PRINCIPAL NEWS - Sandra Perrett – Acting Principal

Week six sees us reach the half way mark of term three. It has been a busy start to the term, with a range of exciting things happening. Possibly the highlight so far would be the TLC Science Day on Wednesday. The children had a great day, really enjoying the special learning activities organised by the teachers. A special thank you goes to Mrs Dougherty for organising such a great day.

Principal Long Service Leave

Earlier this year, prior to accepting this position, I applied for Long Service Leave for six days. This starts this Wednesday. In my absence, Miss Sippel will be acting principal, and will be supported by Mrs Gardel (excluding Thursdays). Mr Payne will also take on the acting deputy role for four days in my absence (15, 19, 20 & 22 August). It is great to work in a school with such a great team.

School and Home Working Together

Throughout the last couple of weeks, I have had a number of meetings with parents, for a range of different reasons. We are quite a large organisation and there will be times when something happens that causes distress or concern. If this happens, please come and see us directly (either your classroom teacher or a member of the administration staff). If it is not brought to our attention, we will not be able to sort out what is concerning you. In most cases, you are able to reach a positive outcome or help you understand why decisions were made.

Inter-Class Futsal and Basketball Competitions

Congratulations to Howard and the other school/sports captains for organising the inter-class sporting competitions. I have really enjoyed watching the competitions and watching our great young leaders refereeing the games. The students have done a great job and the lunch time activities have been greatly enjoyed by all participants. I have also been very impressed by the behaviour of all competitors and their willingness to accept the referee’s decisions. Well done!

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL NEWS

PREP ENROLMENTS BEING TAKEN NOW

Attention all families who have children eligible for Prep in 2014 (born 1 June 2008 to 30 June 2009). To secure your placement for Prep 2014 and also in Proserpine State School’s “Getting ready for Prep” program (starting Wednesday 6 September 9:30am-10:30am) complete and return an enrolment form. Enrolment forms are available at the school office or at our Prep Open day (see below).

Prep Open Day date claimer

Prep Open Day date is now set. Tuesday 27 August – 9:00am – 11:00am. You are invited to come and experience our school assembly and listen to our great band at the Multi-purpose Complex. This will be followed by a short address by the Principal, a school tour and an opportunity for your child to get a taste of Prep at Proserpine State School. There will also be an opportunity for you to talk to the Prep teachers.

Building resilient children

I would like to take the opportunity this week to remind our school community of what Dr Michael Carr-Gregg believes is the five key characteristics common in resilient children. He believes that children need:

- A charismatuc adult other than a parent to relate to.
- Social Emotional Competencies. Recommended website www.reachoutcentral.com.au
- A sense of meaning or purpose, belonging and connectedness.
- Positive self-talk. Recommended website www.moodgym.anu.edu.au
- Islands of Competence. Core strengths - things they are good at.

It is essential that we work together to ensure that these characteristics are present in our children’s lives. The KIDMATTERS framework further provides the opportunity for our school community to engage/support our students. Remember: There is no health without mental health.

CURRICULUM MATTERS

At last week’s assembly Mrs Perrett spoke to the students about their learning and assessment tasks. They were asked about whether or not they had seen a GTMJ (Guide to Making Judgements) or criteria sheet, whether they knew their personal reading goal for the term and if they knew how they were going in their work. It would be beneficial to your child’s learning if you also asked similar questions and, if answers are unclear, make an appointment to meet with the class teacher/s. Although legally we are only required to meet formally twice per year, and report twice per year, regular communication between stakeholders can only benefit our children and their learning.

In Week 6, most students will have completed assessment tasks in English and Maths, with Year 7 students also completing theirs in Science. Find out how your kids went by asking to see their tasks and feedback. The grades for these tasks are used to then assign a rating on their Semester 2 report card.

TLC Day was on Wednesday 7th August. What feedback did you receive from your kids? I’m interested to know.

Lee-Anne Dougherty - Head Of Curriculum
SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Autism and Asperger’s Disorder is the spotlight this month as Education Queensland and the More Support for Students with Disabilities Project roll out courses for teachers. These courses involve information on Autism awareness and the teaching of children with Autism. Diagnosis and prevalence of Autism has increased over the last few years. It is estimated that now as many as 1 in 50 children are diagnosed with Autism. As prevalence of the condition increases more opportunities for parents and teachers to learn more about managing children’s behaviour and sensory issues are arising.

Mackay Autism Support group is organising an information lunch with world renowned author and scholar Professor Tony Attwood. This will be held at Mackay Turf Club on the 27th October 2013. Tickets are available from www.stickytickets.com.au

Deb Raiteri - Acting Head of Special Education Services

SCHOOLWIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT

Parents and Teachers working together

In the course of our work with children we have many opportunities to provide positives to children with regard to academic achievement and behaviour. On some occasions it is necessary to call parents about their children falling short of the expectations – either academically or behaviourally. Having had to do this on two occasions this week, I have been thrilled to hear the parent at the end of the line saying “Thank you for calling. What can I do to support my child?” Immediately these children are going to be winners. Their parents acknowledge that there is a problem and want to work with the school to find a solution. Please remember that although your children are your most prized possessions it is unwise to become defensive and to lay blame on others as this will be seen to be acceptable by the child and does not set him up for social success in the future. Thank you to these parents who have not blamed friends, the teacher or the school but have identified the problem and have a plan to remedy it. Thank you also to the parents who took the time to write an email to thank the school for supporting their child to achieve improved outcomes in the future. Working together we can make a difference.

Ann Gardel – Behaviour Management Teacher.

SPORTS NEWS

The start of the term has been very busy again in terms of sport. Firstly, congratulations to Natalie Phelan on her selection in the Northern Region softball team following the recent Northern Region Trials. Natalie will be attending the state titles in Bundaberg later this term.

Recently our school hosted a very successful Proserpine District Athletics Trials. A big thank you to Mrs Gail Cook and Mr Myles Flynn for their tremendous help with preparations prior to the trials. Proserpine State School was again named champion school thanks to the tremendous efforts of all our students. The behaviour of our team was exemplary and we were successful in having the following students selected in the Proserpine District Team to attend the Whitsunday Trials at Cannonvale:

2013:
- Jacob Gabey
- Dakota Hiscox
- Piper O’Grady
- Sam Flowerday
- Alarah Watts
- Nick Handley
- Nick Sanders
- Ryan Wynne
- Nick Schmidt
- Jayden Lane
- Lil Wood
- Brylie Burgess
- Natalie Phelan
- Sienna Mau
- Georgia Muller
- Holly Moore
- Jake Wagner
- Daniel O’Connor
- Cameron Brown
- Ethan Clegg
- Isabelle Marshall
- Sophie Bridge
- Britney Russell
- Nataliya Gordon

The Proserpine District Cricket Trials were held on Wednesday with the following students being selected in the team to attend the Whitsunday Trials in Proserpine on Friday 23 August:

- Max Nosworthy
- Regan Knight
- Jayden Lane
- Noel Waipape
- Cooper Lane
- Howard McDonald
- Max Munro

MUSIC

Music research on music education suggests that musical activities like dancing, playing an instrument, and singing demonstrate long term benefits in memory, language development, concentration, and physical agility. (Netherwood, Schellenberg).

I am back from an exhilarating 12 days spent in chilly but beautiful Hobart on long service leave. While there I took part in many of the singing activities available as part of the Festival of Voices. The main activity for me was a four day workshop with the Grammy award winning Gospel group “Take 6”. I was part of a 200 voice choir who backed the group at the start of their sell out concert. It is such a wonderful experience singing in a choir and it makes me appreciate even more the great work and dedication by our three school choirs.

At assembly this week choir captains were announced and given badges for Year 4/5 choir and Year 2/3 choir. There was such a tremendous response for those wishing to take this responsibility on that I would have loved to have given a badge to everyone.

The successful students are Sarah Milne and Imogen Tulk for the 4/5 choir and Florence Matthews and Saskia McDonald for the 2/3 choir. Because there are almost 80 students in this choir three assistants were also announced. They are Jayme Farr, Jaxon Tulk and Abi Lee. I look forward to working with them all.

The Junior Choir and the 6/7 Choir will be performing at the Uniting Church Flower Show on Saturday 7 September. Please look out for permission forms. All choirs will perform at some point on parade. The 2/3 choir will sing on parade Tuesday 27 August.

The 4/5 choir are concentrating on songs for the Eisteddfod in October.

Elspeth Scotford – Music Teacher

LIBRARY NEWS

Book Week

The slogan for Book Week this year is Read Across the Universe. Years 4-7 will be celebrating Book Week in Week 6 and P-3 in Week 7.

We will be looking at the Children’s Book Council short-listed books throughout the term and doing activities from them. These will be displayed in the library until the end of the term. We will also be decorating the library in a space theme in keeping with the slogan Read Across the Universe. Throughout weeks 6 and 7 we will be conducting competitions for the students in the library. There will be Space and Planet quizzes, Find the Elephants, (one of the Short listed books is “Too Many Elephants”) Name the objects in Space and answering questions about the short-listed books. In the entrance of the library there is a display of recouts from the students who attended Whitsunday Voices Literature Festival in Mackay last month.

Book Fair

A Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the Library during Week 8 (26th – 30th August), immediately after Book Week.

Each student will bring home a leaflet showing a few of the items that will be available at the Book Fair. These leaflets are for your interest only – do not send money back with the leaflets.

Each class will visit the Book Fair before the Friday and will bring home a wish-list. Parents/Carers can decide which books/items on the list they wish their child to purchase. It will be best if cash or cheques are brought in by the Friday. If you wish to use your credit card then you must read the instructions on the reverse side of the wish-list.

If we run out of an item, we will write it on a re-order sheet and put in the re-orders on the Friday. They should arrive the following week.

Parents are welcome to attend the Book Fair at any time. We will open each day at 8.15am and close at 3.30pm.

Dress-up Day

Contact PSS: 33 Renwick Road Proserpine Q 4800
Ph: 07 4940 6333 Fax: 07 4945 1497
Email: the.principal@proserpines.eq.edu.au
Website: proserpines.eq.edu.au
**PSS Newsletter**  19 August 2013

Dress-up day will be **Friday 30th August**. We will hold a dress-up parade in the Multi-Purpose Hall/Cyclone Shelter at **10.00-10.30am**. Prize winners from the Book Week competitions will receive their prizes at the parade. Parents/Careers are most welcome to attend. Students can come dressed as a Space character (in keeping with the theme) or a Book character. Some ideas could be astronauts or aliens.

**Parents/carers/grandparents are most welcome to attend the parade and to visit the Library to see the displays.**

Mrs O’Donnell – Teacher Librarian

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**STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS - AWESOME AUGUST**

Imagine your dad’s face when he wins one of our great Father’s Day raffle prizes! Buy your $2 ticket from a student councillor before school or at little lunch. Tickets will only be sold for the next two weeks. Hurry! Don’t miss this wonderful opportunity to win a prize! **1st prize** 2 grandstand tickets to Cowboys v Tigers game (Saturday 7th September) + **2** Howdy hats (Tickets are non-redeemable)

**2nd prize** – 2 adult+2 children - Whitsunday Crocodile Safaris

**3rd prize** Ralph Lauren Cologne Pack

All money raised through the Father’s Day Raffle will be donated to the Maloney Family. Thank you to Mrs Smith for organising the prizes. Don’t miss out!

The month of August is also a very busy month for other fundraisers conducted by the Student Council. As part of ‘Jeans for Genes’ the Student Council is selling a value for money ‘Jeans for Genes’ stationery pack. They retail for $10 but we are selling these for just $2. The pack includes a small notepad, pen, paper clips and rubber. Anyone would love to have this handy little pack. This merchandise is available for sale before school and little lunch for the month of August only. Hurry!

Date Claimer - 20th August – Free Dress Day – Fundraiser for ‘Jeans for Genes’ come dressed in some denim and give a gold coin donation. Sunsafe clothing and closed in shoes must be worn.

All money raised from the sale of the ‘Jeans for Genes’ stationery pack and the free dress day will be donated to the Children’s Medical Research Institute through the ‘Jeans for Genes’ organisation.

Join in all the fun and support your Student Council by supporting their initiatives.

Mrs O’Brien – Student Council Co-ordinator

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**CLASS AWARDS**

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**CLASS ATTENDANCE AWARD – 6/7JM**

**CLASS ATTENDANCE AWARD – 3MM**

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**SCHOOL ORGANISATION**

**EMAIL ADDRESSES**

Do you get your newsletter? If you answered “No” to this question please seriously consider the following request. 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. Alternatively you could email the Principal your address. We anticipate having the electronic newsletter available by the end of the term.

**PARENTS WHO HAVE A BUSINESS**

As mentioned above, we are in the process of moving towards an electronic newsletter. We would like to offer interested parents, who would like to promote their business, an opportunity to advertise in our school newsletter. To contact Austnews either phone 1800 245 077 or email sales@austnews.com.au. For more information, visit www.austnews.com.au.

**TUCKSHOP**

Just a quick reminder that our Pizza Day is nearly here. If you don’t want your child to miss out, please make sure that both your order form and payment are returned to the Tuckshop by no later than **WEDNESDAY 21st OF AUGUST 2013** for all year levels. No orders will be taken without payment. Also some more exciting news, we have a new ice block coming into the tuckshop this week. It’s called the Paddle pop Trop-o-saurus Slime and it’s “very yummy” and will be selling at $1.80 each. Make sure you don’t miss out as we don’t know how long they will be available. Lastly, we are still looking for volunteers even if it is just for an hour or two once a month.

Regards the Tuckshop Ladies ☺ ☺ ☺

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**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 4.**

**Appointments:**

Parents wishing to talk to a member of the Administration Team, please contact the school office for an appointment.
SCHOOL BANKING TRIAL TERM 3 – Commonwealth Bank
When: Tuesdays from 8:30 – 9:00am for deposits.
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

Whitsunday Youth Committee
Looking for new members
Are you 10-18 years old?
Become a Y Factor Member today
Join now and have your say! Plan and attend youth events
For more information contact:
Anna Smith – Whitsunday Regional Council 0407 965 827
Grainne Newell – Whitsunday PCYC 4948 1144

Proserpine Dance Party
Ages 12 – 17 (Please bring school ID)
Friday 6 September – 6:00 – 8.30pm
Prizes and games from 6pm
Dance starts 6:30pm
Uniting Church Hall – Herbert St, Proserpine
No pass outs
$1 sausage sizzle
Canteen purchases also available
Prizes for best camouflage outfit
Whitsunday Youth Committee Whit Regional Council
PCYC Fauts IGA Proserpine Pharmacy

Supply of parent email address for electronic newsletter
Please fill out and return to the school office ASAP.

Email address: _________________________________  Student name: __________________
Parent name: ____________________________________