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7 September 2017

## PRINCIPAL'S PRATTLE

### TEACHER AIDE DAY

Last week our school celebrated the great work our teacher aides do each day in the classrooms with your students. Thank you to the people who posted comments on our Facebook page about our teacher aides.

Teacher aides do much more in classrooms now than they did when I first started teaching. Teacher aides were responsible for some in class supervision of a group, organising paint pots, putting out science equipment and tasks that were very organisational. Nowadays our teacher aides are an integral part of a classroom and are trained to help small groups of students with reading or maths, run our Stephanie Alexander Garden program and many other paraprofessional roles in a classroom. Often teacher aides have a very deep knowledge of a school as some have been in their role for a considerable amount of time.

Thank you very much too all our aides for your work with our students and your support of the classroom teachers and the school. We couldn't do it without you.

### BEHAVIOUR PROCESS

As many of you would be aware we have stepped up our expectations of how students should act in a classroom to not disadvantage the learning of others and also the importance of respect in our society. If you are a parent of a child in years 4-6 and you have not familiarised yourself with the document that was sent home last week please make sure you do so that you are fully informed of our new school process. This process was always part of the school's Responsible Behaviour Plan however we have set some higher expectations of our

students to ensure that learning and teaching in our classrooms is maximised.

Currently we are trialling the new process in the year 4-6 classes and will eventually roll it out across the rest of the school.

Disrespect of teachers, adults and classmates will not be tolerated when it affects the learning and teaching process and causes disruption in the classroom.

### TENNIS COMPETITION

Thank you to Ms Dorrn for encouraging a group of budding tennis enthusiasts to participate in an interschool challenge on Tuesday. Our team of students came 5th overall after their participation in tennis lessons through the school. Thank you also to the many parents who supported their students on the day and assisted with transport.

### MUSICAL

Our musical Best Foot Forward is in the final stages of rehearsals before our performances next week on Wednesday and Thursday evening. If you do not have tickets yet please login to the Flexischools website and book your tickets online.

It is going to be a very colourful and vibrant night with some excellent acting and dancing.

Please support our school and come and join in for a night of entertainment.

A big thanks to our musical team of teachers and especially Mrs Warr for her efforts and dedication in finding a musical and then organising the many facets of the musical for it to be a success.

### JUNIOR SPORTS DAY

Thank you to all our students for their enthusiastic efforts at our junior sports day. It was another great success and the weather was perfect for the event.

It was great to see the number of parents out supporting the event and cheering your children on during the various events. Thank you for making it a success.

Thanks also to Ms Dorrn for her organisation of the day. She can take a break now before getting ready to organise the 2018 sports days.

The winning house on the day was Acacia

The winner of the March Past was Banksia

## PARENTING IDEAS

This week's article is about the importance of Fathers/men following on from Fathers day last weekend.

### Father to Father

As a father and father-in-law to three young dads, it's great to see each of them embracing the life-changing nature of fatherhood and becoming fully involved in their children's lives.

I see myself in these young fathers, and in doing so I'd like to guide them away from making the same fathering mistakes I did. However, knowing that young dads are loathe to take fathering advice from a member of the previous generation, I'll give the following advice to my younger self instead:

#### 1. Play to your strengths

Men generally parent differently to women, based on their biology. Fathers often parent in a more active or action-oriented way than mothers so games, play and physical activity become important parts of a man's parenting repertoire. Your partner may not always appreciate your more active approach, particularly if you play with kids just before bedtime then leave it to her to calm them down. Practical advice: Be yourself, but be smart about it!

#### 2. Lighten up – don't take yourself too seriously

It's easy to get caught up in your own importance, taking yourself and your work too seriously. For many men a bad day at work translates into poor or, at best, distracted experiences when they're with their families. Consider putting a strategy in place, such as exercise, that will help you leave work and the moods it engenders behind. Practical advice: Be present in mind as well as in body when you're with your kids.

#### 3. Have something in common with each child

It would be wonderful to say that you can always connect with your kids, but family life is not that straightforward. There'll always be a child who we struggle to connect with or a developmental stage during which a child seems alien to us. In these cases and times it helps if you share a common interest (such as a love of sport or music) with a child so that you always have something that will bring you together, even though you may not always see eye to eye. Practical advice: Be prepared to take an interest in your child's interests.

#### 4. Take it easy on your son

Many dads are tough on their boys and have expectations way above their son's interest and ability levels. It helps to remember that it takes a little longer for a boy to mature. Resist the temptation to turn every game and every joint activity into a lesson and avoid giving advice when all your son wants is some

understanding. Practical advice: See the boy as he is now, not the future man, when you spend time with him.

#### 5. Enjoy the outdoors with your daughter

The biological nature of fathering causes most men to be very protective of their daughters. But that doesn't mean you should put your daughter on a pedestal and treat her like a little princess. Expect a lot from her. Play with her, and get her outside into nature as it will do wonders for her confidence levels. Practical advice: Enjoy spending time with your daughters on a daily basis.

#### 6. Be ready for kids to knock you off your pedestal

Most children in the pre-school and middle- to late-primary school years look up to their dads. "My dad is better/bigger than your dad" is a type of mantra that's familiar to many parents. Make the most of it as this Superman Syndrome doesn't last. Young children soon become adolescents and will go to great lengths to prove that you're Clarke Kent after all. Expect that they will stop laughing at your jokes, raise an eyebrow at your well-intentioned advice and even stop being friendly to you in public. Ouch! It can be hurtful to a man who just wants to be the best dad he can be. Practical advice: See number 2 above: don't take yourself too seriously.

#### 7. Give your kids a compass and a map

One day your children will become independent of you. Don't worry! You won't be irrelevant, just redundant in a practical and managerial sense. There are two things you can do to help your kids safely navigate the world when you're not around. First, help them develop a set of positive values including integrity, honesty and respect that will act as their moral compass when they have difficult decisions to make. Second, reveal your personal story over time as this narrative will become a personal map that will reassure them when life gets tough. It's good to know that they are not in uncharted territory when they finally strike out on their own. Practical advice: Tell kids your story – don't make them guess it or learn it from someone else.

Father's Day is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the contribution that men make to the lives of their children. It's a very personal reflection as each man's experience of fathering is as unique as the children they are raising. I invite you to reflect on your own fathering as well as the contribution that fathers – whether your own dad or someone else's – have made to your own life.

**Murray Gleadhill**  
**Principal**

## HAVE YOU MOVED LATELY?

Have you moved house or changed jobs recently?

Do you have a new phone number?

Have your family circumstances changed lately?

If you answered yes to any of these questions **we need to know**. Either phone the office on 5501 3888 or drop us a note with all of the current information.

It is essential that we have up-to-date information in the case of emergency situations, if your child/children are ill or if a member of the staff needs to contact you.

## ABSENCE LINE

We have a Student Absence phone line – **5501 3860** - which parents can use 24 hours a day to advise the school of any absences.

Simply call this number and leave the student's name, class, reason for absence and the dates and duration of the absence.

If any student is to be absent for any longer than 10 school days then you must contact the office to fill out the appropriate paper work.

Your assistance in notifying the school of any absences is greatly appreciated

## ENROL NOW FOR PREP 2018

We are now accepting enrolments for Prep 2018. Enrolment packages are available at the office.

**Please note – all students enrolling in Prep MUST have a birth certificate.** No student will be able to start school without providing a birth certificate.

## BIRTH CERTIFICATES FOR CHILDREN STARTING PREP YEAR

Parents of children born between 1 July 2012 and 30 June 2013 who are starting Prep in 2018 will need a birth certificate to enrol them in the Prep Year.

The Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages is encouraging parents to apply for birth certificates now to avoid the new school year rush.

To apply for a standard or commemorative birth certificate you can:

- download an application form from [www.justice.qld.gov.au/bdm](http://www.justice.qld.gov.au/bdm)
- visit the registry at 110 George Street, Brisbane or your nearest courthouse (Southport)

Don't leave it to the last minute – apply for a birth certificate now.

Further information for parents and carers wanting to enrol their Prep-aged children in a state school in Queensland is available on the Department of Education and Training website at:

<http://education.qld.gov.au/parents/find-school/enrolling.html>

**Jill Warr**  
**Deputy Principal**

## WELCOME TO NUMERACY AND LITERACY WEEK

As you are aware we have just had an exciting few weeks with Book Week dress up parade and Mrs Hindmarsh's success in the library with Book Fair. The students and teachers of Coombabah State School will be celebrating **National Literacy and Numeracy Week** from **4th September – 10th September**.

We are encouraging parents to get involved and participate in the week because positive parental engagement and involvement influences good student learning outcomes.

Each child has been given the activities to complete with you at home.

### Activities include:

**Numeracy:** Four problems have been created related to measurement, shape, number and data gathering.

**Literacy:** This year's theme is **DISCOVERY**. Your job is to complete the activities attached to the stimulus picture then using a sizzling start practice your creative writing skills and create a story that best suits your stimulus.

Place completed entries into boxes in the school office anytime from **Monday 4th September to 10th September**. Remember to complete **name and class** details on each entry.

All complete entries will receive a certificate and go into the draw for a \$20 Coles/Myer Gift Card. There will be a lower school draw (Years P –2) and an upper school draw (Years 3-6) for both Literacy and Numeracy activities.

We look forward to reading your children's great ideas and solutions.

You can also find further fun games and activities at

<http://www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au/>

I'm looking forward to reading some outstanding stories.

**Karen Gore**  
**Reading Coach**

## DENTAL VAN

The Dental Van at Coombabah State School is scheduled to move on 3 October 2017 to Southport State School.

There are available appointments from now and all through the September school holidays.

Please ring the Client Service Centre on 1300 300 850 to secure an appointment.

# SCHOOL MUSICAL - WEDNESDAY 13 SEPTEMBER AND THURSDAY 14 SEPTEMBER

Now we are almost ready and very excited about our upcoming musical performances

“**Best Foot Forward**” that are being held in the Coombabah Primary School Hall on the 13th & 14th September (this is **Wednesday AND Thursday night**!) Please check the night that your child could be performing on so as to book the correct night for tickets.

Wednesday 13th September	Thursday 14th September
Prep C & Prep D	Prep A, Prep B & Prep E
Year 1A & 1E	Year 1B, 1C, 1D
Year 2B & 2D	Year 2A & 2C
Year 3A, 3B, 3C	Year 3A, 3B, 3C
Year 4 A, 4B, 3 /4D	Year 4C & 4E
Year 5A, 5B, 5C, 5D	Year 5A, 5B, 5C, 5D
Year 6A, 6B, 6C, 6D	Year 6A, 6B, 6C, 6D
Characters- speaking parts	Characters- speaking parts
Choir members	Choir members

## TICKETS –

**THIS YEAR TICKETS WILL ONLY BE AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE THROUGH FLEXISCHOOLS.**

The link is as follows:

<https://www.flexischools.com.au/>

**Remember when purchasing your seats the information listed below:**

- Order allocated seating tickets through FlexiSchools
- Performances Wednesday 13th & Thursday 14th September
- Show starts at 6.30pm
- Pricing \$12 a ticket
- Centre aisle to be kept clear for dancers- no prams, wheelchairs or other obstructions
- Outside seats (seat no. 1 & 28) prioritised for prams, strollers and wheelchairs
- Reserved seats NOT for sale
- **NO TICKETS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE SCHOOL**
- **TICKETS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE DOOR ON THE NIGHT**
- Bring tickets on the night of performance to verify your seat purchase

## PARKING

Parking should be available on the school oval weather permitting. Gates to the school oval for parking will close by

6.25pm to allow students to move down to the Hall safely. Please take great care when driving in the school ground, as there will be many students and families walking to and from the hall.

If you have any queries regarding the performances, please do not hesitate to contact the school or the teachers involved with your child/children for the musical.

## HOW TO USE FLEXISCHOOLS

### How do I register for a Flexischools account?

**STEP 1:** You can access the service at: <https://www.flexischools.com.au/>

**STEP 2:** Submit your email address to create an account.

**STEP 3:** Go to your Inbox and open the registration email from Flexischools.

**STEP 4:** Click on the link provided (or copy and paste the link in a new internet browser window).

**STEP 5:** Follow the registration process, creating a new unique username, password and completing your personal details.

**STEP 6:** Add users to your account. This could be your students or yourself if you are a staff member, Alumni or friend of the school.

**Helpful Hints:** If you have a Senior Student and you would like them to be able to login to see their balance or place online orders for the canteen, please enter their email address during the setup process and they will be sent a registration email.

## Guest

**If you do not have a student currently attending the School and would like to book as a Guest please follow the below instructions:**

**STEP 1:** Visit Flexischools.com.au via your mobile, tablet or PC.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: Guest orders must be placed using the desktop site. If you are using a mobile/tablet you will need to click ‘help’ at the bottom of the mobile site screen and opt to ‘view desktop site’ in order to successfully complete a guest order.**

**STEP 2:** Type in the Schools Name into the “What’s on at your school?” search bar on the Flexischools home page and select it from the list.

**STEP 2:** Select from your school’s service options.

**STEP 3:** Select the items.

**STEP 4:** Click ‘Next: Check’

**STEP 5:** Select ‘Buy now without registering’

**STEP 6:** Input your personal information into the fields in the form provided, accept the terms and conditions and select ‘Next: Check’. NOTE: Select ‘Guest’ as your class.

**STEP 7:** Pay for your order using a credit card or PayPal

**STEP 8:** Confirm your order

FAQ:

<https://support.flexischools.com/support/parents/faqs-parents/how-do-i-register-for-a-flexischools-account>

## MUSIC AND MEDIA NOTES

### MUSICAL BEST FOOT FORWARD

The students are excited about our upcoming musical and are looking forward to presenting their performances for all to see. A school musical that involves the whole school is rare and special to Coombabah Primary. We believe it is important all students have the opportunity to be involved as it helps them with their confidence and performance skills whilst they connect further with the Arts.

Thank you to all parents, carers, staff, students and members of the community for your assistance in bringing this event together. There has been a tremendous amount of work invested behind the scenes and we look forward to bringing you the final shows.

Please be mindful that if you cannot purchase a ticket to attend on the evening your child is performing you can still drop them at school for their performance and collect them at the conclusion of the show. We encourage all students to be involved as much as possible and thank you for your support. Tickets are available via the link below and will not be available at the door on the evening.

<http://www.flexischools.com.au>

### GUITAR CLUB

On Thursdays 2nd break students can attend guitar club. It is free however students need to bring their own guitar to school and are responsible for keeping it in a safe place in a classroom. Please keep in mind that if you are considering purchasing a guitar for your child to learn on the best choice is a nylon stringed guitar. There are  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$  size guitars available that may be more suitable if your child is small and has small fingers. Steel stringed guitars cut into little fingers and can make the student give up on learning before they have begun. If a steel stringed guitar is all that is available, it is best to put on a fresh set of very light gauge strings that will not cut into little fingers. All students interested in joining guitar club need to see Mrs. Kidd to register their interest.

### CHOIR

Students in the Choir are to be congratulated for giving up their time each week to rehearse all songs for the musical. They have been required to memorise a large repertoire with many lyrics to deliver at our upcoming performances. Thank you parents of Choir members and the Musical cast for supporting our after school rehearsals on Tuesdays.

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

The music team would like to wish everyone a happy September break and look forward to seeing you after the break!

**Melinda Kidd**  
**Music/Media Arts Teacher**

## WOOLWORTHS EARN AND LEARN

We are excited to be taking part in the 2017 Woolworths Earn and Learn Program.

From now until 19 September 2017, you can collect stickers at Woolworths that go towards Earn and Learn points. For every \$10 you spend at Woolworths (excluding the purchase of tobacco, liquor and gift cards), you will receive a sticker.

These stickers can be dropped in the Coombabah Sate School box at Woolworths Runaway Bay or dropped into the box outside the school office.

The more points that we earn, the more we can redeem from a choice of over 10,000 educational resources including mathematics and English resources, art and craft materials and much, much more.

We are grateful for your support and look forward to a successful program.

## ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL WALKING CREW

Get your walking shoes on and join the Active School Travel Walking Crew every Friday morning! All students and parents/caregivers are welcome.

The Walking Crew meet at the Baseball fields on Falkinder Avenue, Paradise Point each Friday morning at 8.00am and follow Paradise Parade through to Oxley Drive. The Crew will cross at the lights on Oxley Drive and Turana Street and then continue to school.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

DATE	ACTIVITY
Thursday 7 September	AB Paterson Year 4 Public Speaking Competition
Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 September	School Musical – “Best Foot Forward” – 6.30pm in hall
Friday 15 September	Last day of Term 3
Monday 2 October	Public Holiday
Tuesday 3 October	First day of Term 4
Tuesday 10 October	AB Paterson Year 5 and 6 Public Speaking Competition – heats
Tuesday 17 October	AB Paterson Year 4 Public Speaking Competition - finals

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### PARKWOOD HEIGHTS SCOUT GROUP

#### Parkwood Heights Scout Group – Looking for Leaders

If you are looking for some adventure, would like to make new friends and try new things while encouraging, mentoring and empowering young people we need you.

Parkwood Heights Scout Group are looking for Leaders to assist with our Joey's (6-8 years), Cubs (8-10 years), Scouts (11-14 years) and Venturers (15-18).

You will need a Queensland Blue Card, which is no cost and all training is provided and paid for by Scouts Queensland.

If you would like more information please contact us on [phscoutschair@gmail.com](mailto:phscoutschair@gmail.com) or call 07 5574 5263.

#### Parkwood Heights Scout Group

We are looking for boys and girls interested in joining our Scout Group.

**Joeys** Monday nights 5.30pm to 6.30pm: 6 - 8 years

**Cubs** Thursday nights 6pm to 7pm: 8 - 10 years

**Scouts** Wednesday nights 6.30pm to 8.30pm: 11 - 14 years

If your child is interested in coming along to have some fun, make new friends and learn some new skills, please contact us on [phscoutschair@gmail.com](mailto:phscoutschair@gmail.com) or call 07 5574 5263.

### CITY OF GOLD COAST ACTIVE AND HEALTHY PROGRAM

Spring is a wonderful time to get out in our parks and discover different ways of getting active. Why not organise a morning out with friends and family at one our Games On Celebrations and get into the spirit of the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games. Try out some skills and drills with GC2018 sports and we've got lots of opportunities with -

- Sparky Do Dah's mini Game On
- Train Like a Ninja Warrior
- Sun catcher workshop
- Pro Scooter Series at Pizzey Park
- Scooter and skateboard workshops
- Interactive kids cooking classes
- Come and try nippers
- Gecko Sports come and try
- Diving clinics

<http://www.goldcoast.qld.gov.au/ahschoolholidays>