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23 March 2017

PRINCIPAL'S PRATTLE

Firstly I would like to apologize to one of our students and his family for the text message that was mistakenly sent to the entire school instead of to just his family. We have recently signed with a new company and a button that should have just selected one phone number was missed and then the message was sent to all families. It was in no way intentional and we have implemented a strategy to avoid something like this happening again.

TERM 1 WRAP UP

In wrapping up this semester I need to compliment our teachers on the great job they have been doing with our newly introduced intervention program for maths. This has allowed us to specifically target learning towards small groups of students who show similar abilities in a number of mathematical areas.

It has been possible due to the Government's I4S funding which has delivered a couple of extra teacher numbers to our school to help build programs for students and build capacity in our teachers.

We have also been focusing closely on engagement of students and what we need to do to help build engagement in the learning process. Our teachers are regularly asked to reflect on their practices to judge their effectiveness in providing a quality learning environment for the students.

Our teachers have all recently engaged with an article discussing disengagement across Australia and were surprised to read that up to 40% of a class is disengaged during the day. This is a huge challenge for us as a nation to address and is something that we have started working on from the start of this year. For effective change to happen we need all parents to

be engaged with the school and their child's learning, not just 60%!

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Early next term (week 2) we will be holding our Parent teacher interviews. We hold them early in the term so that as parents you get a clear picture of where your child is sitting in relation to their attitude and effort in the class especially in the areas of English, Maths and Science. This provides you as parents time to work with your child to improve their learning as we lead up to assessments and the end of Semester Reports.

You can have a major impact on your child's learning and engagement by following up with them about their work and what they are doing in class. Have them explain their work to you and question them about what they have learnt.

We would encourage all parents to take advantage of this meeting with your child's teacher.

P&C

Our next P&C meeting is the AGM and general meeting and is being held on Monday 27th March at 6pm in the parent centre.

Thank you very much to all the new people who have expressed an interest in being part of our P&C. As I have mentioned it is vital for the effective functioning of the school to have a P&C who are able to provide a parent voice and who are able to do all the fun things like discos, sausage sizzles, fetes and other fundraisers.

PLANT AND GARDEN ITEMS DONATIONS

We are sending home three leaflets with your child this week to distribute to their neighbours. We have a number of garden programs happening at school to help with a range of students. We are seeking the following. Next week we will have some large boxes at the front of the school where items can be

left. We will then sort them and allocate them to the different programs.

Can YOU help us?

SCHOOL BANKING

School banking is something that has been happening in our school for many, many years. It is the first step in encouraging students to save money and students are regularly surprised at how much money they save during their primary years at school. We have a very dedicated mum running the program but we urgently need a couple of helpers to help with the counting of money and completing the paper work. It is not difficult but for just one person it is quite time consuming. If you are able to help for an hour or two on a Tuesday morning please see the office ladies and let them know and Karen will get in touch with you.

Remembering that Children are NOT mini adults:

At **Coomabah Primary School** we focus on supporting student **wellbeing, learning and safety**. We prioritise the health and wellbeing for our children so they can be the best performers in learning and play.

Parents/carers – did you know that:

- children DO NOT process information and share the same ideas as us. In 123 Magic Parenting – it is highlighted that children are NOT mini adults;
- children DO NOT have the same level of resilience as we do, and will not bounce back as well as us.

HOW TO HELP:

1. **keep it simple** – give a clear expectation, time frame and positive or negative consequence
2. **be mindful of the information you share** – children cannot cope with ‘adult stress’ – talk to another grown up about ‘grown up problems’ – refrain from sharing them with your child.;
3. **medical/psychology support** – talk to your GP (Dr) and access a referral for psychology support for yourself or your child.

A website to assist with **Connecting and Communicating with your child** is found on RAISING CHILDREN:

http://raisingchildren.net.au/connecting_communicating/school_age_connecting.html

Need relationship assistance: Relationships Australia might be able to assist:

<http://www.raq.org.au/>

CYSTIC FIBROSIS

Please help support Cystic Fibrosis QLD by purchasing an entertainment book! 20% of sales will go to Cystic Fibrosis QLD while you get many benefits for yourself when you use the book with buy one get one free offers and 25% off vouchers as well as many others!

Cystic Fibrosis QLD help those with CF in QLD with the many support services they provide to help alleviate the stress and pressures a terminal illness brings to a family.

We have 2 present students who battle Cystic Fibrosis at Coombabah and a past student who is now at Coombabah High School who is also currently in hospital.

If you are interested please contact Sarah on 0448877707 or sarah_enjo@hotmail.com or order online at the link below.

<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/9346r43>

WEBSITES AND PERMISSIONS

Please return your website permissions forms. If you say no to your child using these websites they will be disabled from accessing them as a learning tool.

A third party website is any website that is not managed by the Department of Education and Training and is housed of the DET network. Under new arrangements we need to have parent permission for students to access third party websites from our school managed service.

There are two sites that we are using currently that this applies to and which has an impact on our learning environment.

The sites are **Mathletics** and **Typing Tutor**.

Mathletics has been a program that we have used for many years to support students learning maths concepts at a self-paced instructional level. It is hugely beneficial in supporting students to focus on a particular concept that they might be struggling with and practicing it until they are competent.

Typing Tutor is new for our school and has been introduced to ensure our students are familiar with keyboarding skills prior to having to complete NAPLAN online in 2018.

BULLYING INFORMATION

Thank you for allowing your child to participate in the National Day against Bullying last week. Here is some information about bullying that might help.

Bullying is

- When a child, or a group of children deliberately upset or hurt another child
- Behaviour that happens more than once
- Can include hitting, name calling and spreading rumours.

Bullying is not

- An argument between children where both children are upset
- Something that happens only once

What can I do if I think my child is being bullied?

- Listen
- Be supportive
- Help them by talking about some strategies around resilience
- Get the facts: who is involved, What happened, Where did it happen, Why did it happen, When did it happen?
- Teach them to deal with the bully by:
- Saying 'leave me alone' and walking away

- Staying away from bullies
- Making new friends
- Reporting bullying to a teacher they trust
- Work with the school to fix the problem: arrange a meeting with your child's teacher, meet with the guidance officer.

DONT

- Tell your child to fight back
- Try to fix the problem by talking with the other children or parents

What can I do if my child is a bully

- Stay calm and work with the school to fix the problem
- Help your child to learn about good behaviour

Murray Gleadhill
Principal

DROP AND GO ZONE

Our Drop and Go Zone is proving to be very successful, however the parents who are illegally parking in the no standing and bus zones are putting the safety of our community at risk. The no standing zone has been put there to ensure that parents lining up to use the drop and go zone can do so safely and to promote free-flowing traffic.

Just a reminder to all parents that after school the Drop and Go Zone is supervised until 3:20pm. Any children who have not been collected by this time will be taken to the office for collection.

Please remember that the Drop and Go Zone will not be supervised in the mornings, however it is important that parents still use this **as A DROP OFF ZONE ONLY**. You are not allowed to park there to deliver your child to their classroom. If you do want to park it is advisable to park across the road in the council designated carpark.

Murray Gleadhill
Principal

PARKING AND OXLEY DRIVE

A number of parents are putting other people's safety at risk each afternoon at the front of the school on Oxley Drive.

If the lane is full you need to go around the block and come back.

It is not safe to park across the lights.

It is not safe to stop on Oxley Drive in the lanes and wait for your child to come out and get in the car.

I have spoken to Transport and I have also requested that the police do regular patrols and issue tickets.

I am not prepared to compromise the safety of our students.

Murray Gleadhill
Principal

NAPLAN TESTS 2017

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF YEAR 3 AND 5 STUDENTS

The National Assessment program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of the school's assessment and reporting process, and do not replace the extensive ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student's performance.

NAPLAN assessments are undertaken by students as a normal part of their education program. Teachers will ensure students are prepared for the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

A NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later in the year. The same report format is used for every student in Australia. The school will notify you when the reports are being sent home (usually around August/September).

If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests please contact your class teacher before 2nd May.

The dates of the test are outlined below. Please be aware of these dates when planning appointments or holidays. Please ensure your child is present and on time on all three days of the tests.

Year Level	Tuesday 9 May 2017	Wednesday 10 May 2017	Thursday 11 May 2017
Year 3	Language conventions 40 minutes Writing 40 minutes	Reading 45 minutes	Numeracy 45 minutes
Year 5	Language conventions 40 minutes Writing 40 minutes	Reading 50 minutes	Numeracy 50 minutes

For more information about NAPLAN visit the link below.

<http://www.naplan.edu.au/>

TIPS FOR HELPING YOUR CHILD:

- Encourage your child to treat the tests seriously but not feel overwhelmed or anxious.
- Encourage your child to read often and build up 'reading stamina'
- As always, completing homework, spelling and tables will be a great help.

Tina Flessner
Head of Curriculum

NAPLAN TESTS 2017 – INFORMATION SESSIONS

With NAPLAN fast approaching many of you may be interested in finding out about the tests. Members of our school community are invited to an information session in which you will be able to find out about:

- The types of tests included
- The layout of each of the tests
- The things that you can do to prepare your child
- The ways parents can reduce anxiety in the lead up.

Details are below.

Date: Wed 26th April

Times: 2 – 3pm OR 4 - 5pm

Location: Parent Room

RSVP: School Office - ph 55013888

Tina Flesser
Head of Curriculum

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.

NATIONAL ANTI-BULLYING DAY

Friday 17 March saw our school promote, National Anti-Bullying Day.

Students wore orange t-shirts and wrist bands, ate oranges and had discussions on bullying behaviours and strategies to manage it. Mr Gleadhill hosted engaging lessons.

We stand united in 'saying no' to bullies!

COOMBABAH STATE HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTATION

Last Friday 17 March, Grade 6 enjoyed a comprehensive presentation by our local Coombabah High school.

Deputies and current students in the Ignite programs, came to promote and celebrate the education available. It gave our students a meaningful connection to the realities of high school and a chance to ask many thoughtful questions.

We look forward to more local high schools hosting their information sessions, next term.

UNIFORM SHOP CLOSED FRIDAY 31 MARCH

The uniform shop will be closed on the last day of term 1, Friday 31 March

EXCURSION/INCURSION PAYMENT DATES

EXCURSION/ INCURSION	DATE	LAST DAY FOR PAYMENT
Too Cool for Bullies (Prep to Year 4)	Thursday 30 March	Thursday 23 March
Year 6 Life Ed Relationships	Tuesday 18 – Friday 21 April	Thursday 23 March
Footsteps	Term 3	Thursday 15 June
Year 6 Camp	Monday 5 June – Friday 9 June	Deposit due – Thursday 23 March Final Payment Deadline – Thursday 25 May
Year 5 Camp	Monday 29 May - Wednesday 31 May	Final Payment Deadline – Thursday 4 May

A NOTE OF THANKS

A Note of Thanks....

I have been involved with Coombabah State School since 2008 when my son started Prep. He is now in Year 9. My daughter has been a part of this school since she was three years old. She is now in year 6. It is now time to hang up my 'boots', move on to other things and make way for a new Fundraising Coordinator.

Being part of Coombabah State School P & C has been an experience that I am glad to have been a part of. I have been a part of my children's school. I have been a part of the school community. I have helped raise much-needed funds for the school. I have gained new skills and grown in confidence. I have organised discos for 700 children and approached businesses for donations for our fundraising activities, something I never thought I would be capable of doing.

I would not have been able to do these things without the help of many hands. A huge thank-you to Debby, my PA. A huge thank-you to Jacqui, my go to person. A huge thank-you to Vanessa, Ida and Kristy with their 'expertise' in gift-wrapping.

A huge thank-you also goes out to the numerous people that have supported and volunteered at the various fundraising events over the years. A huge thank-you to the band of helpers who stepped up and helped at the school fete over the last couple of years.

It is now time for some new blood. This is where you get to organise 'stuff' for the kids. As the Fundraising Coordinator, you get to organise Mother's Day Stalls, Father's Day Stalls, School discos, the Fun Run and the numerous sausage sizzles that are held throughout the year to name a few. New ideas for fundraising are always welcomed. Training will be provided if needed.

Our AGM is on Monday 27th March, 6.00pm, in the Parent Room. Please come along if you would like to become more involved in your child/ren's school. If you would like to work as a team then bring a friend along.

This is also the time that a new P & C Committee are selected. The President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer positions are up for election.

Signing off for the last time.

Cindy Cooper
Coomabah State School
P & C Vice-President and
Fundraising Coordinator

SCHOOL BANKING

SCHOOL BANKING

Dear parents & caregivers,

Student Banking is collected each and every **Tuesday** and new rewards are available to students after ten (10) deposits are made.

- **Term 2** – 3D Chalk Set or Tablet Case
- **Term 3** – Smiley Emoji Key ring or Volt Handball
- **Term 1** – Pencil + Tech Case or Epic Earphones

New Youthsaver Accounts can be opened by parents either :

1. online at www.commbank.com.au/schoolbanking or
2. by visiting your local CBA branch.

Parents will need to provide identification for themselves and their child (Birth Certificate & Drivers Licence)

I NEED YOUR HELP ! Volunteers are needed to keep our school banking programme going.

Without volunteers, there is no school banking programme.

No experience is necessary. Parents with children are welcome. Grandparents are welcome.

Can you spare 1-2 hours of your time, on Tuesday mornings ?

For more information, please call the school office on (07) 5501 3888.

Kind regards

Karen Fisher
School Banking Co-ordinator

BAKERS DELIGHT PROMOTION

Don't forget to mention **Coomabah 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

FORHTCOMING ASSEMBLIES

Monday 27 March: Prep to Year 3 at 2.30pm in the school hall

DATES TO REMEMBER

DATE	ACTIVITY
Monday 27 March	Prep to year 3 Assembly – 2.30pm in school hall P&C AGM – 6.00pm in Parent Centre
Thursday 30 March	Too Cool for Bullies Incursion – Prep to Year 4 Cross Country/ Fun Run
Friday 31 March	Prep to Year 2 Easter Hat Parade – 2.00pm in school hall LAST DAY OF TERM 1
Monday 17 April	EATER MONDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Tuesday 18 April	FIRST DAY OF TERM 2

COMMUNITY NEWS

SUNS ACCESS ALL ABILITIES AUSKICK PROGRAM POTPONED

The Suns AAA Auskick Program has been cancelled for term 1. It will run next term starting Saturday 22 April.