BOOK COMPETITIONS

Congratulations to our five winners of David Demant’s A Story of Natural Numbers, courtesy of Teacher in association with Black Dog Books. The winners are: Julia Savage from Methodist Ladies’ College, Melbourne; Tricia McNamara from Sacred Heart Primary School, Mildura, Victoria; Mark McKinnon from St John the Evangelist Catholic High School, Nowra, New South Wales; Richard Walker from Borden Primary School, Albany, Western Australia, and Joe Dannaoui from Berwick Primary School, Melbourne. For the record, David Demant has worked at Museum Victoria for 10100 years – 20 years in decimal.

Didn’t win? Don’t worry. You can win one of five copies of Paula Shaw’s Seven Seasons in Aurukun, reviewed this month on page 64, courtesy of Teacher in association with Allen & Unwin.

Simply email holden@acer.edu.au with ‘Book competition’ in the subject box and your answer to this question: where is Aurukun? Don’t forget to include your name, institution and postal address in the text box.

Alternatively, write to:
Book competition
The Editor
Private Bag 55 Camberwell
VIC 3124
with your answer to the question, plus your name, institution and postal address on the back of the envelope.


FAST FACTS
Percentage of 19-year olds who have attained Year 12 or equivalent: 71 per cent.
Percentage from low socioeconomic backgrounds who have attained Year 12 or equivalent: 58 per cent.
Government target for percentage attaining Year 12 or equivalent by 2020: 90 per cent.
Percentage of 20- to 24-year olds who have attained Year 12 or Certificate III or higher: 82 per cent.
Percentage of early schoolleavers in part-time work or not in work: 40 per cent – double the rate for Year 12 completers.
Percentage of 15 to 19-year olds in full-time education: 70 per cent.
Percentage in full-time work: 17 per cent.
Percentage not in full-time education or full-time work: 13 per cent.
Percentage of high achievers enrolled in university in their first year after leaving school: 55 per cent.
Percentage of low achievers enrolled in university in their first year after leaving school: 7.8 per cent.

Sources: How Young People are Faring 2008.

QUICK QUIZ
1. Are all young people digital natives?
2. Are students who bully at school likely to bully online?
3. What are Arthur Costa and Bena Kallick best known for in educational circles?
4. What does Schools 4 Schools do?
5. Who said ‘Australia’s Deputy Prime Minister Julia Gillard is youthful, articulate, capable and dangerously, stupendously ignorant on education matters’?
6. Could you expect your students to warm to you if you asked them to hold your cup of coffee?
7. Why doesn’t a queen ant have wings even though she had to take flight to establish a new colony?
8. People who had shorter sleep duration during childhood are more likely to be obese and have a higher body mass index than those who slept longer hours. True or false?
9. Can a school trademark its name?
10. How ought one to respond to phrases like ‘cascading granularity from a high-altitude 360-degree platform’?

Answers: 1. no, and the phrase is something of a misnomer, according to Tanya Notley; 2. yes, according to Damian Maher; 3. ‘habits of mind’; 4. it brings together secondary students in Australia and South Africa; 5. Gary Stager; 6. yes, according to research by John Bargh and Lawrence Williams reported in the October 2008 edition of Science; 7. this is a great question – and the answer is that her wings fall off after mating; 8. true, according to a longitudinal study by Carl Erik Landhuis and colleagues; 9. yes; 10. carefully.

ADVERTISER OF THE MONTH

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Introducing Australia’s Own Macquarie Schools Dictionary

Franklin’s global reputation for content delivery has combined with Macquarie Dictionary Publishers’ leadership in Australian language databases to create a compelling literacy resource for schools. Macquarie Schools Dictionary brings a wealth of content to students of all levels, in an easily accessible, portable format”, commented Susan Butler, Publisher at Macquarie Dictionary.

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