

The Cool School News

Student Council 2015 Wrap up

2015 has been a year jam packed with fund raising events. This year the student council has been involved in raising funds for beyondblue, JDRF, The Starlight Foundation and the ALS Association.

The year kicked off with wearing yellow or purple for The Starlight Foundation. Starlight is dedicated to brightening the lives of seriously ill and hospitalised children using positive distraction. Possibly the most well-known aspect of Starlight is wish granting. Each child is unique therefore every wish is too. From travel wishes to hero wishes, big or small, The Starlight Foundation makes a profound difference to the lives of these seriously ill children. As a community we raised \$335.60 for the Foundation.

Our next fundraiser centred on JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation). Once again we put on our jelly-baby walking shoes and competed with each other to be the class that had the most jelly-babies on the hall wall. The three top fundraising classes received a class ice-block party, the perfect compliment to a sunny Queensland day. JDRF's mission is to find a cure for Type 1 diabetes and its complications. As a community we raised \$483.85 for JDRF.

Term 3 saw our small people dressing in blue to support beyondblue, a national initiative to raise awareness of anxiety and depression, providing resources for recovery, management and resilience. beyondblue works on reducing the impact that anxiety and depression has on families, the workplace and within the community. In a society that understand that mental health is just as important as physical health, beyondblue provides a much needed service for men, women and children. Our school community raised \$ 361.35 for beyondblue.

This term we are having two fundraising events. The first was Superheroes and Sportstars day. The money raised will be used to help fund a range of Student Council events. Our last fundraising event for the year will be for the ALS Association. On the 20th November at first break on the oval, the two staff members and two student representatives with the most tickets will get a bucket of icy water tipped over their head. Tickets are on sale at first break near the staffroom and cost 50c each. The staff members who have volunteered are Mr Lawrance, Mr Palstra (4/5P), Mrs Banks (4A), Ms Marshall (6B) and Mrs McLeish. The student representatives include Khaled, Sam, Jacinda and Mikayla. For a full list and full details see your friendly student council member at first break this week.

The student council has also been involved in Day for Daniel, the school fete (Sliming the Principal! A favourite amongst students) and assisting with Under 8's day. 2015 has been a very successful year and we look forward to another exciting year in 2016.

Louise Marshall
Student Council Teacher Liaison



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Coming Events

Prep Orientation Sessions
Thursday 19 November
Thursday 3 December

Carols by Candlelight
Saturday 28 November

Awards Day
Monday 30 November

Swimming Carnival
Yr6 Graduation
Wednesday 2 November

Volunteer Morning Tea
Friday 4 December

RI Concert
Monday 7 December

PBL Rewards day
Class Parties
Thursday 10 December

Last day of Term 4
Friday 11 December

First day back for 2016
Wednesday 27 January 2016





FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Students, Parents and Friends.

I don't know about you but at this time of the year I always get a little bit excited. It is fabulous for us to sit back and reflect on just how much our children have grown and developed over the past 12 months. It is so pleasing to see the rate of academic growth and social skill development amongst our students powering ahead at an almighty pace.

Alexandra Hills State High School Awards Night.

Last week I was privileged to attend the Alexandra Hills State High School Awards Night. This night showcased the very best of Alexandra Hills State High School's academic, social, sporting and arts programs. It celebrated the success of their highest achieving students and I was so proud to see a great number of past Coolwynpin State School Students achieving these awards. Congratulations to all the award winners and also to the fantastic staff from Alexandra Hills State High School who all do such an amazing job supporting their students. Next year the vast majority of students from our Year 6 cohort are enrolling at this fabulous school.

Secondary School Transitions

By now our Year 6 Students should be enrolled at the high school they are most likely going to be attending next year. If your child has not yet enrolled at a high school for Year 7 please contact me as soon as possible so we might work together to ensure your child receives the best possible transition to secondary school.

2016 Prep Enrolments

If you know a family who is still needing to enrol their child in Prep in 2016 please encourage them to make contact with our school so we can support their child's transition. We have enrolled a number of new families for next year and I am sure you, like me, look forward to welcoming them to our Coolwynpin Community.

2016 Years 1 - 6 Enrolments

If you know of families who are new to our area and are looking to enrol their children in Years 1 - 6 next year please have them contact our school. We have already enrolled, for 2016, a number of new students for Years 1 - 6 and we look forward to welcoming more as the 2016 year draws closer.

Parent Reading Information Session

Last week we ran a Parent Reading Information Session. This session was run by Mr Brian Ragh from the South East Regional Office. We were delighted to have 19 enthusiastic adults attend our session. I hope you are all having success with the strategies and skills that were shared on the day.

School Captain Selection

This week we have commenced our School Captain Selection Process for 2016. A number of students from our Year 5 cohort have applied for the two School Captain Positions that are on offer. From this group we have shortlisted 8 students.

Our 8 shortlisted Candidates will now prepare a speech which they will present to students from Years 3 - 6 on an assembly next Monday afternoon.

Following this, students in Years 3 - 6 will vote for who they believe will make the best School Captain. The four students with the highest votes will form our second shortlisted group.

The group of four will be required to obtain references from a staff member, a community member and will also be interviewed for the role by myself, our Deputy Principal and an appointee of the P&C President.

We look forward to announcing the successful School Captains of 2016 at our annual Awards Day Presentation on November 30th.

House Captain Selection

At the completion of the School Captain Selection we will then begin the selection process for 2016 House Captains. Keep an eye out for more information about this in the coming weeks.

Attendance

Term 4 can traditionally be a time of the year when our student attendance begins to slip. We have set the goal of finishing the school year off with an annual attendance rate of 93%. At present we are just shy of this target at 92.7%. Please ensure your child is at school each and every day. Each day missed is always going to be a little bit further they fall behind and need to catch-up.

Kind Regards

Mick Lawrence
Principal



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Facebook

Our Positive Behaviour for Learning goal for the coming week is:

We are respectful when using electronics in the school.

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL



Dear parents, students and friends,

Upcoming Events and Key Dates:

As our year draws to a close, there are lots of events coming up and some key dates to keep in mind for the next few weeks:

Fri Nov 27	Band Tour
Mon Nov 30	9.15 - 10.15 Awards Ceremony
Wed Dec 2	Swimming Carnival for Years 3-6
Wed Dec 2	Yr 6 Graduation (6.30-8.30, photos from 5.30)
Thurs Dec 10	PBL End of Term Rewards Activities (9-11)
Thurs Dec 10	End of Term Class Parties (11.45-1.15)
Thurs Dec 10	Student Reports emailed/sent
Fri Dec 11	Last day of term

Positive Behaviour for Learning:

Last week on parade we had the very great pleasure of awarding our first Positive Behaviour for Learning BRONZE award pins.

Each term our students work towards completing their three Cool School Awards charts in their classrooms. Each chart has 50 squares for 50 stamps/stickers and teachers provide acknowledgement to students on a regular basis when they see students being safe, respectful or being a learner. When each of the three Cool School Award charts are completed, students receive a certificate (awarded in class) to acknowledge this achievement.

Once their three Cool School Awards charts are completed, students then start working on their Bronze chart. This chart has 150 spaces for stamps/stickers and teachers continue to look for those opportunities to acknowledge students for meeting our whole school expectations for what a safe, respectful learner looks like and sounds like.

Students continue to work on this Bronze chart each term once they have completed their three Cool School Awards charts. Once their Bronze chart is complete they have then earned their Bronze Pin and this pin will be awarded with a certificate on parade. Parents will receive an invitation to parade via text so that you are able to celebrate this achievement with us.

Once their Bronze chart is completed they then begin working on their SILVER chart (another 150 stamps/stickers), then their GOLD chart (also 150 stamps/stickers).

This system is for each calendar year and students will re-start their Bronze, Silver and Gold charts in 2016.

The following students have now achieved the very first Cool School PBL Bronze pins:

- 1B - Sophie**
- 2B - Adria, Gabrielle, Annalyse and Ivy**
- 2/3C - Sienna and Taya**
- 3A - Reese, Zoe, Lincoln and Emma-Lee**
- 4B - Nadine, Kurt and Chloe**
- 4/5M - Hallie**
- 5B - Jamie**
- 6B - Hayden**

Congratulations to these students!

The key question is WHY do we follow this PBL system? The simple answer is that it is about improving LEARNING outcomes. INCREASED POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR INCREASES the LEARNING OUTCOMES for students.

Research tells us that by having clear expectations, teaching those expectations explicitly (which we do each week with our PBL Focus Lesson), acknowledging appropriate behaviour and by having clear and consistent consequence and support systems, we will have improved academic and social outcomes for students which is what we're aiming for each and every day!

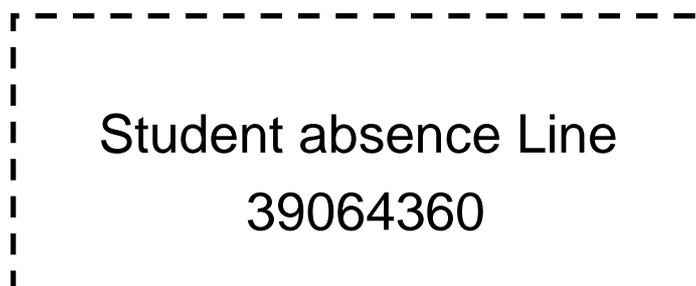
Prep Orientation Program:

We held our first Prep Orientation program last week on Thursday. It was a great success and we really enjoyed spending some time getting to know our new Prep students. We have two more Prep Orientation dates coming up on Thursday Nov 19th and Thursday Dec 3rd. If you know anyone who has a Prep age child who is planning to enrol or who has enrolled already these mornings are the perfect way to help students prepare for a successful start to Prep next year! Families are able to contact the office any time to find out more information and to register for these mornings.

Sincerely,

Bec Rayner

Deputy Principal



FROM THE HOSES

Understanding Diversity:

Most people will have heard of autism as it is a condition which has generated media interest through popular books such as "*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*", "*Nobody, Nowhere*" and films such as "*Rain Man*" and "*The Black Balloon*".

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a term used to describe a group of developmental presentations including Autism and Asperger's Syndrome. There is a wide range of abilities and varying levels of traits found across individuals with an ASD. The term "Asperger's syndrome" is usually applied to individuals functioning at the higher end of the spectrum.

When first encountered by a naïve observer, learners (particularly those at the more able end of the continuum) may be seen as primarily presenting behavioural difficulties, with many of their interactions with adults and their peer group appearing to be deliberately challenging. In a school setting, the social interactions of these learners with an Autism Spectrum Disorder can lead to misunderstandings between the learner and other students and between the learner and adults in the school community. Their behaviours can be easily misinterpreted and the learner can sometimes be seen as intentionally difficult when there is no such intention. It can sometimes be difficult for others to appreciate that their behaviour is a natural consequence of their perception of the world. Some traits are also desirable strengths, with many large companies now actively seeking employees with ASD because of their ability to remain so highly focused, passionate and tenacious in their work tasks.

Autism Queensland provides comprehensive information at www.autismqld.com.au including access to a phone in parent help line. Dr Tony Attwood reminds us that children with Aspergers have a different, not defective, way of thinking. Sinclair asks:

"If you would help me, don't try to change me to fit your world. Don't try to confine me to some tiny part of the world that you can change to fit me. Grant me the dignity of meeting me on my own terms - recognise that we are all equally alien to each other, and that my ways of being are not merely damaged versions of yours. Question your assumptions. Define your terms. Work with me to build more bridges between us."

Sinclair: Personal Essays in High Functioning Individuals with Autism: Schopler and Mesibov 1992.

Payment reminders

We have a lot of activities being organised at the moment, below is a list of activities and payment due dates

Activity	Payment Due Date
Instrumental Music Levy	ASAP
Instrument Hire	ASAP
Yr6 Graduation book	18 November
Band Tour	20 November
Book Club Orders	23 November
Swimming carnival Yr3-6	27 November

If you have financial difficulties for any of the above events please contact our BSM Sandra Penfold to discuss a payment plan. We encourage all students to participate in the above activities.



Year 2 Report

Students in 2A/B are learning to appreciate the history of their local area by examining the remains of the past. They are exploring how changes in technology have shaped our daily lives

While all students appreciate the benefits that advances in modern technology have brought, some of us have expressed an interest in going back to the past.

Who do you agree with?

I would like to live in the present because my grandma lives in Canada and I would not be able to visit her because there were no aeroplanes. By Eliana 2A

I would like to stay in the present because dolls in the past were made of porcelain and they broke easily. Now, dolls don't break so easily. By Kayla 2A

I like the electronic games we can play now like minecraft . by Thomas R 2A

The present day is better because there are i phones and i pads to use. By Alexander2B

I like the present better because housework chores like washing are easier to do and don't take as long. by Matilda 2B

I would like to go back to the past so that I can try riding a "boneshaker". By Abbey 2A

I would like to live in the past because I like playing outside and children did that a lot. By Rosie 2A

I think writing with a feather and ink would be better than having to sharpen a pencil all of the time. By Harry 2A

The past is better because toys lasted longer and didn't need batteries. By Matilda 2B

Year 6 Report

As our Year 6 students approach the final weeks of their primary schooling, we have been discussing what to expect at high school. This topic has been specifically covered in our health unit and focuses on aspects such as applying skills to new situations, managing conflict, valuing diversity, counter bullying, making new friends and having conversations.

Generally in the classroom, the focus continues to be on preparing the students for a smooth transition into high school. Skills such as time management, completing tasks by due dates and using diaries are constantly reinforced.

With the end of year almost upon us, the plans and preparations for the Year 6 Graduation and Year Book are underway. The students have been busy writing their personal biographies, sports reports, camp recounts and leadership role reports along with taking opportunities to be photographed with their mates. From this week, rehearsals will begin for the special event which will be held on December 2nd in the school hall.

This term has also seen our Year 6 students engaging with the world beyond through newsworthy events. We have been busy discussing current and recent events that shape our world such as the bombing of the twin towers on September 11, 2001.

The next few weeks will fly by as we finalise assessments, rehearse for graduation and prepare to farewell our current school leaders.

From the Parents and Citizens Association

2nd Hand Uniforms

Our 2nd hand uniform shop is running low on supplies, especially dresses and shirts. If you have any 2nd hand school uniforms you no longer need and are happy to donate them back to the school please drop them at the school office. Thank you

Carols by Candlelight

A few questions....

Q: Can anyone from the community come and is there an entry cost?

A: **Yes everyone is welcome and the event entry is free!**

Q: Is food being sold?

A: **Yes, sausage on bread, Hamburgers, drinks. We have invited other community groups in to do this please support them if you can!!**

Q: Can you bring your own food?

A: **Yes.**

Q: Are the children performing?

A: **No, but they will be learning some Carols in class and a carol booklet will be available on the night.**

Q: Do I have to volunteer?

A: **No, this is an event you can enjoy with your family and friends!**

Q: Do I need to bring a rug and camping chairs?

A: **Yes.**

Q: What happens if it is wet???

A: **We will move to the hall, please bring chairs and rugs....**

We look forward to enjoying a wonderful night of carolling with you all!!!

Featuring the

Redland City Choir brought to you by the Cool School P&C

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Where: Coolwynpin State School Oval - use Callaghan Way Entry

When: Saturday 28th November Gates open 5pm

Cost: Free — all welcome...bring a rug and some camping chairs.

Food and drinks will be available to buy. Candles on sale for \$2 (battery operated)

SPECIAL THANKS TO....



Parents are welcome to come down to SPORTFIRST Capalaba now to place orders for 2016.

Laybys require 20% deposit and can be collected in January 2016, or can be purchased on the day.

SPORTFIRST

Dresses are order only and must be ordered before December 18th 2015.

Please don't delay as stock can run low in January.

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