Week 8 of Term 1

What a quick term this has been. Hard to believe that by the time you are reading this there will only be seven more school days before the Easter break. I would like to start this week by thanking our students, staff, families and the school community for helping to make the start to the school year so positive.

I was fortunate enough to talk with some parents at our Easter Disco last Friday and it was great to hear the positive comments from them about their children’s experiences at school this year.

I would like to make special mention of our Year 6 students and in particular our School and Sports Captains. As a group they make up our Student Leaders and it has been extremely obvious that our student body made terrific choices when they elected our Leaders for this year.

Annie, Charlie, Ruby, Archie, Emma, Oscar, Zaraya and Jarrod have all gone the extra mile to ensure that their fellow students have been able to make a positive start to 2016. Their assistance with the Prep students has both made the transition into school easier for our youngest students and eased the minds of worried parents.

On Friday night we had a very successful Disco with over 70 children in attendance. The entire evening was organized and coordinated by our School Leaders. As a principal I am very proud of these outstanding young people and I am looking forward to seeing them continue to grow as leaders and people.

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

This week 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.

Last Friday on Parade we saw one of our extremely brave students put on a special performance of the Bars and Melody song Hopeful.

Jarrod rapped the song on parade with backing vocals of the extremely talented Chappie Ronnie.
Hopeful is a song by two English teenagers about the effects of bullying on kids at school. It has very positive message for students and if you are interested you can view the clip on YouTube, just search for Hopeful.

I would like thank Jarrod for taking the initiative to organise this performance as part of the National Day of Action and congratulate him on having the bravery to not only do the performance, but to take a stand and help to spread the message that bullying is not ok and together we can take a stand and help those in need.

How can Parents Help?
At our school we aim to create a safe and supportive school community for everyone.

Sometimes, it can be difficult for parents or carers to know what to do when their child talks to them about bullying.

You are an important part of our work to prevent bullying and to respond effectively if it happens. Stopping bullying involves everyone.

If your child talks to you about bullying:

1. **Listen** calmly and get the full story. Your calm response is important to allow your child to tell you all about the situation. After they’ve told you their story, ask questions to get more details if you need to: who, what, where, when. Although you may feel some strong emotions about your child’s experience, try to keep calm to avoid more distress to your child.

2. **Reassure** your child they are not to blame. Many children blame themselves and this may make them feel even worse. You could say things like, ‘That sounds really hard to deal with. No one should have to put up with that.’ or ‘I’m so glad you told me. You should be able to feel safe at school; that’s not fair at all’.

3. **Ask** your child what they want to do and what they want you to do. A critical part of your response is to avoid jumping in to solve the problem. While it is natural to want to protect your child, helping them to find their own solution is a better option. It helps them feel they have some power in the situation.

4. **Visit** [www.bullyingnoway.gov.au](http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au) to find some strategies. The website has tips and ideas for different bullying situations. One idea is to practise strategies at home to help your child feel more confident.

5. **Contact** the school. Your child may be reluctant for you to do this, so discuss the idea and reassure them that the school would want to know and is able to help. Make an appointment to meet with your child’s teacher and, if you need to, ask to talk with the principal. Contact the school immediately if you have a concern about your child’s safety.

6. **Check in regularly** with your child. Keep the conversation going. It can take time to resolve issues, so check in regularly with your child about their experiences and their feelings. Your ongoing support is important.

Don’t forget, our school is taking part in the 2015 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence. We will spend this week in the lead up to the day working with the students on what bullying is and importantly how they as individuals and as a group should act if they see bullying occurring. If you are looking for support for yourself to deal with a bullying situation, you will find ideas on the Bullying. No Way! website for parents. As well, please contact the school if you would like to discuss any aspect of our approach to preventing bullying.

Thanks for your support to make our school a great school for everyone.
Reading
Each fortnight in the newsletter we have been focusing on two of the reading comprehension strategies we as a school will be focusing on in reading. In the Newsletter this fortnight we will be examining Making Connections and Visualising.

Making Connections
Making Connections is when students make links or associations between what they read and their prior knowledge. There are three kinds of connections students can make when they read:

1. **Text to self connection.** A text to self connection is when a student relates what they read to their own personal experiences. An example of this is when a student reads a book about a family moving house, and relates the text to their own experiences of moving to a new home. This helps to make the story more meaningful.

2. **Text to text connection.** A text to text connection is when the student relates what they read to other texts. An example of this could be if a student reads a book about a boy who was always playing tricks on people, and makes a connection to a similar character in another book.

3. **Text to world connection.** A text to world connection is when a student relates what they have read to their wider world. Texts could be in the form of a book or a visual text such as a television documentary or a movie. An example of this might be if a student saw the movie Whale Rider, in which whales become stranded on a beach, and make a connection to that happening in real life.

*How does Making Connections help Reading Comprehension?*
Making connections helps students relate the text to their own prior knowledge. The more connections, the more likely the student is to comprehend the text. For example, if a student is reading a book about snorkeling and they have had that experience, they are more likely to make meaningful connections than a person who has not had that same experience.

Making connections helps to deepen comprehension and create personal links with what is being read. These connections impact on a student’s motivation to read.

*Language we use when Making Connections:*
**Text to Self**
- That part reminds me of ________.
- I remember when ________.
- That makes me think of the time when ________.
- That happened to me once ________.
- I think I would have felt differently from ________ because ________.
- That part is similar to in my life because ________.

**Text to Text**
- I read another book like this one ________.
- This reminds me of another book I read ________.
- A character who is like ________ is ________ from the book ________ because ________.
- I have already read about this in ________.

**Text to World**
- Similar things happen in the real world, like when ________.
- This is different from things that happen in the real world because ________.
- I read/saw a book/article/film/TV show about this topic ________.
There is an old saying that a picture is worth a thousand words. When it comes to comprehension, this saying might be paraphrased, ‘a visual display helps readers understand, organize, and remember some of those thousand words’. – Duke and Pearson (2002)

Visualising is when a reader uses their prior knowledge and experiences to create a mental image of what is happening in the text. Visualising is also sometimes called sensory imaging, creating images, pictures in your mind or ‘the movie in your head’. It may be helpful for some students to actually close their eyes and imagine what is being read.

The reader may use all of their five senses to make the story come alive. Visualising helps the reader to connect with and become part of the story – which creates that special magic of reading.

It is important that students realize that everyone creates their own images in their head. There are no right or wrong images, but students must use the clues in the text to create their pictures.

How does Visualising help Reading Comprehension?
Visualising supports comprehension as students create their own mental images of what they are reading. By doing this, they feel more connected to the story, enjoy the story more and understand it more deeply. Visualising is also useful for self-monitoring. If the ‘movie in your head’ stops, meaning has broken down and you will need to use a strategy to regain understanding.

Language we use when Visualising:
- In my mind I can see ________.
- I can imagine ________.
- The movie in my head shows ________.
- The image I see in my head is ________.
- I can just taste the_______.
- I can feel the_______.
- I can hear the_______.
- I can smell the_______.

Rainbow Beach State School Sporting Stars
Last week we had four students head into Gympie to compete at the Gympie Zone Sporting Trials for Soccer, Rugby League and Tennis.

Archie, Ruby (soccer), Billy Bob (Rugby League) and Rose (Tennis) all did themselves and their families proud with excellence performances at the trials.

Ruby was fortunate enough to gain selection in the Girls Soccer Team. On behalf of the school I would like to offer our congratulations and wish her the best of luck in her efforts to gain selection in the Wide Bay team at the Wide Bay School Sport Winter Carnival in Hervey Bay next term.

Cross Country
Today we held our annual Cross Country race. It was a great day and once again the students did themselves proud with their determination and pride in their own performance. It was great to see our students focused on doing their best and supporting their houses by simply having a go and doing their best.

I would like to thank all of the staff for helping out on the day and ensuring our students remained safe during this event.

Our winning house for the day was COOLOOLA!!
From today we will select students to travel into Gympie for the Gympie Zone Cross Country to be held in April. Keep a look out in our first newsletter next term for the names of the athletes chosen to represent our school at this event.

Our Age Champions are listed below:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Boy Champion</th>
<th>Girl Champion</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Years</td>
<td>Sebastian</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 years</td>
<td>James</td>
<td>Zarya</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 Years</td>
<td>Oakley</td>
<td>Ruby</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Years</td>
<td>Connor</td>
<td>Zoe</td>
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<td>9 Years</td>
<td>Alex</td>
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<td>10 Years</td>
<td>Nathan</td>
<td>Jasmin</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Years</td>
<td>Clive</td>
<td>Annie</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Years</td>
<td>Charlie</td>
<td>Ruby</td>
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Well done to all of our Age Champions and of course to all of the students in Cooloola house.

**Egg Guessing Competition**
The winner of our Egg guessing competition was Sunny. It was a great day for Sunny last Friday and what better way to celebrate your birthday then with a giant jar of chocolate eggs!

**Australia Zoo**
Our whole school trip to Australia Zoo is next Tuesday 22 March. This will be a great day and as a school we are all looking forward to exploring the park and learning more about the animals in our world on the day. Payment and permission forms are due to the office by this Friday the 18th of March. If for any reason you are having any difficulty with making payment for this trip by Friday, please contact the office and we will help in any way we can.

I would like to thank Mr. Mileson for organising the visit to Australia Zoo.

A note will be sent home later this week with times and equipment reminders.
For those families with annual passes we have been informed that students can use their annual passes on the day and as such you will not have to pay the $20 entry fee. Please let Alice know if you have an annual pass, so we can adjust the invoices accordingly.

**Road Safety**
We have had several reports in the last month of students having near misses on our roads. We have spoken about this on parade and would like all of our families to again remind our students that they need to take all due care when on and around the roads.

We have spoken to the students about the importance of dismounting from their bikes to cross the roads especially as they cross Carlo Road at the crossing and also Rainbow Beach Road. Last Friday we encouraged all of the students to cross Rainbow Beach Road away from the intersection with Double Island Drive and to move closer to the Hardware store or up toward the IGA to ensure they and the cars have a better view.

We also spoke to students about waiting until the traffic is clear and not crossing when one car has waved them over. The concern here is that the car travelling in the other direction or behind the stopped car may not be aware of what is happening and the children could be putting themselves at risk. We have asked the students to wave the cars through and simply wait until there is no traffic before crossing the road.

**Gympie Young Leaders Day**
The school leaders will be travelling into Gympie with myself and Ms. McColl on Wednesday to participate in the Gympie Young Leaders Day. This is a great opportunity for our student leaders to meet and work with the leaders of all the schools in Gympie.

We will be leaving the school at 7:15am on Wednesday and returning at approximately 4:00pm.

**Building Better Communities Day**
Our 5/6 class will be travelling to Gympie East SS on Friday 18th of March to participate in the Building Better Communities Day. This is a Gympie Regional Council program delivered in partnership with the Brisbane Broncos. It involves a range of personal development and education sessions in schools on topics such as diet, lifestyle, binge drinking, drugs, team building, volunteering and more.

The program is being delivered by former Brisbane Broncos player Darren Burns. Local police and counselling practitioners will be involved in the development and delivery of sessions to students.

Students will also be participating in educational talks and physical exercise on the day.

We will be leaving the school at 7:45am and returning at approximately 3:00pm on the day.

Please return your permission notes as soon as possible.

**Running Club**
Running Club has started up again. So far it has been going for two weeks and has been a great success. We have had over 25 students at each session and many more joining us for Breakfast afterwards.

I would like to say a big thank you to Michelle Gilmore, Dee White, Fiona Worthington, Chappie Ronnie and all of the other parent and community volunteers who have come in to help out each week.
I would also like to thank all of the local businesses that have kindly donated the food for breakfast each week. Your support of the school is always greatly appreciated and ensures we are able to organise such great initiatives as the Running Club for our kids. Keep a look out for the line up of celebrity chefs we have coming to Running Club this year. Our first mystery chef is making bacon and egg muffins this Thursday.

**Holidays**

As this is the last newsletter before the holidays I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and happy Easter break and I look forward to seeing you all in the new term.

**Mr Micheal Grogan**

Principal

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>16th March</td>
<td>Gympie Young Leaders Day</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>17th March</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting 3:00pm RBSS admin staffroom</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>18th March</td>
<td>National Day of Action against Bullying &amp; Violence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>18th March</td>
<td>5/6 Class at Gympie East SS Building Better Communities</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>19th March</td>
<td>P &amp; C Bake Sale for Council Elections</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>24th March</td>
<td>Last day for Term 1</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>25th March</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>11th April</td>
<td>First day for Term 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon – Tue</td>
<td>18th &amp; 19th April</td>
<td>Life Education Van at Rainbow Beach</td>
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<td>Tue – Thurs</td>
<td>10th to 12th May</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>13th May</td>
<td>Gympie Show Holiday</td>
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**PREP CLASS NEWS**

Patterns, patterns and more patterns will be the focus for Mathematics in the Prep room this week and the children absolutely love them. Once we start making and finding patterns it’s hard to stop and we can use all kinds of materials, sounds, movement and drawings to make them.

The children are loving library on Friday mornings so please make sure that they bring their library bags each Friday so that they may choose a new book.

Don’t forget that our class photo will be in the Gympie times on the 23rd of March so that you can get your copy 😊 Our phonics focus for this week are the letters l and u.

As we continue with our Science theme the Hermit crabs are doing very well and surviving all of the attention as well. In our quest to learn about what living things need to survive we have also been growing Mr Grassy Head and we sure have green thumbs. His hair is growing very quickly so he may need a trim in the near future. This week the children have labelled a diagram of Mr Grassy Head in their Science journals and discovered the difference between fact and fiction texts. They have also looked at the way that scientific drawings are different to photos and illustrations in story books.

😊 Lynne, Sarah, Jill, Theresa and Cate
“Students of The Week”

Congratulations
The big Billy Goat was cross. He head-butted the Troll off the bridge.

Luke

The fox was a big fox and the fox was a clever fox. In no time at all, the fox ate the muffin man. I think the wolf is sly because he is spying.

Jake

I think the Superkids are brave and confident because they kicked the giant and turned the giant into the mountains. The picture shows that the Superkids threw the dragon into the lake. The words say that they threw the monster out, out, out into the stars.

Callum

I think the little pigs are ecstatic and loved because the little pig was hugging her mum.

Lily

The littlest Billy Goat crossed the bridge first. I think he is very brave because he tricked the troll. I think the three little pigs are thrilled and jubilant because they scared the wolf.

April

Once upon a time, Ben saw a littlest red dragon with two tails. Ben said, “But he is so lovely!”

Manaia

As soon as Ben saw an orange small dragon with two wings, he said,” But he is so cute!”

As soon as the lady opened the oven, the cheeky gingerbread man ran away.

Oakley

As soon as Ben saw a blue big dragon with four legs and four eyes, Ben said,” But he is so nice!”

Connor

Before long, Ben saw an orange and blue medium- size, dragon with eight eyes.

Dad said, “No, you cannot keep the dragon”.

“But he is so nice!” Ben said.

Amalia

Once upon a time, there were two old people and they decided to make a gingerbread man. Everyone followed the gingerbread man. But soon afterwards, he came across a river. A medium sized delighted fox appeared. It tricked the gingerbread man and ate him.

Ruby

The tiny gingerbread man was concerned when he arrived at the quickly flowing river.

Bailey

Next, the sneaky big fox ate the gingerbread man.

Kody

The littlest Billy Goat was assertive. He crossed the bridge first.

Lylah

The littlest Billy Goat was fearful. Troll scared him. Quickly, the mean middle size fox ate the gingerbread man.

Sunny
The large Billy Goat was very pleased because the little goat and the middle goat got safely across the bridge.

Jahley

The Biggest Billy Goat crossed the bridge last. I think he was brave and assertive because he butted the troll.

Daisy

The troll was under the bridge. He was large, angry and bossy. He was bossy because he wouldn’t let the Billy Goats go past.

Tabitha

Once upon a time, there was a lady and a man. They were cooking a gingerbread man for a snack. When they opened the furnace the gingerbread man jumped out and ran away. He ran to the lake. There was a big fox. The fox let the gingerbread man on his back. Until finally, the gingerbread man got on his head and the fox ate him. The fox was delighted.

Zoe

I think the Superkids are brave and amazing. In the book, they threw the giant over the mountain.

Jimmy

I think the dragon is uncaring because he is making everything brown. I saw it in the picture.

Ashton

The little Billy goat crossed the bridge and ate the sweet green grass.

Murphy

As soon as the fox ate the gingerbread man, he felt clever.

Tiahna

In no time at all, you will be there Gingerbread man and you will be very safe and happy.

Jahli

Mrs. Young and Mrs. Lawler

FUNLANTIS CLASS NEWS

Each year Mr Mileson has his class design flags to represent them as a group. This year, in Funlantis, each student did a brilliant job of designing a flag and competition was close. All flags were voted for by their peers until there was a winner. This year our flag design was won by Kellin Walsh. The orange background represents fun, two light bulbs represent our great ideas. There are twenty nine stars to represent the class including our teacher, Mr Mileson and our teacher aides Mrs Dargusch and Mrs White. On the left hand side of my flag are four extra stars to show the year 4’s and on the right three stars for year 3. The sun represents how we shine and the blue bird represents happiness.

Kellin’s winning flag design. For his efforts Kellin received a ten dollar voucher from the wonderful people of Rainbow Fruits.

Mr Mileson
Welcome to the end of term 1.

Last Friday we had our Easter Disco. It was a great turn out and we raised over $400. It was really nice to see everyone having a great time. We need to thank all the teachers and parents who helped throughout the night. The school leaders did a great job running the games and Easter Egg hunt. A big congratulations to Sunny for his correct guess in the Easter Egg guessing competition. We would also like to congratulate Audrey for winning the Best Easter Bonnet, Ruby for winning Best Dressed and of course Jimmy for his win in the Air Guitar contest. We would also like to thank all of the children who came along and had a great time hunting for eggs and showing us their groovy dancing. I would like to say that we have a very talented group of dancers in the school displaying an impressive range of dance styles from rap to groove to hip hop, not to mention the fantastic air guitar! We look forward to seeing you at our next student council event.

By Annie and Zaraya

Ms McColl and Mr Grogan

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 can 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.

Celebrity chefs are back!

Thanks to the generosity of our wonderful businesses - Brekky Club is back in full swing.

We have our first Celebrity Chefs cooking up a treat this Thursday 17th (St Patricks Day!) - with their specialty, tasty Bacon and Egg Wraps and delicious banana smoothies! Who will it be? Toast, cereal and fruit will also be available.

Cross country for the school is complete, but our runners are still training for zone - and enjoying the fun and fitness, thanks to coaches Dee White and Fiona Worthington. So make sure you get to school for Running Club at 7am or for breakfast from 7.45am and watch them in action! A gold coin donation is welcome. A big thank you to Liz, Andrew and Annie from Rainbow Fruit, Tuppy and Ruth from Foodworks, Scott and Darryl from Rainbow Beach Meats, Sharon and Rod from Ed’s Beach Bakery and Justin, Bernie and Matt from Rainbow Beach IGA for so generously supplying food for the club. Donations of cereal and milk are also very welcome! Drop them off at the tuckshop or office, or contact Chappy Ronnie or Michelle 5486 8597 or to find out more.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no Brekkie Club or Running Club on the last day of term.

P & C Committee
National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence
The sixth National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence is being held this Friday, 18 March 2016. This annual day is Australia’s key anti-bullying event for schools, and encourages all students to ‘take a stand together’ against bullying and violence in schools, the classroom and beyond.

As parents we need to teach our children that the power of one person should never be underestimated and could be the difference between how a child feels about being bullied and the actual reality of what they can do about it. The largest, most powerful group in a bullying situation is the bystander, those people who stand by and watch, yet statistics show that 70% of Australians do nothing to help.

- **Bullying can stop in under 10 seconds if a bystander intervenes.**
  Often in bullying situations, the bystander knows the behaviour is unacceptable and inappropriate, but unless they are asked for help or made to feel they have a responsibility to act, they may silently agree with the bullying or walk away.

- **There are many reasons why bystanders don’t do something:**
  - They don’t know what to do;
  - They are scared;
  - They are afraid of being the bully’s next victim;
  - They don’t know the victim or the bully;
  - They believe that nothing will happen even if they report the bullying.

- **Steps we can teach our children when they see someone being bullied:**
  1. Make a stand - tell the bully that their behaviour is unacceptable.
  2. Report the bullying behaviour and actions to a teacher, parent or trusted adult.
  3. Change the culture by standing up against the bully with others in a reasonable non-aggressive manner. The power of the bully needs to be taken away, thereby disempowering them of their inappropriate behaviour.
  4. Be friendly and supportive to the victim – let them know they are not alone.
  5. Redirect the situation away from the bullying by focusing on other activities.

- **See it, hear it, then STOP IT!**
  Preventing bullying is everyone’s responsibility and business - we all have a responsibility to act to put a STOP to the behaviour!

Chappy Ronnie
Holiday Fun and Movies in the Park

Gympie Regional Council is providing the perfect excuse to get out of the house these school holidays with the Holiday Fun Program. The Holiday Fun program offers a range of budget friendly, new and fun activities for kids of all ages. For all the different activities, dates and times check out holidayfun.com.au or call Council on 1300 307 800. Bookings are essential for some activities, so save your spot now! There will also be FREE Movies in the Park these holidays: Minions – Rated G. So get out and about these school holidays and have some fun for the whole family!

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.