



# Newsletter

Term 2 Week 2 No. 6 – 7th April 2020

## Diary Dates

Reminder

### Student Free / School Closure Days

#### Term 2:

Friday 29th May - Student Free

#### Term 3:

Thursday 3rd September - Student Free

Friday 4th September - School Closure

#### Term 4:

Monday 2nd November - Student Free

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## From the Principal

### Welcome Back

I know this is not the first communication to you this term and I can promise it won't be the last, however, I would like to once again say welcome back. I think this is even more appropriate this week as we have welcomed back significant numbers of children who had been learning from home up until the end of last week. Our attendance this week is pretty much back to a normal level.

### Learning from Home

Our high level of attendance at school has implications for our home learning programme. Given the high numbers in each class teachers are teaching in their usual face-to-face manner. Some year levels have maintained the online program for the first two weeks and have continued touching base each morning and each afternoon via Google Hangouts. This mode of teaching (trying to do both) is not sustainable. We have continued with this throughout the past two weeks because this is what we had planned for at the end of last term. I refer you back to a paragraph from my letter home last week:

*We are encouraging all students to return to school given the health advice and advice from our government. There will be families who are managing complex health issues who will choose to keep their children home, we understand this and will continue to support learning from home for these families. What must be understood in these circumstances is the online learning may look very different, or may not occur at all depending on the number of children we are needing to cater for. It would be unreasonable to expect our teachers to be planning and delivering face-to-face teaching in class and also providing the same online learning options we have seen this week for a few students. Work will be supplied to allow students to work independently at home, it will just not come with the comprehensive online directions teachers have provided this week.*

That statement is more accurate today than it ever has been given the numbers of children at school in each class. I have strongly encouraged our teachers to stop their commitment to online learning for the 25 children accessing this from home. This is about one child in each class.



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

# BLACK FOREST PRIMARY

## From the Principal - continued

We will still be providing work for children to complete at home, however, there will be no expectation to provide the detailed instructions which accompanied the online learning tasks previously.

The work which is supplied may be electronic, it may be a hard copy, or in some cases, it may be inappropriate to provide. For example, it is much easier, in most cases, for a Year 7 teacher to set independent work for home that it would be for a Reception teacher.

There has been much talk this week about slowly reducing the restrictions around social distancing and what some of these changes may look like. When we know if these have been changed we will re-assess what that means for us, until then we will continue with the current restrictions we have introduced. Hopefully we will start to see a gradual shift back to something more 'normal'. In the meantime, thank you for your ongoing support.

Keep safe everyone.

## Wellbeing News

Hi, I'm Kiara Price, the new pastoral care worker. I'm so excited to be part of the Black Forest Primary School community, helping to care for and support the students, staff and families in any way I can! My regular working days are Mondays and Tuesdays all day and from 11am on Thursdays.

You can contact me via my email: [kiara.price313@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:kiara.price313@schools.sa.edu.au) or come find me for a chat around the school grounds, helping with breakfast club in the canteen or working in the reading room in the middle primary building.

I also run Lego Club. I'm passionate about working with students and seeing them thrive. I look forward to connecting with you all :)



RESPECT ENDEAVOUR COLLABORATION RESPONSIBILITY

Congratulations to the following students for demonstrating

*School Values :*

Angus F-S, Inayah A, Annabelle Y, Nikhil N, Rose M, Riley O'M, Laker W, Lilly C, Zanen S

*Learning Achievement Award:*

Anastasia G, Klara K, Zak Z, Payton R, Angelina Z, Mitchell McD, Harry M, Charlie N, Lucy T

Black Forest Primary School



is back!

Tuesday Recess Times in the Reading Room with Kiara

Building friendships + creativity, brick by brick 😊

## Black Forest Primary Breakfast Club

Come and get **FREE** toast or bowl of cereal from the school canteen. All students welcome.



8:30-8:45am  
Mondays  
Tuesdays  
Thursdays

Breakfast foods provided FREE from KickStart, however donations of spreads would be appreciated and can be dropped at the canteen.

Room 6 and 8 are studying Evolution and Ancient History in History. Students were asked to summarise a video which explains the 3 traits that made us human.

## 3 Traits That Make Us Humans

Lucy Tyler

### What Makes Us Humans?

Every human that walks on this planet is connected to each other in many different ways. There is one thing that we all have and we all share; Human Evolution. Millions of years have shaped us and the society we live in because of past ancestral change. Humans have many traits that set us apart from every other species on Earth. Over millions of years, we adapted to the changing environments by creating new tools, communicating with others which caused the major stages in Human Evolution.

Walking upright was the foundation of many new human traits to come. 10 million years ago, forests dominated the world, causing hominis to have a very primate-like attitude. They moved between and lived in trees much like their monkey relatives. About 6 million years ago, the heavily forested world became no more and dry grasslands started to spread rapidly. As Early Humans needed to become well adapted to this change, walking on two legs allowed them to venture out of Africa and survive in the grasslands. Evidence suggests that our ancestors lived around the ancient Lake Turkana. Living there meant that they had water but that soon changed as they had to move out of the changing environment. The new habitat made hominis come down on the ground from the trees as food lived on the ground. Bipedalism allowed Early Humans to adapt to their new environment and built a new path in Human Evolution.

After a significant change in early Human Evolution that was walking upright, toolmaking took a major turn that helped Early Humans. Toolmaking was the earliest form of technology. Using their now free front hands, Homo Erectus and Homo Habilis soon found easy and quick ways to get their food and defend themselves. Over thousands of years, they learnt to carve rocks into sharp tools that could be utilised for the invention of the early hammer. This led to the discovery of sinew; a small but very strong piece of human tendon that could be stretched and used to be bow and arrows. Millions of years passed before Homo Sapiens came and were able to create the modern day phones that occupy many households today. Without the invention of tools, Humans wouldn't be here today. They would've become extinct and never dominated the world as we know it today. As they had developed tools, Early Humans soon went from the hunted to the hunters.

Language was, and still is, a vital part of our everyday lives. People all over the world have learnt to speak many different languages but they all evolved from the communication of the Early Humans. Because there were so many different groups of Humans, everyone knew different things about their land and environment. For thousands of years, no-one was able to learn from others as all they could do was move their arms around and grunt at one another. Thanks to the trait of communication, Humans can now do what is called group or collective learning. This means that people learn from one another in large groups. Early Humans were able to teach one another and further develop and evolve each other.

Early Human traits have shaped and created society as we know it. Without language, toolmaking and bipedalism, Modern Humans would be just as evolved as our ape cousins. Even though our past is still under 4 million years of dirt and stone, one thing is for sure; we are only just scratching the surface of our future.



Room 6 and 8 are doing multicultural art. These are cherry blossoms from Japan.

## 3 traits that make us human

Angelina Zhang

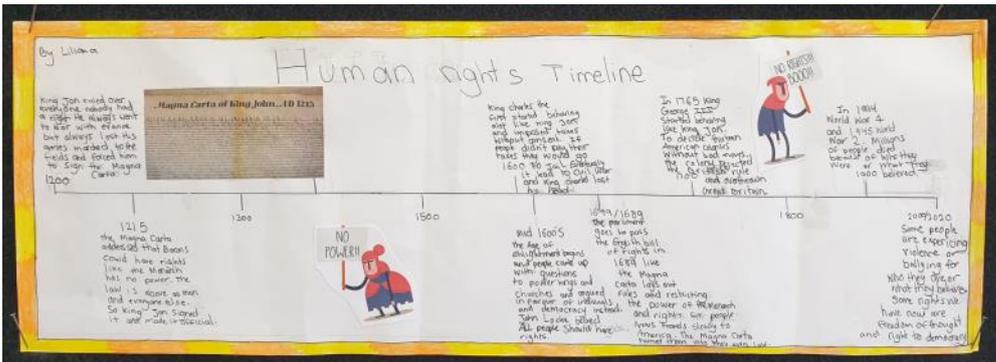
What makes us human?

Modern humans are connected with each other in many ways: the ability to speak and communicate with one another; the ability to move other objects around; have feelings and show compassion for each other; as well as the way humans move. Obviously the difference between humans and animals are distinct, but what makes humans human? Humans do things that other Animalia species cannot; they go to work and go to school, and celebrate holidays and special occasions. But all humans share the same traits and habits. Humans all came into existence at different times, which makes them what they are. At a lake in Northern Kenya, many fossils of old species of humans have been found by Doctor Richard Leaky and his team. This evidence shows how humans have evolved over time and how they used to be. Leaky believes that different traits are identifiable within the Homo species that maybe cannot be found by the humans today but instead traits that define humans as modern humans. There are three traits that he believes that define modern humans; Bipedalism, tool making and language.

Hominids used to walk around on four legs, like other animals. But slowly and over a long period of time they progressed to walking upright on two legs. This enabled them to use their hands for other uses. Tasks like tool making, gathering food and hunting food needed them to use hands to do, and over a few million years later they learnt that. Leaky says that people believe that the change of walking on two legs is based on the change of the environment and climate over time. 4.2 million years ago the ground was covered in dry grasslands before expanding into deserts and lakes that covered most of Africa. Climate data suggests that around 10 million years ago the Earth was filled with forest land before shifting to a more grassy type of plains. Hominids would have had less trees to climb but now more vast greenland and walking on four legs is a lot slower than two. Now, more grasslands start to appear around the world and this is what scientists think that enabled hominids to walk bipedally. This meant that once hominids were able to walk on two legs, they could use their arms on other activities such as carrying their young and tool making.

Tool making is another trait that defines hominids. With their hands free of walking they were able to use their hands to create tools. Tools allowed the hominids to get more use from already available sources. They were able to hunt and cut things using less energy. This allowed them to take higher advantage of their sources. Animals were easier to hunt and food was easier to gather and slice. Leaky believes that this adaption provided a crucial role in the growing of the human brain and allowed the hominids to have a wider variety of food to eat. By inventing stone tools, technology became known to everyone; technology is just an innovation of tools. Technology these days is more complex because people have discovered more where as in the old time people just used tools to do things. Without the birth of technology, says Doctor Richard Leaky, then we couldn't be human.

The creation of tools also started language. People needed to share their knowledge. Whether it was tool making or other things, they needed to be able to speak to do so. To trade tools with other hominids and receive needed materials in return would all require the art of speaking and having a language. However, the hominids' brains were becoming bigger because they learnt more about the world and how to survive in such a place. Soon later, they learnt how to communicate with one another, and so this allowed them to share knowledge; if some place was dangerous and where to get the best foods all included. According to Doctor Richard, if the idea of language hadn't projected so many years ago, the hominoids wouldn't be who they are today. Language allows people to communicate and share ideas with one another that are in their heads. This allowed hominids to survive during the changes of the climate and within the new environment.



Humans have changed much over the years, and everyone is different, but all three of these define humans and make humans human. Standing upright, tool making and language are linked together, and every human is linked to these abilities. Humans are an incredible species, and they have evolved so much over millions of years, and they are still learning and evolving today.

Students in Room 6 and 8 are studying Human Rights as part of Civics. These are example of the timelines of Human Rights.

