Note from the Principal…

This week we reach the end of our first term and it is a good time to reflect on the progress that we have made as a school and for each of our students. While we had a challenging start to the year, the staff are very pleased with the way most of the students working well to meet their expectations. Our major focuses have been explicitly teaching positive behaviours and explicit teaching of Maths and English.

Research has shown that Student behaviour can viewed in terms of a cone model. At the large end, there will be 80% of students who are self managing most of the time. Next up the cone, there will be approximately 15% of students who require some additional support, usually through the teaching of positive behaviours, which our school does every week. At the very top of the cone there will still be about 5% of students who require more intensive support. These figures are based on the average school. This model underpins the philosophy behind SWPBS and as such provides tools to assist with supporting and managing student behaviour. Unfortunately, there are no magic solutions and like anything worthwhile, it takes time and effort. Parent support is also crucial to succeeding in helping all students exhibit positive behaviours. At the end of this week we will again reward those student who demonstrate self managing behaviours 100% of the times. Finally it is important to note that ‘better behaviour = better learning’. Successful learners are also those students who demonstrate behaviours that help them learn.

I am also starting a regular ‘Parent Corner’ section in our newsletter with information drawn from some Australian parenting experts, to share ideas about helping your child. Have a safe and Happy Easter break to each and every one of our families.
This fortnight’s positive learning expectation is:
‘Use kind and encouraging words’
Our school is a ‘put-down free’ zone!

Tent Hill Lower is a School Wide Positive Behaviour school!
At Tent Hill Lower we reward our students who have demonstrated ongoing positive behaviours.
Each week, a ‘Learner of the Week’ and a ‘Buddy of the week’ will be chosen from each class.

**LAST DAY OF TERM**

Tomorrow (Thursday) is the last day of term. The P&C will put on a Sausage Sizzle which will be free to all students. Students will need to bring their own morning tea to school. We are also holding a fundraiser ‘Go pink for Cobi’ day tomorrow. Students are invited to come out of uniform if they are dressed in ‘Pink clothes’ and to donate a gold coin towards assisting Cobi Taylor fund.

Students must still be dressed in sunsafe clothes with closed in shoes and have a broad brimmed hat. Shorts and dresses should be of an acceptable length and tee shirts need to have acceptable motives.

We will also be screening an end of term movie reward. There are three movies for the student to choose from: The Pirates rated G, Madagascar 3 rated PG and Brave rated PG.

If you would prefer that your child only watches the G rated movie, please let us know by tomorrow morning.

**TERM 2 RESUMES ON MONDAY 15TH APRIL.**

**SCHOOL NEWS…**

**FROM OUR CHAPPIE, MRS THORPE…..**

Some Easter jokes for you:
Q. What do you get if you pour hot water down a rabbit hole?
A. Hot cross bunnies!

Q. Why shouldn’t you tell an Easter egg a joke?
A. It might crack up!

Q. Why did the Easter bunny cross the road?
A. Because the chicken had his Easter eggs!

I hope for you all to survive the last few days before Easter (that’s for Mums, Dads and teachers and aides especially).

Remember Easter is more than just Easter eggs, it has a reason…know what it is? Ask someone!

For the holidays, have a safe and relaxing break. See you next term.
Margaret Thorpe

**SCHOOL REMINDERS….**

**KEEP A WATCH ON OUR SCHOOL THESE HOLIDAYS**

Parents and students can help take care of our school by reporting any suspicious after-hours activity to School Watch on 13 17 88. By keeping an eye out we can work together to create a safer school community and help to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in our school.

If you see something suspicious, please don’t intervene. Call the School Watch number and let the local police or State Government Protective SECURITY SERVICE DEAL WITH THE MATTER.

**DATE CLAIMERS:**

**RSPCA EMU PROGRAM**

On Tuesday 16th April, our school will host the RSPCA visit to our school. The RSPCA Queensland Education Mobile unit (EMU) is a state of the art classroom on wheels, offering an interactive journey and play based learning about animal welfare for children. Each learning centre focuses on key animal welfare issues faced by the community and offers students ways in which they can take action to address these issues. The cost of this program will be covered from School funds and the P&C.

**PEER MENTORING SKILLS**

Year Seven students will be trained in this program next term on Friday 19th and 26th April.

They will be joined by Year Seven students from Ma Ma Creek and Mt Sylvia. The program will be run by our Chaplain Marg Thorpe and Guidance Officer Cecilia Anderson. The aim of the program is to train students to help other students in the playground to be able to resolve minor conflicts peacefully and quickly. Student permission notes need to be returned as soon as possible.

**P&C News :**

Please help support your P & C who supports your school and children.
PARENT CORNER...

If you are wondering what chores your child should be able to do at home during the holidays (or any time). Here’s what the experts say.

Chores or household tasks also exercise children’s organisational muscles, in particular their time management muscles. Make sure all kids have chores to do that are suitable for their age and stage of development.

5 - 6 year old
1. Make own sandwich and clean up
2. Answer the phone
3. Feed pets and keep area clean
4. Pay for some purchases
5. Sort and tidy cutlery and kitchen utensils
6. Help with planning and grocery shopping
7. Set the table

7 - 8 years old
1. Prepare own school lunch
2. Take pet for a walk
3. Take care of own bike and outdoor toys
4. Fold and store clean laundry
5. Run errands for parents
6. Take phone messages and write them down
7. Iron simple pieces

9 - 10 years old
1. Operate the washing machine and dryer
2. Change own bed and put out laundry
3. Wash the car
4. Learn to bank and use money responsibly
5. Make tea and coffee
6. Help prepare shopping list
7. Cook simple meals from a recipe

11 - 12 years old
1. Travel on public transport
2. Plan own parties
3. Vacuum the house
4. Cook and prepare an evening meal for the family
5. Feed and bathe younger siblings
6. Put younger siblings to bed
7. Help in routine maintenance around the house

Use grandma’s principle* to ensure their helping jobs are done. That is, make sure jobs are completed before mealtimes and pleasant activities such as watching television.

Congratulations to our Leaner and Buddy of the week winners for the last two weeks

(Absent Chloe Hamblin)

Congratulations to our Playground Buddy raffle winners for the last two weeks