Calendar of Events

February
28 State Principal’s Conference

March
4 Scott Buchholz (MP) presentation of leadership certificates
22 Softball/Cricket Carnival

P&C Association
Tuesday 12th March, 2013
Guest Speaker: Margaret Thorpe (Chaplain)

Happy Birthday
February
28 Isaac Lerch
Robbie Gillett

Library Bus
Will be here again in 2013 Mobile library is presently based in Laidley. Outstanding items may be returned directly to the Gatton library or to Mrs Natalier at school ASAP. Our regular service will recommence in the near future.

Note from the Principal…

It was a pleasure to welcome so many families to our Parent Information and Welcome BBQ last Thursday. We hope the sharing of information gave parents some insights into what and how students are learning in 2013. Thank you for your support as it is a major factor in helping to shape your child’s attitudes towards learning and education. The staff and I look forward to sharing your child’s progress throughout the year.

Congratulations to our school captains, Ben Meier and Tahlia Haines; and our four school leaders, Brooke Mackie, Terri Samuelsen, Jakob Harm and Kasper Fisher. I am sure these six fine students will take their School Oath seriously and perform their leadership roles admirably.

This Thursday and Friday, I will be attending the State Principals conference in Brisbane. The main agenda will be focussing on Explicit Instruction approach to teaching and learning, and enhancing community partnerships. Miss Forbes will be the Acting Principal while I am away.

I am also pleased to announce the launch of our new school website. You can find it at www.tenthllwss.eq.edu.au. You will find many of our school documents online and we will also be uploading school newsletters in the future.

Around the Classrooms …

Prep/Yr 1&2 (Miss Forbes) This week students began preparing and practicing for their book reports. Next week Students will be presenting their talks to the class as part of the English assessment. Year 1 and 2 parents will notice additional homework this week.

Years 3&4 (Mrs Peach) In Maths this week we are working on solving addition and subtraction problems using number lines and mental strategies. This is important as students need to be able to work out these kind of problems mentally not always using pen and paper. We are also writing our chapter of Fantastic Mr Fox in English so watch out for these stories in the next couple of weeks.

Years 5,6&7 (Mrs Kowitz –Monday Tuesday, Wednesday; Mrs Martin—Thursday, Friday) This week in Spelling, student have been learning about using the BEES keys of being a good speller. They need to use their ‘brain’, ‘eyes’ and ‘ears’ to ensure they think about the meaning of the word, look for patterns, and listen for the sounds and syllables in the word. Students need to make sure they use Look, say cover, write and check as a way to practise their words for homework as well as writing sentences to understand the meaning of the words.
**STUDENTS OF THE WEEK**

Congratulations to our Buddy and Learners of the week:

From left: Ben Moody, Jasmine Alcock, Caleb Adams, Leon Hall, Elijah Mullins. Keep up the great work!

**SCHOOL NEWS...**

Wet weather event

This wet weather continues to plague us all. Many of our students have not been able to attend school due to the wet. Teachers have maintained normal lessons as much as possible. Thank you to those families who have been able to get their children to school. We hope to return to our usual routine and classes as soon as possible so the students do not get too far behind. If your child is away for an extended time, please let us know and we will be able to email work to you.

With school closures around the district, we have had Mt Sylvia staff working at our school.

**SCHOOLKIDS BONUS PAYMENT**

The first installment of the School kids Bonus has recently been paid to approximately 1.2 million families to help lighten the load of back-to-school costs.

For our school, this means financially-challenged families will have extra funds available to help buy the things their children need—whether it be uniforms, shoes, stationery, books or sporting gear.

Most eligible families would have received the payment automatically, however some needed to update their child's education details to ensure they received the payment, e.g. families with children starting primary school for the first time in 2013 and children moving from primary into secondary school in 2013.

It replaces the old Education Tax Refund and it is simple: there's no need to collect receipts or claim it through your tax. Each year, eligible families and students will receive: $410 a year for each primary student ($205 paid in January and $205 paid in July) $820 a year for each secondary student ($410 paid in January and $410 paid in July).

Any families who think they are eligible for the School kids Bonus January payment but are yet to receive it should contact Centrelink.

**SCHOOL REMINDERS....**

Consent forms

Have you returned all of the consent forms yet. The media consent form is important as it gives the school permission to publish your child’s photograph in the school newsletter. Without the signed forms we will not be able to include your child. Please be aware that these newsletters will be published to the school website in the future, so if you wish to place any limitations around these you are welcome to state these.

Reading Egg Parent Information Session

Due to unforeseen circumstances this session that was scheduled for Monday 4th March has had to be postponed. More information when available.

**DATE CLAIMER :**

Scott Buchholz visit

On Monday 4th March, Scott Buchholz (MP) will be visiting our school. He will present Leadership Certificates to all of our Year Seven students in recognition of their leadership roles in 2013. We will be holding a special assembly at 12.30 pm. Parents are welcome to attend.

P&C News :

Wurst Drive

The first P&C fundraiser for the year is a Wurst Drive. Please remember that orders & money need to be returned to school P&C collection box by Monday March 11. Delivery Friday March 22.

P & C Brief... Please help support your P & C who supports your school and children.
Are you really listening?
Really Listening to your child… What does that look like? Here are some ideas to refresh yourself to really make the most of your relationship with your own child.

**Take a break and listen to your child.** Specific actions – like making eye contact, kneeling down to your child’s level and even tilting your head – show your child you are listening. They also help you stop and really listen. If you can’t talk at that moment, you might say, ‘Let’s talk soon. I’m in the middle of something’.

**Repeat what you heard.** It’s often useful to restate what you heard and put your child’s feelings into words. You might say, ‘You wanted a turn on the swing just now, didn’t you?’ or ‘You seem sad about going to day care today’. These reflective statements acknowledge and give words to your child’s feelings. But do this carefully. If a child is in the middle of a tantrum, saying ‘You’re really cranky and out of control!’ might aggravate the situation rather than help it.

**Ask specific questions to gather more information.** You might say, ‘Can you tell me exactly what happened?’ If it makes sense to talk more, you might ask, ‘What upset you the most?’ Follow-up questions both acknowledge your child’s feelings and get your child talking about them. And they help you gather more information, so you can better understand what actually happened and how your child is thinking about it.

**Before you say what you think, ask a question**
‘If your child says, “That’s not fair”, instead of jumping in with an explanation you might ask, “What do you think would be fair?” Then, wait for the answer – and ask a follow-up question.

‘HINT: If you find yourself thinking of your response while your child is talking, then you’re not really listening.’

Michael Thompson, PhD
Co-author, *Raising Cain*

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**Live well with asthma**
Are you or someone you care for living well with asthma? If you:
- wake up coughing, wheezing or breathless
- struggle to keep up with normal activity
- use your blue reliever puffer more than three times a week
- are unsure about the way your medications can work best for you

These are all signs your asthma is not well controlled or signs you are not living well with asthma.

If your asthma is limiting your quality of life, Asthma Foundation Queensland invites you to join us for a free one hour Live Well with Asthma workshop. To register please call Asthma Assist on 1800 645 130 or visit [http://www.asthmafoundation.org.au/QLD/Courses_for_the_community.aspx](http://www.asthmafoundation.org.au/QLD/Courses_for_the_community.aspx)

Where: Lockyer Valley Cultural Centre (34 Lake Apex Dr, Gatton Qld 4344)
When: Tuesday 26th March 2013
Time: 1:00pm – 2:00pm