PRINCIPAL NEWS

As week two gets under-way, I would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome that I received during my first week at Proserpine State School. I am really looking forward to the semester ahead, working with the staff, parents and especially the students.

While working as acting principal at Proserpine State School, my permanent position is principal of Townsville Central State School. I have been principal at Townsville Central for three years and prior to that I was at Charters Towers Central State School, Mitchell P-10 State School and Muckadilla State School as principal. Prior to this, I worked as a Reading Recovery Tutor, training teachers in the teaching of intensive reading and writing strategies. My first year as a Reading Recovery tutor was in Bowen in 1998, and during this year I visited Proserpine several times were I worked with Mrs Bernadine Stevens.

My home and family is in Townsville, so I will be travelling home most weekends. I have three children. Matthew lives in Brisbane and is studying teaching, Hayden finished year twelve last year, turns 18 this week and is studying to become a nurse. My youngest, Lisa, is in year 12 at Pimlico State High School.

It is my belief that a child’s education is maximised when the home and the school work together. Parents/caregivers are the child’s best advocate and often the first point of information sharing. I am looking forward to working with you all, to ensure that children get the best possible education, growing academically, socially and emotionally.

While at Proserpine State School, I am keen to learn from you, keep most things operating smoothly and to value-add where I can.

**My first impressions of Proserpine State School**

I am sure you will all be able to tell me lots of really great things about your wonderful school. My first impressions are that –

- The school is made up of a very dedicated, caring group of teachers that have a long term commitment to this school;
- Even though the school is quite large, it still has the ‘country’ feel to it;
- There is an amazing sense of community and school working together;
- There are very effective protocols in place to keep programs operating smoothly and
- Behaviour is managed very well in the school, with everyone using standard procedures.

*Sandra Perrett – Acting Principal*

CURRICULUM MATTERS

Welcome back to a new term. Unbelievably, it is already the second half of the school year! At the beginning of each term, our students are required to set personal learning goals. These goals are the behaviours and knowledge that students, in collaboration with their teachers and peers, see as important to their own learning. They can be related to general work habits or specific Key Learning Areas and are about improving students’ learning and achievement and building students’ capacity to learn. Every term our kids must have a personal learning goal in reading because “We are a Reading School!”

Why do we do this? This process empowers our students to become independent learners, and motivates them to achieve their full potential. Research has shown that students who set their own learning goals have greater confidence when faced with challenging tasks, regardless of their ability. Their motivation to improve and master a task is improved and their self-esteem remains strong, even in the case of failure. Please ask your child what his/her learning goals are and, if you wish, ask for a copy of them from the class teacher. The best possible outcome for a child’s learning is when both home and school share a common language and are ‘on the same page’.

For your information, teachers are also incorporating Learning Goals in a range of situations – in specific lessons, for a school week, for an assessment task. Learning goals are brief statements that describe, for students, what they should know and be able to do. This is a key strategy in our pedagogical approach to make the implicit explicit.

Should you wish to view what your child/ren are working on this term, the English, Science and History will be saved to our school’s webpage for your convenience.

“Children must be taught HOW to think, not what to think!” Margaret Mead

Lee-Anne Dougherty - Head Of Curriculum
NAIDOC WEEK CELEBRATIONS

Yesterday, to celebrate NAIDOC week, we will be launched a new initiative involving our Adopt-an-Elders. During morning tea, students from 2/3SM participated in an art project where they responded to a Dreamtime story told by Sue West, one of our adopt-an-elders. Even though it was windy, the students and painted some wonderful rainbow serpents. Due to popularity, we will continue this Indigenous art session for another 4 weeks. Venue may change due to weather conditions.

INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVES – Display cabinet

Do you have any indigenous artefacts you would be willing to lend to us for display? Contact Linda Sippel if you’re interested.

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Welcome back to all families and a big welcome to all our new families. After a well-deserved break special education staff are excited about the term ahead.

Before the break I was fortunate to attend a Special Educators Leaders Conference in Brisbane. Of significance was discussion relating to The More Support for Students with Disabilities (MSSWD) National Partnership, a Commonwealth Government initiative which aims to ensure Australian schools and teachers are better able to support students with disabilities, contributing to improved student learning experiences and educational outcomes. Resources that are being developed and delivered are training, support and professional learning to schools and staff. The key strategies include:

- Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD); two centres of expertise addressing the educational needs of students with ASD to be located in Far North Queensland and South East regions.
- School leaders: professional development related to curriculum differentiation and increasing school capacity.
- School staff: professional learning for teachers in supporting students with ASD and dyslexia and significant learning difficulties, and training for teachers in low incidence disability specialisation.
- Curriculum: developing Australian curriculum resources for students with disability;
- Planning: developing a centralised tool for managing data related to students with disability.
- Teacher Aides: improving skills and capability; and
- Assistive technology training for staff supporting access of students with disability to the Australian curriculum

Our teacher aides have already been some of the first participants in the region being trained in digital practice technologies. Special Education teachers are commencing training in C2C differentiation in the next few weeks.

We have a busy term ahead. Please remember to maintain the lines of communication with classroom teachers and Special Education teachers to ensure continued student achievement and learning. Our door is always open and families are most welcome to ring or make an appointment at any time.

Deb Raiteri - Acting Head of Special Education Services

SCHOOLWIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT

On Friday, the Guidance Councillor and I attended a Suicide Prevention Workshop conducted by Sergeant Nigel Dalton from the Mackay Crime Prevention Unit. One of the many “gems” of information that was shared with us is the following acronym BOUNCE.

B – Belonging – eat at least four family meals together and encourage routines that encourage connectedness. Value family traditions and encourage desirable friends. Know your kids’ friends.
O – Outdoors – Encourage kids to get outside in the sunshine and enjoy the benefits that sunshine and physical activity provide. This also invigorates the immune system and promotes mental health.
U – Usefulness – ensure that everyone in your family feel their usefulness and value of worth. Use positive language and eliminate “put downs”.
N – Night time – Having adequate quality sleep without the interruption of electronic devices is essential for promoting wellbeing.
C – Count your Blessings – foster the notion of your cup being half full instead of half empty. Think about the goods things in your life and adopt an attitude of gratitude.
E – Existence – Valuing our place in the world and our importance to those around us.

This menu not only applies to suicide prevention but is a great recipe for the promotion of health and wellbeing in general.

Ann Gardel – Behaviour Management Teacher.

KIDSMATTER

Thank you to those parents who responded to the KIDSMATTERS online survey. To continue our KIDSMATTERS journey, the staff will be participating in a 4 hour workshop in exploring positive school communities encouraging the ethos that everyone belongs. We will keep you up-to-date as we continue our journey and also give you information about mental health and how you can help us support your child.

ATTENDANCE OFFICER

How to Keep a Good School Attendance Record

When it comes to school, attendance can be nearly as important as good grades and study habits. If you hope to be a straight-A student, study hard, do your homework and keep a good attendance record.

Instructions

1. Stay healthy. Eat right, get plenty of rest and remember to keep a little bit of distance from friends who are sick. You'll be sure to have a good school attendance record if you never miss a day because of illness.

2. Avoid peer pressure. Don't allow yourself to be talked into cutting class or staying out of school just because your friends are doing it.

3. Get to school on time. Being marked late too many times can add up and affect your attendance record. Go to bed early on school nights to assure you will get up in time the next day.

Contact PSS: 33 Renwick Road Proserpine Q 4800
Email: the.principal@proserpiness.eq.edu.au
Website: proserpiness.eq.edu.au
CLASS AWARDS

09/07/2013

PBE  Isaac Sayers
PCD  Laura Dibben, Luke Stefani
1JB  Lucie Cale, Makayla Green
1AL  Steven Heath, Tavion Dennis
1SS  Jack Ellem, Chelsea Rhodes
1/2SV Loklan Barber
1/2SM Tiana Brown, Makaela Stefani, Jesse Moore
1/3W Bridget Patullo, Ben Rabi
3MM Nickolas Hannan, MollyCoghlan
3NM Sam Schulte, Carley Mathews

CLASS ATTENDANCE AWARD –

18/06/2013

CLASS ATTENDANCE AWARD – 1AL/1/2SV

SCHOOL ORGANISATION

STAFF NEWS

Mrs Cheryl West will be accessing leave starting on Monday 22 July – Friday 23 August (5 Weeks). Her replacement is yet to be finalised. Jacqui Barrett has also extended her sick leave. We anticipate her return by the end of Term 3. Mrs Sue McDonald will continue in the role as classroom teacher for 3 days a week joined by Julie Mcdermid for two days.

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Do you always get your newsletter? We are collecting parent emails in readiness to produce an electronic newsletter. By supplying your email address to the school we will be able to email your newsletter directly to your address. If you are interested complete the tear off section at the end of the newsletter and return to the office ASAP. We anticipate having the electronic newsletter available by the end of the term.

SCHOOL OPINION SURVEY

Parent/Caregiver surveys will be distributed next week. It is a computer generated parent list – sample of 40. If you receive an envelope please respond to the survey and return to the office by Friday 26 June.

SCHOOL PHOTOS – Student Leader Groups

Our student leader group photos and year 7 muck up photos are currently on display in the school office foyer for those who wish to order. Ask the ladies for an order envelope. Orders will close on Thursday 01 August.

TUCKSHOP

Welcome back to Term 3 everyone and hope you all had a relaxing break. We are looking forward to a really busy term; however, URGENT Help is required. We have lost a few of our valuable helpers, and if we want to continue offering such a varied and wonderful menu we desperately need more help. Even if you can only give us a couple of hours of your time each month it will be greatly appreciated. We have a roster with many empty spaces to fill. Please contact us on 49451949 or drop in anytime if you have a bit of time to spare. Many Thanks the Tuckshop Ladies 😊😊

SCHOOL BANKING TRIAL TERM 3 – Commonwealth Bank

When: Tuesdays from 8:30 – 9:00am for deposits - Information packs will be disseminated to Prep students early next term
Where: Multi-Purpose Complex
Who: Open to all interested students (Student banking packs available at banking times)
Why: P & C Initiative – Facilitator - Mrs Kylie Edmondson – queries taken at banking times only.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Autism/Aspergers Training Workshop Mackay Qld *** CRCC Mackay is happy to provide respite for parents attending! Phone them on 1800 052 222

WHEN: - Saturday 3rd August 2013
WHERE: - Shamrock Hotel, 165 Nebo Road, Mackay QLD 4740
TIME: - 9:00am – 2:30pm (Registration from 8:30am)

COMMUNICATION

School Newsletter – fortnightly on Wednesdays
School Website www.proserpiness.eq.edu.au
Email: the.principal@proserpiness.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:
Parents wishing to talk to a member of the Administration Team, please contact the school office for an appointment.

Contact PSS: 33 Renwick Road Proserpine Q 4800 Ph: 07 4940 6333 Fax: 07 4945 1497
Email: the.principal@proserpiness.eq.edu.au Website: proserpiness.eq.edu.au
TO REGISTER: http://www.stickytickets.com.au/11506 or email support@aspiechild.com.au

Nelle Frances will be delivering a training workshop in Mackay on Saturday 3rd August 2013. This workshop gives Teachers, Professionals, Care workers and families a vivid insight into the subtle intricacies of the Autism Spectrum condition and provides participants with a myriad of strategies to help them cope. The workshop includes Nelle’s high-impact Sensory Detective Workshop ® - an interactive exercise that places participants in the shoes of those with the condition, giving them an insiders look at the world of Autism/Asperger’s.

CALLING ALL CREATIVE STUDENTS
If you have some spare time during the holidays, think about creating some interesting wearable art or some classy fashion garments. There are several competitions coming up in August with great opportunities to win cash prizes. The events follow on from each other and entries can be entered in all three competitions.

CALLIOPE CATWALK EVENT – www.calliopecatwalk.com Event date – 3 August Entries (forms only) close 21 June (date extended to first week of holidays) Garments required by 19 July. Open to primary and secondary students
WHITSUNDAY REEF FESTIVAL – WEARABLE ART AWARDS www.whitsundayreeffestival.com.au Event date – 15 to 18 August Entries close 2 August - Details available on website soon. Open to primary and secondary students
For advice and further details, please contact Pam Pole Ph. 4946 1271 or 0448 870 482 or Email to pampole@hotmail.com

SQUASH
Ladies!!! If you like playing squash or would like to learn to play, then you must join "Tuesday Ladies." We meet every Tuesday morning (except for School holidays) at 9.00am at the squash courts in Chapman St. (24/7 gym)
Players from beginners to those who can already play are most welcome. For those with young children there is a play area at the courts.
We are looking forward to seeing new players.

ANGLICAN PARISH FETE
Saturday 03 August
Proserpine Entertainment Centre
11am – 2pm
Variety of Stalls and Entertainment
Everyone welcome

PROSERPINE STATE HIGH SCHOOL
YEAR 7 INTO YEAR 8
PARENT INFORMATION EVENING
Tuesday 30th July 2013
Tours commence at 6.00pm (start at Administration Building)
Presentation commences at 6.30pm (Science Language Centre)
The program is for parents only.

Whitsunday Athletics Club - Pentathlon
Saturday, August 10th, 2013
Proserpine State High School
Stanbury Street entrance to oval
10am start
COST: $20 for registered athletes
(+additional $12 for non-registered athletes)
Food and drinks available
All participants will receive a medal
Trophies for highest points scored by a male & female in each age group
Nominations available at all schools
Nominations close on Thursday 1st August
Phone: Judi Worrall 0400 138446 for more information
Supply of parent email address for electronic newsletter

Please fill out and return to the school office ASAP.

Email address: _______________________ Student name: _________________ Parent name: _________________