Principal's News

Parent Information sessions

Thank you to all parents and guardians who attended our parent information sessions last week. It was great to see so many parents attending and I hope you all left with a much clearer understanding of how your child’s class will be operating this year. I would like to acknowledge and thank all our teaching staff for the effort they put into their presentations. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any suggestions on how this could work better in the future or positive feedback that I can pass on to teachers. We will be holding individual parent/teacher interviews early in term 2 and further information will be sent out closer to the date.

NAPLAN

During our parent information sessions last week I noted that there were a few questions around NAPLAN which is the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy, an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5 and 7. It is a national assessment program that has been an everyday part of schools calendars since 2008 and all students’ are expected to participate. NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four areas of Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and Punctuation) and Numeracy. The important thing to know is that NAPLAN test skills in literacy and numeracy are developed over time in the school curriculum beginning in the Prep year of learning. Concepts are taught from the start of the school year embedded into class weekly Literacy and Numeracy lessons. The NAPLAN website has specific information for parents and carers and I highly
recommend that you visit this site. The dates for the tests this year are May 13, 14 and 15. Please do not hesitate to contact your class teacher or myself if you require further information.

www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support.html

**Great Results Guarantee**

You would have heard through the media that the liberal government has awarded to schools extra funding to be used to improve student outcomes. This is referred to as the Great Results Guarantee and each school has to complete a one page agreement which clearly states how the money will be used in their school. Our school will receive $157,615 and the lead team has been working on our plan over the last weeks as it needs to be presented to our Townsville Regional office by next Friday February 28 to be approved. I will pass on further information once our plan has been approved.

**P&C**

Thank you to those parents who attended our P&C annual AGM and first general meeting of the 2014 school year. The P&C organisation is a very valued and integral part of our school community and I was very impressed to hear of all the programs and events that they support our school in. I highly recommend parents becoming involved in the P&C as it is another way of becoming very involved in your child's leaning and school experience.

The following office bearers were confirmed last night,

President - Lisa Milne

Vice President - Rob Telford

Secretary - Barb Cochrane

Treasurer - Steph Nuske

There may be some instances where as a parent you may need to contact me directly and sometimes this can be difficult due to the busy schedules that you and I have. I am contactable via email through the principal email for Proserpine State School or my Education Queensland email address, abrad104@eq.edu.au

Have a great week.

*Alison - Acting Principal*

**Date Claimers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25th February</td>
<td>Swimming starts 2NM, 2HW, 2PD (DM), 2AL.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Student Leader Induction Ceremony</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th February</td>
<td>Proserpine District Tennis Trials</td>
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</table>
27th - 28th February  
Phil Kettle Author Visit

24th & 25th March  
Choral Festival Mackay

Deputy Principal's News

ICAS

We will be running the highly regarded assessment program for schools in English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing this year. All students who participate will receive a comprehensive hard copy and online report of their performance in each subject. They will also receive a certificate to recognise their achievement.

Please see the timetable below and fill out and return the entry form as soon as possible to the school office. For further information go to http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/subjects/

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICAS SUBJECT</th>
<th>YEAR LEVELS</th>
<th>ICAS SITTING DATE</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer skills</td>
<td>3-7</td>
<td>Tuesday 20 May</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>2-7</td>
<td>Wednesday 4 June</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>3-7</td>
<td>Monday 16 –Friday 20 June</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>3-7</td>
<td>Tuesday 17 June</td>
<td>$12.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>2-7</td>
<td>Tuesday 29 July</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>2-7</td>
<td>Tuesday 12 August</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attendance/Absence information

In assisting us maintain accurate roll marking I seek your assistance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Situation</th>
<th>Course of action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If your child is going to be late</td>
<td>Child and parent must come in through the office. Child to receive a late pass to give to the class teacher</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
If your child is sick

Call the office and give the date/s your child will be away sick. If you are unsure then you will need to call on a daily basis. Every day needs to be accounted for.

Zumba

It was a rainy start to our newly introduced weekly zumba classes. This didn’t stop approximately 20 keen fitness fanatics who enjoyed their 30 mins of early morning movement. Thanks goes to our expert Zumba instructor Jacque Matthews. The class will continue for the Term 1 at 8am every Wednesday. We are currently investigating possible grants to cover the costs. If you have any information about this please contact me.

Student Resource scheme

Included in this one-off annual payment, is your child’s subscription to both Mathletics and Reading Eggs. You can access these programs from your home computer by using your child’s Login Name and Password for both programs. Today you will receive a letter detailing their Login and password. Please contact the school if you do not receive this letter.

Student Leadership - GRIP leadership conference

Our First Leadership Experience

Written by: Lachlan Jensen, Max Nosworthy, Piper O'Grady and Dakota Hiscox

On Tuesday, 47 school leaders attended a student leadership conference at the MECC (Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre). We were excited but a little nervous, as we were unsure of what exactly would take place. Soon we were laughing, cheering and interacting with leaders from 21 Mackay Region Schools. Through games, video clips and role plays we were able to learn how to be schoolyard superheroes by being helpers, encouragers role models and organisers.
After morning tea, the next session showed us how to "Lead like a strawberry and NOT like a watermelon". A "strawberry' leader is the same on the inside as how they act and speak on the outside. A strawberry leader is a leader with **integrity**.

The loud noise boys got 515 children up on their feet screaming, yelling and interacting. Their messages were about demonstrating integrity as a leader. We learnt that to succeed in student leadership there are challenges but ways to overcome them. A leader is responsible for bringing their ideas alive. We all shared our ideas for school improvement with other children and came home inspired.

From this conference, we have all brought back lots of ideas and knowledge, to work as a team, and be effective leaders in our roles at Proserpine State School.

**Celebrating Student Achievement**

Congratulations to Jim Smith on becoming a finalist in the Summer Writing Competition. In conjuction with this accomplishment came the honour of having his poem published in the Summertime Fun Book - 2013 School Holiday Competition.

If you are interested in entering this and other competitions go to [http://www.write4fun.net/competitions/](http://www.write4fun.net/competitions/)

*Linda Sippel - A/Deputy Principal*

**Curriculum Matters**

I heard the most delightful story last week of a little Prep girl taking home her reading book for the first time. When her dad tried to read with her (good on you, Dad! *Read the note below*) she said, “Stop. I have to skim and scan before I read.” This little poppet then went on to explain why, and what skimming and scanning entailed. This clearly illustrates the explicit teaching happening in the classroom and the readiness of our students to be learners….to actively listen, to repeat what was heard, to explain and demonstrate.

This doesn’t just happen. These are learned behaviours, taught by parents and family members and neighbours before even coming to school, and then by staff and volunteers and peers at school. One area of focus for our teachers at the start of every school year is to teach our kids to be active learners. You can help in this process with our 5 Es:

- Ensure that your child has all the resources he/she needs for school.
- Expect him/h her to be more independent. Eg carry and unpack his/her own school bag – even at Prep!
- Eliminate distractions during crucial times of the day eg getting ready in the morning, doing homework
- Enable him/her to be resilient. Teach that mistakes are an opportunity to learn and give responsibilities.
Encourage your child to talk about what he/she is learning, what games were played at lunch, with whom he/she is friends.

For the record, “a father’s reading habits can have a substantial influence on their children’s ability to read, their levels of interest and their reading choices (Lloyd, 1999).”

“Studies show that boys who are read to ‘by their fathers scored significantly higher in reading achievement. (Trelease, 1982)

Lee-Anne Dougherty - Head Of Curriculum

Sports News

The representative sporting year is well under way with four boys from Proserpine State School representing the Whitsunday area at the Northern region Cricket Trials on the weekend. Cooper Lane, Theo Brown, Jack Dwyer and Ben Nosworthy were part of the team that won 2 out of 3 games. The boys were great ambassadors for our school with the way they played with enthusiasm and sportsmanship.

Students who are turning 11 or 12 in 2014 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 students ability to consistently uphold our school expectation of being Safe, Friendly, Respectful and a Learner. Parents should also be aware that the student resource levy must be paid before the principal is able to give consent for any students from Proserpine State School to participate in representative sporting teams.

In many sports, the school is permitted to send only a limited number of students to trial in order to make the selection process for Proserpine District more efficient. Therefore, through the school, students are given invitations to attend Proserpine District Trials if they have demonstrated a competent skill level in the respective sports.

Year 5, 6 and 7 students have started their Friday sport afternoons despite the threats of inclement weather. The students have had the opportunity to select from three sports: Rugby League, Netball and Touch Football. All students will engage in skills and drills initially before commencing friendly team competition where the emphasis is on fun and participation. Students who have selected rugby league are reminded that need to be responsible and bring their mouth guards every Friday so they are able to play.

A reminder also that many junior sporting clubs in our area are starting their seasons very shortly. Junior sport is a great way to make friends, keep fit and develop a lot of great physical skills. Information can often be found in the local newspaper and at times our own newsletter. Contact details for a large number of local junior sporting organisations can also to be found in the local phone directories.
Music

Music classes have resumed for 2014 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 a Yamaha recorder. Children are asked to practise recorder at home. This may initially be untuneful but will improve with practice and encouragement.

Choirs: Yr 5/6/7 choir has started and is rehearsing on Tuesday and Thursday morning tea.

This choir has been invited to participate in the 22nd Regional Choral Festival in Mackay. Compulsory rehearsals in Mackay are on Sunday 23 March and Monday 24 March culminating in a performance on the Monday 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 well-known conductors from Brisbane. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students and one which they thoroughly enjoy.

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

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

Contratulations to the 2014 choir leaders - Dakota Hiscox, Alice Telford, Britney Trenerry and Tessa Jolley.

MACKAY EISTEDFOD 2013 DVD

I have 3 copies of last year’s successful choirs which was commercially recorded. These may be borrowed from the Music Room.

Looking forward to a wonderful year of music.

Elspeth Scotford (Music Teacher)

Class Awards
### Every Day Counts

#### The Importance of School Attendance

Regular school attendance is crucial to the development and education of children. There is a large impact on the student, the school and the community when a student does not attend school regularly. Because of this impact, each parent of a child of compulsory school age has the obligation to ensure their child is attending every school day.
Early Development

As a child learns to read and acquires basic math skills, it is important that he practice those new skills daily. Regular attendance promotes new learning.

Socialization

Children begin to learn how to socialize with others, follow directions and solve problems creatively while at school. If a child is not part of the classroom, some of these social skills cannot be practiced.

Employment

More and more entry level and trade specific jobs require a minimum of high school graduation. Implementing the importance of attendance at primary school is paramount to the engagement and participation at school for future years.

Impact on other students

When a child is continually absent from school, he falls behind in his classwork and requires extra time and attention from the teacher in order to catch up. This draws the teacher away from other students in the class who may also need assistance.

Impact on the Community

Students who are not in class are more likely to commit crimes, costing the community time and money. Students who are not in school are likely to be unsupervised, leaving students subject to risk of harm within the home or out in the community. Students learn to become good citizens through lessons at school and mentoring by adults.

Susan Lewis

Student Welfare Worker

Tuckshop News

Hi everyone, can you believe it's the end of week 4 already. We hope you have all settled back in. We have a great new ice cream, the Paddle pop “Shaky Shake” now available for sale at Big Lunch, it is already proving to be very popular with the children. Unfortunately we are no longer able to offer vanilla milk on the menu as the company has stopped making it. Just a reminder to all that we do offer online ordering through flexischools. For
any new families just jump online and go to www.flexischools.com.au and follow the prompts, this is certainly an easy and stress free option for ordering lunches.

*The Tuckshop Ladies 😊😊*

Community Notices

**POSITIVE PARENTING INFORMATION SESSIONS**

For the parents of children 2-8 years old (3 week program)

*Where:* Whitsunday Community Health Campus

*When:* 3rd, 10th and 17th March 2014

*Time:* 6:30pm - 8:30pm

We encourage you to attend all three sessions, Registrations are essential.

Phone 4948 7633 to register  No Cost Involved.

*eNews*

If you are not on our Email list for eNewsletters you will soon be able to add your email address on a subscriber link through the Proserpine State School website.
Rookies2Reds at Proserpine State School

Name of School: Proserpine State School
53 Riverview Road, Proserpine, QLD, 4800

SESSION DATES
Start Date: 3/3/2014
End Date: 31/3/2014

SESSION TIMES
Ages: 5-9
Time: 3:15-4:15

Quade Cooper said:
“The best thing about playing Rugby is getting outdoors and having fun with your mates.
At Rookies2Reds you’ll learn some new skills, take home some really cool Reds gear and also have the chance to make some new friends as you pass, kick and run together through plenty of fun activities.
After all, teamwork and being a good sport is what Rugby is all about.”

LOST END OF 2013
1 Pair of Black shorts size 4, Named, lost during Prep "Wet Play" at the end of 2013, if found can you please hand them in to the Office. Thank you.

______________________________________________________________

GUITAR LESSONS

PSHS Senior Leader available to teach Beginner to Advanced guitar lessons on Monday afternoons at Strathdickie.

With the following qualifications:  
- 8th grade (equiv) Contemporary guitar, Honours
- 5th grade Classical guitar, Credit
- 4th grade Music Theory, Honours
- 2 years teaching experience

Able to teach Electric, Acoustic and Classical style guitar, with musical notation and/or tablature.

$20 /half hour; First lesson FREE.

Term commitment required.

Byron: 0459 533 854

______________________________________________________________

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(07) 4945 1497

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