Week 6 of Term 1

Welcome to week 6 of term 1. It is hard to believe we only have 4 more weeks until the Easter break. It has been a great past two weeks here at Rainbow Beach. We have been fortunate enough to have Warren Truss MP here for our School Leaders Investiture as well as being able to celebrate the fantastic achievements of our students in the broader community.

Our Enduring Moral Imperative
On Thursday last week I had the pleasure of hearing our Deputy Director General Patrea Walton talk to the principals of the North Coast Region about the state of schooling in Queensland and where we are headed in the future.

The key message of Patrea on the day is that it is our enduring moral imperative, and the focus of school improvement, to ensure that every student is succeeding. We need to be doing our best to ensure that every child makes at least 12 months of gains each year in their schooling.

We need to know our kids and how they learn. Ensuring that we use the latest available research to inform our teaching and support our students.

At Rainbow Beach State School we believe that reading is the cornerstone of any academic and lifelong success our students will have. Our unrelenting focus last year and this year has been and will continue to be the teaching of reading. Our teachers have deepened their content knowledge of reading and the teaching of reading and we can be confident that all of our classes have students fully engaged in reading rich routines every day.

Through the Investing for Success funding we are supporting our reading focus through the purchasing of approximately $30,000 of extra Teacher Aide time to provide one on one reading instruction and reading intervention for our students through the Daily Rapid Reading Program (DRR).

We are also resourcing our DRR program with a completely new library of books and texts to be used specifically to support the implementation of the program.

Along with the investment in resources and people we will be purchasing approximately $20,000 of teacher time to support peer to peer observation and feedback cycles to allow both our teachers and teacher aides to get and provide feedback on their reading instruction to ensure consistency across our school.

School Leaders 2016
On Friday 19 February we presented our school leaders for 2016 with their leadership badges and certificates. Former Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Warren Truss MP, Member for Wide Bay, presented our students with their badges on the day. It was great to see so many family and friends attend the ceremony and stay for light refreshments afterwards.

We are very lucky at Rainbow Beach to have such a great group of school leaders. They are already attacking their roles with a zest and zeal that is to be commended. Already as our Student Council
leaders they have organized our Easer Disco and are well on the way to re-establishing the running club.

If I were to pass on one message to our leaders to keep in mind for their role as leaders this year and into the future it would be, in the words of Martin Luther King Jr “The time is always right to do what is right.”

P&C
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.

Schools Clean Up Day on 4 March
Students and teachers will do their part to protect and care for our environment this Schools Clean Up Day by picking up rubbish around the school. Schools Clean Up Day inspires students to learn about their environment and contribute to their local community. It’s a day when students and teachers work together to clean up a site significant to them.

We will be gathering in the parade area from 8:30am and heading off to clean up around the school and its boundaries from 8:30am to approximately 9:30am.

Parade will be held at 2:00pm that day to recognize our students of the week and to hand out prizes and say thank you to our students and the volunteers that helped out at Clean Up Day on Friday morning.
Gympie Meals on Wheels Inc

We have received an excellent commendation from Gympie Meals on Wheels Inc for two of our students, Rose and Jahley. They spent time over their Christmas School holidays volunteering for Meals on Wheels with their Grandmother, delivering meals to those in need.

“When they assisted their Grandma they helped to support those in need within our community. Hopefully they are aware that they made many people feel special. On their visits they improved someone’s day in a most special way and for their wonderful pleasant and enthusiastic behavior they should be commended. Their service to the Community through our organization was greatly appreciated.” Jules Delgado, Manager.

Gympie Meals on Wheels sent certificates for Rose and Jahley to express their gratitude, which were presented on Parade. Well done!!

Attendance

This year we will be aiming to have 94% attendance across the school. At this stage our attendance rate is just over the 94% mark. So thank you everyone for doing a great job ensuring your children are at school and learning every day, it is greatly appreciated.

Our class attendance award has again gone to the Funlantins (our 3/4 class) class who had an attendance rate of above 94%, just pipping the 1/2 class by 0.15%.

Our short-term goal for attendance is to have a day where we have 100% attendance, something we have only done once since the start of 2014.

Reading

The reading Comprehension Strategies we are investigating further in this newsletter are Self-Monitoring and Questioning.

Self-Monitoring

Self-monitoring plays a crucial part in comprehension. It requires students to be meta-cognitive (to be aware of their own thinking as they read). Most importantly, it requires students to realise when they have stopped understanding what they are reading.

Self-monitoring supports comprehension by giving the reader control over the reading process. Before reading, they might clarify their purpose for reading and preview the text. During reading, they monitor their understanding, perhaps adjusting their reading speed to fit the difficulty level of the text and using ‘fix-up’ strategies to deal with any comprehension problems they may have. After reading they can monitor their understanding of what they have read.

Language we use when self-monitoring:
- I’m not sure what ________ means.
- I don’t get that paragraph.
- The author mentions John Davies in Chapter Two, but I can’t remember much about him. I think I’ll go back and reread that chapter to help me understand that part.
- I don’t understand what that sentence means. I am going to go back and read it aloud slowly and see if that helps.
- I’ve lost my concentration. I’d better go back and reread that page.
- I’m going to try and create a picture in my mind to help me understand that bit.

Questioning

Questioning is when the student poses questions before, during and after reading a text. Questioning plays an important part of the process of self-monitoring as students ask themselves, “Does this make sense?” Encouraging students to become aware of and value the questions they ask naturally is a way of helping them to engage with the text.

How does Questioning help Reading Comprehension?
Asking and answering questions helps to engage the reader with the text. It provides a purpose for reading and gives the students a reason to clarify meaning. This connection helps to deepen comprehension.

Language we use when questioning:
- I wonder why, where, when, how, if, who, ...?
- What is going to happen next?
- What is the author trying to tell me?
- Do I already know something about this topic?
- What do I think I will learn from this text?

Reading Tips
As you read with your child you will discover, they will, in turn want to read to you. As they read aloud with you they may discover they can’t read a word or may find that the book is too hard. If this occurs try these following hints:

*If your child can’t read the word, say:*
- Can you think of the word or movement that helps you remember that vowel sound?
- What is the first and last sound? What word would make sense?
- Does it have a pattern that you have seen in other words? (ex-an, ack)
- How does the word begin?
- You said_____. Does that make sense?
- What word would make sense that would start with these sounds?
- Can you sound it out?
- Put your finger under the word as you say it.

*When they want to read a book that is too hard, say:*
- Let’s read it together.
- This is a book you will enjoy more if you save it until you are older, or later in the year.
- [Be honest!] When people read books that are too hard for them, they often skip important parts. You will have more fun with this book if you wait until you can read it easily.


**Rainbow Beach State School Says 'Bullying. No Way!' on the National Day of Action.**

On Friday 18 March, our school will be taking a stand together on the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence.

The National Day is an annual event for Australian schools where school communities across the nation stand as one against bullying and violence.

Rainbow Beach is dedicated to creating safe and supportive school environments, free from bullying, harassment and violence.

Together, we can send clear messages to young people that bullying and violence, in or outside the classroom, are not okay at any time.

We will keep you informed about our plans and activities to celebrate the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence on Friday 18 March. Please note the date in your diaries.

*Mitch Grogan*
Principal
STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Easter Disco
Hello and welcome to week 6 from the student council. This term we will be having an Easter Disco on Friday 18th of March, so be sure to practice your groovy dance moves and start planning your bright Easter clothes with a colourful Easter bonnet to show off to all your friends.

The disco will start at 5:30 and will cost $5 per person that includes a popper, a hot dog and entry to the disco. The disco will start with an Easter egg hunt and will be followed by the choosing of the best-dressed bright character, dinner and finally some groovy tunes and games. The disco will end at 7:30.

You have to come, there will be loads of prizes to be won and we swear you will have a fantastic time, get to know some new people at the school, make some new friends and even see your friends outside of their school uniforms. Come on start planning your colourful outfit now.

Guess the Number of Chocolate Eggs!
Student Council is have a "Guess the Number of Chocolate Eggs" competition. This starts Wednesday 2nd March and the winner will be announced at the Easter Disco on Friday 18th March. One guess will cost you .50c or 5 guesses for $2.00. Guesses can be placed any school morning outside the 5/6 classroom.

P & C NEWS
We are running an Easter Raffle to raise funds for the P & C. Win a hamper full of Easter goodies to share with your family. Tickets are attached to this newsletter and are $1.00 each, and can also be purchased from Rainbow Fruit. The winner will be drawn on Saturday 26th March.

P&C Bake Sale for Council Elections
Please cook up a storm for the P&C bake sale on the council elections at Rainbow Beach State School, March 19.

Cakes, biscuits, scones, or kid’s small arty creations (like birthday cards) will all be welcome - you can bring them on the day when you vote or drop them into the tuckshop on Friday afternoon.

Please add your name to the roster at the school office- for an hour or more to sell food or man the BBQ. Kids are also welcome to sell the goodies.

P & C Committee
The children have learned more new letters and this week we are focusing on the letters f and g. This week in math’s we will be looking at position so the children will be using positional language such as above, below and beside.

Last Tuesday the Gympie times took a class photo of our Prep children and this will be in the paper on the 23rd of March so be sure to get a copy.

Please remember that if your child is having tuckshop on Friday that they still need a piece of fruit for teensy snack.

As you may have heard one of hermit crabs molted last week and we found out lots of information about the molting time including the fact that after molting the crabs are actually very tasty to other crabs so we have actually separated them until Hermies shell hardens up again.

Lynne, Sarah, Jill, Theresa and Cate
Another busy fortnight has past. We have firmly established important routines and our class group is becoming more able to 'Be Respectful' by keeping agreed on behaviours so the group works in a friendly manner. New children to the school have settled in through the buddy system, social games and informal playtimes.

Learning episodes are Teacher directed and guided small group and or partner practise tasks and independent tasks for demonstrating what a child can know and do following a teaching focus. We are getting into our Science unit which is investigating how a living animal stays alive, how its habitat is healthy and how to improve unhealthy habitats. Thanks so much to Chappy Ronnie and Deb for working with us always and for incorporate The Garden concept with our science.

Our number work is focused on counting, understanding the value of digits in numerals, recognising addition and subtraction in number stories and representing the latter in part, part to whole frames.

We thank Melissa Grogan for her time and effort each Friday morning with changing home reading books and setting up readers for the following week. However it's a job for at least three parents???

Any takers?????? Friday or Monday mornings PLEASE!

Mrs. Young and Mrs. Lawler
FUNLANTIS CLASS NEWS

The Funlantis class have been working very hard to design a class flag. We had to choose colours and use symbols that represent Funlantis. For example, how we work as a team and how bright and caring we all are as a class. We will be voting to choose the best flag design for our class. The prize for the winning design will be a voucher to spend at Rainbow Fruit. Good luck to all competitors!!

By Rose Vicic

Mr Mileson

YEAR 4/5/6 CLASS NEWS

It’s that time of the year again – our assessments are beginning. We have just finished our first English unit on comprehending and analysing short stories and the students have completed their first assessment piece – a comprehension paper based on a short story by Morris Gleitzman. Our year 6’s have also begun their Geography assessment piece, a written test on the diversities within Asian nations. This week we will start our second English unit based around persuasive text in the media. It is going to be a busy end to the term! The school leaders will be venturing to Gympie for a Leadership day in week 8 and our student council reps are busy preparing for their first event of the year. It is great to see so many students in the class participating in organising this event and giving up their lunchtimes to do so. Thanks everyone.

Ms McColl and Mr Grogan
**SWPBS NEWS**

Our school has started the year on a positive note, with all staff and students embracing our whole school behaviour support program. Students have been engaging in weekly lessons focused around our 3 school rules of Being Safe, Being Respectful and Being a Learner. Students have all received numerous “Gotchas” as rewards for their positive behaviours. These “Gotchas” are a token system, which students can then **cash in**, to obtain a reward of their choice. Our current school reward menu is attached to this newsletter.

On Wednesday the 9th of March we will be holding our first SWPBS meeting for the year. If you would like to be a parent representative on this committee, we invite you to come along to the school library at 2.45pm (if you have your children with you it is not a problem) and have an input into Rainbow Beach State School’s behaviour policies.

**CHAPLAIN NEWS**

**RUNNING CLUB IS BACK AGAIN!**

With 3 weeks to the school's cross country, Running Club is starting again this Thursday 3 March on the school oval from 7am. Several parents have volunteered to be on a roster each week to supervise students who are keen to get ready for the cross country. If there is enough interest, the running club will continue to meet each Thursday in the future. Breakfast will be provided by Chappy Ronnie who is looking for helpers to serve cereal, toast, fresh fruit and juice. If you can help, please call her on 0413 135 867 or leave a message at the school.

**CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA SCHOOL DAY – FRI 4 MARCH**

Clean up Australia Day is this Sunday 6 March with Grant Phelan from the Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service organising an event for Rainbow Beach residents. In 2015 an estimated 536,423 volunteers removed 15,915 tonnes of rubbish at 7,232 sites across the country so get on board this year and help our town to be rubbish-free. The Meeting Point on Sunday will be the QPWS Visitor Information Centre car park at 8am.

Rainbow Beach School is joining many other schools across Australia by taking part in the School’s Cleanup Day during the morning of Friday 4 March. Grant will also be organising the school's event with the assistance of Chappy Ronnie. Students will be divided into groups to pick up rubbish from the school grounds and surrounds. Gloves will be provided and there will be several t-shirts and caps to give away to students who are enthusiastic about making our school rubbish-free. Students are encouraged to wear green on the day to celebrate our clean, green environment.

**SCHOOL KITCHEN GARDEN**

You may have noticed that our tunnel is being taken over by a fast-growing vegetable called the Madagascar bean. It's scientific name is Phaseolus lunatus (phaseolus is Greek for bean & lunatus is Latin for moon-shaped). It is also known as the Tropical Lima Bean or Butter Bean. This bean originally came from the Andes around 2000 years ago.

It is a vigorous climbing tropical bean, which has white seeds with attractive purple speckling. It is particularly suited to hot, humid conditions and is a perennial, dying back during Winter. Each pod contains 1-3 large (~2cm) seeds. Young seeds can be peeled and eaten raw or steamed, as long as they haven't yet started to developed any of their mottled red colouration. Young green pods can also be steamed but can be fibrous. Older, dried and shelled seeds can be soaked overnight then boiled until soft,
drained and used in any dish you would normally use shelled beans in. The sprouted seeds are used in Chinese cooking. The youngest leaves are also edible but have a bitter flavour and definitely should be cooked prior to eating. Some varieties of lima bean can contain dangerous levels of cyanogenic glucosides, which can be deactivated by soaking, boiling, draining, and peeling the skin off the seeds. This particular variety is thought to be largely free of these toxins however care should still be taken to prepare them correctly as there are other, less potent toxins present too.

They are an incredibly fast grower so if you need anything covered up in your garden, these beans will do the trick. We will be saving seeds once they start to produce, so come and see us if you would like some.

Chappy Ronnie

BOOK CLUB 2016

ORDERS NEED TO BE EITHER RETURNED TO SCHOOL OR PLACED ONLINE BY FRIDAY 11TH MARCH 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.