News in Prep B

Wow week 7 already! In Prep B we have been very busy learning how to write different letters of the alphabet and the sounds beginning letters make. We are all trying very hard to do our best book work. One of our favourite activities as a class is diary writing, always beginning with ‘On the weekend I……’. The children really enjoy sharing their personal experiences from their own point of view.

The preps are becoming very excited to be taking home their first set of sight words to share with their families. These are our golden words, we have been working hard to practice them every morning. Keep an eye out for them!

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<th>a</th>
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<th>be</th>
<th>I</th>
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<td>is</td>
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<td>of</td>
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<td>that</td>
<td>the</td>
<td>to</td>
<td>was</td>
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We will begin to recognise these words on sight, in and around the home, in books and on packaging.

In maths we have also been working very hard on positional language and spatial concept. Using our bodies, we have been able to demonstrate high, middle, low, left, right, on, off, opposites, above, below, up, back, front, beside, between, far, near, inside, outside, next to, in front and behind. Every day we learn something new!
**Dates to Remember**

14 March  Free Dress Day – St Pat’s Day – wear green
17 March  Spellathon Week
21 March  National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence
24-28 March  Parent/Teacher interviews
28 March  FFF – Free Dress Day
4 April  Principals’ Parade
5-21 April  Easter break
22 April  Term 2 begins
25 April  ANZAC March
2 May  FFF – Homework Pass
13-15 May  NAPLAN
23 May  FFF – Student/Teacher Ball Games
13 June  FFF – Movie Theatre
19-20 June  School Photos

**Unexplained Absences**

**PROCEDURE FOR STUDENT ABSENCES**
If your student is away for any reason there are several ways of notifying the school.
- Send a note with your child
- Phone on 07 4975 8366
- Email on absences@calliopess.eq.edu.au

We appreciate and thank you for your cooperation.

**Contact Details**
We would like to remind all parents if you have moved or changed your contact details over the holidays please update your information by calling the office on 4975 8333.

We appreciate and thank you for your cooperation.

**Newsletter Distribution**
The newsletter is published every Monday and is sent via email. If you have not given the school your email please do so by calling the office or emailing vnoco1@eq.edu.au. If you would prefer a paper copy please inform the Office.

**Office hours are 8am-4pm**

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**Principal’s Piece**

*Every day is a learning day!*

Our year to date attendance data for 2014 is illustrated below -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance Rate</th>
<th>Proportion of Students at Attendance Category (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% &lt; 85%</td>
<td>94.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>85% - 90%</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>90% - 95%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>95% - 100%</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
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<td></td>
<td>62.6%</td>
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</table>

This shows that our current attendance rate is 94.4%; on average, each student at this school has over 11 days off during the school year. 62.6% of students (only 332 out of 530) have an attendance rate that is between 95-100%. 10.6% of students (56 out of 530) attend less than 85% of the time and I’ll be in contact with these parents in the next couple of weeks. Remember that every day is a learning day!

Congratulations to Delaney Claridge who made the Port Curtis U10 Rugby League Team. Delaney will also be attending the Capricornia Quads Rugby League Carnival in Rockhampton on the 26th and 27th April 2014. Great work Delaney!

**Reminder**
As part of our Improvement Agenda for Reading, students considered to be ‘at risk’ will be identified and will begin reading to an adult for 15 minutes every day. I will be phoning parents of identified students to invite them to attend a parent information session on how to Pause, Prompt and Praise when reading at home and this session will also be open to any other interested parents. There will be two sessions, to cater for parents’ different schedules and the sessions will be held in the Resource Centre –

- Wednesday 12 March from 3:30pm – 4:30pm, and
- Friday 14 March from 9:45am – 10:45am.

I am also looking for volunteers who are able to read with one student for 15 minutes EVERY SCHOOL DAY or as close to as possible. The preferred time is before or after school, depending on transport arrangements, and so that we don’t impact on class learning time. Maybe you drop your child to school at 8:30am and can give us 15 minutes each day. Maybe you have a neighbour or there is a Grandma or Grandad who has some time that they could volunteer each day on their morning walk to get the paper. You would work with the same child each day and be an important part of their learning. Volunteers who are not a parent of a child at the school will require a Working with Children Blue Card. If you can help, or you know someone who can, please ring me at the school on 4975 8333 or email me at mmorr108@eq.edu.au. We’d like to begin asap.

**Regards**

Marni Morrison
Early collection of Students
Please be advised that if you need to collect your child early, it is our policy for parents/carers to sign students out at the office and collect your child from their classroom. There has been a high number of telephone requests to have students waiting at the office for collection. This creates a disturbance to the class and interruptions to the office staff as the students are not always in the classrooms and it can be difficult to track them down. To ensure the smooth operations of the office and school as a whole we would greatly appreciate your cooperation in regards to this matter.

Phone Messages
We are getting a large number of phone calls late in the school day to pass messages onto children in classrooms. Parents are reminded that messages to students during school times is disrupting learning in the classrooms. All messages should be phoned in by 1.30pm or there is no guarantee that the student will get the message in time.

Maths Mental Strategies
This week we are focusing on:
Prep – Year 3: Near Double
Near double is sometimes described as ‘double+1’ or ‘double-1’. This is an example of building on or extending a known strategy, a process that becomes very important as students learn to extend their number facts beyond 20 and, for example to adding 10s and 100s. The extension builds on the confidence that students with the simpler strategy of ‘double’ by showing them how to use it to move into new territory.

Years 4-7: Chunking for addition
When computing mentally, chunking in one form or another is often the most efficient and preferred method. There is no hard and fast methods when chunking. Generally number splitting occurs, often between the 10s and 1s, and a back-end addition is carried out. For 46+35, for instance, adding the 10s first gives a ballpark figure for the answer. Knowing how to add with friendly numbers (numbers ending in zero) also leads to mentally adding 46 and 30 and then the 5. The beauty of chunking is that it makes visible to students the mental computation strategy selected.

Tuckshop Roster
12th March – Simone Peirce, Maria Behrendt, Chantelle Nightingale, Jodie Burfield
13th March – Shayne, Sam Taylor, Cassandra Campbell, Kylie Birch.
A huge thank you to all our new tuckshop volunteers! Your time is much appreciated.
If you would like to join our tuckshop volunteer group, please call in and see Amanda at the Tuckshop and introduce yourself.

Uniform Shop
The opening times for our uniform shop. The uniform shop will be open every Monday 8.30 to 9.30am and Friday from 8.00-9.00am.
Please remember that Uniform Shop sales are by cash or cheque only. If you are unable to be at the uniform shop on Monday mornings you can fill out an order form and leave it at the office and the P & C will fill the order and deliver it to your child’s classroom the following Monday. If you require an order form you can collect one from the office.

School Banking
School Banking is held every Wednesday 8-9am at the Office. If you are new to our school and would like to open up a Dollarmite account, please see Vanda in the school office. This program teaches kids about smart savings and good money management, while having lots of fun on the way.

P & C NEWS
Stars of the week

| Prep A | Charlie | 4A | Ashley |
| Prep C | Kasey   | 4/5C | Hailey |
| Prep D | Riley   | 5A | Kaitlyn |
| 1A     | Mathew  | 5B | Ella   |
| 1C     | Amelia  | 6B | Molly  |
| 2B     | Ahlia   | 7A | Katie  |
| 3A     | Tayla   | 7B | Caillean |
| 3B     | Dakota  |   |        |
| 3C     | TeMaia  |   |        |

Parent Interviews

Parent interviews will be held during the week 24 – 28 March. A letter with information and times will be sent home this week with every child. This is a wonderful opportunity to discuss your child and their progress with the class teacher. Please return the form to the class teacher with your first three time preferences.

Reminder for Preparatory Year 2014

Parents if you have not yet provided all the necessary documents for Prep 2014, such as birth certificate and immunisation records, could you please do so this week.

Positions Vacant – Calliope State School

We have from time to time, relief Teacher Aide, Cleaning and Groundsperson positions available. If you are interested and hold a Working with Children Blue Card, please drop in a copy of your Resume into the office to hold on file.

Peter Pan Musical

This week is the final week for years 4-7 to make payment for Peter Pan Musical. Please return money and consent form so we can finalise numbers. If there are spaces available we will open the excursion to the year 3 students.

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6A Sizzling Starts

Tree in the playground

Well there goes Mr Newby and he didn’t even finish our football field. I am starting to wonder how come there is a tree in the playground anyway that eats kids. If anything the tree should eat all the teachers. Just then I was inspired by the munching of the tree. I have to admit it, he had a big appetite because it ate 32 students, 3 pet dogs, 8 parrots and 2 teachers in 3 days.

Gladstone Performing Arts Company Youth Theatre

GPAC Youth Theatre meets each Tuesday afternoon. Prep-Year 3 from 3:30 to 4:00, Years 4-12 from 4:15 to 5:15 at the Salvation Army Hall in Goondoon St. Annual Membership is $30 and there is a weekly fee to help pay for expenses of $5 a week. Activities include singing, dancing, acting and theatre sports. The group has also started to rehearse for GPAC’s Musical Revue performance in June. Please note, that when numbers for the group increases, there will be a Years 7-12 group commence, 5:30 to 6:30 on the Tuesday. If you are interested in joining, please contact Sarah: 0408 728594.

Peter Pan

Gladstone Entertainment Convention Centre will present the 2014 Combined Schools Musical Peter Pan for TWO PUBLIC PERFORMANCES ONLY, on Friday 28 & Saturday 29 March at 7.30pm. Showcasing the talents of 130 students from 19 different schools, Peter Pan will take you on a magical journey into a world of lost boys, mermaids, the evil Captain Hook and the boy who never grew up. Fabulous sets, amazing dance routines and spine-tingling songs are sure to make for a swash-buckling great time. The students have been rehearsing since October last year, so come along and show them your support. Tickets are on sale now for $20 adults, $12 students and $50 family (2 adults & 2 children). You can book online at www.gladeccc.com.au or phone the box office on 4972 2822.
Calliope’s Wide World of Sports!

**PJ Marsh Cup**
On Friday, Calliope State School took on the challenge of competing in the PJ Marsh Cup. Playing an 11-a-side competition with only 10 players, Calliope did extremely well - winning the first three games and only losing two. The boys and girls finished up second in their pool and were playing for 3rd overall in the competition. Calliope SS played Barbarians 2 in the finals. They were a very strong side and came out victors. All boys and girls played tremendously well and finished 4th out of 12 teams. A big thank you to Stuart Claridge and Trevor Huth for taking the time to coach and mentor the team as well as the parents that came along to support the team. From the day an under 10’s team was picked to represent Port Curtis at the Capricornia trials. Well done to Delaney for making the Port Curtis team and also for being named player of the carnival for Calliope SS!

**Girls Rugby League Gala Day**
Along side the PJ Marsh Cup, Port Curtis sport held a girls Rugby League Gala day. Two representatives from the women’s NRL development team attended the day and put the girls through their paces. Tia, Ella and Piper had a great day – learning new skills, meeting new friends and having loads of fun.

**Development Cup**
**Week 1:** The boys played Star of the Sea coming up victors, winning 20-0.
**Week 2:** Calliope SS had a bye.
**Week 3:** The boys had a challenging opponent in Gladstone West State School. Within the first couple of minutes it proved it was going to be a tough game. The boys scored two early tries to take an early lead. After fighting it out, the boys finished up winners, 12-0.
The day for the Development Cup has been **changed to MONDAY afternoons** as per the scheduled times.

Calliope’s Wide World of Sports!

**Upcoming Events**
**13th of March:** Port Curtis AFL Trials  
**13th of March:** Port Curtis Netball Trials  
**24th of March:** Port Curtis Basketball Trials  
**27th of March:** Port Curtis Hockey Trials  
**3rd of April:** Port Curtis Touch Trials

**Port Curtis Rugby League Trials**
Calliope State School sent a strong team to the Port Curtis rugby league trials. All the boys played well with Lleyton, Chase, Connor, Carsen and Jai making the Port Curtis team. Well done boys!