February 16th, 2016

Week 4 of Term 1

What a great start to the year we have had here at Rainbow Beach. It has been excellent to see the enthusiastic approach students are demonstrating to their learning this year.

**School Leaders Investiture 2016**

On Friday we will be having our School Leaders Investiture. The ceremony will be at 11:15am and will take place instead of our normal Parade.

We are fortunate enough to have the Federal Member for Wide Bay Mr. Warren Truss MP coming to our parade to present the leaders with their badges and certificates.

A special morning tea for our school leaders, their families and our school community will follow the parade. Please join us in the library at the conclusion of the parade to celebrate the fantastic achievements of our school leaders for 2016.

**Parents and Citizens Association**

We held our first P&C meeting last Thursday in the staffroom. It was great to see such a good turn out for the first meeting. Our current P&C President Rachel Croker resigned from her position at this meeting and I would like to thank Rachel for all of her hard work and valuable contributions to the P&C. Rachel and our current P&C executive have worked tirelessly to support the students of our school and I would like to thank Rachel for her dedication and hard work.

Our next P&C meeting will be the AGM, which will be held on Thursday March 17 at 3:00pm in the staffroom. I would like to encourage anyone who is interested in helping the students of Rainbow Beach State School and our P&C to come along to this meeting.

One of the cornerstones of any great school is a successful, vibrant and active P&C. The P&C at Rainbow Beach supported the school with approximately $15000 in donations in 2015 alone and this money makes a significant difference to our school and the programs and opportunities we can provide the students of Rainbow Beach.

If you are interested on taking on one of the executive roles, please contact one of our current P&C Executive; Leanne Bosse, Renae Vicic and Kirsty Jordison, or see myself to discuss any role/s you are interested in. Great people make a great P&C and by joining our P&C you will be making a positive difference to the students of Rainbow Beach State School

**Attendance**

This year we will be aiming to have 94% attendance across the school. There is a proven link between attendance and achievement. We will be recognizing student attendance each term with regular awards and prizes for students with attendance above the target of 94% and also recognizing individual classes for achieving excellent attendance rates.
Each fortnight we will be handing out an attendance trophy for the class with the highest attendance for the fortnight. In week two the award went to the 3/4 class who had an attendance rate of above 96%.

We have also set the students a short term goal of having a school wide 100% attendance day. Something we only achieved once in 2015, and are yet to achieve in 2016.

Our attendance rate for 2015 had improved from the previous years and as a community we continue to work together to make every day count for our students.

Currently we have 50 students who, according to my records have 100% attendance. These students are leading the way in attendance and should be congratulated on their efforts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>At 85% attendance</th>
<th>Did you know?</th>
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**Individual Attendance Rate**

*Students attending 85% of the time will miss approximately 3 days for every 4 weeks of school*

- 5 school days = 1 school week
- 20 school days = 4 school weeks
- 4 school weeks = 1 school month

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Year</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.75 school days or almost 1 day/week</td>
<td>3 school days per school month</td>
<td>15 school days or 3 school weeks per semester</td>
<td>30 school days or 1 ½ school months per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 school days = 4 school weeks</td>
<td>4 school weeks = 1 school month</td>
<td>240 school days or 1 school year, 2 school months</td>
<td>330 school days or 1 school year, 7 ½ months</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 school weeks = 1 school month</td>
<td>1 school year, 1 school month</td>
<td>390 school days or almost 2 years (after 13 years of schooling)</td>
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Being at school every day counts, with one day absent each week quickly adding up to two months of missed lessons in a year.

Unless your child is ill, it is expected that your child will be at school learning every day of the school year. Remember birthdays aren’t holidays.

**Late Arrival to School**

If for some reason you do not make it to school by the morning bell at 8:30am, please come to the office and ask the admin staff for a late slip.

**Early Departure from School**

If for some reason you need your child to leave early please come to the office so that you can sign your child out.

**Unexplained Absences**

You may receive a “Student Absence Letter” for unexplained absences that appear on our system for your child. State Government policy states an authorized officer at the school must enter a reasonable excuse for every day a student is absent.
If you receive one of these letters simply fill in a reason for the unexplained absence and return the letter to the office:

**OR** email the students name, date/s of absence and reasons to admin@rainbowbeachss.eq.edu.au

**OR** phone the absence line on 07 54869366 and leave a message with the students name, date/s of absence and reasons.

If you have already informed us of an absence and still receive the letter, please accept our apologies, as they don't appear to be on our system.

**Reading**
Each fortnight we will be providing some details about two of the reading strategies we teach the students to assist with their reading comprehension. We want all of our parents to see what the teachers will be focusing on and why the strategies are important for students to know and be able to use. We will also be publishing examples of the types of questions students can ask themselves when using the particular strategy. This fortnight we will be looking at Activating Prior Knowledge and Predicting.

**Activating Prior Knowledge.**
Activating prior knowledge is the unique set of knowledge each student brings to the reading experience. Is it a combination of the student’s attitudes, experiences, and knowledge.

By knowledge we mean:
- What the student already knows about the reading process
- Vocabulary knowledge
- Topic knowledge
- Concept knowledge
- Text types or genres and the language features of these.

By activating prior knowledge students are able to connect with what they already know. This gives them a base on which to build further knowledge. For new learners of English and struggling readers it is especially important to spend time building the students prior knowledge to give them a ‘head start’ to comprehending the text. This could be content or vocabulary knowledge, or a combination of both.

Some students may have knowledge but not make connections to the text so it is important to help students make those links. There may be opportunities for students to build each other’s background knowledge by sharing their own knowledge and experiences.

**Language we use when Activating Prior Knowledge:**
- What do I already know about this topic?
- What have I read that seems similar to this text?
- Do I recognise the author’s name?
- What of text/genre is this text – article, narrative, letter, poem?
- What sort of language features would I expect to find in this type of text?
- Based on my prior knowledge of ____________, my question/s is/are ____________.
- When I hear the word (or phrase) ____________, it makes me think about ____________.
- The illustrations tell me ____________ about the text.

As a school we would encourage you to use this language with your child during home reading time and assist them with activating their prior knowledge, before, during and after reading.
**Predicting**

Predicting is when students use clues such as the title, illustrations, blurb, author and text type or what they have read so far to make smart guesses about what is coming next.

Predicting is a key pre-reading strategy as it helps to set a purpose for reading. Continuing to make predictions and confirming or revising them throughout the reading process encourages students to become active readers who have expectations of the text. This also keeps them actively engaged in the reading process. This engagement is crucial for comprehension. By thinking about their predictions and confirming or revising them, students remain motivated and focused.

Language we use when predicting:
- I think the text will be about ________ because ________.
- I predict ________ will happen next.
- From what I have read so far, I predict that ________.
- From what I already know about ________ I predict ________.
- The picture makes me think that ________.
- The style of the author is ________ so I think ________.

... and revising our predictions:
- I thought ________ but then I read that ________ so now I think ________.
- I changed my first prediction because it said in the book ________.
- My prediction was confirmed in the story because ________.
- My prediction was partly right but ________.
- I assumed ________ but ________.

**Reading Tips**

As a parent, you have an important role in the development of your child's reading and literacy skills. The following tips are easy ways that you can use to engage your child through reading:

1. **Read aloud every day**
   10 minutes of reading aloud every day makes an important difference to your child’s language and literacy development.

2. **Make reading fun**
   Read stories with enthusiasm! Change voices for different characters and alter the volume of your voice to build excitement.

3. **Talk, play and tell stories to your children**
   Tell your child stories every day about your day, their family, exciting things you've seen or done. Reading, storytelling, talking and play helps your child listen and develop social and language skills.

4. **Read anywhere**
   Read in a variety of places to your child. Read outdoors - in the park, at the beach and on the bus. Just like adults, children enjoy reading in different contexts and times of the day.

5. **Read anything!**
   Storybooks and picture books stimulate imaginations and foster a love of literature. But read recipes, newspapers, brochures, maps and other texts to support your child's literacy levels in all aspects of their life.

6. **Listen to and praise your child reading aloud**
   Listen to your child read. Consistent reading aloud improves children’s reading and confidence. Wait patiently and let your child work out more difficult words. Praise them when they succeed and for their reading effort.

7. **Ask questions**
   Encourage your child to ask questions about what they are reading before, during and after reading. Ask them what happens next, why something stated is important, and discuss their feelings about events and opinions in the texts.

8. **Discuss the language in the texts**
   Move your finger under the words from left to right as you're reading. Encourage your child
to do the same when they are reading. Stop now and again and discuss a particular word. Ask what it means and what other words are like it.

9. **Don't forget the pictures!**
Focus on, celebrate and explore the visuals that go along with the text. These can be illustrations, maps, photographs or graphics and often help your child understand the book or text being read.

10. **Be seen reading!**
Model reading to your child. Let them see you reading for entertainment and information. Ask them to join in when reading the newspaper, measuring something from a recipe, or viewing a text message.

**Rainbow Beach State School Sports Stars**
Congratulations to Charlie and Nathan who were selected in the Gympie Zone AFL team last week. Well done boys and good luck at the Wide Bay Trials.

**Use the QSchools App**
With the free [QSchools app](http://www.deta.qld.gov.au/about/app/qschools-app.html) you can find out the latest news from our school instantly. No more missing newsletters or hearing about school events at the last minute. We also use the app to issue notifications such as emergency announcements to you.

You can ‘favourite’ more than one school on the app if your family has children attending another state school. QSchools is available for Android, Apple and Windows devices.

**Schools Clean Up Day**
Since 1992, school communities across Australia have demonstrated their support for caring for the environment through participating in Schools Clean Up Day.

In 2016 we will be celebrating 25 years of Schools Clean Up. We will be having our own Clean Up event on Friday March 4. The day will start with the Clean Up event and we will have parade from 2:00pm that afternoon to avoid having the students outside in the hottest part of the day. We would love to have as many people as possible helping us clean up the area around our school.

Grant Phelan from Parks and Wildlife will be coming along to talk with the students about the importance of Clean Up Day in the lead up to the event.

So COME ON Rainbow Beach - LET'S GO
Students of the Week
Congratulations to our students of the week for the past fortnight.

Mr Micheal Grogan
Principal
PREP CLASS NEWS

What a wonderful start to the school year the Preps are having. They are all very eager to learn and have been working very hard. We have already learnt six sounds s, a, m, e, r, t so please ask them to show you the action for each sound. We have also been very busy learning to count and recognise numbers in their written form along with counting backwards from ten. The children are really enjoying caring for the crabs and now we have the responsibility for feeding the tadpoles and watching them grow. We have also been completing many fine and gross motor activities to assist with our writing. I congratulate the children on doing a great job for the first 3 weeks. Well done preppies!

DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 19th February</td>
<td>School Leaders Badge Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 4th March</td>
<td>Clean Up Schools Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 14th March</td>
<td>School Photo’s</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue/Wed 15th/16th March</td>
<td>Gympie Young Leaders Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 17th March</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting 3:00pm RBSS admin staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 24th March</td>
<td>Last day for Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 25th March</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 11th April</td>
<td>First day for Term 2</td>
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Lynne, Sarah, Jill, Theresa and Cate
Dear Parents,

It is lovely to see how quickly the children have settled into Term One. Enthusiasm is high. We are having a wonderful term filled with all kinds of learning.

What kinds of activities have we been doing to promote English?

- reading big books with the whole class; teachers sometimes model strategies and sometimes the class work as a team to solve problems that arise during reading
- reading in small groups, as the teacher guides the use of reading strategies
- reading independently to practise the strategies being taught
- learning how to break words into syllables and how to write the sounds heard in words
- using classroom print, dictionaries and homework spelling to help spell words correctly during writing times
- using visual cues like pictures and print to help make inferences about characters or stories
- relating stories to the children’s own life experiences
- comparing stories with each other
- listening to and talking about stories, including the characters
- retelling stories in the children’s own words
- writing in sentences that start with a capital letter and end with a fullstop
- checking that writing makes sense

Following is some writing shared by several students:

**The Beetle**
Jahli found a rhinoceros beetle in the carpark. It was large and black. It was kicking on the concrete.
By Jahli, Jahley and Sunny

**My Favourite Thing.**
One sunny day, I went for a bike ride around the shores. My sister and my dad were with me. I felt tired and good.
Jahley

**This is The Best Day.**
One happy day, I went to Lily’s birthday. It was at the creek. There were a lot of people. I did a front flip. I felt happy.
Jahli

**My Favourite Day**
I got lots of presents. It was Christmas morning. Aunty Vicki was there. I felt happy.
Bailey

**Enjoy learning with your child!**
Mrs. Young and Mrs. Lawler
**FUNLANTIS CLASS NEWS**

The Funlantan’s have been hard at work and indeed hard at play since the start of the 2016 school year. They have been involved in a range of activities other than that which is completed in the classroom.

During their time with Chappy Ronnie they have been working on our amazing garden. They have been preparing garden beds, planting strawberries and helping to maintain the large array of plants already growing. Some of the students harvested produce ready for use in the tuckshop.

With Miss Sauer the Funlantans have been developing their cricket skills. Students were divided into several groups. One group focused on developing their bowling skills while the other worked on their batting. All had a great time.

While in music Miss Erynn has had them bopping away to a range of tunes and has been game enough to pull out the recorders. Miss Erynn demonstrated her guitar skills and the children sang along to the song *Riptide*.

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**Mr Mileson**

**YEAR 4/5/6 CLASS NEWS**

We have been busy establishing our classroom routines and reminding ourselves of the three school rules – Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be a Learner, and what this looks like within our classroom. It has been great to see the number of students who consistently adhere to these rules. We have had twelve students apply and receive their ‘pen licence’ within the last two weeks, which is fantastic. Students have a criteria sheet that lists the requirements they need to demonstrate in order to receive their licence. This is a big accomplishment for students in their primary school careers.
Maths homework booklets will be going out this week. These booklets will be collected for marking in week 7, allowing students to complete them when it suits their home life. If anyone is having difficulty completing any tasks they are encouraged to come and see me before the due date, to get a helping hand.

Here is a picture of our ‘pen writers’ so far.

Ms McColl and Mr Grogan

CHAPLAIN NEWS
POSSIBLE GIRL GUIDES GROUP AT TIN CAN BAY

Around 25 young ladies plus parents attended the ‘Come and Try’ afternoon last Tuesday at the TCB Library meeting room. Heather Brown, the District Manager for Gympie District Guides who is heading up the group with the assistance of Chappy Ronnie, was blown away by the number of girls who were interested in finding out what Guides is all about.

Next Tuesday the group will be split into two, with the first session for girls aged between 7 & 11 from 4-5.30pm and the other for girls aged between 12 & 18 from 6-8pm. We are looking at a
larger venue and will keep you posted about where that will be – the Buffalo Lodge in Emperor Street is being considered.

Girl Guides has been in existence since the early 1900’s, providing leadership and personal skills development to around 22,000 members in Australia, with over 10 million members around the world. The Guide Program is delivered by trained volunteer leaders and several parents have expressed interest in being involved.

The mission of Girl Guides Australia is to empower girls and young women to grow into confident, self respecting, responsible community members. Activities include working towards badges, games, crafts, cooking, first aid, outdoor activities and camps.

If any other girls or parents would like to see what Girl Guides is all about, please come along on a Tuesday afternoon between 4 & 5.30pm. For further information please contact Chappy Ronnie on 0413 135 867.

Membership fees are $130 per girl per year plus a $25 joining fee, and a weekly fee of $4-$5 to cover costs of supplies. Girls are asked to wear the guide shirt which can be purchased for $26 with their own shorts or trousers and closed-in shoes. Fees need to be paid in full to provide insurance cover but parents have until the 8 March to do so.

SCHOOL KITCHEN GARDEN

The kitchen garden team and students have been hard at work in the garden over the last couple of weeks planting out new tomato, silverbeet, capsicum and beetroot seedlings and pea and bean seeds. Our strawberry plants have produced plenty of runners that we are using to create a large strawberry garden near the prep room. Several truck tyres donated by Simon from the Rainbow Beach Hotel last year have been put to good use as new garden beds. A recent purchase of dogwire has meant that the seven year beans growing up the sides of our tunnel will now be able to climb even higher and hopefully eventually cover it.

We had a surprise visit from two fascinating people last week – Cecil Heather who lives in Ipswich but regularly visits Rainbow Beach, an expert in the Australian Native Stingless Bee and Ze, a well-known Rainbow Beach resident, who donated a bucketful of tadpoles for our frog garden.

Cecil heard about the native bee hive that was donated to the school last year, which is located in our bush tucker garden and shared with us just a tiny bit of his vast knowledge about these amazing little creatures. There are many native bee hives around the Rainbow Beach area – you just have to know where to look and Cecil knows the whereabouts of most of them. The bees from our hive can be seen hard at work gathering pollen from the basil flowers in the bed behind the prep room. If you would like to know more about stingless bees, check out this website: www.aussiebee.com.au

Ze was involved in setting up a community garden at the school several years ago and was delighted to come back and see how our garden is flourishing. Several of the tadpoles that she has given us already have back legs so it won’t be long before we have frogs jumping around.

Debra from the kitchen garden team has done a great job creating a Facebook page for the garden (www.facebook.com/rbsskitchengarden) so that parents and others who are interested can keep up to date with what is happening from week to week. Check it out and let us know your thoughts!
BOOK CLUB 2016

ORDERS NEED TO BE EITHER RETURNED TO SCHOOL OR PLACED ONLINE BY TUESDAY 16TH FEBRUARY 2016
The Kitchen Garden now has a Facebook Page to share images and news about the Garden development, plantings and what’s happening in the Kitchen to parents and the Rainbow Beach Community.

Please visit our page at Rainbow Beach State School kitchen garden.

Tree Beards
“Growing Strong Vibes”

Music lessons Mondays and Fridays
(guitar, ukulele, vocal lessons, bass guitar and performance technique)

Rainbow Fire Weavers every Monday @ 5:00pm

Lessons have started but we are still taking bookings for this term!!

Ring Tina 0409631127 for times and prices

PILATES EXERCISE CLASS

Cooloola Coast Pilates & Personal Training

Thursdays 4:30pm - 5:30pm $15.00

School Library

Work on core strength, flexibility, body awareness and injury prevention

For further enquiries contact
Sarah Booth on 0432 690 194

www.cooloolacoastpilates.com
Gympie District Girl Guides

Including Tin Can Bay and surrounds

“Empowering girls and young women to grow into confident, self respecting, responsible, community members”

Guides is about having fun, making friends, learning skills, and being part of the wider community. We have vacancies for all age groups, including 18-30 year olds. We are also on the lookout for women who like the idea of helping girls achieve all the above. We will train you and help with all aspects of becoming a leader, including getting a blue card. Call ASAP to get started early this term.

Gympie District Guides meet at 19 Shanks Street, Gympie at the following times:-

- Monday 4-5.30pm 5-7 year olds  Jenny 0433 385 777 gympiegumnuts@hotmail.com
- Tuesday 3.30-6pm 13-17 years  Leonora 0425 850 360 leonora.cox@gmail.com
- Wednesday 4.30-6.30 7-9 year olds  Heather 0413 674 457 brownies101@bigpond.com
- Thursday 4–6pm 10-12 years  Kaz 1stgympieguides@gmail.com

And the fantastic news is that we have a new unit starting at Tin Can Bay!! Please contact Heather 0413 674 457, or enquire at Tin Can Bay State School.

2016 is going to be an exciting year with lots of outdoor activities, community involvement, leadership development, arts and crafts, camping, music, cooking, and lots, lots more. In fact, any ideas the girls have, the leaders try to implement. There are badges to earn too if that’s what you want to do. Come and try during week 2 and 3 and you will find there’s a lot more to guides than you realise.

Gympie Devils Junior Rugby League Sign On 2016

Jack Stokes Oval, Smith Road, Monkland

Saturday 13th February 9:00am – 2:00pm

Tues 16th & 23rd Feb, and Tues 1st & 8th March – 3:30pm – 5:30pm

New players need Birth Certificate for proof of age

Age Groups

- Munchkins  4 Years
- Junior Joeys  5 – 6 Years
- Under 8s  7 – 8 Years
- Under 10s  9 – 10 Years
- Under 12s  11- 12 Years
- Under 13 – 14 – 15 – 16

Information

Nathan – 0413 978 788 - President
Deb – 0416 077 610 - Treasurer
Sam – 0432 427 574 – Registrar