Calendar of Events

December
7 School concert 5.30pm for a 6.00pm start
8 Report Cards
End of Term BBQ

January
23 Term 1 2017 commences

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

P&C Association
Please make a note :
AGM : Tuesday 14th February 2017

SCHOOL HOURS:
Supervision of students commences at 8.15am
First Bell: 8.55am
Last Bell: 3.00pm
Late arrivals and early departures need to sign in/out at the office.

Absentee Hotline
0475832584
Please use this number only to text absences as it is only checked once a day at 10.00am
Other matters such as changes to students’ routines or collection from school should be communicated directly through the landline - 54627109

REMEMBRANCE DAY
SCHOOL WATCH
PLEASE REMEMBER TO KEEP A WATCHFUL EYE OVER OUR SCHOOL DURING THE HOLI-DAYS.
Call ...13 17 88

News this week…
This is the last newsletter for 2016. How quickly another year has flown by. We have had such a wonderful year with so many highlights and successes. On reflection about the opportunities that the students have been given this year, we have come up with a long list of great things students have engaged in. I thought it was worth just mentioning these activities here as we often tend to forget what has happened. At the end of the year reflection and gratitude for the positive things go hand in hand. I am always grateful for being privileged to work at such a great school with great students, staff and parents.

So here’s the list of activities that have also helped make this year great: Seniors Induction ceremony, Bully No Way Day and performance; Emu Gully Camp; ANZAC Day parade; Mothers Day; Planetarium and My Cootha Botanical Gardens experience; Caffley Athletics carnival; Under 8’s Day; Father’s Day; Grandparents Day; Jump Rope for heart; Book Week dress up day, Day for Daniel Morecombe staying safe activities, White Ribbon Day activities, Soccer/Netball Carnival; Tipp Kick; Fire education Visit; IMPACT online learning, Reading Eggs access for all students; Swimming; Oktoberfest; Darling Downs Zoo, student leaders’ speeches and our School Concert next week.

Of course the most important highlight is the academic success of the students. Staff have worked very hard to improve student learning outcomes for every child, particularly in our priority area of Mathematics this year. At the start of 2016, our school set a target to lift the percentage of students achieving an ‘A’, ‘B’ or ‘C’ on their report cards to from 65% to 80%. I am pleased to announce that we have achieved this target.

All of the teachers are busily helping the students get ready for their concert performance next Wednesday evening. There are range of items which our music teacher Miss Chapman has prepared with the children. We also have a wonderful play “Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory” which has been directed by our talented Mrs Smith! The students are having great fun as they polish their performance skills ready for the big night! We look forward to these great productions.

Students are reminded to wear a black T-shirt (preferable plain black) and school shorts/skirts are fine to wear.
This fortnight’s positive learning expectation is:

**Wk 9**: In the classroom we listen and follow instructions

**Wk 10**: After school we are roadwise

Tent Hill Lower is a Positive Behaviour for Learning School!

At Tent Hill Lower we reward our students who have demonstrated ongoing positive behaviours. Participation in extra-curricular activities and leadership positions are dependent on maintaining good behaviours.

---

**SCHOOL NEWS…**

**School Captain Speeches**

Congratulations to the Year 5 students who presented their leadership speeches today. The students put a lot of time and effort into preparing these and spoke admirably today. Thank you to their parents and family members who were also present to support them. The 2017 school captain elects will be announced at our school concert on Wednesday next week.

**Thankyou to the P&C and volunteers**

I would like to thank all of the P&C members and other volunteers who have helped at our school throughout the year. We are very grateful for your input and support and has helped to make our school a much better place. Your support has been invaluable in terms of fundraising to enable students to participate in so many extra-curricular activities as well as helping out with learning activities. THANK YOU!

**End of year presentations**

Students should begin arriving at school around 5:30pm next Wednesday evening. The students’ concert will commence at 6:00pm sharp. This will be followed by the school awards and the announcement of next year’s School Captains. Could everyone please bring a plate to share for a light supper afterwards.

**Enrolments for 2017**

Enrolment packs are now available from the office for parents wishing to enrol their child/ren for 2017. Enquiries welcome. If your child will not be returning to our school next year, please inform the office. We are presently giving consideration to class numbers for 2017 and an accurate enrolment expectation is important for this.

**Report Cards**

Student reports for Semester 2 are being handed out Thursday 8th. Please take the time to share these with your child and celebrate their positive achievements, especially in terms of their efforts in class.

**Christmas cards and candy canes**

It’s that time of year when children want to give out Christmas cards, candy canes and gifts to their friends. While it is a well meaning and lovely tradition, it can also be very upsetting if a child misses out, so please be considerate when giving out cards. Only distribute cards at 3.00pm. All candy canes are to be taken home immediately. Any gifts should be exchanged privately outside of school.

---

**Staff Changes**

At the end of 2016, we are sad to farewell two staff members. First, Frau Chapman, who has been our German and Music teacher over the last three years, is transferring to Oakey S.S. Also, our Chaplain Marg Thorpe is retiring at the end of this year.

I would like to thank these 2 wonderful ladies for their hard work and dedication during their time here at Tent Hill. On behalf of the community, I would like to wish them the very best for their future endeavours.

Next year we welcome a new German Teacher, Herr Belley, who originally comes from Hungary and speaks German as his first language.

Also, a new Music teacher has been appointed, whom I am yet to meet. We look forward to welcoming our new teachers into our school community in 2017.

**P&C News…**

Please remember to keep sending in goods for the multi-draw raffle. All donated items must be delivered to school by Tuesday 6th December, so they can be sorted and wrapped ready for the raffle on Concert night.

**End of year activities**

Next Thursday 8th December, students will enjoy a fun day of activities including a BBQ sausage sizzle provided by the P&C. Students are still required to bring morning tea. Friday 9th December, will be a clean up day.

**Playgroup**

Playgroup will have a break up day on Wednesday 7th December. Be prepared for some water play activity fun. Prep/1 are also to be participating in some water play on the day. Please send your child with swimmers, towel and sunscreen.

Playgroup will recommence in 2017 from mid February.

**Library Books**

All library books that students have borrowed from our school library are due back NOW. Please return all books no later than Wednesday next week.

**Booklists**

Booklists for 2017 are also being sent home with the report cards. All books need to be purchased by parents from local newsagents. The school does not stock any books. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school.
From the Chappy...

It is with sadness that I wish to inform you that I will be finishing my role of chaplain at the end of this school year.

I have gained so much from being at this school, great staff who are so friendly and patient, parents who have trusted me to listen to your children, kids who are so full of love and life. There is nothing like arriving at school to exclama-

The chaplaincy program at this school is funded for another 2 years, so our Principal will be working with Scripture Union (Mr David Cowie) and our Local Chaplaincy Committee Chair (Mrs Wendy Taylor) to interview another chaplain to continue and expand the chaplaincy service till the end of 2018.

By then we will know whether there will be another round of Federal funding for chaplaincy and how much money the school may need to raise to meet the shortfall.

I would like to thank you all for including me as part of your school community, it has been a real privilege.

Yours sincerely,
Margaret Thorpe, Chaplain

Parenting Corner……

Understanding kids behaviour is easy

Parents always ask me, “Why does my child behave the way he does? Why does he nag/she swear in front of me/they fight all the time?”

In most cases this is the wrong question. It’s better to ask, “What’s the purpose of my child’s behaviour?”

Kids rarely behave in a vacuum. There’s usually a good reason – although kids usually can’t verbalise it. They behave in ways that work in terms of getting a pay-off so someone takes notice. Someone will change their mind and go easy on them. Someone may favour them over others. This is known as purposeful or goal-oriented behaviour.

There are three main goals for children’s misbehaviour:

1. Attention
Often kids will misbehave as a way of keeping parents busy with them. You’ll know it’s attention-seeking as you’ll feel annoyed. (e.g nagging)

2. Power
Some behaviour has the purpose of letting you know that you can’t make a child do anything they don’t want. Grrr! You’ll know it’s about power as you’ll feel angry. (e.g arguing)

3. Hurt
Sometimes kids will behave in ways that make you feel hurt or even guilty. This can be a form of retaliation for comments said or deeds done, or even as a form of pestering you to comply to their wishes. You’ll recognise this as you’ll feel hurt or a sense of guilt. (e.g calling you names)

It’s easy to recognise these goals after the event. You can sit back and reflect on how their behaviour kept you busy; made you angry or hurt you. But it’s hard when you are under stress and/or duress to recognise these goals; and impossible if your first response is to react.

Emotionally-intelligent parenting requires that you a) avoid the first impulse when kids misbehave, and b) check in with how the behaviour makes you feel.

So next time your child misbehaves – nags, whines, tells a fib, ignores you or any number of poor behaviours – rather than react, step back and take a breath. Then conduct a self-check to see how you feel about the behaviour. This will guide you to how you should respond – hopefully rationally and in an adult manner.

‘Avoiding the first impulse’ is a technique along with ‘checking in on your emotions’ that I teach in the Mood Meter Program. It’s great for adults and terrific for kids too. Find out more

Michael Grose – Parenting ideas newsletter@parentingideas.com.au>