the first day

**Year 2:** Jayden for actively participating in our lessons and for asking lots of questions.

**Year 3:** Magenta for her persistence and positive attitude towards learning.

**Year 4:** Cody for always participating in class discussions.

**Year 5:** Ruby for always taking pride in her work and presenting it neatly.

**Year 6/7:** Elke for demonstrating persistence in her work and actively seeking my help when she is unsure of a problem or task. These are great learning qualities to have – Well Done Elke





## NEW PRINTER INFORMATION

Hello Everyone,

Just a few things to note regarding the new Brother printers, as I am now rolling them out on a weekly basis with the assistance of Michael, Megan and Eric.

When you receive the printer, please follow the included guides to connect it to your computer(s) and wireless network. If you encounter the message “**Print Unable ZC**” or any other errors when using the device, please inform me immediately.

If you find that documents are printing with excess toner, horizontal/vertical lines or smudging, please try the following:

1. Turn on the printer and tap the **Toner Supplies** button in the *bottom right*
2. Tap **Calibration** > **Calibrate** and wait for it to finish, then tap **Registration** > **Yes**
3. Try printing some documents (note that you may need to print several pages before the issue gradually alleviates)
4. If the problem persists, note the colour of the excess toner (usually black)
5. Replace the corresponding cartridge with the included spare, then follow **Steps 2 & 3** again
6. If the issue persists, please let me know

Once you have confirmed that the new Brother printer is working, please contact me so that I can remove the old Fuji Xerox printer (if applicable) from our system and make it yours! In this case, we will no longer support the old Fuji Xerox printer and will instead support the new Brother printer, including setup assistance and toner requests. If you do not wish to keep the old Fuji Xerox printer, please contact SOTA to organise a return.

If issues are encountered with the new Brother printer, we will organise a return at your earlier convenience and continue to support the Fuji Xerox printer until an alternative can be provided.

Finally, please retain all packaging, materials and resources included with the Brother printer. While these printers are reliable and robust, please cover it when not in use as excess dust infiltration will result in early failure. The included plastic bag is perfect for this.

Cheers  
Jordan





# INDUCTION WEEK 2021

