Middle School

Middle School. We are the filling between Junior School and Senior School. Unlike many middle siblings we do not suffer from middle child syndrome because we simply do not have time in our busy schedule to worry about what everybody else is doing! Rather, we are striving to become independent learners and thinkers. We are busy learning to write wonderfully descriptive stories, honing our persuasive writing and oral skills (we practise at home – you may have noticed!) and trying hard to memorise our times tables so that they trip off our tongues with relative ease. Middle school students are immersed in the intricacies of language, trying to remember to punctuate and spell and to write neatly all at the same time. We are busy learning all about different number strategies and how to ensure we get the right change when we spend our pocket money. Middle school reads books and sings. We power across the pool in swimming with Cath and tell our teacher that we are still not tired after 45 minutes of non-stop activity! We learn about where we live and try valiantly to remember whether Tasmania really is part of Australia. We ponder the intricacies of how the ACT can actually be separate from NSW when it is clearly sitting within the State and must therefore be a part of it.

So much to learn and so little time. Somehow we manage to squeeze in art, sharing time with all the other classes in our Stage, buddies and music with Mrs Piper. Middle School loves to visit our new library, which still smells like a brand new book, and listen to Mrs Mills and Mrs McGrath read to us. It is simply wonderful to sprawl on the very comfy chairs with a book in our laps and ponder the world around us. If we’re not thinking about things to try out on our new adventure playground, then we are working hard in the computer room with Mrs Carlos or experiencing a video conference with other teachers and schools from right across Sydney and beyond.

We have an important job to do. Don't believe us when we come home in the afternoon and nonchalantly assert that we did nothing whatsoever at school that day! We are learning to grow up, to accept responsibility for our actions and our learning. We work hard and we play hard. If we come home a little dirty, a little tired and brimming with excitement about something that happened at school then we are doing our job. Photos are on the next page.

Kristin Griffith, Relieving Assistant Principal