Monday 16 February, 2015

**From the Principal:**

Reports from parents and teachers about the meet and greet last Tuesday, were extremely positive. It was great to see parents come along and talk with teachers to find out some more information about the learning that is occurring at school and to share information that is relevant to how best support children in their learning.

Improvements in student reading, writing and numeracy are the key goals for 2015 with ongoing attention being given to positive behaviour and increased attendance by all students.

Along with this week’s newsletter a new media permission form is attached. The form now contains permission for publication of images etc on our facebook page as well as the web page and print media publication. The page won’t go live until we have permissions returned, as the purpose of the page is to share events and information and celebrate successes, which include group and individual images. If you don’t want or do want your child’s picture, name or work etc published on facebook, it is important that you let us know by returning the form with the appropriate boxes ticked.

Lee Graham has joined the staff on Thursday and Friday, taking a shared role with Debbie Niland and Mel Ford, supporting literacy and numeracy learning in these classes. This week, three teachers are undertaking training in ‘mini-lit’, a literacy intervention program for early learners. Next week, Ms Ford is undertaking training on the Early Development Census to be undertaken later this year and Mr Reed is attending Words Their Way training. Remaining staff will delve deeper into numeracy and place value teaching, learning and assessment after Tuesday’s staff meeting.

Classroom makeovers have been announced as a competition in the Gympie Times. I have registered the college in the competition. Each class may collect tokens – cut out of the Gympie Times papers, from Sat 14 Feb to Mon 16 March. I will then enter the number of tokens for the school. The winner, across all Gympie schools, will have the highest number of tokens per student. The prize - $5000 make over for a classroom at that school. Get involved and collect tokens to give to your child’s class teacher.

Each year, the P and C association funds a bottle conditioner and a ‘nit’ comb for each family, to enable parents to have the tools to manage this perennial problem. It is then up to parents to ensure that Sunday night is used as the night to check for nits and to treat using the conditioner and come if eggs are found. A handy information note on the process is also copied and provided. It is suggested that families make a note on the calendar every time that checking is due and undertaken. These packs should be provided later this week.

Jenny Kent, Principal

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**SWPBS focus:**

We are safe when we keep our hands and feet to ourselves

**Date claimers:**

- **P and C AGM** – Monday 16 February at 3.15 pm – Prep Room
- **Tuckshop committee meeting** – Monday 16 February at 2.10 pm – Principal’s Office
- **Student Leader Induction** – Friday 20 February 9 am – Neil Mahony Building
- **Media permission forms due** – Friday 20 February
- **Entry forms Bush Haven Creativity Award due Friday 27 February**

**Reminders :**

**NO TUCKSHOP THIS WEEK**

**Sunday Night is Nit Night**

Please update your email address, along with phone numbers and residential addresses.

Wanted/ For Sale
Second-hand Uniforms: Please contact Mrs Dixon to sell and buy second-hand uniforms.

Please ensure all school fees are up to date. EFTPOS available.

No Smoking Zone
Please remember that all government property is a no smoking zone.
Safe, Respectful, Responsible

From the secondary campus

I would like to congratulate all secondary students who nominated for leadership positions within the school. Parents will be contacted during the week and asked to attend the leadership induction parade this Friday 20th February if their child was successful in gaining one of the leadership positions. I would also like to congratulate Darcy O’Sullivan and Tristan Croft who were our Hi 5 winners last week.

Thank you to those parents who attended the meet and greet last Tuesday. For those who were unable to attend please feel free to contact any of the staff on the secondary campus if you have any questions, concerns or queries. I will endeavour to contact all parents by the end of this week. The staff on the secondary campus for 2015 are -

Miss Watson
Acting HOD
Home Economics
Business

Mr Hutchins
P-10 HPE
Maths

Mr Stevens
Manual Arts
Maths

Ms Bissett
English
History
Art

Miss Smith
P-10 Science
Geography

When the wolves howl I smile

It was a dark, dreary day. I was out in the old playground behind the school, hiding from Harte. After what I did to him at school the other day, I was in for a beating. There was an irritating squeak coming from one of the rusted swings. It seemed that it was getting darker by the minute. It seemed to become quieter by the second.

I hear footsteps and rustling from behind me. I turn to find an innocent squirrel. A bead of sweat runs down my head. I wipe it away in relief.

As I turn to face back the way I was, a shadowy figure flickers past my eye. I’m afraid! My heart is beating! More sweat dribbles down my head, but this time it’s not wiped with ease. I lift my shaky hand, wipe my face and freeze.

The figure has seen me, they’ve decided to get a closer look.

I’m shivering, I’ve lost all feeling in my arms, I feel butterflies, I can feel the fear turning to pain, I’m struggling to breathe. He begins to walk into the light. He emerges from behind the slide, making his way past the seesaw. My brain is telling me to move but my legs have lost connection. I see his face…

It’s Harte! He’s found me! I have no escape I’m all alone with no protection, I guess this is the end for me.

As all hope of life still existing for me starts to fade a huge gust of wind comes in. Suddenly everything is foggy. The fog begins to clear and standing right in front of me is the old man from the hill. He’s here to save me. I feel calm, I’m breathing perfectly, yet I still drop to the ground. I’m ok: everything is just as I hoped.

The dogs rush towards me as the old man finishes with Harte. I climb up and go to the old man to thank him, but before I can get there he’s already gone.

By Danni

Garden News

Thanks to the Pearson family and the Lenz family for their prompt and generous response to the requests for newspaper and manure. Brad was able to collect a ute load of manure from the Pearsons and Vanessa provided a very large pile of newspapers. Some members of the gardening group were able to spread the newspapers and start to shift some of the gravel, while others, were able to help spread the manure.

The garden near the Prep room is also doing really well, with numerous watermelons almost ready to eat. There was also a really unusually shaped large vegetable harvested last week. The prep students suggested it looked like a snake, so Ms Ford gave it some eyes and a tongue and showed it to students and staff to see if it could be identified. Some suggestions included cucumber, zucchini and gourd. What do you think?

Sizzling Starts

Last week, the Year 7/8 class was asked to write a sizzling start for the next part of a story we read in class, about an encounter with a bully. In the previous chapter, the boy had been saved by an old man with some dogs. One of our talented young writers in the Year 7 group, Danni Wall, has gone on, in her own time, to complete the story. Danni has used the same characters and setting to go past the sizzling start and create a new part of the story. Enjoy her story and see whether you can find the pebble, the brick and the boulder as the tension tightens. Well done, Danni!

By Danni

Safe, Respectful, Responsible
Our SWPBS lessons last week were all about being responsible and transitioning quietly between activities.

Secondary students usually transition between subjects each lesson, although sometimes they have two lessons, one after the other of the same subject. They are used to changing rooms between lessons. This year, they have added changing campus, between 1st and 2nd lessons and then again after second break and 5th lesson.

Primary students are more used to transitioning between activities within their classroom, although many of them have to move classrooms for specialist lessons.

This year the Year 4/5/6 class has one day when they have five different subjects/teachers. First lesson is with Mrs Kurtz in their classroom. Second lesson is with Mr Stevens in Manual Arts – they are creating Pin Art this term. After lunch they have swimming (with Mr Hutchins) then science (with Miss Smith). After second break, they have library/vocabulary (with Mr Davey).

Whilst this is a challenging and interesting timetable, it also requires plenty of early organisation and practice to achieve these moves quickly and quietly with everyone having the necessary equipment. The goal for the class is that after first break, they will all be ready to move to the secondary campus for swimming and science, within five minutes after the bell. Some of the students are already doing a great job with this challenge, with others still learning the necessary skills to achieve this transition quietly and quickly. You can expect progress updates throughout the coming weeks.

P & C News

The P&C is an Organisation that is run by volunteers and cannot continue without them. Our next meeting is our Annual General Meeting on Monday 16th February at 3.15pm in the Prep room. It is a great opportunity to come along and join the P & C. At this meeting we will be discussing changing the day and time of our meetings. It is hoped that future meetings might be on Tuesday evenings at about 5.30 or 6.00 pm to try to allow for more people to attend. If you can’t make it to the AGM, but might be able to attend meetings at different times, please leave a message at the office and Phoebe, our current president will be in touch.

In an attempt to try to get the tuckshop up and running again this year, a meeting of those interested in volunteering in the tuckshop will be held on Monday 16 at 2.10 pm in the Principal’s office. This is just before the P and C AGM.

Community notices

HOT SHOTS TENNIS COACHING
Gympie and District Tennis Association Coach Matt Watkins will commence the Hot Shots Coaching program on Tuesday 17th February at Mary Valley State College. Lessons will be held Tuesday lunchtimes from 11.00am to 11.40am for a minimum block of 7 weeks. Costs have been reduced for Term 1 only to $35.00/pupil. (This is half price). Loan racquets are available each week.

Please return this completed form to the office or contact Matt by Tuesday 17th February.

For more information phone Matt Watkins 0417070129.

ALL PLAYERS WHO SIGN UP WILL RECEIVE THE ALL NEW HOT SHOTS TENNIS SHIRT.

Cash payment or Cheques payable to Brett Cottrill please.

All players who sign up will receive the all new Hot Shots Tennis Shirt.

GET 12 MONTHS UNLIMITED ENTRY FOR ONLY $590 AN ADULT & $430 A CHILD

With all new member perks! underwaterworld.com.au

Note: A new Hot Shots challenge will be starting at the Imbil Tennis Club from Monday 16th February. Cost is $10 for the 5 week challenge which includes junior membership at the club. Red Ball Group (ages 5-7) 3.15 to 3.45pm, Orange Ball Group (ages 8-10) 3.45pm to 4.30pm and Green Ball Group (ages 11 up) 4.30pm to 5.15pm. You will need to register with Matt on 0417070129 as numbers are limited.
Congratulations to all our award winners

**Week 3 Awards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Award</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bailey</td>
<td>Prep/1</td>
<td>A fantastic job in counting forwards and back from different numbers!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maia</td>
<td>One/Two</td>
<td>A positive role model to others by always being safe, responsible and respectful.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kobi</td>
<td>One/Two</td>
<td>For demonstrating impressive problem solving skills in number activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirra and Bryannah</td>
<td>2/3</td>
<td>For transitioning quietly and being considerate of others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeremy and Narissa</td>
<td>2/3</td>
<td>For their effort when writing sizzling starts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Levi</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Outstanding behaviour being responsible during transitions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trent</td>
<td>4/5/6</td>
<td>For confidently and cleverly sizzling us with his sizzling starts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caleb</td>
<td>4/5/6</td>
<td>For his focused attitude to learning and all classwork</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nat</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>For working to best ability in all subjects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angela</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>For pushing herself in maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darcy</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>For being safe, respectful and responsible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tristan</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>For being safe, respectful and responsible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ebony, Kirra, Makala, Jeremy, Caitlin</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>Hi-lives</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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