Calendar of Events

APRIL
23 Anzac Talk
25 Anzac March—Gatton
10.00am

MAY
6 Mothers Day breakfast (see p3 for details)
12-14 NAPLAN
14 Tuckshop
15 Cross Country—Lake Apex

Our school newsletter is published every fortnight and also available on our school website.

EVERYDAY COUNTS!
Our school target is 95% attendance.
2015, ONLY 140 DAYS LEFT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO YOUR CHILD’S EDUCATION BY MAKING SURE THEY ARE AT SCHOOL.
Parents must supply a reason for an absence. Either text, phone or send a note stating the reason your child is.

P&C Association
Tuesday 12th May
School library
3.30PM
All Welcome

SCHOOL HOURS:
School commences at 8.55am
School finishes at 3.00pm
Please be prompt.
Late arrivals need to sign in at the office.

From the Principal...
Welcome back for Term 2. This term is always very busy and will require students to be very focussed and doing their best.

NAPLAN
In Week 4, the NAPLAN test will be conducted for Year 3 and Year 5 students on the 12th, 13th and 14th of May. It is very important that all students in these year levels attend school on these three days. So please mark the dates in your calendar to avoid making appointments or being away on holidays.

It is also important that if your child is sick on any of these days, that you phone the school and let us know. All Year 3 & 5 students will require 2 HB pencils (no pacers) and a good quality rubber, so please check to see if your child has these items before hand. Teachers also ask that students are at school no later than 8.45am on these days, so that they can be settled and ready to start by 9.00am.

Students also need a good quality breakfast to prepare them for the day of testing.

The NAPLAN test is a nation wide test conducted yearly, to determine individual student performance which is compared to the average performance of all students in Australia. It is not a pass or fail type test. Student performance will be reported on, usually in September, on a six band scale.

Schools use the information to identify strengths and weaknesses and to help better support students who may require additional help.

An Information for Parents sheet has been attached to this newsletter. It also includes the testing schedule and the time allocations for each area. Please contact the school if you would like further information or have any questions.

Around the Classrooms ..
Prep—Yr 2 (Mrs Samuelsen) Next week we have a student teacher starting her final 8 week practicum. Mrs Voll will gradually take over more and more teaching responsibilities during her time here. It will be great having two teachers in our room!

Yrs 3/4 (Mrs Peach) We have started our Geography Unit this week. To start the unit we are learning about maps and compass points. A major focus has been learning the names of the continents and where they are in relation to Australia. An interesting question to start the unit was: "Is Africa a country or a continent?"

Yrs 5/6 (Mrs Kowitz/Mrs Martin) This week we are focussing on using maths strategies to solve problems in addition and subtractions. We use thinkboards to help us identify the important information in a problem and what the question is asking for. There are lots of strategies in our ‘MathsToolbox’ such as the ‘Part—Part—Whole thinking blocks’ or the ‘MAD triangle’, ‘Using graphs’, ‘Using intervals’ and ‘Working systematically’. 

Wear Blue for Autism Day, on the last day of Term One, raised $60, which has been donated to the Autism Foundation. Well done everyone!
SCHOOL NEWS...

ANZAC Day
Anzac Day falls on Saturday this year. Our school will still be participating in the Gatton march and service. This year is very special as it is the 100th anniversary of the ANZAC landing at Gallipoli. We would like as many students as possible to help represent our school for this special event. The Procession will start to form at 10am in North Street, Gatton, adjacent to the Council office, for a 10.30am start. The march will lead to the Boer War Memorial then to Littleton Park for service. Our school has been allocated a site at Littleton Park where our school tent will be erected for shade. All students are required to wear their school uniforms and hats. Our school leaders will be laying a wreath on behalf of our school community. We look forward to seeing you all there.

HOMEWORK CLUB
Miss Daw’s homework club will start up again on Tuesday morning next week (28th April) for those students requiring extra assistance with their homework. It starts at 8.30 in the morning until bell time. There are also some students who may need Internet access to complete some work such as Reading Eggs, Language Perfect (German) or IMPACT practice due to data issues or poor service at home. This time slot is also available to those people so they don’t miss out on important learning opportunities. Please see Miss Daw if you would like to participate.

CROSS COUNTRY
This year, our school will participate in the Cross Country at Lake Apex in Gatton on Friday 25th May. Only students, aged 9 years and over, who are interested in participating and can obtain parent transport, will be nominated. So please have a chat to your child to find out if they would like to go. A note will be sent home shortly for you to indicate whether or not your child is interested.

MAINTENANCE TO FRONT ENTRANCE
You may have noticed that over the Easter break, our front entrance has been fixed up and is now nice and even again. The Jacaranda tree was removed as it was very unhealthy and causing damage to the path. Some sections of the concrete path were also replaced.

German News:
Hi Everyone, just a short note to remind you about an activity that has started in German lessons. Students will have a small amount of homework set every week in an online activity called Language Perfect. If they are allowed to access the internet at home, it would be appreciated if they could spend a short amount of time each week practising skills learnt in class. I have given students a small blue card that has the website address, as well as their username and password details to take home. Students have been asked to not change their password and if the website asks for an email address to not give these details. Thank you for your anticipated support in your child’s learning in German.

Alles beste, Frau Chapman

P&C STRAWBERRY STALL
INVITATION TO ALL FAMILIES!!!
What: Strawberry & Ice-cream Stall at the
When: Friday 17th & Saturday 18th July, 2015
Where: Gatton Show

Once again we are calling on ALL families to support this fundraiser. It is by far our biggest $ raiser, generally raising $3000 and requires everyone’s help to make it a SUCCESS!!!

Please add your name to the roster (which is located in the Library foyer notice board), every timeslot needs to be filled to make everything run smoothly (and hopefully I won’t need to chase too many of you up to fill spots!)

Thank you in advance for volunteering your time to support you P&C which in turn supports EVERY child.

If you need more information or can help with organising please call Kym 0409063838.

SICK LEAVE
Mrs Kowitz is required to take some sick leave for a period of 2 weeks from the end of next week. During this time, Mrs Peach will be the Acting Principal.
Parent Well with the Mood Meter Program – Building Emotional Intelligence

Join Michael Grose for our 4-week online parenting course
Parent Well with the Mood Meter Program

Help your kids learn to manage their emotions, improve their mental health and be happier. Parent Well with the Mood Meter Program is the first in a series of online courses to teach you how to develop emotional intelligence in your kids:

Mood Meter is a practical tool developed by the research team at Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence
- Gives parents and kids a common language to talk about feelings
- Empower kids to recognise and then respond to how they feel
- Teach kids self-awareness and put them in control of their emotions
- The Mood Meter is great for kids that are visual learners, particularly boys

Suitable for all age groups

The 4-week Parent Well with the Mood Meter Program starts on 3 May.
Join now for $57 to take advantage FREE access to Parenting ideas Club before the course starts on 3 May.
Or why not join Parenting ideas Club for $179 annual membership and get access to Parent Well with the Mood Meter Program plus the CLUB plus other courses planned during the next 12 months.


Or contact the Parenting ideas team 03 59831798
office@parentingideas.com.au

Marg Thorpe.. Chaplain