PRINCIPAL’S PEN

23rd July 2015

Week 2

Dear Parents,

Earlier this week school opinion surveys were distributed to parents/caregivers through the eldest student. These surveys are to be completed online by 31st July. Parents/caregivers without ready access to the internet are encouraged to contact the school to arrange to use the school facilities to complete the survey. All families are encouraged to participate. Students in Year 4, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 10 are completing online surveys today and tomorrow.

On Tuesday Mr Adam Myers (Principal Supervisor) visited the school and met with our leadership team to discuss our school’s progress and our preparedness for our Full School Review being conducted next week. Mr Myers ran through the review process and is confident that we will receive good feedback from the review team. We are on track and focused on the key school priorities identified in our Annual Implementation Plan. These include a focus on improvement in the following areas:

- Reading Comprehension
- Spelling
- Explicit Lesson Instruction
- Analysis of data to inform teaching and maximise student learning.

Next Wednesday 29th July we are holding a Grandparents Morning. Students across the school are excited about inviting their grandparents, or a grandparent figure, into the classroom to show them where much of their learning takes place. After the classroom visits we would like to invite our guests to stay and mingle in the alfresco area over morning tea which will be provided by our hospitality students.

Regards

Angela Heslin

Principal
SCHOOL DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grandparents' Morning</td>
<td>Wednesday 29th July</td>
<td>Taroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Variety Bash Fundraiser</td>
<td>Wednesday 12th August &amp; Thursday 13th August</td>
<td>Taroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>P &amp; C General Meeting</td>
<td>Tuesday 8th September 3.30pm School Library - All Welcome</td>
<td>Taroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>SW Girls League selection trials</td>
<td>Friday 31st July</td>
<td>Miles</td>
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<td>Track &amp; Field Carnival</td>
<td>Friday 7th August</td>
<td>Taroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miles &amp; District Track &amp; Field</td>
<td>Friday 14th August</td>
<td>Taroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miles &amp; District Cricket</td>
<td>Friday 21st August</td>
<td>Taroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Literacy Parade</td>
<td>Wednesday 26th August</td>
<td>Taroom</td>
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ICAS Competition

The English ICAS competition for nominated students will be held next Tuesday 28th July. Students will be organised with a time, next Monday.

RISE & School-wide Expectations

Semester 2 will see a change in our RISE program. Each week students across the school will be taught explicitly, one of our School-wide Expectations. These are attached to this week’s newsletter and can also be found in the Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students. Our School-wide Expectations are organised around the three school rules:

- Focus on Learning
- Focus on Respect
- Focus on Safety

For each Expectation taught, there are a set of common whole-school understandings to allow consistency from Prep to Year 10. Teachers adjust the learning episode to suit the school stage but the common understandings are maintained. Specific RISE values (that are important for lifelong personal, work and social competencies) have been assigned to each Expectation and they will be incorporated into the weekly teaching focus. This is a change from the term by term RISE focus. Students who demonstrate outstanding achievement in our RISE & School-wide Expectations will continue to be promoted weekly in the school newsletter and receive certificates on Parade and Gotchas. The School Rule, the Expectation and associated RISE values will be advertised a week ahead to promote discussion. We would appreciate parents/carers and the local community to reinforce the weekly Expectation and Rise values with students and emphasise that these are essential to achievement and success in school, work and life.

POLICIES

Currently we are revising some school policies around Homework, Assessment and Bookwork. These will be available on the school website in the near future in addition to other school documents.

JOINING TOGETHER – REACHING EXCELLENCE!
All students in Years 7-10 will be bringing home a summarised version of the whole-school Assessment, Homework and Bookwork policies for their reference. The secondary teaching team has spent extensive time outside of the school day to refine secondary expectations around homework, study and assessment practices and have completed a document that is very prescriptive; inclusive and equitable for all students. Of course, a commitment by both students and parents is always necessary for any process to be fully implemented and supported. Attached to the policy document is an Agreement Plan that we would like each student and parent to view, agree to, sign and return to Form Teachers. As we continue to embed a culture of student academic improvement, homework and study is one practice, we as a high school staff fully endorse.
The secondary teachers have devised a method of supporting students with organising their homework and meeting timelines. Displayed on the secondary verandah is a large blackboard timetable. Teachers will record their homework tasks and other notes on this board for each year level, and it will provide a visual reminder constantly for students when they are out and about on the verandah area. Students will also be expected to record this information into their student diaries. Mick Brannan has once again exercised his artistic flair and measuring skills to apply the final touches to the board this week, and it will be up and running from Week 3. Students will continue to receive their Assessment Calendar which will be available on the school website as well.

LEARNING GOALS
Secondary students have set new Learning Goals for Term 3. These will be displayed on the verandah and students will also have their own copy. Students are improving on their ability to set specific goals that target problem areas in Literacy and Numeracy using data from folios and teachers’ feedback. They can devise strategies and identify the evidence they need to prove they have or have not achieved their goals. Well done students!

Student Council News

Week 2 School-wide Expectation – Be prepared for learning
Teachers will be looking for students who display these values:

- I have no excuses
- I take ownership
- I have high expectations

Students celebrating this week are:
Heath Lawardorn
Justin Conway
Alice Kallquist
Stirling Stevens

Week 3 School-wide Expectation – Use good manners * I am considerate * I am respectful

JOINING TOGETHER – REACHING EXCELLENCE!

Sports News

State Cross Country

Congratulations to all competitors who attended the cross country on the weekend at the Gold Coast. Some personal bests were achieved over the weekend. Thank you to the parents who supported the event and their child at the carnival.
**ARL Cup**

The ARL cup final will be held on Tuesday 4th of August in Dalby. We wish the boys all the best and cross our fingers for a win against St Mary’s (Toowoomba). This is a huge experience and a wonderful chance for the Miles District to show their true dedication and strength in sport. This will be an experience for the boys and we hope they enjoy the day.

**P&C and Community News**

**TUCKSHOP**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group 2 29th July</th>
<th>Workers</th>
<th>Cooks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anna Radel</td>
<td>Lisa Kallquist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Janey Hooper</td>
<td>Dee Hay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mandy Hay</td>
<td>Janey Hooper</td>
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*** Tuckshop will not be operating on Wednesday, the 12th of August 2015 - Week 5 due to the Variety Bash Fundraiser – The Tuckshop will however be operating on Friday, the 14th of August 2015 (M&D Athletics Day at Taroom State School).***

**UPDATE - VARIETY CLUB FUNDRAISER – 12 August 2015 & 13 August 2015**

Thank you to the fundraising committee who met this morning to discuss the upcoming Variety Club Fundraiser. Next week a roster will be circulated with a list of jobs we will need assistance with, a list of items we will need to borrow and also items you might like to donate for this fundraiser. If you are keen to help out in anyway please contact Lisa Kallquist on 4628 9333 lkall3@eq.edu.au (work) lisa.kallquist3@bigpond.com (home)

**Next P & C General Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 8th of September 2015 at 3.30pm in the school library – ALL WELCOME.**

**JUNIOR TENNIS - Your support is required**

Junior tennis is on Monday 27th of July commencing at 3.30pm. If we don’t get the numbers junior tennis will not continue.

**JOINING TOGETHER – REACHING EXCELLENCE!**