Welcome to the new school year, especially 100+ new families and staff who have joined us.

**New Staff**
A special welcome to:

- Miss Katie Clewett Yr 3KC transferred from Caloundra SS,
- Miss Nicole Murphy Yr 3NM transferred from Heatley SS,
- Ms Sue Thompson Yr 5JT Thursdays
- Mr Ron Turner Instrumental Music (Tuesdays)

And to those who have returned from leave: Mrs Tammie Moranino teaching with Mrs Jensen in 6/7JM and Mrs Dani Becker who is teaching with Mrs Edmondson in PBE.

This year our total teaching + support staff is 72, all working together to provide positive opportunities and outcomes for your children. We look forward to working with you throughout the year to make a difference.

**What is the research telling us?**
A significant body of research has identified the major influences on learning achievement. These findings are food for thought. It does emphasize that we all play a role in supporting children achieve their potential.

Whilst your children were enjoying the final days of their holidays, teachers returned as learners engaging in workshops with respected educational psychologist Dr Neil Carrington. We explored and reflected on: our mental approaches to leadership and management in and out of the classroom; who is leading the learning in our classrooms; and teaching practices that have the greatest effect on student learning.

Over the coming weeks we will share with you the evidence based teaching practices being implemented in classes across the school.

**Student Leaders**
Congratulations to this year’s School Captains—Darcy Larkin and Jasmine Main, and Vice-Captains—Howard McDonald and Holly Moore. These students received their badges at the end of 2012. The Student Council representatives (2 per class in Years 4-7) elections will be held during the next two weeks. Year 7 School Leaders will be finalised after that. The successful applicants will be inducted at a whole school assembly shortly. Our student leaders (School and House captains and Student Councillors) will be attending the Impact Student Leadership Conference in Mackay on Monday 18 February. Please look out for permissions forms and further details.

**HOC Report**
What’s new in Curriculum? This year your children will be learning History. Some of you may recall Social Studies, or SOSE, in which History was just one element. With the National Curriculum being first implemented last year in English, Mathematics and Science, in 2013 the Key Learning Area of History joins these ranks.

The History curriculum is intended to develop students’ curiosity and imagination. It is seen as an essential characteristic of any society, and fundamental to understanding ourselves and others. It promotes the understanding of societies, events, movements and developments that have shaped humanity from earliest times. It helps students appreciate how the world and its people have changed, as well as the significant continuities that exist to the present day.

You can expect that your children, in learning History, will develop skills such as the ability to ask relevant questions; critically analyse and interpret sources; consider context; respect and explain different perspectives; develop and substantiate interpretations, and communicate effectively.

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**Term 1 Calendar**

**07 February**
Day 8 Enrolment Collection

**08 February**
Student Resource Scheme payments due

**11 February**
Spelling Mastery commences Yr 1 – 7

**12 February**
Assembly-Whole of school – P-3 awards

**19 February**
Assembly-Whole of school – 4-7 awards
Band rehearsal starts – 8am

**COMMUNICATION**

School Newsletter – fortnightly on Wednesdays

School Website www.proserpnss.eq.edu.au

Email: the.principal@proserpnss.eq.edu.au

Interviews – please arrange with teachers through office staff.

Reporting:
Parent-Teacher Conferences early Term 2 and late Term 3.
Report Cards issued end of Term 2 & 4.

Appointments:
Should parents wish to talk to a member of the Administration Team, please contact the office for an appointment.
After all, “Those who do not learn from History are doomed to repeat it.” (George Santayana)

FYI, the students in Years 2-5 will participate in Swimming Lessons this term. This will be in lieu of afternoon sport and, given the weather we’ve been having, I know I’d rather be in the cool pool than on the oval!

Students...Win a Prize!

Write about why school is a great place. Drop your text into the competition box in the Office OR email it as an attachment to Idoug20@eq.edu.au. Make sure you include your name and class. The best entry will receive a prize and certificate on assembly in Week 4. Start writing!

Music

Music classes have resumed for 2013 and it is lovely to see all the familiar faces and welcome new ones to the school. We have a very busy year of singing, dancing, creating and playing instruments ahead of us. Students from Years 4-7 are required to have a Music book and folder and Years 5-7 a Yamaha recorder. Year 4 will use school recorders. However, if you purchase a recorder for your child please ensure it is a Yamaha if it is to be brought to school.

Choirs: Yr6/7 choir will start on Wednesday 13 February.

This choir has been invited to participate in the 21st Regional Choral Festival in Mackay. Compulsory rehearsals in Mackay are on Sunday 24 March and Tuesday 26 March culminating in a performance on the Tuesday evening at Mackay Entertainment Convention Centre. The Festival is a non-competitive event, which gives students the opportunity to sing with a massed choir and receive direction from a well-known conductor from Brisbane. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students and one which they thoroughly enjoy. Students will need to commit to rehearsals at school in order to learn the repertoire. This initially will be two lunchtimes per week. Please encourage your child to participate if there is an interest.

Yr4/5 Choir will start later this term to sing with the 6/7 choir for the ANZAC ceremony at school.

Junior Choir, Years 2 & 3, starts in Term 2.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

We would like to welcome Mr Ron Turner as our Instrumental Instructor for 2013. Classes for new students to the program will be on Monday afternoons at the High school for semester one. Returning students will have classes on Tuesdays. Students have timetables which should be kept in their Instrumental A4 music folder. Students must bring their folders, music books, instruments, recorders etc to lessons. When band resumes, (Mr Turner hopes this will be very shortly), rehearsals will be held in the new multi-purpose complex on Tuesdays at 7.45am and 11.45am. Band children will need to bring their music stands on this day. Stands are not required for lessons.

Please remember, Student contributions for Instrumental Music are due in week 3 of this term. Please pay these at the school office. Looking forward to a very musical year. – Mrs Scotford

HPE – Health & Physical Education

Preparations are well under way for another big year of sport at our school in 2013.

Sports Days

We value the promotion of physical activity. Sports afternoons are Wednesday (Years 3/4), Thursday (Years Prep/1/2), Friday (Years 5/6/7), weather permitting. Children are to wear their sports uniform (House Colour) on these days; Cook (blue), Flinders (yellow), Kennedy (green), Oxley (red). All students new to the school will be allocated a sports house during the first two weeks of school. Kennedy shirts are available from the Uniform Shop.

In Term 1, Years 2 – 5 swimming lessons will be in lieu of sports afternoons.

On Friday the Year 5 to 7 students had the opportunity to participate in the selection process to decide on our sporting leaders for this year. A small group of student leaders gave short speeches on why they would be great ambassadors for their sporting house. I congratulate all candidates for the effort they made in preparing and presenting quality speeches.

The results of the selections are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House</th>
<th>Captains</th>
<th>Vice Captains</th>
<th>Captains</th>
<th>Vice Captains</th>
<th>Captains</th>
<th>Vice Captains</th>
<th>Captains</th>
<th>Vice Captains</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oxley House</td>
<td>Veronica Roberts</td>
<td>Ben Young</td>
<td>Amy Hungerford</td>
<td>Amy Hungerford</td>
<td>Jayden Lane</td>
<td>Cameron Brown</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flinders House</td>
<td>Ben Young</td>
<td>Amy Hungerford</td>
<td>Byllie Leigh Burgess</td>
<td>Victoria Cowan</td>
<td>Cameron Brown</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cook House</td>
<td>Jayden Lane</td>
<td>Victoria Cowan</td>
<td>Alicia Adam</td>
<td>Cameron Brown</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kennedy House</td>
<td>Marina Lapico</td>
<td>Tatum Martin</td>
<td>Lilly Wood</td>
<td>Tatum Martin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At present the representative sport calendar is being finalised for 2013. Students who are turning 11 or 12 in 2013 have the opportunity to be selected in a variety of different sporting teams throughout the year. These representative teams start at a Proserpine District level and progress through to possible selection in Whitsunday, Northern Region and Queensland sporting teams. Selection in these teams is a privilege and is based not only on sporting talent but also on the student’s ability to consistently uphold our school expectations of being Safe, Friendly, Respectful and a Learner.

As an Education Queensland requirement, part of the selection process requires students to have a completed Project Consent form on file at our school. Shorty, all students in Year 5 to 7 will receive a Project Consent form. This form basically gives information on whether there is, or is not, parental consent for the child’s name / image to be used in relation to sporting activities sanctioned by Education Queensland e.g. trial programs, newspaper articles. We ask that families complete this form and return it to the school. Once returned, the form is kept on file as it only needs to be completed once regardless of the number of sporting teams made. Principal permission to participate in district and regional trials cannot be given unless this form is on file.

Our 2012 Coles Sport for Schools vouchers have finally been validated. A big thank you to all those families that supported this initiative last year. The school would sincerely like to thank Stef Nuskie and Julie McDonald for their huge effort in collating the vouchers. A variety of items have been ordered to be utilised in a range of activities including afternoon sport, school camps, lunch times and PE lessons.

Yours in sport - Mr Nosworthy

Special Education Services

A big welcome back to children and parents from the Special Education Team! Our friendly staff includes special education teachers, teachers, Guidance Officer, teacher aides, therapists, and administration team working together to provide the most appropriate learning experiences possible. Through caring and professional staff members we aim to provide support and a curriculum that caters for all ability groups, taking into consideration a range of individual needs and abilities.

By working together we can ensure that our students will receive success. Please feel free to drop in and say hello or arrange to discuss your child’s progress at any time. Deb Raiteri - Acting Head of Special Education
**PSS Newsletter 13 March 2013**

**SWPBS – Schoolwide Positive Behaviours Support – supporting your child being safe**

**What actions do you take if your child reports that he/she is being bullied at school?**

1. Take the time to listen to your child and ask the following questions: Has this unwanted attention occurred on several occasions? (If the answer is No then it is a one-off behaviour incident and not bullying).

Did you try ignoring the person? Did you ask them to stop? (If they did, and it did not occur again, then once again it is not bullying). Did you walk away from them? If the person continued to do it, or it has occurred on several occasions, did you report it to a staff member at school?

**STOP WALK TALK**

Children must not be directed to retaliate as this escalates the incident.

2. Curtail the need to contact the offender’s parents or to make direct contact with the offending child – this can exacerbate situations and create ill-will among families, and destroy the opportunity for the students to build a bridge and become more socially compatible.

3. If indeed you believe your child is being bullied please phone the school and inform the Principal, Deputy Principal or Behaviour Management teacher. We do not tolerate bullying at this school but we need to be informed (ideally by the student) so that we can take action to eliminate it. Bullies are covert and their deeds are always carried out when adults are not watching.

We have several books in our library which focus on resilience building to support children in managing bullies. One such book “Beating the bullies” was donated by a parent who found it very effective in supporting her child. This is available for parents to borrow along with other books purchased by our P&C. Mrs Gardel

**School Welfare Officer**

This is a new role at Proserpine State School and funded through the Federal Government’s School Chaplaincy/Welfare Officer Program. Susan Lewis will work in our setting on Mondays and Tuesdays. Susan’s role is to support children’s attendance at school. Susan will work with children and support/link with their parents/carers to foster positive school experiences. Please contact the school office to speak with Susan if she can help you with your child’s daily attendance at school.

**Tuckshop**

Hello all and welcome back for 2013. Hope you all had a wonderful break. The Tuckshop is back up and running again with lots of healthy summer fare and cold drinks and ice creams to keep you cool. Hopefully you all kept your menu from last year as everything will remain the same at this stage except the jelly cups price has changed to 60c due to a price rise on the containers. Also, Hot Chocolates and Raisin Toast won’t be available until the cooler months. Just a reminder to all the parents, if your child goes home sick and has ordered Tuckshop, please call by and see us. If we have prepared the food you can take it with you or refund you if the food hasn’t been cooked yet. Unfortunately we cannot give you a refund if the food is prepared and left behind. For health and safety reasons if it is not collected it will be thrown out. Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who helped us out last year and we are looking forward to hopefully seeing you again in the “Hub” this year. We are looking forward to another very busy year in the Tuckshop and welcome all parent help both old and new whether it is for just an hour of your time or a full or half day. We have a roster available with plenty of gaps to fill, so drop in anytime for a chat and a coffee and see if there is a day and/or time that suits you. The kettle is always hot in the “Hub”, Kind Regards The Tuckshop Ladies

**SCHOOL ORGANISATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bells are rung at</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:40am</td>
<td>Library is open. Preparation for classes. Students may enter classroom if teacher is present. Play ceases and children prepare for lessons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>School commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td>Morning Tea (Eating Time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45am</td>
<td>Morning Tea (Play Time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:10am</td>
<td>Play ceases and children prepare for lessons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:40am</td>
<td>Spelling mastery (commences Wk 3 – Year 1-7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00pm</td>
<td>Lunch (Eating Time) Yrs P-3 Play time Yrs 4-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15pm</td>
<td>Lunch (Eating Time) Yrs 4-7 Play Time Yrs P-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30pm</td>
<td>Play ceases and children prepare for lessons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>School Ceases (home/buses)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DAY 8**

Staffing and class placements will be finalised after Day 8 (Thursday 07 February), enabling all classes to be set for the year. On Day 8, our student enrolment numbers are counted and teaching staff numbers are confirmed for the year by Education Qld. If necessary, there may be some adjustments to classes after Day 8 to ensure that all groupings are within class size limits. We anticipate only minor changes to occur to student placement – balancing class size numbers. Should your child be moved on Day 8, you will be contacted beforehand and the move supported by our staff to ensure a smooth transition.

**TRAVEL**

Buses—Please inform the school of any changes to bus travel.

**Severe Weather Conditions**

It is highly probable that we will experience some extreme wet weather patterns over the coming weeks and months. Even though we need students to attend school every day for maximum learning time, parents are asked to err on the side of caution when extreme weather conditions present and consider whether to send children to school on these days. Student and staff personal safety are paramount on these occasions. Buses may have to transport children home early due to the weather conditions. New policy requires schools to contact parents by phone to ensure that they are available to collect their child/children from the bus stop. We have more than 300 bus students. We do not have the physical capacity to notify parents that buses are leaving early. If children are at school and the bus companies decide to send particular buses home due to extreme weather, students will remain at school and parents will need to collect them. Local radio
stations will be utilized to inform of early bus departures. We also encourage phone trees be utilized by bus committees, so that we have some communication. We have a school Facebook page. If you “like” our school, we will also send messages via Facebook for flood alerts.

**Payment for Bus Travel** — If students are not eligible for free travel, then students need to pay to catch the school buses. Students can only have free travel if they meet the Qld Transport Guidelines with regard to their residential status i.e. children live within that location all the time. We have some students who sometimes go home on buses with friends for weekends etc. These students are not eligible for free transport and bus drivers will request payment of fares. Parents should make prior arrangements with the Bus Company (Whitsunday TransIt 49461800) to obtain prepayed tickets if travelling regularly.

**Cars** — School Zones (7.00—9.00am, 2.00—4.00pm / 40km/hr) in Sterry St, Ruge St, Stanbury St and Renwick Rd. (Police regularly patrol during these times. Only authorized vehicles are to enter the school grounds at any times—staff, Tuckshop helpers, delivery vehicles, collecting ill children. **Children should not be dropped off or collected inside school grounds.**

**Bikes**—Bicycles must be walked once entering grounds and parked in racks provided.

**Scooters and Skateboards**

Students should not come to school on scooters or skateboards. They are items that cannot be secured.

**PERSONAL WELLBEING**

**Medication**

If students are required to have medication administered at school, parents must sign a form with the details and provide the medication in the container supplied by the pharmacist to the office.

**Children with Allergies**—please take it into consideration when packing your child’s lunch as there are a number of children with serious allergies at our school - kiwi fruit, nuts, strawberries, seafood etc. Please discourage your children from swapping or sharing lunches and to wash their hands before and after eating.

**Safety/Security on School Site – Sign In/Out Procedures**

We remind parents/carers that it is a requirement that all visitors and classroom helpers on the school site sign in at the office in the appropriate book. This is to ensure that we can account for all staff and visitors in case of an emergency. It is also a legislative requirement that all volunteers who are not parents of children must have a Positive Notice Blue Card, before being able to work with them. Volunteers can apply for a Blue Card free of charge. Please contact our Business Services Manager, Helen Jones. We do not wish to upset and offend our many volunteers—usually grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins or family friends who assist in classrooms. Your contributions are appreciated. However, our children’s safety is important and we must ensure processes are put in place to protect them.

**Uniforms**

School shirt, black bottoms, or pinafore (for girls), black sport/school shoes with white socks and school hat must be worn every day. Hats ($10) and uniform shirts ($25) are available for sale from the P&C Uniform Shop—opened Mondays 8.15—9.15 and Thursdays 2.30—3.30.

**PAYMENTS**

All payments are to be handed in at the office. There is a designated box located next to the money collection window for children to drop in monies. Teachers will not accept money. Please ensure that the correct money is placed in an envelope with children’s names, classes and reason for payment written on the front. We have EFTPOS facilities as well as Internet Banking for your convenience. Parents can make payments between the hours from 8:30 to 2:30 ON TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS ONLY. Monies can still be dropped through the money collection mailbox outside of these hours.

**RREAP**

State schools and Catholic schools in the Whitsunday region are this year able to access RREAP funding. RREAP funding is administered by the Department of Education and Training and the Queensland Catholic Education Commission in an effort to address the educational needs of geographically isolated students.

As well as receiving individual school funding, each school has received cluster funds to go towards funding joint school initiative projects and projects from community organizations working in partnership with RREAP schools. Local community organizations and schools are invited to apply for funding for projects which address the additional costs associated with enhancing the educational opportunities of Whitsunday student geographically isolated students.

Funding applications can be made using a simple application form and must be based on the funding guidelines. Applications must be signed by two school principals and two parent organization representatives from the cluster before being submitted to the school cluster committee.

**P & C Annual General Meeting**

The P&C AGM will be held in the staffroom in the Administration Building on Thursday 21 February at 7.30pm. All parents are welcome and invited to attend. Parents are asked to consider taking on an executive position for 2013.

**School Magazine 2012**

There is a handful of 2012 School Magazines available for purchase – on a “first in” basis – no phone orders please.
COMMUNITY NEWS

Congratulations to Ross Hughes on being awarded the Whitsunday Citizen of the Year Award at the Australia Day Awards’ ceremony on Saturday 26 January at the Whitsunday Sailing Club. Well done Mr Hughes!

GUITAR LESSONS
Available Monday afternoons at Strathdickie.
Suit beginner or intermediate students.
Teacher is senior PSHS student, with teaching experience. Please call 0428 344 884 for more info.

PROSERPINE GOLF CLUB
FREE junior coaching starts again Tuesday 5th February @ 3:30pm.
Focus on enjoyment whilst teaching children new skills. Would love to see heaps of juniors.
Kane (AAA rated PGA professional) has a great program planned for 2013. Please spread the word!
Clinics every Tuesday and Friday throughout the school year 3:30pm -4:30pm.
Also, 3, 6 or 9 hole junior competitions held every Sunday @ 2:00pm.

DEE JAYS SCHOOL OF DANCE
Established in the Whitsunday 35 years.
Classes in TAP, BALLET, JAZZ, MODERN & HIP HOP for boys and girls from 3 years.
Enquiries phone 0414282207 or email Denise Hadley - Principal at wow2811@bigpond.com

TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER
Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in July 2013 for their 3, 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Japan, and Spain will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!