FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

DEAR PARENTS/CARERS

Term One

Six weeks into a new year and I am pleased to see how quickly classes have got up and running with their programs. Over the last few weeks teachers have been working hard to gather information and learning data about their students.

One of our key focus areas for this year is gathering whole school student learning data. Teachers have started this complex task, firstly concentrating on communication assessments.

Principal’s Conference

Last Thursday and Friday I attended the Qld State Schools Principals’ Conference. The conference theme was: A great school has a great school down the road. Along with the 1200+ other Principals from all around Queensland we undertook professional development and heard the latest research in the areas of: School Leadership, Innovation, Wellbeing, Collaboration and Demographics.

Some of you will have heard recent media reports about an outbreak of food poisoning that followed the conference. I am pleased to report that I was fortunate enough to be one of the Principals who escaped any illness. My thanks to those who have enquired about my wellbeing – appreciate it.

DATES TO REMEMBER

P & C Meeting
Monday 16th March, 2015, in school staff room at 9.30am. All Welcome!

Please Note – The AGM for 2015 will be held after this meeting.

Term 1 – 2015

- First Day for students - Term 1 – 27th January, 2015.
- Last Day Term 1 - Thursday 2nd April, 2015.
- Good Friday – 3rd April, 2015

Term 2

- First Day Term 2 – Monday 20th April, 2015.
- Anzac Day falls on SATURDAY 25th April, 2015. No extra holiday.
- Public Holiday Queen’s Birthday - Monday 8th June, 2015.
- Last Day Term 2 – Friday 26th June, 2015.

Assembly Dates – All Welcome!
Undercover Area 2.15pm

Week 8 – Friday 20th March, 2015; and
Week 10 – Thursday 2nd April, 2015.
Audit

This week we are currently undergoing a full school audit. The purpose of the audit is to support sound managerial controls over school activities, improve effectiveness and efficiency, ensure adherence to legislation and policy, ensure appropriate risk management and compliance objectives are met. Following the audit we will receive comprehensive feedback on areas of improvement. I will share the audit report with the school P&C at the next meeting.

Master Teacher

From 2015, 300 new master teacher positions will be created across the state to ensure quality teachers are working where they can make the greatest difference. Last week I was part of a panel that interviewed applicants for a master teacher position to be shared across five special schools in the North Coast Region. Once the recruitment process is finalised I will let you know the successful applicant.

Master teachers will have responsibility for leading activities and key tasks in their school and/or cluster. These will include:

- Working with instructional leaders to prioritise the teaching of literacy and numeracy within the school’s curriculum and pedagogical framework
- Improving and enhance pedagogical practices for all staff by researching and modelling quality teaching across all year levels
- Providing coaching and guidance to teachers and other staff in delivering quality teaching
- Improving the capacity of school teams to use evidence-based assessment to inform teaching and learning
- Supporting all staff in the analysis of, and response to, systemic and student data.

Ric Day
Principal

P & C News

THE NEXT P & C MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY THE 16th MARCH, AT 9.30AM IN THE SCHOOL STAFF ROOM – ALL WELCOME.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE AGM FOR 2015 WILL BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THIS MEETING TO ELECT OFFICE BEARERS FOR THE YEAR. (General Meeting will be held first then the AGM)
The first few weeks of this term the students and teachers in Early Years 4 have been spending time getting to know each other. Our class consists of five prep boys and they have been learning to follow the routines and rules of school and exploring their new environment. Throughout the week the students participate in a range of play based activities which include early literacy and numeracy skills. Group times, bike riding, gym circuit, fine motor sessions, library lessons and swimming programs are incorporated into the weekly program. The students also participate in messy play, art and craft, music, singing and ICT activities. We are fortunate to have the support of a wonderful team of therapists who assist in setting up some of our programs. Our days are very busy and enjoyable.
Welcome, Welcome, Welcome!

We would like to introduce our Early years 3 class.

HI!!! I am Zach and I love Practicing my handwriting with chalk on the blackboards!

HI! I am Madox and I love reading Dora!

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HI!!! I am Joyce and I love counting and Finding the fish in the ‘what do you see’ Book.

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HI!!! I am Ty-Rell and I enjoy The ‘room on a broom’ book!

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What a fantastic group of little people in this room! We have had an amazing time getting to know your children! We are focusing on creating our PECS folders and learning how to communicate with our friends and teachers. We have already learned so, so much! Watch this space for new skills we will develop!!!

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Thank you to all the parents and carers who have helped to make the first five weeks of school a huge success! We look forward to learning with you and your children for the rest of the school year!!!!

Erin and Trish
ASD Kidz & Familyz Inc
Market Day

21st March
10am to 1:30pm
Narangba Community Hall
229 Mackie Road, Narangba

support awareness of autism spectrum disorders