May 17th 2016

Week 6 of Term 2

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I hope the sixth week of the second term is treating you all very well. Within the life of the school the past fortnight has been a very big one.

Last week we saw our year 3 and 5 students complete the NAPLAN testing for 2016. As in previous years I can happily say that all of the students who sat the testing did so with confidence and all worked diligently to do their best. I would like to acknowledge the efforts of our entire school staff in working to ensure the NAPLAN week went off without a hitch. Each year we make considerable changes to teacher aide timetables and require students to move rooms and once again this was done with minimal if any impact on student learning for those students not participating in the NAPLAN testing.

**Attendance**

We have been analysing our schools attendance data and have noticed some real positives in 2016. Each fortnight we have been handing out the attendance trophy and to date this trophy has found its way into the 3/4 classroom for all but one fortnight when it went to the Prep room.

Our attendance data is currently 93%, which is an increase from 90% at the same time in 2015, this is great news as every day really does count. On a daily basis at the moment we still have approximately 6 students away from school, in fact we are yet to have 100% of students at school on the same day this year.

Below I have a table outlining the amount of time missed by students with days absent from school. It really is amazing how quickly the total time can add up and the amount of learning time being missed by students can very quickly become substantial.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If your child misses...</th>
<th>That equals.....</th>
<th>Which is...</th>
<th>And over 13 years of schooling that's.....</th>
<th>Which means the best your child might perform is.......</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 day per fortnight</td>
<td>20 days per year</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly <strong>1.5 years</strong></td>
<td>Your child&lt;br&gt;Equal to finishing in Year 11&lt;br&gt;Other children&lt;br&gt;Equal to finishing in Year 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>40 days per year</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over <strong>2.5 years</strong></td>
<td>Your child&lt;br&gt;Equal to finishing in Year 10&lt;br&gt;Other children&lt;br&gt;Equal to finishing in Year 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 day per week</td>
<td>80 days per year</td>
<td>16 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over <strong>5 years</strong></td>
<td>Your child&lt;br&gt;Equal to finishing in Year 7&lt;br&gt;Other children&lt;br&gt;Equal to finishing in Year 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 day per week</td>
<td>120 days per year</td>
<td>24 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly <strong>8 years</strong></td>
<td>Your child&lt;br&gt;Equal to finishing in Year 4&lt;br&gt;Other children&lt;br&gt;Equal to finishing in Year 3</td>
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Rainbow Ramblings

If you would like your newsletter emailed home please send an email to awils405@eq.edu.au
As you can see the amount of time adds up very quickly. There is a direct correlation with student attendance and student achievement. Put simply the more often we can have students at school, the more likely they will be able to reach their potential.

While we would love to have every child at school every day, we understand that there are many factors that impact on student attendance at school. With the winter months coming up the cold and flu season is beginning to start, it is important for parents to remind students about the importance of good hygiene practices.

If your child needs to be absent for any reason it is important that the school office is notified. The school has an absence line that can be called at any time. The number is 5486 9366.

Consideration and Parking
During last fortnight we have noticed that we have had parents parking in the staff car park and also walking students through the car park before and after school.

I’d ask, just as a very polite reminder, that we are aware, respectful and diligent when it comes to walking through the staff car park. Parking and access to pick-up points/drop off points is not ideal, but we can all ensure we do the best we can with the resources we have.

The staff car park is not a safe place for students to be walking through and we would appreciate your assistance in ensuring you park in the designated areas outside the school and with encouraging the students to always use the footpaths provided when making their way to and from school.

Please be courteous and understanding as we drive, park, pick up or drop off our precious cargo.

Reading
Each fortnight over the first term we have been providing some details about the reading strategies we focus on to allow parents to see why the strategy is important for students to know and be able to use and the types of questions students can ask themselves when using the particular strategy. This fortnight we will be examining Skimming and Scanning.

Skimming
“A pre-reading skim of the text often results in the formation of a hypothesis, based on prior knowledge, about what is going to be covered in the text. Such hypothesis are the beginning of understanding the meaning of the text, with the hypothesis often revised as information in text is encountered during careful reading of the text.” Michael Pressley, What Research Has To Say About Reading Instruction

Skimming is a fast-reading technique where the student glances quickly over a text to get an overall sense of it. It is not necessary to read every word. Titles, headings and pictures may help to get the gist of what the text is about e.g. taking a picture walk through the text is how early readers skim a text to get the gist of what is happening. Reading the first and last sentence of a paragraph can be helpful.

Skimming prepares the reader for what they are about to read. Effective readers use skimming to make decisions about whether the text will meet their needs.

Language we use when skimming
Most of the thinking is done in our heads when we are skim reading.
We may think things like:
- I wonder whether this book will be suitable for my project on __________?
- I wonder if I should get this book out of the library.
- This book looks too difficult/easy for me.
- This book looks interesting.
Scanning
Scanning is a fast-reading technique that is used when looking for specific information in a text. Being able to scan helps students to locate specific information in a text. When the task requires the student to find specific information and not read the entire text, scanning is the most efficient strategy to use.

Language we use when scanning
- I am looking for information about ____________.
- I am trying to find out ____________.
- I want to know ____________.

Some helpful pointers when scanning
- Don’t read every word or every sentence. Let your eyes pass over the text until you find what you are looking for.
- Use clues such as titles, headings, subheadings and words that are written in bold or italic type to help you.
- Use header words in the dictionary to help guide you when searching for word meanings.

Readers Cup
This week we will be getting together two teams of students to compete in the Readers Cup. The Readers Cup is a state wide competition run by the Children’s Book Council each year. It takes the form of comprehension competition, with all questions based on a set book list. The students participating in the Readers Cup will need to read six books. We will travel to Hervey Bay in June to compete in the Wide Bay section of the competition. Should the students do well at this completion, they may get the opportunity to progress to the next level and compete against students from other regions around the state. I would like to thank and acknowledge the Rainbow Beach Sports Club for their generosity in allowing us to use the sports club bus to transport the students to and from Hervey Bay on the day.

2017 Premier’s ANZAC Prize
In 2017, the Premier’s Anzac Prize will once again give eligible Queensland high school students a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience the Anzac tradition firsthand. Applications for the 2017 Prize open on Monday 18 April 2016. For more information, please go to the 2017 Premier’s Anzac Prize page.

Mr Micheal Grogan
Principal

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<th>DATES TO REMEMBER</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday</strong> 20th May</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday</strong> 2nd June</td>
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<td><strong>Friday</strong> 3rd June</td>
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<td><strong>Monday</strong> 13th June</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday</strong> 14th June</td>
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<td><strong>Friday</strong> 24th June</td>
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<td><strong>Monday</strong> 11th July</td>
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PREP CLASS NEWS

During the past fortnight we have been very busy trying to fit everything into the short weeks including our Mother's Day gifts. We worked really hard trying to do our very best to make a beautiful star.

Our sentence writing is coming along nicely and all of the children are working hard to sound out words to create their sentences. The children are also trying really hard to master their letter formation for handwriting.

Again we are very impressed by the children’s preparation for morning talks and the children are asking the presenter some very good questions.

For the next two weeks in Math's we will be looking at location and transformation so if any opportunities to play hide and seek arise please ask children to talk about their position and location.

Lynne, Sarah, Jill and Theresa.
YEAR 1/2 CLASS NEWS

Busy. Busy, busy..... This week I’d like to take the opportunity to thank all our amazing Teacher Aides for their dedication, flexibility and adaptability! We have a very skilled team of aides who are: Mrs Cate White, Mrs Jill Lane, Mrs Sarah Brantz and Mrs Theresa Dargusch. These ladies breeze into our classroom every day with a smile on their dial, a positive attitude and with an amazing willingness to support your child’s learning. Next I must acknowledge Mrs Lawler for all her volunteer hours three days each week to take small maths groups. This enables children to engage in learning more easily. Thanks so much to all these skilled, professional workers in our classroom.

Mathematics work in our room is always through very ‘hands on’ learning episodes. In number the children represent numbers, addition, subtraction and multiples of the same number using blocks, cubes, paddle pop sticks and other concrete materials and by drawing a picture. This is so the child can experience real number and the mathematical processes. With extensive experience with real objects the child can begin to make mental pictures and think more abstractly to move into mental computation. The following is a list of strategies your child is learning to use to help them think and work mathematically:

* using materials – paddle pops sticks, blocks etc.
* drawing a picture
* looking at a number line or counting board
* acting out number situations

These strategies continue to be important support as long as a child needs these resources. Don’t expect your child to work out calculations mentally if they are not at this stage of development. It’s better to say “mmmm.......... what could you use/do to work this out....” And encourage them to choose a strategy as listed above.

Mrs. Young and Mrs. Lawler
As many are you aware the year three students had a busy week recently as they participated in NAPLAN testing. In class they had been using their powers of persuasion to argue their points of view. Below is several samples of our year 3’s work.

People Must Eat More Fruit and Vegetables
It is so necessary that Australians should eat more fruit and vegetables to protect children from sickness. Our health is so necessary to take care of because if you don’t you are asking for your child to suffer from bad foods! Also you are wasting your MONEY on bad food that cost $50 or more when you can pay $2 for a bunch of bananas! Or you can get something way tastier than KFC like a salad sandwich or a juicy apple! You’ll be a bit stupid if you’re not healthy, Soooooo be healthy.
People should definitely eat more fruit and veg because it gives your child vitamins and minerals! Your child must have fruit and veg unless YOU WANT THEM FAT! It gives them the energy they need to get through school but if you don’t have your fruit and veg you could fall asleep in class and fail on your tests.
Your fruit and veg don’t cost that much money, not like fish and chips and nuggets. You are spending money to get your child sick from KFC and other bad foods. Also you are wasting money on your child by buying all of that bad food when you can get something good that’s cheap.
You can get healthy foods for your child that taste way better than junk food. You’ve got to imagine the sweet natural sugar, you don’t want to imagine the junk food! You would throw up. You can also get something healthy and your child likes the taste of it as well.
You should definitely eat more fruit and veg today. They are healthy, don’t cost much and tastes great. Fruit and Vegetables are the best food in the world.
By Alex Eat More Fruit and Veg Kingsley

Everybody Should Recycle
It is absolutely necessary that we recycle because it is for the health of our planet. I strongly believe that everybody must recycle because it reduces the amount of rubbish in our dumps.
It is my belief that we recycle because it uses less energy than making products from new. As you can see it is absolutely crazy if we don’t recycle.
We most definitely should recycle. People could be more educated to put items that can be recycled in the recycling bin. We must recycle because if we recycle you won’t have to take rubbish to the dump. It is my belief that we recycle because if things can be used again they are not rubbish.
I strongly believe that if we recycle we will not need to use valuable land to make more rubbish dumps. It is my belief if we recycle we will not waste our money on expensive things. We most definitely need to recycle because when we recycle fabric we can make new clothes.
I strongly believe that we should recycle. If we recycle items it will use less energy than making them from new. It is absolutely necessary that we recycle because there would be less need to cut down more trees. So recycling can save our natural resources.
Everybody must recycle today. We most definitely should recycle because it makes new things out of old things. We must recycle because it reduces the amount of rubbish in our dumps. I strongly believe that everybody should recycle because it is up to all of us to make a better world.
By Ella Falconer

Mr Mileson

YEAR 5/6 CLASS NEWS
Well done to our year 5s for working so hard last week to complete four NAPLAN tests. Thanks to the year 6s for giving up your work space and moving to the library during the testing time. It's great to see that we are such an adaptable class.
The English unit we are doing at present is “looking at the features of animation”. The students are getting very excited now as we move into the assessment phase of creating a stop motion film. This will be a partnered project and we will be selecting partners by “drawing straws” to keep the selection process unbiased. Once we are finished, feel free to drop in one morning to view your child’s achievements.

Ms McColl and Mr Grogan
**P & C NEWS**

**Brekky club and running club Term 2!**

Don’t forget to come along and join us every Thursday at 7:00am for Running Club and 7.45am for breakfast. All welcome.

Reminders: Kids please bring their gold coin donation.
Parents and friends - please donate milk/cereal/fruit/eggs/cheese etc for the breakfasts and your ideas - very welcome!

*P & C Committee*

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**CHAPLAIN NEWS**

**Kitchen Garden Open Morning Fri 20 May from 10-12**

Everyone is invited to come along to our kitchen garden open morning this Friday 20 May from 10-12, which is part of the Gympie region’s Eat Local Month. If you haven’t already seen one, brochures giving details of all the exciting events happening in May are available from the school office.

Students have been working hard to get the garden looking its best and are looking forward to showing visitors the variety of plants currently growing and other features that helped it win second prize in the recent Gympie Garden Expo’s school garden competition.

Devonshire teas will be for sale featuring scones made by students and rosella jam made from fruit grown in our garden with a choice of coffee, hot chocolate and tea. Rosella plants, jam and herbs will also be for sale.

For families who are new to our school, these photos show the area at the end of the Prep room two years ago, prior to the establishment of our garden.

We have come a long way since then!

*Chappy Ronnie*
Rainbow Beach State School – Kitchen Garden Tours
20 May

Rainbow Beach State School invites you to tour their School Kitchen Garden. Tours will be conducted by the students. Learn about Australian Stingless Native Bees and Bush Tucker Plants. Plants and produce will be available for purchase!

Cost: $5 per person, includes Devonshire Tea served by the students

Where: Rainbow Beach State School, Warooga Street (map ref T3)

Bookings: Ronnie Timperon; phone 0413 135 867 or email ronniet@chappy.org.au

Information: Bring a hat, sunscreen and comfortable closed-in walking shoes