

2 September 2008

AIMING HIGHER

Principal's Points

Opti-Minds Challenge

The Opti-Minds Challenge is a creative problem-solving event where children work in teams to come up with a solution to a situation. In order to do this, they can showcase a variety of skills and talents.

Last Saturday, Mr Johnstone and I attended this event at Indooroopilly State High School. The children involved did a wonderful job and were awarded second place for their effort. Congratulations to: Caitlin Aittola, Emily Conn, Morgan Francis, Lucy Davidson, Charley Marshall, Jemma Smith and Fletcher Wiley. The team competed in the Social Sciences Division against all schools in Brisbane West so to achieve second place was a great accomplishment. Next week, on assembly the children will do a special performance for our school community. A big thank you to Patty Murphy and Louise Buckland, the teachers who worked with the children. Thanks also to Carolyn Wiley and Kari Lloyd who also assisted.

Visit from the EDS

Last week, we welcomed David Curran to our school. David is the new Executive Director of Schools replacing Pat Heenan who has taken a position overseas. David was impressed with our upgraded facilities. He

then visited our Year 1 Classroom where the children entertained

him with their Chinese language ability. He, in turn delighted the children when he taught them some words in Arabic.

University of NSW Maths Competition

Congratulations to the following students who excelled in the recent University of NSW Maths Competition.

Distinction

Year 7 – Kristy Armitage
Year 6 - Charlie Richardson
Year 5 - Lucas Craske, Mark Davies, Sarah Lupton, Liam Noble, Mitch Stepanuks
Year 4 – Adam Ball
Year 3 – Sienna Adams, Ryan Robinson

Credits

Year 7 – Laura Cruickshank, Shaun Hopkins, Cohen Rose
Year 6 – Geonhee Cho, Rachel Purdy
Year 5 – Samantha Carr, Daniel Johansson, Jack Suchting
Year 4 – James Ball, Michael Gibson, Gemma Hargreaves
Year 3 – Nicole Carr, Kathryn Cox, Connor Harvey, Ben Ketteringham, Rachael Van Herwaarde

The children will receive their certificates at assembly next week.

Prep Information Night

On Tuesday, 9 September we will be holding an information evening for those parents who have a child starting Prep next year. This is a great opportunity to learn about

our school and to meet the staff who will be involved with your child next year. Next term, we will have another evening for parents of children starting Year 1 in 2009. We hope that most parents are available to attend these very important sessions. Our friendly staff look forward to meeting you.

Teacher Aides' Day

This Friday, we have an opportunity to acknowledge the wonderful work performed each day by our teacher aides. This dedicated group of people assist the teachers in many ways and also support our children through a variety of activities. A big thank you from all of us, we appreciate your efforts.

Uniform Shop survey

Last week, all families should have received a survey regarding the running of the Uniform Shop. Please take the time to complete the survey as it is important that the action taken reflects the wishes of the wider school community.

Strings Extravaganza

Good luck to the Year 3 students who are attending the Strings Camp this week at the Ashgrove Baptist Church. This is a great opportunity for our young musicians to further develop their skills.

Organisational News

Due to the fact that we had such a long assembly last week, as well as the fact that we have staff involved in professional development, there will be no assembly this week. Next week will be a special assembly as our Opti-Minds team will be performing.

For those parents and groups who normally contribute to the school newsletter, please note that our last newsletter for the term will go out on Tuesday 9 September (the second last week of term).

Staffing News

This week we welcome Gina Bryant to our staff. Gina is replacing Kari Lloyd who is currently on maternity leave.

Vicki Richards (Acting Principal)

Deputy Principal's Points

Student recognition

Congratulations to the following students who visited the office last week to celebrate the success of their achievements with effort and work in class.

3UB

Hannah D - For great responses to her Beauty and the Beast worksheet

Lucy S - For great responses to her Beauty and the Beast worksheet

Lucy T - For great responses to her Beauty and the Beast worksheet

4G

Hugo N- For a great description and illustration about the life cycle of a plant

Jemma H- For a great description and illustration about the life cycle of a plant

Move-a-thon

Entries for the Energex Move-a-thon close 12 September and we ask that all students bring in their posters ASAP.

As a part of the Year of Physical Activity, all Prep to year 7

students were encouraged to record the physical activity they did outside of school hours for six weeks.

Teachers whose classes have 100% participation can enter the draw for some amazing student prizes like a trip to Dreamworld, HART Sport vouchers valued at \$500 and MP3 music players and speakers.

Smart Moves and the *Year of Physical Activity* is all about students exercising their minds and bodies and establishing healthy habits that will last a lifetime.

Environment club

The school would like to open up the Environment Club to year 5 students for the remainder of the year but without parent helpers this is unable to occur. At the moment we have a large number of year 6 and 7 students who participate regularly in Environment Club and with only two teachers we cannot take on any more students.

If you are interested in helping out with supervision on a Tuesday morning from 7.45am, it would be greatly appreciated. The students have recently been involved in activities such as: Cleaning out the creek area that backs onto the school grounds, planting trees and shrubs in the grounds, weeding pest species and moving mulch. If you are able to help with supervision of year 5, 6, 7 students in such activities then please contact either Wendy Noble or Mark Johnstone.

**Mark Johnstone
Deputy Principal (Acting)**

TERM 3 DATES

Term Three 15 July to 19 September

Week 8: 1 September – 5 September

- 1 September – Year 7 HRE Family Planning
- 2 & 3 September – Yr 3 Strings Extravaganza

- 3 September – Father's Day Stall
- 4 September – Yr 7 GSHS Testing 9-11
- 5 September – Teacher Aide Day
- 5 September - Payne- Fully Arty Show

Week 9: 8 September – 12 September

- 8 September – Year 7 HRE Family Planning
- 9 September – Prep Open night –7.00pm
- 12 September – MEAL DEAL
- 12 September – Treat Time

Week 10:

- 14 to 18 September – GRIPPS
- 15 September – Year 7 HRE Family Planning
- 16 – 18 September – Brisbane Writers Festival
- 17 & 18 September – Yr 4 Underwater World Sleep Over
- 18 September – GRIPPS Concert
- 18 September – P&C Meeting 7.30pm

Vacation : 19 September to 6 October

Term Four – 6 October to 14

December

- 6 October – Prep Excursion “Reef Experience
- 7 October – Tuckshop Opens
- 7 October - Yr 5 & 6 HRE Family Planning
- 8 – 20 October – Yr 5 Mapleton Camp
- 10 October – Summer Sport commences

Week 2: 13 October – 17 October

- 13 October – Early Years Information
- Night
- 14 October – Year 5 & 6 HRE Family Planning
- 16 October – P&C Meeting 7.30pm

UPDATE OF CONTACT NUMBERS

We would appreciate being informed of any changes to family contact details and emergency contact details as soon as they occur. We recently have had numerous situations, and we had no way of contacting parents/emergency contacts as numbers were not updated. This can have serious consequences, so please ensure that the office is informed of any changes as a matter of urgency.

Debra Jackson

OLYMPICS THINKER'S CHALLENGE

Week 3
The Different Uses Key

Find 10 new and unusual uses for an Olympic medal.

Winners for the above challenge will receive their trophies on assembly next week

Nicole Goodwin

**PARENT HELPERS
PERPETUAL MOTOR
PROGRAM**

We are seeking parent assistance with the setting up, supervising and packing up of equipment for our Year 1 and Yr 2 classes on a Wednesday morning after assembly. This request extends to parents of any year level who may be able to regularly offer their time between 9.30am and 11.00am on a Wednesday morning. The program is to begin at start of Term 4. Please leave your details with Liz Clancy.

Liz Clancy

RAINBOW ROOM NEWS

ASD- Friendship

The child with AS, usually has a concept of friendship that is a few years behind that of his or her age group. This child often has fewer friends, playing with others less often and for shorter periods of time.

The child with AS may choose to play with younger children or may prefer to spend time with adults. Younger children are around the same level of social maturity as the child with AS, and adults are usually accommodating and more predictable.

A child or adult with AS can mistake friendliness for friendship and may think about friends as though they should be reliable machines. Comments such as, "He can't play with me one day and then not the next. He can't be a true friend," are typical of the child with AS. Neurotypical children consider that the child with AS is not 'fun' to play with and does not conform to the usual rules of friendship such as sharing, reciprocity and cooperation.

Adolescents and adults with AS can express feelings of loneliness and may be acutely aware of a lack of friends. Here are some direct quotes about friendship from adults with AS:

"Contrary to what people may think, it is possible for an autistic person to feel lonely and to love somebody"

"To share you have to give up control"

"My friends don't let me do what I want to do."

"I was not very good playing in typical ways or with other children and I rarely got enjoyment from it."

"I was not rejected but did not feel completely included."

"I was supported and tolerated but not liked."

"To me friends were people I enjoyed passing a few minutes or a few hours with."

"The worst problem for me in my life is socializing. I cannot make friends and needs friends badly."

Because developing and maintaining friendships is a social activity and social interactions are an area of difficulty for people with AS, the need for scaffolding these skills is paramount.

(for further reference The Complete Guide to Asperger's Syndrome by Tony Attwood)

Jill Darch

OSHC

HATS

OSHC as with the school have a 'NO HAT NO OUTSIDE PLAY' policy. Children are required to wear hats if they wish to play outdoors. Sadly we no longer have any spare hats to offer, so if your child does not have their OWN hat with them they will not be able to play outside.

Prep children need to bring a spare hat (as they are required to leave their hat at school), which we are happy for them to leave with us for when they attend. Please name it clearly.

VACATION CARE

The countdown to Spring Vacation is on. Payne Road OSHC program will operate from Monday 22 September to Friday 3 October. The program includes some great activities. We welcome all school age students. Our hours of operation are from 7.00am – 6.00pm.

Programs and enrolments are now available from OSHC. The Pupil Free Day for term 4 is on Monday 20 October (Week 3).

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL and need to be received by Friday 12 September.

For any further information please contact us on 3300 0077.

LOST PROPERTY

A reminder, that all unnamed property, currently in the Activity Building, will be donated to charity at the end of term.

**Susie Berkhut
Coordinator**

URGENT REMINDER – FEES

To all families attending our service could you please attend to prompt payment of outstanding fees.

Statements have today been issued to all families.

Our Fee Policy clearly states Fees will be paid, for all days booked, on the last day of attendance each week to the Co-ordinator or staff.

Payments are accepted by cash and cheque (during the week up until 9am on Fridays) or by EFTPOS or direct deposit at any time. Account details for direct deposit are located at the bottom of all statements.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

OSHC Committee

P&C MEETING

The P&C meeting for September will be held on WEDNESDAY 17 September from 7:15pm for a 7:30pm start in the Learning

Resource Centre. The meeting has been brought forward a day to allow for the GRIPPS performance on Thursday. All are welcome to attend.

The major agenda items will be advised prior to the meeting.

After three years, the current executive has indicated that they will not be standing for re-election next year. If you are interested in the operation of the P&C, would like to take on an executive position or have any questions about the positions, please contact me on david-cx@bigpond.net.au or call me on 3300 4400.

David Cox
P&C Secretary

ART SHOW 2008 RAFFLE

REMINDER Please return all sold and unsold raffle tickets and money to the office by Wednesday 3 September.

Jen Tucker

BOOK CLUB

Just letting you know that it is bookclub time again. I will get the brochures out to the classes this week and will take orders on Monday, 1 Sept; Tuesday 2 Sept and Wednesday 3 Sept. Please leave your orders in a sealed envelope at the office. I won't be able to take any late orders as this order has to be processed as soon as possible to guarantee you get your books back before the holidays. Please remember to make cheques out to Scholastic Australia and to give me the correct change if you are paying by cash. Happy Reading!!

Thank you

Petra

FATHERS' DAY STALL

This year's Fathers' Day stall will be held on **Wednesday, 3 September**. Novelty items will be on sale ranging in price from \$1 - \$8.

Donations of boxed chocolates and/or non-perishable home made goodies would be greatly appreciated and can be left at the office for collection.

If you are available to help on the stall please email details to: payneroad@bigpond.com with "Fathers' Day Volunteer" in the subject line.

Louise
PRSSP&C Fundraising
Committee

GRIPPS SPONSORSHIP

Advertise your business. Sponsorship for the forthcoming GRIPPS Music camp and concert is available for \$100. See brochure in breezeway or collect one from the office.

Debra Jackson

TINY SOCCER

Taking enrolments for Term 4 2008. If you are enrolled already then please confirm your place by phoning me John Berry on 3300 2246. Or email john@tinysports.com.au www.tinysoccer.com.au

John Berry

TINY TENNIS

The players of the week this week is Mackenzie Watson and Connor Hanley. \$10 for 1 hour group Tennis Lessons. Phone 3300 2246 www.wimblegap.com.au Taking enrolments for Term 4 2008. If you are enrolled already then please confirm your place by phoning me John Berry on 3300 2246. Or email john@tinysports.com.au www.tinytennis.com.au

John Berry

TUCKSHOP

Meal Deal forms coming home this week. Please order & pay by next Tuesday 9 September.

ROSTER

Thursday Tuckshop 4 September

Melinda Chandler, Alex Cruickshank, Jean Wight, Bev Willoby

2 more volunteers urgently needed!

Tuesday Tuckshop 9 September

Faye Holmes, Jan Richardson, Jean Wight

Lois (Tuckshop Convenor)

VACANCY – TEACHER AIDE

A teacher aide vacancy exists at Mount Nebo State School for 14 hours per week.

The person selected will be required to work with students in Years 4-7 as well as maintain the Library collection.

To address the selection criteria listed in the Position Description, applicants can write a letter to the Principal outlining their suitability for the role and include examples of previous experience.

All applicants must have, or be able to obtain, a Commission for Young Children and Young People Suitability Blue Card.

Application packages and further information may be obtained by contacting the school on 3289 8162,

[the.principal@mtneboss.eq.edu.au](mailto:principal@mtneboss.eq.edu.au) or in person at the school office.

Applications must be received by COB 17 September 2008.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Players Wanted Panthers Softball Club, girls, boys, women all ages & skills welcome. Season commences Oct. Games played Sat mornings, training Tues afternoons. **Contact Kay on 3351 2152** for more details.

Running and agility training via local Ashgrove Rangers athletic club

Where: The Gap State High School oval
When: 6pm – 7:15pm every Monday night during school terms

Cost: \$5 per session – pay as you attend
All levels of fitness welcome!

Just show up or for further enquiries, please contact Hubertien (Anton and April's mum) on 0404 922 577

Tony Dudgeon Cricket Coaching Clinics
See flyers attached to newsletter

Carl Rackeman Cricket Camp

See notice in breezeway. Flyers available from office.