



Bruny Island District School

Australia's Southernmost school



Time for a little showing off

BRUNY Island's Grade 3-6 students went to the Royal Hobart Show on October 25 to exhibit the school's Hampshire down sheep.

The sheep were taken to Hobart the night before the show. Principal Mr Ben Stockwin settled them into their pens and made sure they had plenty of food and water.

Arriving at the show the next day, the students brushed the sheep and gave them fresh water and a final clean up.

When they were waiting for the judging to start they put halters on the sheep and made sure any hay was brushed off them.

The students spent some time looking over the compe-



SHOWTIME: Bruny Island District Schools Grade 3-6 students at the Royal Hobart Show last month.

tion. The competition was strong, but the students thought their sheep could win some ribbons.

The judge looked at each

sheep very carefully, felt each sheep's behind, looked at their teeth and their general condition, and that's how he made his decision.

Mr Grumpy got a third prize ribbon, Big Kahuna won a second, Shaun won a third, Ram won a second and a third, Sheppey won two thirds, Squirt won a third and Hop won a third and a second.

The school has 24 sheep and took 11 to the show after several months of preparation, using lunch time to lead and brush the sheep to get them ready for the show.

The sheep are in good condition from the good feed given to them by the students and lots of lush green grass.

The students also polished the harnesses. Just before the show the students fluffed up the sheeps' wool with tennis racquets.

All of the sheep have cute names such as Stampy, Lilo, Woof, Charlotte and Bung Eye. This year we had two orphan lambs, named Shirley and David, which we bottle fed.

In the last few years, we have won lots of ribbons, including five firsts, eight seconds, nine thirds, one reserve champion sash and one grand champion rosette.

It's great having sheep at school because we learn how to care for them. It's fun hand feeding them and being around them.

Grade 3 student Elizabeth Stokely says: "The sheep are cute and I like to cuddle them."

School garden

GRADE 3-6 students have their own garden. It all started last year when they planted tomatoes and basil to make pasta sauces and pizzas. This year they received an Education Department grant to further develop the garden. It uses organic principles, is water-wise and uses a no-dig method. The students make compost from hay grown at the school, chicken and sheep manure, and worm farm castings.

Little penguins

AT our school we have an early childhood program called "Little Penguins". This is where children from birth to four come to learn things like how to paint, how to build things and also just to have fun and get along with other kids. Teacher Miss Clare Houston says it's great to see the kids enjoying themselves and learning.

Chuckling chicks

WE have a chicken that can fly so we call it Super Chook. At the end of Term 2 she started laying eggs in our hay shed and now she has six chicks. There are four yellow ones and two black ones. We have one rooster and he is the dad of the chicks. We are learning how chickens breed and how they develop in to full grown hens or roosters.

Wunderbar Bruny!

GRADE 5/6 students travelled to St Michael's Collegiate on October 12 to receive awards for their entries in the statewide Goethe Wettbewerb (poster competition). Luke Schepers, Ellaura Wiggins and Boyd Bromfield won 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize, respectively, for Grade 6. Frank Stokely and Zanja Blossom in Grade 5 won 2nd and 3rd place respectively.

Cuddly cows

ON October 5 one of the school cows had a calf. It was born during recess at 11.35am with the whole school watching. The students had an amazing experience seeing it born. Some of the kids thought that it was "disgusting" that the mother had to lick part of the placenta off the calf. We have nine cows and calves.

This Mercury School Page was produced by Grade 3-6 students at Bruny Island District School. The school thanks all sponsors for their support.

School still in when surf's up

GRADES 3-6 have been going surfing at the Neck Beach as part of their studies.

They go surfing because it is fun but learning how to surf also involves water safety and caring for the environment.

The class theme is "Respect — for yourself, for each other and for the environment". When they go to the beach they learn about all of these things.

They look after themselves by using sunscreen, warming up before surfing and eating healthy food.

They respect each other by speaking nicely, cheering each other on and sharing the waves. They learn about caring for the environment by studying the coastal habitat and taking their rubbish home.

They also go surfing be-

cause their teacher and principal are surfers! Their names are Mrs Naomi Buczek and Mr Ben Stockwin. Mr Stockwin is also a qualified surfing coach.

Parents support the program, too. The Parents and Friends bought six learn-to-surf boards at the start of the year.

Ellaura Wiggins loves the program. "It's fun to learn how to surf because it is so cool," she says. Joe Woolley says just getting in the water is lots of fun.

When one group is in the water the rest of the class is in groups learning different things around the beach.

They have different activities, such as using instruments to make a SunSmart jingle. Afterwards they eat lunch at the beach and then they go home on a bus.



NEW WAVE: Surfing classes set Bruny Island District School apart.

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