**COMING EVENTS**

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**NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

**Positive behaviour (PBS)**

Our PBS team met yesterday. Members on our team include myself, Mrs Ross, Mrs McKay, Ms Allen, Mrs Wernecke, Uncle Noel and Karen Handford. We looked at data for the month of February. The "BE RESPECTFUL" rule is the one for which the most incidents had been recorded. As a result, we will be focusing our teaching around this rule in the coming weeks. In particular, the following rules will be taught and expected behaviours modelled:

- Keep hands, feet and objects to myself.
- Walking on cement and around buildings.
- Enter and exit rooms (and outside areas) in an orderly manner.
- At the toilets follow the “do your business and mind your business” rule.

It is great to see that the BE SAFE rule had the least number of reported incidents. As we collect more data each month, we will share this with the wider community. It is important that we acknowledge the positive developments!!

Teachers are collating all CLUB AWARDS currently and we will be regularly reporting on these fantastic achievements in our newsletters! Similarly, the various privileges available for each club level will be publicised in the newsletters.

**CURRICULUM AUDIT**

This afternoon I am working with teachers on the findings from our curriculum audit. In all areas, we were rated “medium”. It is our goal to move to high and then to outstanding, and tomorrow I’m meeting with my supervisor, Mrs Andersen, to discuss our planned pathway to achieve this improvement. One of the biggest priorities is the development of new programs in Maths, English and Science which are sequential from Year 1 to Year 9, and which meet all the requirements of the Queensland Studies Authority.

**NAPLAN – National testing in May**

There is only 8 weeks of teaching time until we sit the National tests for literacy and numeracy. Parents are encouraged to support their students through positive praise ie. “you can do it!” and if you wish to, you may like to access any support materials that are available online. Ensuring students do their homework and encouraging them to behave at school are two simple ways to help out!
A MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

I spent most of last week at the Barambah Environmental Centre with student doing leadership training.

My first reaction has been to admire the potential I see in the students in our school. This was evident in the group at the camp but I also see it in other students in our schools. As I talked with one student, I made the point that the issue is not only learning but it is also applying the learning.

So as students, what do we need to do to apply our learning? As adult what do we do to apply our learning and also help the oncoming generations? The first thing is to make sure we learnt the lesson correctly. That means we revise our notes and our memories on what we have been taught. One piece of learning that I am digesting from the camps is the issue of leading from the rear. I have been thinking about this: cogitating on it; and wondering how I can use it in my position.

The second thing to do is to ask the question, “How do I apply this in my situation?”. We need to remember that situations can vary and one solution does not fit all situations. This means that we need to adapt our learning so that we apply it in a relevant way. That means we have to cogitate (= think) before we rush into things.

Thirdly, we need to consider the people who are affected by what we do (and say). It’s not a case of simply what is best for me, but a case of what is best for every one in the group. One group I associate with will not make a final decision until they have complete unity of thinking on a matter. This slows down progress sometimes but it means the group is really united when they make a decision.

Now this started off with a leadership camp. Much of what I wrote applies to leadership. But in my thinking much of what I have written applies to all of life. What I learn at school or uni needs the same process of application. It applies if I’m running my own business; leading a group; or just getting on with living.

Think about it.

“Chappy”
School Chaplain

Call for volunteers for Queensland Ready Readers

Registrations have opened for volunteers to take part in the ‘Queensland Ready Readers’ program to read with children in classrooms across the state.

The program is part of the education green paper A Flying Start for Queensland Children.

The program has been developed based on national and international research that has proven that well-trained and supported community volunteers can make a big difference to children’s learning.

All volunteers will be trained in the “support a reader” process and will be required to go through the standard checks for working with children.

Queensland Ready Readers will be in our school from second semester 2010.

Queensland Ready Readers will be in our school from 2011.

Parents, carers and the wider community can find more information and register their interest on the Volunteering Queensland website at: www.volqld.org.au

Say No to Bullying Day

On Friday 5 March our school will take part in Say No to Bullying Day, a joint initiative of The Courier-Mail and Brisbane’s 97.3FM.

The aim of the day is shine the spotlight on bullying and promote ways to reduce its impact in schools and the community.

To mark the occasion, we’re encouraging our students and staff to wear orange to school on Friday 5 March. Orange is the official colour of the event.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers of our school’s strong stance on bullying.

We strive to provide a safe, supportive and disciplined learning environment for all our students.

We do not tolerate bullying in any form at our school and this is made clear to everyone through our Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students.

If you would like more information on our school’s anti-bullying policies or programs or would like to discuss the matter further please contact the office.

OPSM’S EYE LOVE BOOKS PROGRAM

Eighty per cent of childhood learning is visual yet the Australian Department of Health and Welfare found that eye disorders are one of the most common long term health problems experienced by children. More than 660,000 Australian school aged children have some form of undetected vision defect, but most aren’t aware of the vision issue. They presume the way they see the world is normal, allowing the vision problem to go easily undetected.

To ensure Australian children can see clearly at school, OPSM has developed the Eye Love Books program to encourage parents to take their child for an eye test. Between February 1 and April 1 2010, OPSM will donate $5 worth of books to registered schools for students’ eye tests.

For further information, please visit www.opsm.com.au/prc

SCHOOL IMMUNISATION CLINICS

Pandemic (H1N1) 2009, or human swine flu clinics will be held progressively across the entire state until the end of term 1. Included in today’s RAPP is a letter from Queensland Health and on the reverse side of this letter you will find a list of school immunisations clinics.

Dancefever

Unfortunately, due to a lack of interest, we have had to cancel to Dancefever challenge in Brisbane on 28 March.

SPORTS NEWS

4 Way Meet

Students in year 6-9 will next Tuesday 9 March be competing at the Murgon PCYC against Proston, Goomeri and Kilkivan in the sports of Rebound Volleyball, Cricket, Basketball and Flags. A note should have gone out to all parents, but if you have not been informed, the cost is $5.00 payable at the office by this Friday March 5 together with a medical form and permission note. Please encourage your child to participate in the day, as we only have 2 of these meets each year.

South Burnett trials continue this week, with AFL for u/12’s being held at Taabinga State School on Friday March 5. If your child has an interest and ability here, please send them to have a chat to Mr Grimsley.

Swimming classes continue in the primary school up to year 8. The year 7/8 boys PE start swimming this Friday. Well done to most year 7/8 girls for your efforts over the past few weeks. Sadly, some year 8 girls did not take the opportunity to swim each week. Whilst sometimes we can have excuses that are genuine, don’t make an excuse up for lack of effort. A special mention to Caitlyn Handford in year 7 who is recovering from a broken arm, yet has shown the way with some fantastic efforts in PE both in tennis and swimming. Remember, for anything you do in life, you will only improve if you put the effort in. Caitlyn’s attitude is an example for all Wondai students to get ‘stuck into the task’ whatever it is... Not quit, because I don’t know how to do it, or it’s too hard.

Please primary school parents make sure that your child is prepared for swimming. I have got several students in the school who have forgotten togs on more than one occasion. These lessons are an opportunity for your child to develop some safe water skills and strategies and you are depriving them of this, if you don’t have your child organised for the day.

I would like to say a special thankyou to Jenny Bone, Vicky Evans and Nichol Armstrong, who have helped me out regularly at the pool with our little kids.

Thankyou

Danny Grimsley
Sports Co-ordinator