FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Parent/Carer

Over the past fortnight I have had the pleasure of visiting a number of classes and sharing some time with students to discuss their learning activities. Congratulations to Murray River, Swag, Pavlova, Chagun and Gibummm on the effort they are putting into their learning and their knowledge of what they are learning and why. Well done to the teachers of these classes on the preparation and commitment they show towards their students.

Last Tuesday I was able to travel with our senior strings ensemble to the Gold Coast Eisteddfod and enjoy hearing them participate in this event. What an amazing performance by our students, receiving a Very Highly Commended was an outstanding accomplishment and each one of the students should be very proud of themselves. Congratulations to Mrs Sullivan on preparing the students so well for this performance opportunity.

Once again our Book Week celebrations have been amazing these past two days. I am always impressed with the sheer number of students and staff who join in and dress up for this celebration. Thank you to all of the parents and grandparents who supported their children in preparation for this event. Thank you to Mrs McMahon and her team for encouraging both the staff and students to participate in this activity and for organising the two mornings. We want our students to love reading and this is one way we can promote the value and fun of “Connecting to Reading”.

Tomorrow is Teacher Aide Day and whilst we hold a celebration for all non-teaching staff at the same time I would like to acknowledge and celebrate the fantastic work that our teacher aides do every day to support teachers and student learning across our school.

Tomorrow I will be attending a Regionally funded professional learning opportunity as the representative for the fourteen schools in our local cluster of schools. Along with other cluster chairs, I will be working with our Regional Director and Assistant Regional Directors to enhance the learning outcomes for all students across our Region. This is a fantastic opportunity to assist in the direction of our Regional operations and in program implementation aimed at continuing to lift the knowledge and understanding of students in all schools across the Region.

We have commenced a trial program with the support of the Gold Coast City Council where we are taking approximately fifty of our Year Six and Seven students across to the local AFL field to play a more structured game of soccer or touch football three times per week. The idea is to see if this will alleviate some pressure on the numbers on our school oval and provide the opportunity for those more competitively natured children to have a structured and refereed game of sport. The trial period is until the end of this term and if successful we will be looking to make some more permanent arrangements in 2015 as the oval is closed during term four for maintenance. So far things are going well and we are receiving positive feedback from both students and staff that are involved.

Thank you to the many parents and carers who are doing their best to ensure the safety of our students is of prime importance as they arrive at or leave our school. Afternoons will always be chaotic at schools of our size as there can never be enough parking provided for the volume of cars arriving for such a short period of time. However, if everyone is patient and considerate of others then it doesn’t take very long for all students to leave the school grounds and be on their way safely. Don’t forget that some other options are to park a bit further away from school and walk the last bit and return with your children, this is good for all of your health and every little bit helps to reduce congestion. If your children are a little older perhaps they can just walk to you at a pre-organised pick up point. Once again thank you for working to create a safe environment for our students.

Have a great fortnight.

Regards
Craig Larden
Principal
Hello Everyone

A fantastic fortnight has just flown by and I wish to share some snippets of the pride I have felt in many individuals within our student body. There has been a range of students visit me to share great work, be rewarded for improved behaviour and to communicate the learning that they actively participated in. It is great to also hear that ‘my office’ is a positive place to visit and our students like coming here to see me.

Our wonderful Mrs Tramier, Mrs McGregor and Miss Seater have been in-servicing teachers about a new writing approach that we will be adopting for next year across the whole school: Seven Steps. Teachers have been putting their learning into practice and as a result many students have had the opportunity to learn about ‘sizzling starts’. Many students were eager to share their awesome starts last week with me which I was thrilled about and I wanted to acknowledge their efforts.

Jenna from the Kookaburra class read me her wonderful writing this week and I was extremely impressed by her ability to take risks and be a writer.

Lukas, Emma and Kaden from Sydney Harbour Bridge also ‘blew me away’ with their very emotive beginnings and the way they were able to share their work with confidence.

Bailey, Airlie, Alex, Mia, Bethany, Tane, Alyssa, Bailey and Milan from Uluru instantly grabbed my attention with their opening lines which is vital if a reader is going to stay engaged with a text.

We have only begun this journey however instant excitement has been seen and heard across the school. I look forward to reading more great writing as we roll this out over the remainder of 2014.

Mrs McMahon you have once again put on an awesome experience for our students.

Book Week: is always enjoyable as we recognise the importance of reading with the focus this year on connecting. Our students and staff looked amazing, more and more students each year celebrate by joining in. Thanks again Mrs McMahon. You’re a champion. Mrs Palmer, Mrs McGregor, Mr Larden and Mr Englert you were also very impressive. Well done!

As our term is beginning to draw to a close please be mindful of student’s tendency to exhibit signs of fatigue. Their well-being and state of mind are aspects that we need to monitor closely as for learning to continue right up until the end of term students need to be in a positive state. As parents, make sure your child is getting adequate quality sleep, nutritional meals, drinking plenty of water and are provided with consistent reminders of love and affection. Without the basic necessities it is difficult for us all to reach goals, make appropriate choices, remain focused and concentrate on the job of learning. So often when we look at all the aspects of why people are behaving in a particular way we discover that these basics had not been met and could have made a significant difference to the outcomes we often are confronted with here at school. Thank you for your continued support with regards to this matter.

This past week our teachers were involved in a school based moderation process which has given them the opportunity to assess student’s work samples. Their professional discussions are in relation to certain criteria which results in them allocating an A-E grading for a particular piece of work. It is always a valuable process as it ensures consistency across the school for our students. These are then used along with other supporting evidence to report on your child’s progress for the semester of work, which you will receive as a formal report card at the end of this year. This process ensures that there is consistency across the year level.

A few reminders:

The days are getting warmer and with this please be aware that students require an ‘ice brick’ in their lunch boxes to keep everything fresh and bacteria free. Deli meats, yoghurts, etc…often do not make the distance to second break therefore please encourage your child to eat these more perishable items at first break.

Be safe, think smart. Please communicate these messages at home as we do here at school to be on the lookout for strangers and/or stranger behaviours. This is not to alarm your children but once again that it is always at the fore front of their minds and so that they don’t panic but know what to do in the case of an emergency.

Swimming: Prep, Year 1 and 2

Commences next Monday, 8 September for two weeks. Please send towel, swimmers, goggles/cap (if required) and plastic bag for wet items to be stored in, to school with your child every day of this program. Unfortunately if your child does not have these items they will be unable to attend. Please see timetable below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Pick Up</th>
<th>Start Lesson</th>
<th>Finish Lesson</th>
<th>Drop Off</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Echidna, GT Frog, Koala</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>11.00</td>
<td>11.15</td>
<td>11.45</td>
<td>12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bearded Dragon, BL Lizard, Dingo</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>11.30</td>
<td>11.45</td>
<td>12.15</td>
<td>12.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wombat, Crocodile, GW Shark</td>
<td>P &amp; Y1</td>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>12.15</td>
<td>12.45</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seasnake, Stingray, Wobbegong</td>
<td>Y1</td>
<td>12.30</td>
<td>12.45</td>
<td>1.15</td>
<td>1.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bluebottle, Belbird, Cockatoo</td>
<td>Y1 &amp;2</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.15</td>
<td>1.45</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kookaburra, Platypus, WT Eagle</td>
<td>Y2</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>1.45</td>
<td>2.15</td>
<td>2.30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Look forward to seeing many of you at the end of term disco.

Until then, be safe and take care of your families...

Yours in Education
Mrs Kris Lennox
Deputy Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL NEWS MIDDLE PHASE

Last Wednesday, Ms Clarke and I had the pleasure of taking 5 Ecomarine ambassadors to Nova FM in Brisbane. These students have all shown a great passion about caring for the environment and have been selected to represent the school to assist in educating our community about the importance of saving marine life and keeping our waterways clear of rubbish. The students had a tour of Nova FM and brainstormed with other ambassadors from other schools about ways in which they can get their environmental message heard. I am sure that you will see environmental messages from our ambassadors in upcoming newsletters. Congratulations to Hope, Nickia, Lilly, Brooklyn and Leah for your wonderful work in this area.

Last week, I also had the pleasure of watching our Strings Stars students perform at the Gold Coast Eisteddfod. The competition was tough and it was really hard to imagine that the majority of these students had only been playing their instruments for a few short months. Our students received a Very Highly Commended and should be congratulated on these fantastic results. Our Senior Strings also received a Very Highly Commended last week. It is great to see our school with such a strong Strings program. Thank you to Mrs Sullivan for her expertise in teaching our children so well!

It was great to participate in my first “Book Week” here at Park Lake State School. There was such a buzz in the air and it was wonderful hearing about all of the characters that children came as. There is such a wide variety of book reading happening at our school and this was represented well in the costumes. Staff got into the mood full swing and it was great for the children to see that their teachers love books too! Thank you to Mrs Marcia McMahon for all of her organisation for this event and for giving us lots of costume ideas along the way. These events don’t just “happen” and a huge amount of organisation goes into them, so please say thank you to Mrs McMahon when you next see her.

Finally, I would like to wish all of our Dads and Grandfathers a Happy Father’s Day for this Sunday. We hope that you enjoy the little gift that was purchased at our school Father’s Day stall and we thank Lee-Anne Millard for her hard work in ensuring that all students were able to go “shopping” this week.

Have a fantastic fortnight,
Barb

P&C CORNER

P&C Matters

It has been an extremely busy third term with lots of events and activities - it is hard to believe that there are only a few short weeks left. Thank you to our events co-ordinator and our volunteers and for all the effort you have put into running these events. We appreciate the support given by everyone.

CUA Community Care

The votes have been tallied and the results are in for the CUA Community Care Program.

The winner for our region is... Toogoolawa School Ormeau

Thank you to all the families and those in our community who took the time to vote for our project – we will continue to work toward this project for the future.

SCHOOL DISCO

IT’S DISCO TIME!

Heroes VS Villains

This term we will be holding a fancy dress disco. Please come along dressed as your favourite

Super Hero or Super Villain!

When: Wednesday 17th September, 2014
Where: Park Lake State School Hall
Time: Prep – Yr2 @ 5pm to 6pm
Yr 3 – Yr7 @ 6.15pm to 7.30pm
Cost: $5.00 per student

Tickets on sale from Monday 15th Sept to Wednesday 17th
8.30am to 9.15am in front of the Uniform Shop.

Glowsticks and Finger Lights will be available for purchase on the night
to add to the FUN!!!

THIS IS A PARK LAKE STATE SCHOOL STUDENT ONLY EVENT
(Students are to be picked up by their parent at the end of their disco)

If you are available to help out on the night – we’d love to hear from you!

Please contact Lee-Anne Millard on
Lbm2479@gmail.com or 0408 809 778
(Volunteers needed for Door sales, Glowstick Sales, BBQ and Tuckshop)

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS – 2014/2015 ARE IN NOW!!!

These books are fantastic value featuring hundreds of discount vouchers! Packed with loads of ideas for school holidays and weekend adventures as well as casual and fine dining! You can check out all these books have to offer at either Administration or the Uniform Shop! They are available for you to order online.
FATHERS DAY STALL
This week students had the opportunity to purchase gifts at our Father’s Day Stall. We hope that all our Dad’s, Grandpa’s & Poppy’s love their gifts and have a fantastic Father’s Day!

SCHOOL BANKING
Banking day every WEDNESDAY morning.

UPCOMING MEETINGS
MORNING MEETING
Tuesday 28th October, 2014 – 9.00am
(In the staff room – next to the library)

EVENING MEETING
Tuesday, 25th November, 2014 – 6.30pm
(In the staff room – next to the library)

We have only two more meetings this year – we would love you to come along and check out what being in the P&C is all about. We welcome your ideas on how we can improve our school and our community.

SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING
What a busy term it has been so far with our Year 6 Students! The highlight of the term so far would have to have been our school camp at Lake Ainsworth in August. The focus of our activities was on team building, developing confidence and, of course, having fun. The students participated in marine studies (snorkelling through tidal pools), sailed, kayaked, climbed ropes courses and climbing walls, rode bikes, built rafts and generally had a great time. They seemed to have thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

In English, students have written a letter to a student living in the year 2064. The letter is meant to give a sense of what it is like to live as a Year 6 student in 2014. The responses so far have been interesting, engaging and often, amusing. Students are now reading a novel by Elizabeth Honey and will prepare a speech that analyses this author’s style. Students are also continuing regular reading rotations and spelling activities as part of their English lessons.

In Mathematics, we have been particularly busy with an investigation that has compared the weather in two different parts of Australia. This investigation has mainly involved collecting and displaying data. Our regular Mathematics lessons have been looking at the properties of numbers (prime or composite, square or triangular), operations with fractions, converting between units of measurement and area and perimeter word problems.

History this term has examined the experiences and contributions of a range of migrant groups in Australia. Students have looked at the reasons for Vietnamese migration to Australia in the 1970s and are being assessed on the experience and contribution of Greek and Italian migrants following the Second World War.

We are very pleased with the efforts our Year 6 students are making this term and they are already getting excited about the transition to high school next year. If you have any questions about your child’s learning, please don’t hesitate to contact us.

Dave Englert, Craig Attenborough, Michelle Bell & Lorrie Westerink
Year 6 Classroom Teachers

LOTE - JAPANESE

This term Year Six and Seven students have continued the study of Japanese for 90 minutes per week. During this term, they have learnt Hiragana, the core alphabet in Japanese. They have learnt to read, write and pronounce Hiragana through various activities and link Hiragana to form words and sentences.

Year Seven Students have learnt “Sports” in Term One and “House” in Term Two. The Year Seven students focus this term has been “The Family”. They learnt to describe people’s names, ages, personalities and occupation and are currently working on a writing assessment task in the Japanese language.

Year Six Students have focused on “Self-Introduction” in Term One and “Monster” in Term Two. This term Year Six students have worked on “At the Restaurant”. They enriched their vocabulary connecting to food and drink. They have presented a conversation between a customer and a wait person and will create a menu in Hiragana and Kanji (Chinese symbols).

Kiyomi Takahashi
Japanese teacher
HEALTHY HABITS YOU CAN DO IT! PROGRAM

INFLUENZA - THE FLU

Description
Influenza, or the flu, is a highly contagious disease caused by infection from influenza type A or B in nearly 200 strains. There are many subtypes of influenza A and B virus that are responsible for the majority of influenza transmission. Symptoms

Symptoms usually appear one to three days after the infected person contacts a virus. Common symptoms include fever, chills, headache, muscle aches, weakness, cough, sore throat, and runny or stuffy nose. In some cases, people may also experience nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and fatigue. Influenza is highly infectious, and the incubation period is usually 1 to 4 days. The virus contains two different types of RNA, and they are passed from person to person through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. 

Transmission

You can protect yourself by:

- Wash your hands regularly with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid close contact with others who are sick.
- Avoid activities that increase your risk of transmission, such as contact sports and dances.

Health Outcomes

Influenza can be serious, especially for people at risk of complications, such as pregnant women, people with chronic lung disease, and those over 65 years old. Influenza can lead to hospitalization and sometimes death.

Prevention

- Get vaccinated. The flu vaccine is the best way to prevent flu. It is available at your local pharmacist or community health centre.
- Stay healthy. Get plenty of rest, eat well, and avoid crowds and close contact with sick people.

Help and Assistance

For further information please contact your local doctor, community health centre or nearest public health centre.

IMPORTANT DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 1st – Fri 5th</td>
<td>Park Lake Book Week – Dress Up Wed 3rd &amp; Thurs 4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 8th</td>
<td>Business Networking Evening Please arrive 6:45pm for a 7pm start</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 8th – Fri 19th</td>
<td>Swimming Program Prep – Year 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 17th</td>
<td>Disco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 19th</td>
<td>Last Day Term 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th Sept – 5th October</td>
<td>School Holidays</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ASSEMBLY TIMETABLE TERM 3 2014

PLEASE NOTE: ** EARLY PHASE ASSEMBLY – PREP TO YEAR 2 STUDENTS** ** MIDDLE PHASE ASSEMBLY – YEAR 3 TO 7 STUDENTS** ** ASSEMBLY COMMENCES AT 2:15PM EVERY MONDAY

TERM 3 EARLY/MIDDLE PHASE ASSEMBLY HOSTS

Mon 8th Sept Midlife Sydney Harbour Bridge
Mon 15 Sept Whole School Great Barrier Reef

TERM 4 EARLY/MIDDLE PHASE ASSEMBLY HOSTS

Mon 6th Oct Public Holiday NO ASSEMBLY
HPE

WOW, what a fantastic interschool sports carnival we had on Tuesday. The weather was perfect and I was so proud of the students’ efforts. Whilst walking around the fields watching the students compete, it was great to see the enthusiasm, sportsmanship and teamwork they portrayed. The day is about having a go and fun which I am sure everyone did. As a bonus our 6/7 touch, 6/7 tee ball and 4/5 tee ball teams won their overall competitions, which was a great achievement.

We will now start to prepare for the final interschool sports carnival early next term on Tuesday 28th October (week 4). The two sports will be netball and AFL.

On another extremely positive note on Tuesday, we had our 6 students represent Gold Coast North at the Regional Athletics Championships at Griffith Uni. Unfortunately I could not split myself in two and be at both events but I am extremely proud of these students and their outstanding results.

Lilly Rae – 2nd 10 years shot put
Ruby Kyle – 3rd 10 years 100m
Tayla Hoegel – 11th 11 years 200m
Molini Kaumavae – 3rd 12 years shot put
Allanah Taylor – 4th 12 years high jump
Adrian Armoo – 1st 12 years 100m & 200m (Adrian also broke both the records for these events which is AMAZING!!)

Lilly, Ruby, Molini and Adrian now progress to the State Athletics Championships in Brisbane on the 14th & 15th October. I know they are very excited about this and we wish them all the best and look forward to hearing all about it.

Yours in sport
Alison Cook
HPE Specialist

PARENTING PROGRAM TRIPLE P

A new parenting support program is now available free of charge to every parent of a child with a disability aged 2 to 12 years in Queensland. Stepping Stones Triple P is a specially tailored program for parents of children with special needs and is part of the Triple P – Positive Parenting Program, one of the world’s most effective parenting programs.

Stepping Stones gives parents the skills to raise happy, confident children and build stronger family relationships. It also helps parents manage problem behaviour and developmental issues common in children with disabilities.
A Group Stepping Stones Triple P program will commence Thursday 9th October at Disability Services. For information, please contact Sarah Garrett or Rowena Woolley at Disability Services or to register, go to www.triplep-steppingstones.net

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

DOGGY DAY OUT!

When: 14th September 2014
Where: Flooded Gum Park
Time: 10am to 1pm

Bring your best furry friend, or come by yourself, for a great morning out.

• market stalls
• giveaways
• Jammin’ with Gee Cee and Cee Cee Show
• dog parade and dog activities training tips
• food and drinks

Speak with Councillor Tracey Gilmore

Competitions: Best costume, best trick, youngest dog, oldest dog, ‘waggiest tail’, largest dog, smallest dog, ‘smiliest’ dog, longest hair, best catch, and musical ‘sits’.

Do you have a pet related service or business? We’d love to hear from you. Stalls are free (conditions apply).

Dogs must be on a lead and under your control at all times.

The event is being held at the PacPower Junior AFC clubhouse in McAuley Parade, signs will be out.

Free parking at the field or in the nearby Park Lake State School car park. Free entry.