From the Principal…

Discipline Audit

In 2014, all state schools will undertake a Discipline Audit. The date for our school audit is on Wednesday 27th August. Education Queensland is committed to ensuring that learning and achieving occurs within a safe supportive and disciplined learning environment. Schools recognise the reciprocal relationship between academic success and social behaviour. Recent research indicates that consistently implementing an evidenced based whole school approach to behaviour can improve social behaviour and student performance such as the School wide positive behaviour program (SWPBS) that Tent Hill Lower follows.

The auditor (Kerrie Jones) will be looking at five domains including: Principal Leadership, Parent and community engagement, Use of data to make informed decisions, Clear consistent expectations and consequences, Explicit teaching of appropriate behaviour to all students. During the day, the auditor will be talking to staff and students about the school’s positive expectations and how behaviour is approached at the school. She will also contact a number of parents by phone during the course of the audit. These parents will be selected at random. By the end of the day, the Auditor will provide our school with her commendations and recommendations. The audits provide an opportunity to engage in conversations about the strength of the school in building discipline and where there are opportunities for improvements. As an SWPBS school, we are already on a journey of improvement which will be viewed favourably as contributing to a safe, supportive and disciplined learning environment for all students.

Staff

Mrs Peach is commencing her return to work program this week. She is currently on non-teaching duties and will hopefully return to part time teaching duties next week.

LOST AND FOUND At Caffey Sports last week, a child’s stroller was left behind in

Around the Classrooms …

Prep—Yr 2 (Mrs Samuelsen)
This week in maths children have been practicing the ‘jump strategy’. In English we have begun our study of cultural stories and will be preparing to perform an oral retell for assessment. We have also welcomed two new additions to our classroom - make sure you say hello to Amber (Year 1) and Deagan (Prep).

Yrs 3/4 (Mrs Bauer for Mrs Peach) In Geography we have begun to look at other neighbouring countries like Fiji and New Zealand and compare them to Australia. In English we will begin our assessment task which involves re-writing the story of “The Lorax” from another characters point of view.
This fortnight’s positive learning expectation is:
“Playing Fairly”
Tent Hill Lower is a School Wide Positive Behaviour school!

**SCHOOL NEWS…**

**PREP OPEN DAYS - NOW TAKING 2015 ENROLMENTS**

8.30am - 11.30am
Bring a hat, a piece of fruit and some morning tea
Day 1: Wednesday 10th September 2014
More days to come in Term 4

If you know someone who is planning on enrolling at our school IN ANY YEAR LEVEL next year please have them contact the school ASAP.

**READING EGGS**

Our school has recently registered for a trial of an online reading site called ‘Reading Eggs” All students in the school have been given access to this site for use at school and at home, The program aims to rapidly improve students knowledge of phonics, sight words, spelling and reading comprehension skills. Teachers are able to set tasks for students and to closely monitor their progress. So far, both the students and teachers have been impressed with the quality of the resources and the ‘fun’ factor.

As part of this year’s school priority on improving literacy, the P&C have decided to support the school’s endeavours by paying for a 12 month subscription to ‘Reading Eggs’ for all students. So please take the opportunity to hop online with your child and have a look at the great activities that they are able to access. Staff are encouraging students to use this site at home as well as building this into our literacy rotations. The site can be found at: www.readingeggs.com.au. Teachers are happy to provide you with more information if required.

**FOOTSTEPS FOR DANCE**

Yesterday students in Yrs 3-7 participated in a free 30 minute dance session provided by the Footsteps for Dance company. The students found the session fun and engaging and rated it very highly. As a result, the school has decided to go ahead with some further paid dance sessions early in Term 4, for all year levels.

**BACK-YARD LEAGUE PROGRAM**

Our school is participating in a program on developing rugby league skills this term. The first session is on this Friday 15th August. The second will be on 29th August. Students will be guided to play co-operatively and taught a number of League skills.

**ZONE ATHLETICS**

Students who have been selected to attend Zone should have received their selection letters today. The Zone carnival will be held at the Ropehill Community Sports grounds on Friday 22nd August. In addition, student have been given a Code of Behaviour which all students, parents and spectators are required to follow. Any questions, please contact the school.

**FROM THE CHAPLAIN…**

The Secret to Raising Confident Kids
(by Michael Grose) Part 1

The first habit from Stephen Covey’s wonderful book “The 7 habits of highly effective people” states that we should start every project or undertaking with the end in mind.

This principle holds true for any activity whether it’s planting your vegie patch; renovating a house or raising children. When you know what you are trying to achieve then choosing the right strategies becomes easy.

The end game or goal for parents is Redundancy. Yep, you read it right. Your job is to make yourself redundant as a parent from your child’s earliest possible age. It always has been and always should be. When redundancy is your aim most of your time, effort and energy will go into promoting independence. You’ll stop doing things for kids and start giving them opportunities to do things themselves. You’ll spend much of your active parenting time teaching, explaining and prodding your child toward independence. Independence leads to the 4 C’s

When independence becomes your priority then suddenly you’ve found a pathway to the development of other positive qualities and traits in your children including the key four - confidence, competence, creativity and character. Here’s how:

**Confidence** comes from facing your fears and doing things for yourself.

**Competence** comes from the opportunity to develop self-mastery that independence offers.

**Creativity** is developed when kids solve problems themselves as opposed to someone solving them on their behalf, or worse, keeping kids safe. It’s amazing how resourceful kids can be when they are given the chance to resolve their own problems.

**Character**, which is essential for success, is forged under hardship and is needed if kids are to live a sturdy life.

Kids need to be exposed to disappointment, failure and conflict if character strengths such as grit and perseverance are too be forged.