



THE NEWS



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Deputy Principal: Mark Fowler

HOSES: Leisa Staunton

BSM: Gloria Kenzig

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Issue 2

23rd February 2017

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INFORMATION IN THE OFFICE

- 'Bunda's Dreamtime Playgroup for Indigenous families 'meet n greet' is on Tuesday 7th March 2017 from 9.15-10.15am at UPSS. Morning tea is provided
- Australian Air League Open Day 2017—Sunday 26th Feb 10.00am-2.00pm. Free sausage sizzle. Glenda Lange 0409 089 362 for further information.
- Maryborough BMX come and try day Sunday 26th Feb 9.30-11.30am. Gympie Road Maryborough via Speedway entrance.
- Maryborough Heritage Combined Crafts Inc Bus Trip to South Bank, Brisbane to the Stiches and Craft show. Thursday 23rd March. Departing at 6am Arriving home at 8.15pm. Contact Isabell 41214593.
- Hervey Bay Neighbourhood Centre, Bay Families, Family Support Services 4194 3050
- Little Joeys Playgroup infant—Preprep in playgroup room, Every Monday from 9-11am

DATES TO REMEMBER:

February– March

- 24th - Indigenous Playgroup 9-11am
 - - Junior School Parade
 - - Swimming Y3-6
 - - Free Dress Day, Gold Coin donation
 - 27th - Playgroup 9-11am
- #### March
- 3rd - Indigenous Playgroup 9—11am
 - - Senior Parade
 - - Swimming Y3-6
 - 4th - Senior Choir performing at Pier Centenary
 - 6th - Playgroup 9-11am
 - 7th - Indigenous Meet n Greet
 - 8th - Richard Watt Vision Screening year 1&4

Did you know.....

Student Council Breakfasts are super cheap?

Milo Cereal \$1

Toast Slice 20c

Hot or cold Milo \$1



Available Monday to Friday



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Caregivers,
 Welcome to the latest edition of the 2017 school year. The school has finally has our staffing allocation confirmed and last week we restructured the school to accommodate 21 classrooms. There has been a new classroom added to the school with Prep/1U being taught by Mr Darran Upton with Mrs Adele Dixon assisting him as his teacher's aide. Miss Blanche O'Dell joined the team as the 1P (Mrs Casey Walton) teacher aide. Additionally, a growth in Mytherine (our Special Needs Program) has seen an opportunity to add another teacher aide to join us in the coming week.

As a result of the restructure, our average class size is only marginally over 23 students per class with all year levels having vacancies. Next week will see Mrs Tara Jenkins go on maternity leave, and we wish her well for the rest of the year. She will be replaced by Mr Noel Madden. This creates a unique situation where our school will have a male teacher teaching every year level from Prep through to Year 6.

This year we have four Explicit Improvement Agenda target areas:

- Whole school improvement in Reading and Numeracy;
- Increased number of students in the Upper Two Band in Naplan testing;
- Improved Attendance; and
- Increased performance for students with disabilities.
 Additionally, this year we will be providing this Service Guarantee (ie. promise) to all parents and caregivers of our school –
"Every student will have a teacher read to them, every day."

A reminder to all members of our community of relevant school routines;

* All students who ride their bikes/scooters (wearing a helmet) are to enter and exit using the Miller Street double gate entrance and are not to be on their bikes in the school grounds.

* All students who are sick or injured must report to the office with a First Aid Form (pink in colour). These can be collected from duty and classroom staff.

* Parades are now spilt across a three week cycle with the Junior Parade (Prep-Grade 3) being held on Weeks 5 & 8. Senior Parades on Weeks 6 & 9 and Whole School Parades held in Weeks 7 & 10. They will still be on Fridays from 2:15pm-3:00pm.

* Next week from Wednesday 1st March until Friday 3rd March, I will be at the Gold Coast Convention Centre at the Bi-annual Queensland Principal's Conference. Mr Fowler will be covering my absence as Acting Principal and Mr Col Killer will be assisting next Wednesday with student support.

* All school playground equipment especially those outside of the Prep Classrooms is out of bounds before and after school for all children due to Workplace, Health and Safety requirements.

ATTENDANCE:

Our school, like all others in Queensland, follows the mantra that "Every Day Counts". In other words, students need to attend as many school days as possible, if they are able develop to their full potential. Our school will be again carefully watching the attendance rates of every class and there will be prizes given to the top 3 classes after Week 9. Currently, there is only 3% separating the top 10 classes with the school's attendance rate sitting at 90.3% with our target for the year being 93%.

Here are the TOP 5 classes: 1P – 98.63%, 2U – 98.27%, 1U – 97.11%, 3U – 97.07% & Prep U – 97.03%.

RESOURCE SCHEME:

Just a quick reminder that the school's Resource Scheme covers all sporting activities, swimming lessons included. If your child is swimming this term, please ensure that parents complete the permission forms asap so they can attend. Additionally, with the Rewards Day fast approaching, and the school now funding these activities, only students who are complying with our Responsible Behaviour Plan and are financial for the term, will be eligible to attend.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM:

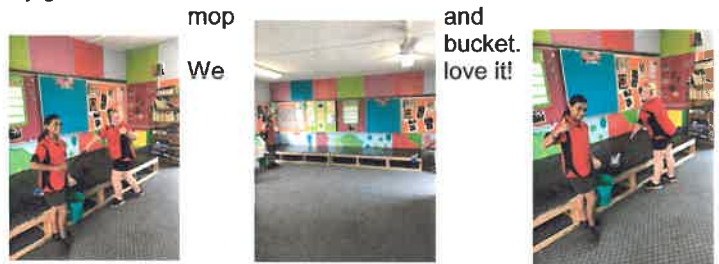
This week I have had the pleasure of ordering a double bass cello. This instrument will allow our students to complete their string ensemble and further strengthen our program. As the instrument has a value of over \$1700, funding was sourced from the UPSS P&C Committee and the school's Student Council. On behalf of our IM Program, I sincerely thank both groups in assisting in this purchase.

Finally, I would like to thank the Prep staff for their student display in the Admin foyer and look forward to the Year 1 work which will be on display as of next Monday. I invite all parents and students to take some time to walk through the Admin Block so you can view the outstanding work that our students produce.

Enjoy your fortnight,
 Damien Gainsford
 Principal

DRAMA

The drama space now has a stage! Thank you to Ms Brydie who organised it's purchase from Bayside Church and to Mr Fred, Mr Chapman, Mr Atkinson and Mr Robb for moving it. Ms Bailey was very grateful when Emma and Lakodaa came to the rescue with



Principal: Damien					
Date	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
27/2 - 3/3	12.15-1.15pm Leadership Meeting	10.00-10.30am Meeting HOC	Principals Meeting –All Day	Principals Meeting—All Day	Principals Meeting—All Day
6/3—10/3	12.15-11.15pm Leadership Meeting	10.00-10.30am Meeting HOC 12.00-3.00pm Principals Meeting Hervey Bay RSL	10.00-10.30am Meeting with Leisa Staunton 3.15pm Staff Meeting		1.25-1.40pm Detention Room Duty 2.15pm Parade
DP —Mark					
27/2-3/3	12.15-1.15pm Leadership Meeting	10.00-11.00am Supervising Solid Pathways Yr6 1.25-1.40pm Detention Room	PD Sunshine Coast—All Day		1.25-1.40pm Detention Room 2.15pm Parade
6/3-10/3	2.55-3.15pm Bus Duty	1.25-1.40pm Detention Room	11.15-11.40am Detention Room duty 3.15pm Cluster Meeting		1.25-1.40pm Detention Room Duty 2.15pm Parade

NEWS FROM YEAR 1

We have been very busy in the past weeks, learning new routines, structures and responsibilities. We are all working hard in groups during the reading hour and love the parent helpers who have been able to assist at these times.

We have been learning about the features of 'Insects and Arachnids'. We are very excited to begin our 'worm farm' in coming days and to develop skills in caring for them. In health, we have had visitors to our classroom. These visitors are people in our school who help us to keep safe, healthy and happy. Thankyou to all the adults who help us each day and provide for us. We are very lucky!

The first 4 weeks have seen us explore and experiment with colour, line and texture in art. We have created some beautiful insects, while exploring with warm and cool colours. Come in and check them out!

Year 1 Teachers

CHAT WITH CHAPPY BRYDIE:

Hi all! For those who don't know me, I am Brydie our school Chaplain. It's my job here at UPSS to be a listening ear and to connect people in our community to support if needed. If your child is going through a tough patch and needs some extra support, feel free to contact me or let your teacher know. If you, as a parent, are seeking some support the offer extends to you also!

PROTECTING THE GREASE TO THE ENGINE: Relationships with our children can be likened to grease in the engine. We can force the engine to keep running without the grease it needs but the ride won't be pleasant and it certainly won't last long. With the twists and turns that the road of life may present, we need to know we have a vehicle that will not only make the distance but in comfort. As parents we grapple with our own expectations, as well as those society places on us, which can make the task of "growing kids" an overwhelming experience. These expectations might be growing kids who show respect, honour and care and the pressure is to let this be seen at all times. Teaching and ensuring these values are the train tracks that guide my children certainly hasn't been an easy task for my family. I was initially shocked to find that my colourful explanations of why we need honour were not embraced by my own kids. I will admit that the times when I saw my kids blatantly shut my explanations down and stomp on my expectations had me losing my cool. It is challenging to feel like you have to take control and make your children take the right path, especially when society demands so. The moments when I caved to these fears and pressures, I failed to realise that acting in fear shut down the relationship (the grease to our engine) with my kids and the safe place where I could demonstrate how I wanted them to live. The challenge I ask myself this week is: Is our engine built for comfort and longevity or are we just going through the motions ready to snap? Am I modelling to my kids a connection of honour, respect and love or instead am I forcing the drive to reactions of anger, disappointment and fear? DID YOU KNOW 10 MINUTES OF PLAYING WITH YOUR CHILD HELPS BUILD CONNECTION AND UNRAVELS THEIR TENSION?

HAPPY ACTIVITIES- TERM 1

- Bright Breakfasts- Wednesdays 8:15 @ Alcatraz
- Drumbeat program
- JTeam Kids@Wed lunch
- Coffee Chatter- For parents some Monday afternoons near the tuckshop.

MUSIC

Welcome back everyone to a wonderful new year. Just a reminder that if your child is a Year 4 or 5 and is not on the Resource Scheme, you must purchase your own recorder so they can fully participate in the music program.

CHOIR

Both Junior and Senior Choirs have been busy learning some new songs. Just a reminder that Junior Choir is now on Monday and Senior Choir is on Thursday.

If you wish to purchase a choir uniform please go to the office. The cost is \$20. If you wish to hire a uniform the cost is \$5.00. A letter for hiring uniforms will be going home soon.

Unfortunately, students will no longer be allowed to wear the choir uniform to school on choir days. These uniforms will only be worn on performance days.

The Senior Choir will be performing at the Pier Centenary on Saturday the 4th of March at 11.15am. A letter about the performance will be going home today.

STRINGS

I would like to welcome Anneliese Salisbury to our school. Our strings program is well underway. Those students who are involved in the Ensemble must bring their instruments and music each Wednesday morning at 8.00am to the music room.

We have been very fortunate to receive a double bass cello. Both the P&C and Student Council have helped fund this purchase. Having a double bass will now enable our school to make an ensemble and open our options for Eisteddfods.

HOC UPDATE:

Homework Helpers - Grade 5 Lingo Update

Personification is a figure of speech in which a thing, an idea or an animal is given human attributes. The non-human objects are portrayed in such a way that we feel they have the ability to act like human beings.

Dannyell in grade 5 provides a lovely example for us:

The trees shaded the river as it ran and jumped,
while the clouds hovered in the sky.
The crystal clear water crashed against the tall shady
mountains as the blue birds sang. The trees tasted the fresh
water as it splashed them.

Solid Pathways & Intensive Reading Intervention

If your child has been selected to be a part of Solid Pathways or the Intensive Reading Intervention Program you should have received a letter. Its important that you return this to the school as soon as possible.

Andrew Nye

MASTER TEACHER NEWS:

The speech sound monsters have invaded Prep S!! Students are very enthusiastic about learning the SSP speech sound monsters which is a vital way to learn how to hear the speech sounds in words. This week they are building words through a set process called monster mapping.

Step 1: Students choose a visual prompt—sip
They duck hand the word and blend the sounds together

They go back to their desk and choose the speech sound monsters and build the word.

Step 2:

Place the lines and the numbers under the speech sound monsters and say the sounds as they do this.

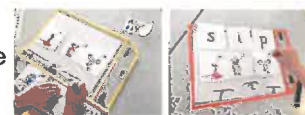
Step 3:

Students duck hand the word again and choose the speech sound pic (letter choice) that match the sound.

Step 4:

Students take off the speech sound pic card (letter choice) off and have a go at writing it on their card.

The SSP approach builds phonemic awareness and phonics together in a fun, child centred way!



STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT:

Last Wednesday, the Student Council attended a full day of leadership activities involving around 370 other student leaders from the area.

It was a wonderful experience and certainly a privilege to see our student leaders participating so well in all of the events.

Next Friday, we have our first free dress fundraiser in support of several students who have been selected to represent Queensland in their chosen sports. A gold coin donation to assist these students towards travel costs would be greatly appreciated.

With the assistance of Mr Chapman and Miss Alicia, Breakfast Club is continuing to be more and more popular each week, so if you need breakfast on the go, it's available Monday to Friday from 8.30am at the canteen. Please remember it closes at 8.50am to allow time for our student leaders to prepare for their day.

Further fundraising being undertaken by our Student Council is the

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sale of icy-cups on Friday afternoons from 3pm. Student leaders make these in their own time to generate funding for initiatives to give back to the school. Icy-cups are available at the prep area near the prep playground and also near the administration/ bike rack area exit.

Thank you for supporting our Student Council,.

Andrew Robb




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