From the Principal…
Welcome back to the start of Term 4. The countdown is on until the end of the year. There is only 45 school days left to make a difference to your child’s learning. So please keep up the good attendance to make everyday count. The teachers teach new work each day and it can be very difficult for students to catch up if they have unnecessary absences. Last term we gave out several certificates to students who had 100% attendance (please see photo). Also parents should also have received a postcard from the school acknowledging if your child’s attendance rate met with the school target of 95%. Congratulations to all of those students and families who are doing a fantastic job.

2016 Enrolments
The school is now taking enrolments for 2016. If you know of any families with prep age students for 2016, please encourage them to give us a call and to pick up an enrolment pack. In Term 4 a number of Prep transition days will be held as follows: Friday October 30th; Monday November 9th; Thursday 26th and Tuesday December 1. The days vary to suit the differing schedules of families. So we hope to see as many people as possible on one or all of these days.

HRE Education
This term the P&C are sponsoring a Human Relationships Education program for students in Years 4, 5 & 6. We employ a trained educator, Robyn Kavanagh, from TRUE, to provide 2 x 1 hour sessions for each year of these year levels. Participation in the program is completely optional and parents will soon be sent home more information about the content of the lessons and a permission note to sign if you are happy for your child to be involved. The purpose of the program is provide support for families on this topic and is not designed to take the place of the parents rights to discuss these important matters with their child.

Around the Classrooms
Prep—Yr 2 (Mrs Samuelsen) This term in English we will be exploring narratives. We will be writing and publishing our own stories.

Yrs 3/4 (Mrs Peach) For English this term we are working on a unit involving looking at advertising and the techniques used by advertisers. We will be looking at print adds and the adds that are on television.

Yrs 5/6 (Mrs Kowitz/Mrs Martin) Every day counts in Maths at the moment for Yrs 5&6. We are on a very tight timeline to complete all of our Maths teaching in order to complete the required assessment tasks this term. The focus is on number, such as multiples, factors, square and triangular numbers and all four operations, including problem solving.
SCHOOL NEWS

Playgroup
Every Wednesday 9-11am.
Playgroup is holding a fundraiser where parents are invited to purchase quality education focused toys, games & gifts by Educational Experience.

A big shout out to Mrs Smith for her tireless work running the playgroup. Merris has so many wonderful ideas and is constantly planning new ways to improve Playgroup. She and her wonderful family members voluntarily spent time over the holidays to create some new gardens and fun activities to make the play area so much nicer. Thank you Merris & your family from the whole school community.

School Swimming
Our weekly school swimming lessons will start next Thursday and conclude on Thursday Nov 12 (weather permitting). Cost per student will be $20 for the 5 lessons. This is a 50% subsidy on the actual cost of the lessons. The school and the P&C will cover the other 50%.

All students will need to have suitable swimming togs, sun shirt, towel, sunscreen, swimming cap and goggles (if needed) in a separate bag. Togs are not to be worn under their school uniform.

Any parents wishing to collect their child/ren after swimming directly from the Gatton pool will need to notify the school in writing. Students being collected must also remain at the pool until after their names are checked off the swimming roll by the teachers. Students not collected by 2:25pm will return to school by bus. If you have any questions regarding swimming please contact the school.

Footsteps Dance Company
The school will again be participating in the Footsteps program. These drama/movement sessions will be held each Friday over 5 weeks. The school will be fully funding this program at no cost to the students.

Transition to LDHS District High school
Year 6 students who are attending Lockyer District High school next year are reminded that the first transition visit will take place on Monday (12th October) afternoon. The second visit is on Monday 2nd November. Please ensure that you have returned the enrolment and medical forms directly to LDHS.

STAFF
Mrs Kowitz will be on sick leave for the next 2 week. In her absence, Mrs Peach will be the Acting Principal. Mrs Martin will teach Yrs 5 & 6. Mrs Samuelsen has returned to her role full time this term.

Grandparents Day
On Wednesday 21 October Grandparents are invited to join us in the classroom for some shared reading, 10:30—11am. Classroom visits will be followed by morning tea of scones and tea for the Grandparents (only). Please RSVP by Friday 16 October with $2 per grandparent to cover catering costs.

P&C NEWS

Car Boot sale -
Calling all families!!! As you all will be aware we are holding a car boot sale on Sat 24th Oct. We are looking to make this a successful fundraiser. Come along and support your P&C, have a spring clean and book a site and make some extra $. We will need families to bake and help on the day with our sausage sizzle and cake/vegetables stall. Thanks in advance!

MATHS TIPS FOR PARENTS...
Numeracy – how families and schools can work together

To support your child’s efforts at school you can continue the lessons they learn in the classroom by helping them to develop their numeracy skills at home.

You may feel that the maths your children do at school is different to what you were taught, but you can help in many ways:

- help your child to enjoy the maths they do at school by offering encouragement and asking about the work they bring home from school
- when travelling, play games such as counting the cars by colour or if you are travelling by bus or train ask your child to read the timetable to decide what time you’ll get home
- talk to your child about how numeracy is related to sports – to keep score, measure distance and indicate time
- involve your child when preparing a meal and help them decide how much food to prepare for the whole family and whether there will be enough ingredients
- when shopping, use the catalogue specials to talk about discounts and whether it is cheaper to buy larger-sized products or a few smaller products
- talk with your child’s teacher about numeracy at home and at school and raise any concerns with them.

For more ideas on helping your child with their numeracy visit www.education.qld.gov.au/parents/map/

CHAPLAIN’S CORNER.
Our school is currently in the process of reapplying for funding to continue the Chaplaincy program for the next 3 years. At yesterday’s P&C meeting, the P&C gave their support for this very worthwhile program to continue.
End of Term 3 Behaviour Awards
Congratulations to ...

More playground makeover photos