1 December 2016

PRINCIPAL’S PRATTLE

Yet again we are at the end of another year. I hope that you have been satisfied with your child’s education at Coombabah this year. I recently had the opportunity to meet with a number of parents who were very open and honest with some ideas for us as we look towards the future.

As a school we are always looking for ways to improve. We respect any constructive feedback as this helps with building relationships and encouraging you as parents to be a part of the school.

Our biggest success this year has definitely been in the area of reading. We received some positive feedback from our district office relating to the work our teachers and coaches have put into our reading program. The program is specifically targeted at student’s levels of reading and aiming instruction just above their level of comfort.

This is often referred to as the learning pit. We need children to start in the ‘pit’ and then work hard to get themselves out of the pit and over the edge. This is the learning. This involves a level of persistence, resilience and the desire to improve.

As parents your help and support for your child is vital for their self esteem and future improvement. We must never underestimate the effect positivity has on a child and their growth.

Our teachers also spend a considerable amount of time talking to the children about what they are going to be learning in each lesson. It is often referred to as ‘WALT’ - what are we learning today. This sets the scene for the students and prepares them for the lesson ahead. We also refer to ‘WILF’ - What I am looking for. This clearly sets out the expectation for the students and what they have to do to achieve success in that lesson.

They also make a point of recording the vocabulary specific to the topic on the board for students to see regularly and to use in their writing.

We will be continuing to build on our reading program in 2017 and look forward to seeing continued positive results for the students.

We will also be implementing a new model for maths intervention and improvement for our students. This will be a very focused lesson each week targeting individual student needs.

SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Over the past couple of weeks we have been undertaking the process of school captain selection for 2017. I would like to thank all the students who applied and especially you as parents for encouraging your child to have a go.

Our new captains will be announced at Graduation and will lead the second part of the evening.

AWARD RECIPIENTS

It is also timely to acknowledge all the hard work our students have put into their learning this year. Many students will be receiving awards and they should be praised for the effort they have put into improving themselves.

Receiving an award does not necessarily mean you are a winner and that there are losers.

Awards are given to acknowledge the hard work and persistence that some students put into their work on a regular basis and because of this, they achieve at a very high level. An academic award certainly shows that you are the best in that area of your education. There are times when it is possible that
there are two people who have achieved at a very high level. If student achievement cannot be separated then the situation could arise where there are two academic awards given.

So to all our students who have achieved to their best potential. Congratulations. You are all deserved recipients and I encourage you to continue giving your best to achieve to the best of your potential.

REPORTING

At Coombabah State School we encourage families to be informed regarding the learning of your child/ren. Earlier in the year teachers provided both a written report and an interview. You will soon be receiving your child’s Semester 2 report. This will give you another opportunity to find out more about your child’s learning.

You may notice that grades for subjects vary between report cards. You can be assured that the variation is not due to “how hard a teacher marks work”. Teachers moderate the assessments as a year group and agree on standards of work which would be expected for each grade, A – E.

There are several reasons why changes may happen:

- Children have strengths and weaknesses in different areas and this may result in different grades.
- Topics within subjects change. For instance, assessments in science may relate to natural disasters which students may find particularly interesting.
- Assessments may be conducted in different ways. Students may be required to respond orally or in writing.

If you have concerns or questions about the grades listed in the report card, please feel free to contact the class teacher to discuss your child’s progress.

Please note that report cards will be emailed during the week beginning 5th December. If your email address has changed, or if you require a paper version, please contact the office

CLASSES FOR NEXT YEAR.

We will be looping our year 2 classes and our year 4 classes. This means that in 2017 your child will most likely have the same teacher they had this year. There are some changes that do occur due to personality clashes and sometimes class sizes however most students will stay with their class they have this year.

We also have some Prep classes moving with their teachers to year 1.

Our final staffing is done on day 8 next year and students can be moved around in classes up until the end of the second week of the school year. Just because they start with a teacher this doesn’t guarantee that they will stay with that teacher as it depends on the number of students in the school and how we have to form classes.

Please note the following:

We will not be allocating classes this year to particular teachers.

On the first day of the 2017 school year, your child’s name will be displayed on a class list in the undercover area of the school.

2017

If you know you will not be returning in 2017 please contact the office and let the ladies know. This is very important when working out our class structures.

GRADUATION

Congratulations to our graduating students. It is amazing to see the number of students who graduate and who have been at Coombabah SS since prep.

Well done to all our year 6 students on successfully completing your primary schooling and we wish you all the best for your future at high school and beyond.

FAREWELL

I would also like to acknowledge the following staff for their commitment to the school and the students throughout the year. We have a number of new staff who have been transferred into the school and unfortunately we are not able to keep all our current contract teachers.

Thank you very much to-

Ms Fairlie Thompson – year 2C
Ms K Dillenbeck – year 2B
Mrs Paula Nunn – Prep D
Mrs Hayley Chessher – Prep E
Mrs Emma Acton - Year 1D
Mr Chris Ryan – Instrumental Music (Band)
Mr David Sue Yek – Instrumental Music (Strings)

Thank you very much for the effort you have put into educating our students throughout the year and being a part of the Coombabah team.

I would also like to acknowledge the successful transfer of Mrs Sarah Lekelake. Sarah has been appointed to Highland Reserve in 2017 and we wish her the best for the future.

THANK YOU

To all our parents, students and teachers - thank you for your contributions to our school during 2016. Our school is continuing to move forward and without the continued support of everyone who makes up our school community we would not be in as strong a position as we are.

A special mention needs to be given to our P&C. Working on the P&C can often be a thankless task however when plans come together and events are successful the sense of satisfaction and knowledge that everyone has given their best effort is very rewarding. Our P&C has worked hard to bring a number of events together such as disco’s, the fete, funding our World Teachers Day breakfast and a number of smaller initiatives. They are also responsible for the overall operation of the tuckshop and as we have mentioned previously, our tuckshop won Queensland Tuckshop of the Year for 2016. This is a tremendous achievement and is acknowledgement of the great job the staff do to ensure our students are provided with healthy and excitingly presented foods.
The P&C needs some new volunteers for 2017 as we have had a number of people finish their association with the school as their children have moved on. Please consider joining our P&C and help make a positive difference for our students and the school.

There is an attachment to this newsletter asking you to comment on where they can spend some of their current funds. Please return the survey as it is important to see what you would like to see some of the money spent on in the school.

Finally I would sincerely like to thank the entire staff - cleaners, groundsman, office staff, Business Services Manager, teacher aides, Chaplain, Guidance officer, SEP teachers, specialist teachers, coaches, administration, Deputies and HOC who put in the effort each day to ensure our school is safe, inviting, providing an effective learning environment and adjusting learning to suit the range of learners.

From all of the staff I would like to wish everyone a very safe and happy Christmas. Please stay safe and we look forward to seeing you all back at the start of term 1 in 2017.

STUDENTS LEAVING OUR SCHOOL

We are beginning the process of planning our class arrangements for 2017. To minimise disruption to classes in 2017 we need to know numbers of students likely to be attending. If your family is planning or likely to move schools next year, please advise us as soon as possible. Please complete the tear-off slip below and return it to the school office.

Murray Gleadhill
Principal

MUSIC NOTES

Thank you parents and carers for attending our annual Carols Evening and making the event possible. The students had been working on their songs some weeks prior to the event and it was great to finally see them on stage singing and having fun in their Christmas attire. Thank you to the P&C for organising and running a sausage sizzle on the night.

TALENT SHOW

On Monday 5th December we look forward to our annual Talent Show where finalists will battle it out for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. All students will attend the event in the school hall from 9am to 11am. The students have been working very hard on their acts and finally have an opportunity to showcase their talent in public. Good luck students!

SENIOR CHOIR GRADUATION PERFORMANCE

The Senior Choir will perform at our annual Graduation event to be held at our school hall on Wednesday 7th at 6.30pm. If your child is in the Senior Choir they will have received a letter this week outlining details including arrival and performance time, as well as attire details. The students have been working very hard on their pieces and are looking forward to presenting them on the evening.

SENIOR CHOIR, JUNIOR CHOIR AND PERFORMANCE CLUB PARTY

On Tuesday December 6th all students in Senior Choir, Junior Choir and Performance Club are invited to attend our annual breakup party during 2nd break outside the music room. The breakup party is our way of saying thank you to the students for giving up their playtime on a weekly basis to rehearse for upcoming performances. We ask each child to bring along a plate of food or drinks to share at the party.

ENTRY IN CHANNEL 7 SUNRISE COMPETITION

Recently some staff and students participated in a competition through Channel 7’s Sunrise show. The competition required schools to submit an entry of a video showcasing dancing to the feature song from the new Trolls movie to be released this December. Our school submitted an entry of staff singing and performing on instruments to Justin Timberlake’s Can’t Stop the Feeling. Thank you to all students and staff involved in this project. In order to submit an entry in such a short amount of time it required everyone to pull together as a team and turn up to school at 6.30am for filming. Well done team!

OUSTANDING MUSIC HIRE SHIRTS

We still have a number of music hire shirts that have not been returned after previous performances in term 3. Thank you parents and carers who have returned hire shirts as it assists us with providing music uniforms for future events and allows us to maintain a high performance costume standard. If your child still has a hire shirt at home please return it to the office or music room for students to use for future performances.

Melinda Kidd
Music/Media Arts Teacher

ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL WRAP UP

We have finished our second year of participation in the Gold Coast City Council Active School Travel program.

Thankyou to local council who funded food, prizes, advertising and the successful, Drop and Go zone. Thankyou to the fabulous team of students who helped run Friday Fitness Frenzy and to all the school families, who joined the walking crew and supported events, throughout the year.

The recent Bling your Bike day, saw brightly decorated bikes, many adopting a festive theme.

Congratulations to Olivia Brooks, Sammi-Lee Walls and William Miller for earning, Highly Commended in the VCAST video competition. They made short videos to promote safe and active travel to school. Well done!

Happy and safe holidays to all. Stay active!

Jennie Hill & Sam Haydock
AST Teachers
LITERACY AWARD WINNER

Recently, Erryn in Prep C won a literacy award for a story that she wrote. She was presented with her certificate in the classroom.

MATHLETICS CERTIFICATES

Here at Coombabah State School students have access to the online maths program, Mathletics. Each week students who have achieved a gold or silver level certificate by completing maths exercises are presented with these certificates at their assemblies. Congratulations to the following students who have recently received certificates:

SILVER CERTIFICATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STUDENT</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ashlee Catherall</td>
<td>2/3E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indya Ruha</td>
<td>4A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detroit Stowers</td>
<td>4B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jaxon Terry</td>
<td>4C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leon Carvalho</td>
<td>4C</td>
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Congratulations to 4A which is the Mathletics class of the week.

Nina Fitch
Support Teacher: Literacy & Numeracy

CAN SAVOUR PLUS SAVE YOU MONEY?

BAKERS DELIGHT PROMOTION

Don’t forget to mention Coombabah State Primary School when purchasing anything from Baker’s Delight Runaway Bay Shopping Village, 5% of the sales are passed onto the school. It’s that easy

DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 5 December</td>
<td>Talent Quest Finals – 9am to 11am in the Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 6 December</td>
<td>Prep to Year 3 Academic Awards Assembly – 9.15am in school hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 7 December</td>
<td>Years 4 to 6 Academic Awards Assembly – 9.15am in school hall Year 6 Graduation 6.30pm in School Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 8 December</td>
<td>Year 6 Graduation Excursion</td>
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DATE | ACTIVITY
---|---
Friday 9 December | Last Day of 2016
Monday 23 January 2017 | First Day of 2017
Thursday 26 January 2017 | Australia Day Holiday

COMUNITY NEWS

CAROLS AT NORM RIX PARK

Event Details

Event: Carols at Norm Rix Park
Date: Saturday 3 December, 2016
Time: 5.30pm – 8.30pm
Venue: Norm Rix Park, Labrador
Overview: A wonderful afternoon of free Christmas entertainment and fun for the family and friends. Sing along to your favourite Christmas carols, enjoy a feature performance from ABC Kids - Hoot and Hootabelle, dance along with the Gee Cee and Cee Cee Kids Stage Show and enjoy an afternoon of fantastic free live entertainment. Also featuring performances from Santa and Rudolf!

Food will be available for purchase and there will also be a free BBQ on offer. All funds raised on the night through the purchase of glow sticks or face painting will go towards the Gold Coast Project for Homeless Youth Christmas Appeal. Come along, bring a blanket and your singing voice, soak up the Christmas spirit and get to know your local community!

CITY OF GOLD COAST – ACTIVE AND HEALTHY HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Get active this summer with our free and low cost holiday fun. There’s heaps on offer to get the kids out of bed and off their devices.


- Game On – get into the Commonwealth Games spirit
- Splashacular water fun
- Scooter and skateboard lessons
- Nature Play adventures
- Dance and choreography workshops
- Rainbow tie dye workshops
- Pop up playgrounds
- Have a go circus
- Kialugumm Games Trail
- Lindy School of Charm young ladies and suave school for young gents workshops
Get craft, discover your hidden talents, break a sweat and have a laugh while trying out the many activities to keep the whole family healthy and happy this summer.

SPEND YOU HOLIDAY SEASON IN SURFERS PARADISE

Surfers Paradise Alliance is excited to announce 3 family friendly events coming this holiday season! Christmas in Surfers Paradise, Carols on the Beach and New Year’s Eve Carnival. All FREE events celebrating all things Christmas and New Year’s spanning from 13 December – 1 January.

Step from the sun-drenched sands of the Gold Coast’s most iconic beach and into vibrant Cavill Mall to meet surfing Santa and his elf helpers in his quintessentially Aussie surfboat sleigh pulled by kangaroos. Roving performers including acrobatic elves and cheerful carollers will keep the festive atmosphere buzzing, while summer-styled Santa statues and oversized gifts will enhance the summer holiday spirit throughout the precinct from 13-24 December.

Bring the family and enjoy the spectacle and fun of balmy Christmas nights in Surfers Paradise with Carols on the Beach Presented by G:link on Sunday 18 December.

And to finish off the year, bring the kids and count down the New Year beneath one of the largest fireworks displays - in Surfers Paradise! Firework shows will be held at 8pm and midnight on Surfers Paradise Beach. Additional fireworks can be seen at 10pm from the Surfers Paradise Riverside.