Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER
2 Father’s Day breakfast
4 Jondaryan Woolshed Excursion
4 Under 8’s Day (Pre-Prep)
17 End of term BBQ
18 Soccer/netball carnival
18 Term 2 finishes

OCTOBER
5 Labour Day
6 Term 4 commences (Tuesday)

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

EVERYDAY COUNTS!
Our school target is 95% attendance.
IN SEMESTER 1 2015, OUR SCHOOL’S OVER-ALL ATTENDANCE RATE IMPROVED AND IS NOW 93.5%
PLEASE KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK IN GETTING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL.
Parents must supply a reason for an absence.

P&C Association
Tuesday 8th September
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...
Mid Term Behaviour Awards
Teachers were excited to hand out so many Positive Behaviour awards on Assembly last week. The awards are a very important part of recognising and rewarding the students (pictured above) who have been consistently making positive efforts in following our school expectations. So congratulations to the vast majority of students who have been caught in the act of ‘doing the right thing’ for the first half of this term.

Parents can make a difference!
Research in the USA, Australia and UK suggests that when families of all backgrounds are engaged in their child’s learning, their children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer and pursue higher education. The research from Goodal (2013) and Fox & Olsen (2014) suggests that there are number of ways in which parents can enact this: through positive authoritative parenting, knowing and communicating the value of education with their children, having high aspirations and realistic expectations for their child, family led learning, taking an active interest in their child’s learning and making time for Family-School communication.

One way that the school tries to support parents is through including our tips for parents as well as ideas for helping your child with Maths. So I hope you enjoy the articles included in this newsletter.

Around the Classrooms
Prep—Yr 2 (Mrs Samuelsen/Mrs Martin) In English we have been looking at fairy tales, and comparing different types of fairy tales and folk tales. We have read “The Gingerbread Man” and “The Gingerbread Girl”, and the Year 1 and 2 students are writing a text to give an opinion about which story they prefer.

Yrs 3/4 (Mrs Peach) In English we have started a new unit. We are reading “Rowan of Rin” by Emily Rodda. This is a quest novel and the students are looking at things such as character development, plot development and language features used by the author. This book is very interesting with lots of twists in the plot and intriguing riddles to be solved.

Yrs 5/6 (Mrs Kowitz/Mrs Martin) In Maths we have been doing lots of hands on learning with MAB blocks to continue solving multiplication and division problems. We have also had Mrs Patterson from Gatton S.S. working with the students, demonstrating the Singapore Bar Method as a way of solving problems in Maths. Mrs Martin has also been working on Financial Maths with the students.
SCHOOL NEWS...

WHOLE SCHOOL EXCURSION: PREP—YR 6

We are now in the final stages of planning and collecting payment for our whole school excursion to Jondaryan Woolshed on Friday 4th September. Many students have not yet returned their permission forms or money. **Please ensure these are returned no later than this Friday 28th August.** The relevant information for this was sent out with the last newsletter so please contact the office if you have misplaced it. This is the only excursion that younger students have the opportunity to go on for this year. Parents are also invited to participate in this excursion and we also need your name ASAP. Parents will require their own transport and will also pay their entry costs at the gate.

All students will need:
- To wear full school uniform wearing a broad brimmed hat and closed in shoes.
- Morning tea and lunch
- Water bottle
- Sunscreen
- All in a small backpack to carry everything

Please arrive at school by 8.10am for a 8.20am departure. Bus will return to school by 3.30pm.

FATHER’S DAY BREAKFAST

A Father’s day breakfast is planned for Wednesday 2nd September. Mrs Samuelsen is coordinating this event. The breakfast will be on a strictly pre-order basis only and will be simply a bacon and egg roll. Order forms and payment for participating dads need to be returned by this Friday 28th August.

Playgroup

Every Wednesday 9-11am.

Playgroup are holding a fundraiser where parents are invited to purchase quality education focused toys, games & gifts by Educational Experience.

Parent / School Information

With regard to the welfare and safety of our students the school would appreciate being notified of any changes to contact details. This also applies to students being collected by other parents / relatives etc. Thank you to those families who have already responded to this request.

P&C NEWS

Thank you to the P & C for organising tuckshop on Tuesday. The students will also enjoy a free end of term bbq on Thursday Sept 17.

LOST PROPERTY

The school is starting to accumulate a lot of UNMARKED lost property. Please check if your children are missing hats, jumpers etc.

MATHS TIPS FOR PARENTS...

Topic: “Looking for tens and ones patterns”

Target Groups— Yr1-Yr2— Yr 3-Yr 4

Often kids count to 100 without really understanding the importance of tens and ones. A child who really understands that 45 has four tens and five more can easily add 10 or 20 on to 45. A child who doesn’t really understand tens and ones needs to use his or her fingers to count 10 more.

Try this fun activity at home:

- Give your child a pile of 10c and 5c coins to count (less than $1). Consider including other coins less than $1.
- Encourage your child to work out how much money there is and write it down on a piece of paper.
- Next, hand them one more 10c coin and ask how much money there is now. If they need to count the whole lot from scratch, let them do it. Then write their answer down. 
- Ask your child to look at the two amounts of money that you wrote down and see what stayed the same and what changed.
- Repeat, adding or taking away one or two 10c coins until they can do it without needing to count all of the money every time. Then try with a 20c coin.

Excerpt from ‘Fixing Misconceptions in Maths’ by Tierney Kennedy

PARENTING CORNER....

Encouraging good behaviour (Continued)

Try these 3 extra tips to encourage the behaviour you want in your child. (excerpt from Raising Children Network)

4. Get down to your child’s level. Kneeling or squatting down next to children is a very powerful tool for communicating positively with them. Getting close allows you to tune in to what they might be feeling or thinking. It also helps them focus on what you are saying or asking for. If you are close to your child and have his attention, there is no need to make him look at you.

5. ‘I hear you.’ Active listening is another tool for helping young children cope with their emotions. They tend to get frustrated a lot, especially if they can’t express themselves well enough verbally. When you repeat back to them what you think they might be feeling, it helps to relieve some of their tension. It also makes them feel respected and comforted. It can diffuse many potential temper tantrums.

6. Keep promises. Stick to agreements. When you follow through on your promises, good or bad, your child learns to trust and respect you. So when you promise to go for a walk after she picks up her toys, make sure you have your walking shoes handy. When you say you will leave the library if she doesn’t stop running around, be prepared to leave straight away. No need to make a fuss about it – the more matter of fact, the better. This helps your child feel more secure, because it creates a consistent and predictable environ-