Week 4

Dear parents,

This week at the P & C Meeting I discussed some of the great initiatives that our school and staff are involved in. One of those being the classroom innovation grants. The leadership team has developed and implemented an incentive for teachers and students to join together to brainstorm innovative ideas for a project that is submission based that will rapidly enhance literacy and numeracy outcomes. Teachers are encouraged to apply for the three $1000 innovation grants and to take up the challenge to further enhance our great programs across the school. Teachers are beginning to discuss what kinds of ideas and concepts they may choose to implement and it is a really fun and exciting time for our students and staff. Innovation Grant winners will be announced on Monday the 8th of June on parade.

I would like to congratulate all of our students in Year 3, 5 7 and 9 on their outstanding behaviour and their commitment to the NAPLAN testing for 2015. After having a quick look through the tests I am very excited to report that our student progress continues to strengthen throughout 2015. One of the key highlights, at a quick glance, is the spelling with clearly visible and detailed growth for many students. Again, at a glance, grammar and punctuation appear to be very strong. I am hopeful that a similar trend will be evident in the numeracy test held this morning. I would like to sincerely thank all of our dedicated staff for their high level of professionalism and their commitment to teaching and learning for all our students. Finally, I would like to thank our staff who cooked breakfast for our NAPLAN students. This was a great opportunity for students to sit with their class group and teacher to go through last minute preparation. Well done!

Dale Magner
**STUDENTS OF THE WEEK**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 4</th>
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</table>
| Ryleigh Walton  
Darcy Hamilton  
Sam Rose  
Jordan Tennyson  
Joel Robinson  
Charlie Lawardorn  
Sally Phelps  
Hayley Turner Honnery  
Clive Williams  
Connor Fitzpatrick  
Learna Schumacher  
Cleo Lethbridge  
Lachlan Stevens  
Saphire Newby |

**STARS OF READING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 4</th>
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</table>
| Josh Rose  
Darcy Hamilton  
Bella dePercy  
Jessica Walton  
Kyle Batkines  
Bella Bunker  
Annabella Becker  
Dominic Kallquist  
Hayley Turner Honnery  
Sally Phelps | Tom Graham  
Mitchell Hay  
Emma Hebbes  
Nicholas  
Graham  
Katie Bunker  
Kasey Smith  
Reegan Hill  
Lachlan Watson  
Cooper dePercy  
Ava McNee |

**YEAR 2 DRAMA DONATIONS**

Help! Do you have any old clothes or costumes suitable for dress up? This term grade 2 are studying Drama and we will be dressing up in role as characters from stories that we are reading. If you have any old clothing or costumes that your children have outgrown, we would love to recycle them for our drama unit. Please drop any donations to the Year 2 classroom.

- Miss Hollingsworth
YEAR 9 ALTITUDE DAY

All Year 9 students will have the opportunity to participate in “Altitude Day”; a personal growth and leadership development day, on Wednesday 27th May at Highfields Cultural Centre in Toowoomba.

A one-day, multi-school conference experience for Year 9 students delivered in capital cities and key regional areas. It has been developed to empower students at a critical stage of their life and school journey. Through a combination of games, interactive presentations, inspirational guest speakers and networking opportunities, ‘Altitude Day’ challenges students to step outside of their comfort zone and realise their potential.

Students will return from ‘Altitude Day’ motivated with the knowledge that even in Year 9 they can be active and inspiring leaders of the school community. They will develop greater confidence, increased motivation, enhanced skills and gain practical advice. Guest speakers for the conference include Caitlyn Shadbolt, a Country Music Singer and contestant from X Factor and Rowie McEvoy from Max Fitness.

A letter will be sent home shortly providing further information regarding travel and dress code. This event will be funded by the school and it is expected that all Year 9 students will participate in this exciting opportunity.

Parents and students interested in further information can visit the following website. http://www.ylead.com.au/experiences/altitude-day/

YEAR 7 PROJECT 600

Project 600 is an initiative of the Darling Downs South West Region providing extra support to boost numeracy and literacy through online tuition. Each year, various programs are offered to schools and this year we are able to register eligible Year 7 students for further support in Numeracy-Problem Solving. Students who have been selected for this project are those currently achieving in the upper “C” to “B” achievement standards for Maths in the Australian Curriculum and who would benefit from a booster program to ensure they continue to make solid progress and are prepared with the foundation knowledge and skills to undertake Maths A or B in the senior years. Problem solving is an important skill in Maths and students’ capabilities with this often determines their future success with Maths in the senior years and eligibility for many professional career paths beyond Year 12. Students will participate in an online session for one lesson per week for 16 weeks. The school will fund and support this initiative as part of the Great Results Guarantee commitment. Eligible students will receive an information letter to take home. The first session commences in Week 5.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NAPLAN PARTICIPANTS!

The secondary staff would like to congratulate all Year 7 and 9 students on their participation in and conduct throughout NAPLAN sessions this week. Mrs Hay put on her coaching hat before each session and drilled students with her coach’s banter so they were mind ready and eager for the challenge. Loretta and Mick’s bacon and egg breakfast bonanza also helped to ease the butterflies, fill the stomachs and fire up thinking caps. Students were professional in their attitude towards the tests and all pencils were in overdrive. Students will receive their results later in the year. In the meantime, it’s back to business!

- Mrs Wolski

JOINING TOGETHER – REACHING EXCELLENCE!
TERM TWO ENGLISH ESCAPADES

The Term 2 focus in English across the Middle School is Literacy through Literature. Students across all classes will be exploring characters in texts and will examine the different viewpoint and perspectives of both characters and cultures. We will refine our reading and inferential skills and also practise our performance and public speaking capabilities.

In Year 7, students have been pouring over the pages of “Black Snake: the Daring of Ned Kelly” written by Carole Wilkinson. This hybrid text combines information text about the infamous Australian bushranger Ned Kelly and his gang, with descriptive recounts, composed by Wilkinson, offering viewpoints and perspectives from fictional characters on the exploits of the Kelly gang. Students will, themselves, be creating a descriptive recount, based on one of the incidents described in the text, using emotive and descriptive language to write using the voice of the character they have created. Year 7 will also be evaluating the deeds of the Kelly gang and justifying their opinion of whether Ned was a hero, a victim or a villain. Parents are advised to watch this space, as rumours of a parent evening during the final week of the term are beginning to circulate!

All is not what it seems in Year 8! The Year 8 class have been both captivated and surprised by the Disney classic, “Pocahontas”. In their exploration of characters and cultures in texts students have viewed this animated film and explored the use of symbols and colours in the representation of both the Powhatan Indians and the English settlers. Students will continue to examine the use of dialogue and language in the film and will create imaginative recounts that embed the views and perspectives of the various cultures and characters portrayed in the film. The Year 8 students will then go on to evaluate Disney’s representations of the groups in the film and present persuasive speeches.

The Year 9 and 10 students have been transported back to England and colonial Australia in their study of the Jackie French novel, Tom Appleby. This excellent parallel narrative tells the story of young Thomas Appleby, a chimney sweeper who is convicted of stealing and sentenced to deportation to Botany Bay. Once having completed a reading comprehension test, to hone their reading skills, students will compose narrative transformations in the style of a short story to convey the perspectives of a secondary character from the novel. Students will then present their narratives in the form of a dramatic monologue, using full costume and character portrayal. Buckle up, it’s going to be a busy term!

- Mrs Hay

JOINING TOGETHER – REACHING EXCELLENCE!
LITTLE RASCALS
Supporting the local show!

Student Council News

Our new Term focus is INTEGRITY. Teachers will be looking for students who show:

- I am Reliable
- I am Confident
- I am Trustworthy
- I have High Expectations
- I have School Pride

This week’s GOTCHA winners – are students who show *I am Confident* and joining the GOTCHA celebrations are: Lachlan Conway, Isobel Welsh, Sophie Smith, John Mundell, Lachlan Howard & Tanika Lovett.

BUILDING OUR LOCAL YOUTH in the following skills:
- Working with money/change
- Communication/social development
- Resilience
- Customer service
- Management of orders
- Catering display
- Responsibility for self and other employees
- Building self-esteem and confidence

JOINING TOGETHER – REACHING EXCELLENCE!
Sports News

M & D CROSS COUNTRY
Congratulations to all of the students who have qualified for the M & D Cross Country. Training will be held Monday & Wednesday afternoon 3pm -3.45pm and Thursday morning at 8am. Please return all notes to the office by Friday even if you are not attending.

M & D TOUCH
Well done to the Taroom teams who competed last Friday at Dulacca. Well done to the boy’s team who won the average and aggregate trophies. Good luck to Katie Bunker, Sophie Smith, Ally Graham, Jack Hay, John Radel, Lawson Howe, Connor Fitzpatrick and our two shadows Tom Graham and Georgie Keating. They will attend the SW trials being held in Tara on the Monday 18th May.

M & D SOFTBALL CARNIVAL- DATE
The M & D Softball Carnival will be held on Thursday May 28th. Teams will be selected in the coming weeks.

CROSS COUNTRY TRAINING
Have you had your training boots on????? Let’s get running…………………..Please see Mrs Adamson if you are interested in cross training this year.

PARENT AND STUDENT TRAINING- Asking all parents and students to participate in a whole school community run/walk!!!!!! Let’s get running together! Mums, Dads and grandparents please join us each Thursday morning at 8am for a brisk walk/run. We will rally at the shed and become familiar with the track and off we will go! Not too far, not too short but enough to get us moving. 20mins is all you will need so come along and challenge yourself!

Did you know running is a great aerobic exercise which helps children think better, behave better and increase academic performance! Everyone can run! Enjoy in the fun and get running today!

NRL – GIRLS LEAGUE AFTERNOON
Grant Bignell the NRL officer will be visiting Taroom State School on May 14th from 1.30-3.00pm. This will help develop the girl’s skills in time for the M & D trials being held in Miles June 5th. Girls in Years 4-6 will be involved in the afternoon.

Softball Training
Softball training will be held Tuesday first and second lunch break in preparation for our carnival. The carnival format may change this year due to numbers. Once a decision on the carnival format has been made parents and students will be notified through the newsletter.

TAFE – Date Claimer

Next TAFE visit is Wednesday, June 3rd 2015

- Mrs Stacey Adamson

JOINING TOGETHER – REACHING EXCELLENCE!
**P&C and Community News**

**TUCKSHOP**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 5 20th May</th>
<th>Workers</th>
<th>Cooks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Leanne Woodard</td>
<td>Leanne Woodard</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tina Hay</td>
<td>Christie Newton</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jo Vieritz</td>
<td>Sheree Adcock</td>
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**VARIETY CLUB FUNDRAISER SUB-COMMITTEE**

The P & C are calling for interested parents who would like to join a sub-committee to plan and coordinate the Variety Club Fundraiser. Please contact Bill Hickey or Lisa Kallquist.

**SCHOOL UNIFORMS**

Please contact Andrea for all of your uniform needs at andrea.stevens1@bigpond.com or 0419 798 889. Andrea will be at the school on Monday mornings to fill your orders. Please pay with either cash or cheque for your order. *Thank you.*

**Next P & C General Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 9th June 2015 at 3.30pm in the school library – ALL WELCOME.**

**Community Walking Group**

*Starting this Monday, 18th May.*

Meet outside the Taroom P-10 Prep Building for an afternoon walk. All ages and fitness levels welcome. We will be walking every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoon leaving at 3:10pm for 30 minutes up to an hour long. This is a child and pram friendly activity.

For any questions please see Kelly Hollingsworth in Year 2 or email me at kholl76@eq.edu.au

**GARAGE SALE SATURDAY 13TH JUNE 2015**

A Garage Sale will be held on Saturday the 13th June 2015 at 29 North Street from 7.00am until 11.00am. There will be tools, chains, camping gear and various other items for sale. All welcome!

*Mrs Rhonda Shepherdson*

**JOINING TOGETHER – REACHING EXCELLENCE!**