Principal's News

Principals' Conference - Reflection

In week five I attended the Queensland State School Principals’ Conference in Brisbane. Over 1200 Principals were in attendance at the conference held at Brisbane Convention Centre. The Conference was an intense couple of days of presentations and networking.

The key messages that I took away from the conference –

- **A great school has a great school down the road** –
  Focus on building leadership capability of teams and communities

- **Highly effective leaders focus on** –
  Outcomes / a clear vision /a shared understanding of improvement agenda / setting timelines: targets / monitoring / gather: analyse data / courageous in decision making

- **We all need our 3rd Space** –
  Wellbeing – that transition time between work and home

- **Culture is and always has been the key!**
How things get done / how decisions get made / what gets rewarded and how; culture of collaborative reflective
practice

I look forward to further discussing these key messages with staff in our pursuit to improving student learning,
staff wellbeing, and enhancing our school culture.

At the conference the Inaugural Jack Pizzey Award for Principal of the Year for Excellence in Educational
Leadership was presented. Mr Arthur Sclippa, from Goondi State School in Innisfail, was the inaugural recipient.
It is great to see a regional Principal who has led his school for 20+ years in achieving outstanding student
learning results through Explicit Teaching be awarded and recognized. Many of the strategies we are
implementing / using at Proserpine SS have been adopted from Goondi State School. Mr Sclippa has agreed to
visit Proserpine SS towards the end of term 2 to act as a mentor and coach in our pursuit of implementing
Explicit Teaching.

Rob Templeton

Date Claimers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19th March</td>
<td>P&amp;C General Meeting - 6:30pm Staffroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd March</td>
<td>Choral Festival Rehearsal - Mercy College Mackay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23rd March</td>
<td>Choral Festival - MECC Mackay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 April</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 April</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 - 17 April</td>
<td>Easter Vacation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 April</td>
<td>School resumes for Term 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Deputy Principal's News

Student Leader Induction Ceremony
I would like to thank all parents and family members who came along last week to participate in our Student Leader Induction Ceremony. The students have been wearing their badges with pride and have already demonstrated their leadership qualities across the school.

I would also like to thank our community leaders, Mayor Whitney and Mr Jason Costigan MP for their encouraging words and Mrs West, Mrs Milne and Mr Ringlestein for their support of this very important annual Induction Ceremony.

Congratulations to all our Student Leaders.
NAPLAN

NAPLAN the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy, which is taken annually by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will be held this year over Tuesday 12, Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 May. All students in years 3 and 5 at our school who do not qualify for an exemption are expected to sit the tests. NAPLAN test days should be treated as just another routine event on the school calendar. The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to reassure them that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day.

NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling and numeracy.

NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four areas (or ‘domains’) of:

- Reading
- Writing
- Language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation)
- Numeracy

NAPLAN tests skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time through the school curriculum, beginning in the Prep year of learning. Concepts are taught from the start of each 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. [2015 NAPLAN information brochure for parents and carers](http://publish.newsserv.com.au/epublisher/printfriendly.php?id=214748456974 &sch... 10/03/2015).

If you require further information please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher or myself.

Attendance

Is your child getting the very best opportunity to achieve at school? The following graph shows the impact of students not attending school over time.

1 or 2 days doesn’t seem like much but……
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Days per Year</th>
<th>Weeks per Year</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Grade Equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 day per fortnight</td>
<td>20 Days</td>
<td>4 weeks</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>40 Days</td>
<td>8 weeks</td>
<td>Over 2.5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 days per week</td>
<td>80 Days</td>
<td>16 weeks</td>
<td>Over 5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 days per week</td>
<td>120 Days</td>
<td>24 weeks</td>
<td>Nearly 8 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing at grade 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LEARNING IS GOLD and EVERYDAY COUNTS**

*Alison Bradford*

**Curriculum Matters**

**Being a Learner**

What have I learned this week? Last Tuesday whilst on playground duty, a student approached me and said, “We’re getting a puppy.” Another day, from a different child, I was told, “I don’t like sand in my shoes.” I was made to remember that what matters most to children is vastly different to what we regard as ‘important’. As well, in a lesson this week, a student was awarded a certificate for being focussed on his learning, trying his best and enacting feedback. He was thrilled! Not because of the coloured piece of cardboard but because his mum lets him pick a family meal of his choice when he brings home a certificate. I learned another way in which parents and teachers can work together to achieve the same goal.

Growing up, there was always a magazine, newspaper or novel being read in our house. My parents modelled for me the expectation that one reads for enjoyment. As an adult, I am consciously aware when I have learned something new and, as a teacher, I endeavour to share this with my students; to model for them that learning occurs in a range of places, at different times, in various ways. What do you model for your children? How? Do you share your experiences when you are being a learner?

There’s an awful lot to do to be a learner. Our kids need to be aware of when they have acquired knowledge, and then we (parents and teachers) provide them opportunities to transfer and apply that knowledge. This is a
challenge because all students learn at different rates. At Proserpine State School, we attempt to meet this challenge by a process called differentiation.

"Differentiated instruction refers to teaching that is adapted to take into account the range of individual differences and needs of students in any one classroom. It comprises modifications to the curriculum, teaching structures, and teaching practices in combination to ensure that instruction is relevant, flexible, and responsive, leading to successful achievement, and the development of students as self-regulated learners alongside their peers (van Kraayenoord 1997).

This approach is sometimes referred to as multilevel instruction. Differentiation involves adaptations to one or more of the three components of curriculum, that is content, process, product (Heacox 2002).

The intent of providing differentiation in teaching practices is to have all students participating in respectful work - work that is challenging, meaningful and engaging."


Yours in education,

Lee-Anne Dougherty

Student Support Services

In this week’s article I would like you to consider our motto:

Learning together. Making a difference.

State Schools Queensland ensures that:

“schools are supportive and engaging places for all school community members. It builds communities that value, celebrate and respond to diversity. It is underpinned by respectful relationships between learners and school community members. It is supported by collaborative relationships with parents and communities through communication, learning partnerships, participation and consultative decision-making.”

Inclusive Education Policy Statement

Learning together in an inclusive setting results in benefits for everyone.

Academic benefits include:

- higher expectations for all students

- for student with disabilities in particular positive academic role models are provided by the peers without disabled.

Social benefits include:

- social contact that develops an acceptance of all people
-modelling of social skills to help learners with disability navigate social relationships later on in life.

Benefits to Family and Community

-The family of a learner with disability benefits by being integrated into the life of the school that caters for all children.

-The presence of learners with disability is more likely to build a society that is accepting of difference and able to respect people from diverse background

-Inclusive schooling practices may be a first step towards creating a more diverse workforce and world.

Benefits to Peers

-Peers can gain strong friendships that would have been impossible otherwise.

-Peers can gain an appreciation and acceptance of people who are different from them.

-The idea of ‘diversity,’ rather than remaining an empty catchword becomes meaningful for them.

-Peers can learn how to work with students who have varying skills and abilities, which will help them in their futures.

-They can help others learn difficult information – a skill recognised as the highest form of learning.

-Many explicit teaching strategies needed by learners with disability are helpful to other learners in the classroom.

-The experience will stand in good stead any peer who, as an adult, goes on to have a child with learning difference or other vulnerabilities themselves.

Thank you for supporting our Inclusive environment at Proserpine State School.

Linda Sippel - Head of Special Education Services.

School-Wide Positive Behaviours

Are you a good model?

Looking sleek and flash is of no use if performance is poor. At our school we expect both students and staff to reflect on their performances regularly. These “check-ups” for children focus on whether academic and behavioural outcomes are on track. For staff members it focuses on ensuring that we are providing the best opportunities for our students to learn. Acknowledging any problems is only the first step as we must then identify and action strategies to remedy the problem. As a parent have you ever self-reflected to ensure that you provide your children with the best opportunities for success at school? If not, here are just some points that you may like to reflect on.
My children:-

• only have days off school when they are sick or injured
• I check their homework and assessment requirements and ensure that time is made available for them to complete these
• I ensure that they have the correct uniform for school and adequate school supplies and equipment
• I speak positively about school and I acknowledge their achievements
• I don’t discuss adult matters or use unacceptable words when they are in earshot
• I encourage them to read each night.

If students see that you value school and education, they too will value their time at school and have an enhanced chance for success both academically and socially.

Ann Gardel – Behaviour Support Teacher

Students of the Week

Week 5 Assembly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PBE</th>
<th>Terri-Lee Guthrie</th>
<th>3SM</th>
<th>Natalie Tate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PCD</td>
<td>Chase Ellem</td>
<td>4CW</td>
<td>Ethan Ventura</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPD</td>
<td>Josephine Watson</td>
<td>4TJ</td>
<td>Maddeline Love-Teunis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P/1JB</td>
<td>Charli Young</td>
<td>4/5PH</td>
<td>Kaleb Jenkinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1SS</td>
<td>Chloe Stoneham</td>
<td>5GJ</td>
<td>Blake Hiscox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1MV</td>
<td>Jayden Atkinson</td>
<td>5MW</td>
<td>Joey Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2HW</td>
<td>Liam Becker</td>
<td>5NC</td>
<td>Ashlyn Becker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Darcy Tetley</td>
<td></td>
<td>Talon Deller</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Music

Here are three educational reasons why music should be a must in every child's life.

1. Music encourages confidence and self esteem
2. Music improves co-ordination and reflexes
3. Music helps your child with organisational skills and self discipline.
“Tell me, I forget; Show me, I remember; Involve me, I understand” - Carl Orff

There is always something wonderful happening in Music classes.

**CHORAL FESTIVAL CHOIR**

This choir is coming together well and enjoying learning the songs. They will be singing in English, African and Romanian. This week the words of all the songs will be given to the students with which to practise. The students should bring these words with them to choir rehearsals. Notes regarding arrangements for the actual festival will also be given out. **Forms and money must be at the office by Thursday 12 March.**

_Yours in song_

_Elspeth Scotford_

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**Library News**

**ICAS Testing - please note change in payment requirements**

This year we will be offering ICAS testing for the following subjects -

- Digital Technologies
- Science
- English
- Mathematics

Please click here to open the link to the ICAS_Testing_form.doc, then print it out and fill in the subjects your child/children are interested in participating and return it to the school office.

Please note - Payments are to be made at the school office - not via the website as previously stated. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

**Payment of Student Resource Scheme**

Have you paid your student resource scheme for 2015? There are still a number of families where payment has **not** been received. Statements have been sent home with your child/ren. If you are having difficulties with payment, please contact the Business Services Manager on 4940 6333.

Religion will be commencing on Friday 13th March for years 1 to 6, if you have given permission for your child to attend payment is now due.

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**School Facilities**

School security and access
Please note the following regarding school security and access to the school grounds:

- Only Renwick Rd gate will be open after 3pm for access to Administration
- All other gates will be locked after 3pm
- Any person on school grounds without permission will be trespassing
- Dogs are not allowed on school grounds at any time
- Access to the tennis court is still available to the community via the gate near the tennis courts only, however the tennis courts are not available to the community on Tuesday afternoons due to coaching.

Any use of the school oval is to be approved by the Principal.

Tuckshop News

Hello everyone. The year has certainly kicked off well in the Tuckshop so far with lots of orders coming through. It’s great to see you all supporting us. We would also like to remind you that the children are able to come to the Tuckshop at Big Lunch after the play bell and buy a treat. We have a range of chips and ice-creams and of course our famous “Slushies”, and many other yummy treats on offer. The Shaky Shakes and Dragon Poppers are a huge hit with the children and also the Sour Zings are still proving very popular.

I would like to remind everyone to check the website for our new 2015 menu. Some items have increased in price since last year but a lot of people are still going off the old price list and a lot of the bags are coming through short of money for what has been ordered.

Another important thing to remember is that if you pick your child up sick from school and forget to pick up any food ordered through the Tuckshop It will have to be thrown out and we can’t credit it as it has been prepared and can’t be saved. Just swing past the Tuckshop on your way out and we will bag up what they have ordered for you to take home with you. Nobody likes waste. That’s it from us this week except as always a huge THANK YOU to our Wonderful Parent Helpers who give up their precious time for us every week.

Cheers to all from the Tuckshop Ladies 😊

Click here for the 2015 tuckshop menu

P & C News

School banking

School Banking – conducted every Tuesday. Students/parents can hand in their bank books at the office on Tuesday mornings by 9:15am and bank books will be returned to class by Thursday of that week. If you already have a CBA bank book you may send it in for school banking or alternatively open up an account at the CBA branches. See Mrs Kylie Edmondson or Mrs Kerri Smith for any further details.
Uniform Shop Times for 2015

Monday 8.15am – 9.15am

Thursday 2.45pm - 3.15pm

Order forms are available at the office if you wish to place an order, orders for uniforms are CASH ONLY the money can be placed in the envelope with your order.

Thank you to the volunteers who look after our uniform shop.

Proserpine State School P & C Committee

Forms

Student Change of details form - click here

Payment Advice form - click here

Medications

Click here for Request to Administer Medication form Request_Administer__Medication_2009.doc

Community Notices

**Health & Safety Grants from Wilmar Sugar Proserpine**

There is a condition within our current EU (enforceable undertaking) that provides that Wilmar Sugar Proserpine is to provide for $10,000 per annum in grant funding for a community health and safety project.

The grant will be offered for 3 years (2015 to 2017) and will be in the form of 5 x $2,000 grants. We would love more local organisations to apply.

For more information contact reception on 4945 1755

**Special Needs and Disabilities - COME AND TRY DAY**

*Mackay Cutters and the NRL are holding a Rugby League ‘Come and try’ day for people with special needs or a disability. Everyone is welcome to come along and experience THE GREATEST GAME OF ALL*

WHEN- MONDAY APRIL 6TH
WHERE- MACKAY STADIUM

AGE- ALL AGES ARE WELCOME

TIME- 9AM-10.30AM

If you have any questions or to register please contact Tyson Muscat- 0402 892 833 or Email:

tmuscat@nrl.com.au

Anglican Parish of Whitsunday

DON’T MISS St PAUL’S GIANT CENT SALE

Where: RSL CLUB  Upstairs / use lift

When: Saturday 7th March 2015

Entry $3 includes Devonshire Tea and Lucky Door Prize

Time: Doors open 12.30pm - for 1.30pm START

Whitsunday Coast Scout Group

Whitsunday Coast Scout group is taking new members aged between 6-11. We are currently having a mixed group of Joeys, Cubs and Scouts.

The scouts meet at the scout hall at the end of Salmon Street on Monday afternoons between 5pm- 6pm. Any further enquiries please contact Kathy Ball on 0409233397.