It has been great to see the children and staff return to school and to welcome the many new students and staff. I already have the feeling that we have gained many outstanding staff and students to our family at Park Lake. One new addition to our school is a second Deputy Principal, Mrs Barb Tong. Mrs Tong is an experienced Deputy Principal and has come from Benowa State School to be at Park Lake for at least Semester One. This change means that each Deputy will have specific areas of the school as their responsibilities; Mrs Lennox will be looking after P-2 students, staff and parents as well as any of our students in the Special Education Program and a range of other tasks. Mrs Tong will be responsible for all students, staff and parents in Years 3-7 as well as students who are referred for additional support through our Student Support Services meetings as well as a range of other responsibilities. If you need to discuss any concerns regarding your child the process is to see their class teacher first as they will know your child the best. If you do not believe that the issue has been resolved or if they can’t help then please make an appointment to see the Deputy responsible for the year level your child is in, if there are still concerns after this then make an appointment to see me. I am looking forward to seeing the relationships grow as our new structure is developed during this term.

Don’t forget that Park Lake State School belongs to each one of us, every student, staff member, parent or guardian and our local community. The things that we believe in and the quality of school we have established is a result of everyone being prepared to continue to strive for excellence, for a community that is respectful of each other and adults who can demonstrate to our students appropriate ways to behave and to deal with concerns that inevitably occur. We have a fantastic school and community and I value your efforts to support our school and to keep it a great place to be.

As we near the end of our first two weeks I am able to tell you that as of Tuesday we had 830 students enrolled in our school. The newsletter is compiled on a Tuesday and we have to wait until today, Thursday, for the final enrolments. Once we know our final enrolments then any decisions around gaining or losing a teacher will be made at a Regional level. At this stage I do not foresee any changes in our current class structures.

Please be assured that if any changes need to be made we will support every child through the process and in general the students cope with this type of change very well. Resilience is one of the keys to success in the You Can Do It! Program and it is important that you also support your child should they be changing class or teacher.

**ASSEMBLY CHANGE**

As we have continued to grow we need to make a few changes to our assembly processes. Assemblies will still be on a Monday afternoon from 2:15pm and we will be holding Junior (P-2) and Middle Phase (3-7) assemblies on alternate weeks with a whole school assembly twice a term. During whole school assemblies we don’t think that there will be much room left in the hall once all of the students are in there, although we will know how much room there is once we have our first whole school assembly. To accommodate this lack of space we will only be handing out individual student awards (Smarts Awards and Gold Awards) at the smaller assemblies and not at whole school assemblies. At whole school assemblies we will hand out whole class awards for Music, HPE, LOTE, Library, Active Travel and any other awards of this type. Classes will still take turns at presenting at each assembly, including whole school assemblies, we just see this as a way to manage our growing school. Parents/Guardians are still more than welcome to attend assembly, just be aware that whole school assemblies will not afford a great deal of space for seating inside the hall and we would like to keep whole school assemblies for as long as we possibly can.

Thank you for your understanding with this change.

One of the most important aspects of safety for students is arriving at and leaving school each day. The last thing young children think about is road safety, they just want to get to school or home and enjoy their day, we are the adults and it would be great if everyone could do their part. I fully understand that there is nowhere near enough parking for all vehicles in the afternoon, there is not much we can do about that, however if everyone is patient and considerate all children will arrive at school or home safely. In the past we have also had complaints from neighbours of the school as some drivers have been parking across driveways, one of our neighbours had to wait twenty minutes to access their house, please be considerate of our neighbours when parking near the school.

Please remember that no parent vehicles are to come into the school unless you are given my permission to do so.

Important messages:

1. All playgrounds are out of bounds to all children, whether they are Park Lake students or not, both prior to and after school. This is an unfortunate necessity in today’s litigious society and whilst I know it is at times frustrating for us all it must be adhered to and you will
be asked to remove children from the playground at these times.

2. Any child needing to be at school prior to 8.00am MUST be booked in at the Out of School Hours Service, no supervision of any kind is provided prior to 8.00am and your child will be at risk if they are in the school prior to this time. Please note that you will be contacted if your child is at school prior to 8.00am.

3. There is no requirement to provide supervision prior to 8.45am, however we decided to do this to ensure the safety of our children and provide adult supervision in this area until 8.30am. Any child arriving at school between 8.00 and 8.30am MUST go directly to the covered area near the canteen and music room, whether they are with a parent/carer or not. At 8.30am students will be dismissed from the covered area to go to their classrooms. Parents are welcome to stay with their children in the covered area and then accompany them to the classrooms at 8.30am.

Our annual parent information sessions will be held on Tuesday, 18 February in each of the student’s classrooms. There will be two repeat sessions held, the first from 3:15-4:00pm and the second from 4:15-5:00pm. In these sessions teachers will outline the program and expectations for the year, discuss class behaviour plans and the structures which will be used across the teaching teams to support your child. You are encouraged to come along and ask questions, please remember that this is not an individual interview session and if you require a discussion about specific information related to your child then you will need to make an appointment to see your child’s home teacher at a separate time.

If you are a new family to our school we would have spoken to you about the You Can Do It! program during your enrolment interview or at the information sessions. To provide as much information as possible I will include articles regarding the program in each newsletter, please take the time to read these articles as they will provide the language that we use at school and that way the children will receive consistent messages to support their growth and development.

You may have heard the announcement by the Minister for Education last week in relation to substantial funding for all State Schools to support literacy and numeracy learning. The funding provided is to support the Prep to Year 2 students and can be used for a range of evidence-based practices as determined by the school community. As a part of the process I am seeking input from the community of ideas that you have to utilise the money to support student engagement and learning. Some ideas we already have to consider are to employ an additional teacher to coordinate programs and supervise a team of teacher aides who would work with the class teachers on a daily basis on specific literacy and numeracy strategies. Employing a Teacher Coach to provide additional professional development for the teachers in Prep to Year 2 around strategies that have been proven to give high level results for students. Accessing on-line resources for students, including appropriate Apps that support literacy and numeracy learning. Providing training for parents as ready readers who can then support students in the classroom. If you have any ideas or suggestions please email them through to office@parklakeqs.eq.edu.au or drop in a note and they will be considered.

Our school will have almost $219 000 to use and we want it to be used effectively, the sooner we can devise our plan and submit it for approval the sooner we will receive our money and can get started, we certainly won’t be able to do everything that is suggested, and as I said previously the criteria is that it must be proven to be effective through research/evidence to be approved at Central Office, but the more ideas we can put on the table the more chance there will be of coming up with great strategies.

A recent update to the QScheols app means our parents will now be able to find information more easily. Access our school calendar, newsletter and other information from our school website, it all makes staying in touch and up to date a little easier for your family. Visit the department’s apps page for more information and all the features: http://deta.qld.gov.au/about/app/ The QScheols app is available for free download through iTunes, Google Play and the Window’s store.

Have a great fortnight.

Regards
Craig Larden
Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL NEWS P - 2

Welcome to 2014

I am Mrs Kris Lennox and I have had the pleasure of working with all students here at Park Lake SS in my role as Deputy Principal over the past five years. 2014 has seen our school grow and we now welcome Mrs Barb Tong to the administration team. Due to this, my role will be to oversee the P-2 teachers, students and their families and Mrs Tong will look after the year 4-7 sector. We will however together with Mr Larden work together to ensure all areas are addressed appropriately. I look forward to meeting you if I have not done so already and welcome you to our nurturing learning environment. Please acquaint yourself with me if you have not done so already. I am passionate about my role and supporting your children while they are with us, during their educational experience. My door is always open. I encourage you to communicate with me.

What an awesome start to our year. Yes, there were some tears as our Prep students experienced their first days at school, we encountered some challenges as we had to create three composite classes to allow our children to access the year level appropriate curriculum and many families had questions that needed to be answered in order to comfort their children and remind them that we had their best interests at heart. I witnessed many smiles, positive comments and content dispositions by our students about their new teachers and environments, which was not only comforting but pleasing and reaffirmed that our class allocation, which our 2013 teachers were instrumental in constructing, contributed to a smooth
transition. All students have settled in and have been engaged in their new curriculum over the past week.

A warm welcome is extended to our new students and their family members. Hopefully you have felt the warmth of our Park Lake family. We are off and racing, yet take the time to share this special time in your child’s educational experience, which only happens once.

Also this year we have many new staff members joining our team: Ms Davis, Ms Brennan, Miss Tomkinson, Mrs Arthur, Miss Neale, Mrs Van Eyk, Mrs Buist, Mrs Brodhurst, Mrs Crook, Mr Brightwell, Mr Attenbough, Mr Woodyatt, Miss Fliksorn, Miss Takahashi and Mrs Parahi. We welcome you all. Can I say that these staff, have come to us with a vast range of knowledge and experience and we are excited by that. They are still settling in and are becoming ‘Park Lakeified’. Therefore we ask that you please respect their transition, welcome them to our community and take the time to get to know them. I am confident you will be happy with the results.

I encourage you to attend our Parent Teacher ‘Meet & Greet’ evening to obtain a greater insight to the curriculum your child will be immersed in during their day to day life at Park Lake SS. It is your first chance to become involved in your child’s education for 2014 so try to attend this event. It will be held on Tuesday 18 February, 2014. This opportunity should provide you with valuable information and also be an opportunity to have those niggling questions answered.

Just a reminder that we are encouraging our students to be Confident and Persistent throughout the day, especially between 2:30 – 3:00 p.m. I know and understand that you like to catch a glimpse of your child at work or to let them know that you have arrived however it is very distracting for them and their teacher if they are trying to complete a reflection or if they are reminding them of important events for the next day. Please refrain from drawing their attention away from their teacher during this time. Wait until your child has been dismissed as this promotes independence which is an important factor in their personal development. Thank you for your understanding with regards to this matter.

I am excited by the challenges that lie ahead. Enjoy 2014 with your child, play a vital role and become a contributing member of the PLSS community. Take care over the coming fortnight and don’t forget to find the positive in every experience your child encounters.

Yours in Education

Mrs Kris Lennox
Deputy Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL NEWS MIDDLE PHASE

I am very excited to be joining the team at Park Lake State School in 2014. I would like to thank the entire school community (staff, students and parents) for giving me such a warm welcome. I certainly feel proud to be the Deputy Principal of such a wonderful school. It has been lovely that so many of you have taken the time to introduce yourselves to me. I look forward to meeting many more of you in the coming weeks.

I would like to take the opportunity of our first newsletter, to tell you a little about myself. I have been Deputy Principal at Benowa Primary School since 2008. Prior to 2008, I was the Head of Curriculum at Upper Coomera State College. I am passionate about education and making a difference in young lives. I understand that I have an extremely important job of improving the learning journey of every student. As a school community, you have placed an enormous amount of trust in me and I will ensure to do the very best for your children each and every day.

On a personal note, I am married to Peter, who also happens to be a Principal on the Gold Coast. Together we have two boys (15 years and 13 years). We enjoy caravaning and have recently taken up snow skiing (well, I try anyway). We live in the local area, and I am sure that I will bump into many of you at the local shops or gym.

In 2014, I will be the Deputy of our Middle Phase Students. I will be spending a lot of time in our Year 3-7 classrooms, assisting our teachers to guide your children on their own learning journey. It is important to me that the partnership between home and school is strong. Please take the time to get to know your child’s teacher and keep in regular contact. It is when home and school work together, that we have the best conditions for optimal learning in our students.

Over the last week, I have been into each of our Middle Phase classrooms. I have been very impressed with the organisation skills and strong work ethic of our students. I have seen the school’s pedagogical framework in action and have been very impressed with the methods that our teachers are using to inspire their students to learn. It has been such a smooth start to the year and I am looking forward to seeing our students grow, as the year progresses.

Finally, I always make time to meet with families – no issue is too big or too small. If you wish to discuss any matters in regards to your child and their learning journey, please do not hesitate to contact me for assistance. Together, we will be able to work on the solutions.

Have a fantastic week!

Barb Tong
Deputy Principal

SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING

A big welcome to all the Prep students and families for 2014. We are looking forward to a rewarding year ahead with your children as they embark on their first year of schooling. This year we have a whopping 7 prep classes with a variety of teachers to support your children along the way. As teachers we have been excited to see how well the students have begun to settle into their classes and school routine. We successfully made it through week one and have begun to do some groundwork within our subject areas. This week we will be beginning our phonics program starting with the letter S. In the next couple of weeks your children will be sent home with a high frequency word book and home reader. More information on these will be discussed during the parent information
sessions on Tuesday the 18th. Please be vigilant in checking your emails as teachers will be sending out class letters each term with important information regarding events and curriculum. A gentle reminder – the Prep playground is out of bounds for students and siblings before and after school. We are excited for the year to come.

Regards,
Prep Team Teachers

CURRICULUM CORNER
Hello Park Lake Learning Community,
This week in Curriculum Corner we will be sharing a new innovation happening in your student’s classroom this year called SMART Maths.
SMART maths, is a warm up program that fosters problem solving using the ‘STAR’ model.

S – Sort out the important information
T – Think about what you know that might help
A – Action, carry out the plan you made
R – Reflect on how effective your strategy was and whether you are satisfied with your solution.

The idea behind this program is to have the children use deeper thinking with regards to maths activities. This fun, meaningful, student centred and versatile program creates an engaging learning space that challenges your student’s Maths understanding. The hands on approach and mental computation utilised within the program ensures that students are warming up their ‘Maths brains’ ready for each new mathematical concept.

SMART maths is a whole school program that acknowledges the different ways student learn and process math problems. The program caters for students and their ability. It gives teachers an insight into student’s thinking understanding and misconceptions. It requires students to develop specific language associated with particular mathematical concepts. It also gives students an appropriate space to take risks with their maths thinking and challenge themselves.

We look forward to sharing this journey with you and any developments along the way. We hope to offer a parent SMART math session in the coming weeks. The session will allow you to better understand what is happening here at school and support you to encourage your child’s problem solving strategies. Stay tuned!

Thank you for your support
Sam McGregor and Martina Tramier

HEALTHY HABITS
ANAPHYLAXIS
At Park Lake SS we have several children with high level medical allergies to nuts, eggs and milk. These children suffer a severe allergic reaction called anaphylaxis which causes swelling of the breathing passage requiring immediate medical attention. In order to provide a safe environment for them I would ask that children are not sent to school with peanuts, peanut butter sandwiches, egg sandwiches, boiled eggs, or milk based products.

Please understand that I am not introducing a blanket food ban or prohibiting parents from providing these food items, however I am following Education Queensland Policy and asking that all families consider this request and the possible consequences for the students involved. My suggestion is to consider this request from the position of a parent who has a child with a potentially life-threatening allergy, if we can reduce the risk for any child in this position then I think it is worth considering, and for the vast majority of our students it will make no significant change to their day to bring food products other than nuts, eggs or milk based products.

I understand the difficulty that the request to not send peanut derivative products such as peanut butter and nutella or egg sandwiches, yogurt or cheese to school causes for some families. As a State School all students are entitled to enrol at Park Lake if they live within our boundary and I have an obligation to ensure the safety of each student, I take this obligation very seriously and this request is part of the processes being put into place to provide a safe environment for these children.

Another element to this is to ensure that your child/ren know that they are not to share their food with any other student, this is good practice anyway so that you know your child has eaten what you sent them to school with and has had a balanced diet for the day. We will continue to promote the washing of hands both prior to and after eating as a good hygiene practice for our students and to reduce the risk of physical contact with any of the students who have these allergies.

As stated earlier, this is a request not a blanket ban, as individual parents/carers you need to consider the information given and make a decision which is satisfactory to your own conscience. Please do not hesitate to contact the School Office or to speak with Kris Lennox, Barb Tong, or myself if you have any further questions.

Thank you for your consideration and understanding with this matter.

Regards
Craig Larden
Principal
### YOU CAN DO IT! PROGRAM

Three years ago, a committee formed to address issues associated with student interpersonal behavior. After a process of consultation, information gathering and research, it became clear that a proactive approach in the wider context of student social and emotional development would be required to address such issues.

A program with the goal of fostering the social and emotional development of children, showing them to develop to their full potential, was selected. The program is called the YCDII (You Can Do It), developed in Australia, and at the University of Melbourne, by psychologist Professor Donald Cross. It has been well received, and very successfully in the UK, New Zealand, and around the world.

The program helps students to recognize the "Big Feelings" and "Social Situations." Feeling Angry, Abandoning, Not Taking Action, Overcoming Fears, Understanding Others, Feeding Varying Opinions and Making Better Choices are all key aspects of the program. The program also helps to teach the "You Can Do It" philosophy.

"You are what you are and where you are because of what has gone into your mind. You can change what you are and where you are by changing what goes into your mind." — Zig Ziglar, International Speaker

### IMPORTANT DATES TERM 1

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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FEBRUARY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 10th- 14th</td>
<td>Religious Education commences this week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 10th</td>
<td>Soccer X Commences – after school activity</td>
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<td>Tues 18th</td>
<td>District Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 18th</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 9:00am</td>
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<td>Tues 18th</td>
<td>Parent Information Night</td>
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<td>Mon 24th - Fri 28th</td>
<td>Bus Education</td>
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<td><strong>MARCH</strong></td>
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<td>Mon 3rd – Fri 7th</td>
<td>HPE Week</td>
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<td>Tues 4th</td>
<td>Interschool Sport Yr 4 – 7</td>
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<td>Thurs 6th</td>
<td>Footsteps Dance – Prep, 2, 4, 6</td>
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<td>Fri 7th</td>
<td>Artslink Performance – No Way</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 13th</td>
<td>Footsteps Dance – Prep, 2, 4, 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 18th</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting &amp; AGM 6:30pm</td>
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<td>Tues 18th – Wed 19th</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 20th</td>
<td>Footsteps Dance – Prep, 2, 4, 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 24th</td>
<td>Religion Easter Concert – R.E students only</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 25th</td>
<td>P – 2 Cross Country</td>
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<td>Wed 26th</td>
<td>3 – 7 Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 27th</td>
<td>Footsteps Dance – Prep, 2, 4, 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 27th</td>
<td>Disco</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 28th</td>
<td>Camp Quality Puppets</td>
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<td>Mon 31st – Thurs 3rd April</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Interviews</td>
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<td><strong>APRIL</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 3rd</td>
<td>Footsteps Dance – Prep, 2, 4, 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 4th</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 5th – Mon 21st</td>
<td>Easter School Holidays</td>
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**ADMIN UPDATES**

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome everyone to Park Lake SS for 2014. The holiday season seems to have passed quickly and already we are well and truly into work routines with a busy year ahead. Along with the further growth in our whole school we welcome many new students and staff to Park Lake and look forward to getting to know you. There have also been a couple of changes to our office team with Mrs Bourke taking on a full time role this term alongside Mrs Harte who is now permanently located at our school. We would also like to welcome back and also thank Mrs Lyndal Goodman who has supported our office in a casual capacity at this busy time of the year.

One of the major changes which you will need to be aware of this year is that the office will be receiving **Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings only**, from 8am to 9:30am. We will not be accepting payments at our receipting counter at any other time. If you wish to pay at other times you will need to use internet banking.

Once again for your convenience as well as our own, we have invoiced a number of activities together so you are able to complete payment in one transaction. Please retain your receipt as a record and reminder of what you have paid for as it will list the items individually.

If payment is due by a certain day, payment will need to be received at school on that day by 9:30am, otherwise your child will not be able to participate in that activity. The reason cut off dates are in place is to allow for organisation and preparation of activities and events, including submission of student numbers, placing deposits, bookings etc. Please remind students to bring any payments directly to the office in the morning when they arrive at school, as they will be responsible for their own money if they do not get it to the office in time. If you do not want your child to have this responsibility please choose another method of making payment, that is internet, cheque, credit card or debit card. The office does not hold cash on the premises.

Our bank account details are as follows:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Account Name Park Lake State School</th>
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<tr>
<td>BSB 064-474</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Account Number 10252850</td>
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Please also ensure that any forms associated with activities and excursions are returned directly to the office. New Medical forms will be required every time a student goes off site and also for any school based activity which is outside normal school hours, such as sleepover. These forms are required every time there is a new event to ensure we have current information and that any changes to medical conditions, medications etc are up to date.

I also take this opportunity to remind all parents and caregivers that it is your responsibility to ensure that your contact details,
as well as any change in medical information or other information that may affect the well-being of your child is up to date. I would also like to draw your attention to the importance of having additional emergency contacts listed on your student’s details should the school be unable to contact you in the case of an accident or emergency situation.

All communications are via our electronic newsletter and email, therefore it is vital that office staff have received your current email address. I urge you to ensure that you check communications regularly to ensure you are aware of all the activities going on at school. Keeping up to date with school events and being organised ahead of time allows not only your child to be well prepared but also reduces the stress of trying to finalise things at the last minute and at times, the upset of missing out. Our cut-off dates are well advertised and we do not accept payment beyond the closing date. Messages and information can also be viewed on our electronic school sign and on our 2 notice boards outside Admin.

On a slightly different note, please be aware that when picking up children early, due to the disruption to classes, students will not be called down to the office. Our procedures require parents to sign children out at the office and take the “Early Release” slip to the classroom for the teacher to release the student.

Please ensure that all hats and property, including lunch boxes and drink bottles are clearly named. Last year we had an enormous amount of lost property. If property cannot be returned to the owner, it will eventually be donated to a charitable organisation. The lost property container is placed outside the sports store each day, so please check if you are missing any property. We do endeavour to get named property back to the owner but your assistance with clearly naming and checking is greatly appreciated.

Regards
Karyn Glindemann
Business Services Manager

ACCIDENT INSURANCE COVER FOR STUDENTS

Some school activities and physical education, particularly contact sports, carry inherent risks of injury.

Parents are advised that the Department of Education and Training does not have Student Accident Insurance cover for students. Therefore, if your child is injured at school as a result of an accident or incident, all costs associated with the injury, including medical costs, are the responsibility of the child, parent or caregiver. Some incidental medical costs may be covered by Medicare. If parents have private health insurance, some costs may also be covered through the private health insurance. Any other costs would be borne by the parents.

Student Accident Insurance is an insurance policy that pays certain benefits in certain circumstances should your child have an accident. It is a personal decision for parents as to the types and levels of private insurance they arrange to cover their child for any accidental injury that may occur. Parents should contact their insurer or an approved Australian insurance broker if they choose to take out student personal accident insurance cover for their child.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AT PARK LAKE

Every class has a 45 minute PE lesson each week. For PE lessons students are required to wear their brimmed hat and bring their water bottle. Students will participate in a range of activities and sports. Term 1 will include the following:

Prep-1: Gross motor and ball skills and rotational activities.
Grade 2-3: Gross motor skills, hockey and basketball.
Grade 4-7: Netball and a unit focussed on fitness.

School Sports Carnivals

Each year students are involved in a range of sporting carnivals. Our school house teams are Kangaroos (red), Barramundi (blue), Lorikeet (green) and Goanna (yellow). Students are allocated a house team when they enrol at the school and remain in that house every year. Everyone is able to dress up in their house colours for sports carnivals remembering to be sun safe.

Cross Country Carnival – This is held at the end of Term 1. We have a P-3 carnival and a 4-7 carnival run in the first session.

Athletics Carnivals – This is held at the end of Term 2. There is a senior carnival and a junior carnival. The senior carnival is a fun participation day where students rotate around in age groups doing shot-put, long jump, high jump and tug of war. They also participate in 100m sprints. For the junior carnival students remain in their classes with their teacher and rotate around the oval doing a range of athletic events and activities.

Swimming Carnival – This is held at the end of Term 4. It is for 9-13 year olds. It is an after school event held on a Tuesday from 4-6pm at Runaway Bay Sports Super Centre. It is not compulsory for students but all are encouraged to have a go.

Interschool Sports Carnivals

Students in years 4-7 have the opportunity to participate in 4 interschool sports carnivals a year. These are held in terms 1, 2, 3 and 4 in the last couple of weeks. These are full day carnivals with Highland Reserve and Coomera Rivers. Two sports are chosen per term and the students select which sport they would like to play. Most of the coaching of the sports is done during PE lessons and lunch times.

Important Dates for Term 1

District Swimming: Tuesday February 18th
Running Club commences: Wednesday February 12th
First Interschool Sport Carnival: Tuesday March 4th
Cross Country P-2: Tuesday March 25th
Cross Country 3-7: Wednesday March 26th

LOVING YOUR LIBRARY IN 2014

Welcome back everyone for another exciting year in 2014. A very special welcome to all our new families as well.

Library lessons began last week with borrowing commencing this week for all classes except Prep. Students in Prep spend the first 2 weeks with an introduction to our library - learning
how to look after library books and how to borrow. At Park Lake State School we have a very high percentage of children from all the classes who borrow books every week from the library. Getting into the habit of borrowing and returning books regularly helps to engage children’s minds in reading and encourage an involvement in literature. Please ensure that your child has a library bag to transport the books to and from school. It is very important that we keep our books protected and safe.

Our school library is not just about borrowing books. It is an integral part of the school where we are about promoting a love of reading, facilitate researching and information technology skills, and provide a fun and comfortable place to visit. We endeavour to have the library open every lunch break for children to visit, play games, research on computers, or just to sit in a bean bag and read quietly.

Over the year we run a few different activities to get everyone involved and excited about reading and books. Watch the newsletter for more information.

Have a great week,

Marcia McMahon,
Teacher Librarian

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES 2014

Throughout the year there will be many clubs/extra activities available for students to become involved in. Whether they are into gardening, chess, sport, art, movie making….there is a club to suit everyone. Please open the attachment for more information.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education classes will commence in Week 3 for students from years 1 to year 7. All students attending R.E will require the student activity books for which you will receive an invoice by email. Payment of $6.00 can be made at the office or by internet banking and books will be sent directly to the classrooms. If you no longer wish your child to attend R.E classes a letter must be provided to the office prior to classes commencing.

ARTSLINK PERFORMANCE 7 MARCH

No Way! is an interactive dance theatre production that tackles the serious issue of bullying in a creative and vibrant way. Using moveable puzzle pieces to reveal questions and scenarios about bullying, the two dancers will draw students into the heart of the bullying problem and help them to discover a solution.

Set to a dynamic soundtrack of music, student interviews and facts from the Bullying, No Way! campaign, No Way! reflects students’ experiences with bullying, inspiring them to take action and make positive changes.

Invoices have been emailed out this week.

Artslink Queensland is a not-for-profit, non-government organisation, dedicated to bringing the arts to Queensland students.

PARK LAKE STATE SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

Welcome back to the start of another school year. This year chaplaincy will be continuing within the Park Lake school community with full support of the schools P&C under the National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program funding. My role within the school is to provide pastoral care and support to students, staff and parents. A school chaplain is a safe person for children to connect with at school, providing a listening ear and a caring presence. My role is also to help students find better ways to deal with issues such as bullying, friendship issues, peer pressure, family breakdown or any significant change in a child’s life. I work closely with the GO, administration and other support staff within the school. My days at Park Lake are Tuesday and Friday. If you wish to contact me, feel free to call the school office or you can email me at ashie24@eq.edu.au

Your chappy, Alicia Shields.

SOCcer X PROGRAM PARK LAKE SS

Soccer X will be running an 8 week after school Soccer Programme at Park Lake State School during Term 1, beginning Mon 10th Feb. The programme will cost $70 per child. Sessions take place on the school oval between 3-4pm. Our fun based sessions are open to all ages and abilities. Online registration is available at www.soccer-x.com If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Justyn on 0451 162346.

CHILD & ADOLESCENT ORAL HEALTH SERVICE

Students in grades (7 GIBUMM, 6/7 NYUNGA, 2 BELLBIRD, 2 COCKATOO) have been provided with an offer of oral health care examination card to take home. The Dental Van will be arriving at Park Lake State School on the 28.02.14.

If your child is enrolled in one of the grades listed above or are new to the school and did not receive an offer of care pack and you would like to arrange for your child to receive oral health care please contact the Oral Health Call Centre 1300 300 850. Monday to Friday 8.00 am – 4.30 pm Excluding Public Holidays.

If your child requires disability access please identify this requirement with the Call Centre Operator.

SCHOOL TRANSPORT

QUERIES REGARDING SCHOOL BUS PASSES AND TIMETABLES.

For queries regarding eligibility and applications for a school bus pass under the School Transport Assistance Scheme, please contact the Department of Transport and Main Roads on 5630 8857 or www.tmr.qld.gov.au

For queries about the issuing of a bus pass, the payment of top-up fares, timetabling, or route information please refer to Surfside Buslines at www.surfside.com.au then click on Schools Services tab – if you still need further information telephone 5571 6555. Staff are endeavouring to respond to your enquiry within 48 hours.
P&C CORNER

Welcome back to a brand new school year! I hope you all had a fantastic break and are ready for a year full of great P&C activities. On behalf of the P&C Association, I would like to welcome new families to our school and hope that you have enjoyed your first week getting to know your way around Park Lake State School.

HOLIDAY PROJECTS

During the school holidays the P&C Association arranged for the bark in the Prep and Grevillea playgrounds to be replaced with rubber softfall. This has been a project that the P&C has been working toward for quite some time and we are sure many families are glad to see the bark gone!

We also sponsored a range of new signage around the school including House Team Banners in the undercover area near the oval, Building Names and ‘You Can Do It’ pencils; a great addition to our school.

WHAT IS HAPPENING AT OUR SCHOOL?

Coming along to a P&C meeting is a great way to stay in touch with what is happening around our school, such as up-coming school activities, proposed new buildings, staff changes and more. You will also be involved in making decisions about the direction our school takes and you have the opportunity to contribute your ideas and opinions on a range of topics.

The beginning of the school year is a great time to find out who we are and what we do. Our first meeting will be held on;

MORNING MEETING

Tuesday, 18th February, 2014 - 9.00am
(In the staff room – next to the library)

We hope that you will have a chance to come along and introduce yourself!

If you are not able to attend our day meeting our next evening meeting will be held on;

EVENING MEETING

Tuesday 18th March, 2014 – 6.30pm
(In the staff room – next to the library)

Please remember coming along to a meeting or even joining the P&C doesn’t mean you have to dedicate hours of your time, or even attend every meeting – it’s about staying in touch with what is happening in your child’s education. If you can offer a little of your time (or a lot) we would love to have you on the team - the more people involved offering ideas and perspective, the more successful we can be.

We look forward to meeting you all soon!

Lorrie Watts
P&C President

TUCKSHOP

Welcome back for 2014!

Our tuckshop is now open for business Monday to Friday from 8.30am

Also our Flexi Schools online ordering system is now activated for you to place lunch orders over the internet.

Please visit www.flexischools.com.au for more information about online ordering.

(Please be sure when placing your lunch order to use your new class name!)

CAN YOU HELP?

We urgently need volunteers to assist in our Tuckshop for 2014.

Even if you only have a couple of hours per week or month to spare, we would love to hear from you!

Please contact our new Tuckshop Convenor, Tania - on 0409 036 672 if you wish to put your name forward or if you have any questions about what is involved.

CHEMMART PACIFIC PINES COMMUNITY FUND

Park Lake State School’s P&C Association were the recipients of the Chemmart Pacific Pines Community Fund for the months of December 2013 & January 2014. For every Chemmart Branded Product sold during those months, 5% of the total sales, equalling $697.40, was kindly donated to our school! We would like to say a big Thank You & express our appreciation to the team at Chemmart Pacific Pines for this generous donation!

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform shop is now open!

Operating Hours Term 1

TUESDAY & FRIDAY
8.15am to 9.00am

DON’T FORGET YOUR CONTRIBUTION!

The school contribution scheme is an important part of the resources we can provide to your children (such as ipads, learning software & home reader books etc).

This is payable throughout the year – you can even pay in instalments.

It is voluntary but also vital for us to support the students of...
our school!
So please consider this small expense when visiting the
uniform shop.
It’s all about your children – they’re worth it!
Thank you for your support

THE ATHLETE’S FOOT
The Athlete’s Foot Helensvale support Park Lake State School
by making a donation back to the school whenever you make
a purchase of school shoes/runners/footy boots.
Simply tell the cashier that you attend Park Lake State School
When you are making your purchase.

SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking will commence next Thursday 13th February.
The Commonwealth Bank School banking
program is a wonderful initiative which helps students at
Park Lake learn the value of money and how to save it.
Sign up days 2014 – to be advised.
We appreciate your ongoing support

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

PACIFIC PINES POWER JUNIOR AFL CLUB -
SIGN ON FOR SEASON 2014

Club Sign On Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th February at Pacific
Pines JAFC for season 2014.

Come down to the club between 9am-2pm
We are located at McCauley Parade Pacific Pines
We cater for 5-16 year old Boys AND Girls (girls only comp -
U15 and U18 teams)
and we want YOU to come and play with the Power.
Our NAB AFL Auskick will commence on Friday 14th
February from 4.30pm to 5.30pm.
If you need further information please call Gavin Dunn
0422321362 (club contact).

SAND SAFARI

Let the magic and awe of this year’s Sand Safari experience
take you on a journey to discover, imagine and explore the
wonderful art of Sand Sculpting.
Over three weeks, the Surfers Paradise Foreshore and various
locations across the Gold Coast will feature magnificent sand
sculptures. The event will begin with the new edition of a Sand

Price: Free
Address: The Foreshore, Surfers Paradise
Phone: (07) 5584 3700
Website: www.surfersparadise.com