News in 3 B

3B has had a very busy start to the year. In Science this term we have been exploring the observable features of living things. Throughout our Technology unit, we experimented planting our own plants and designing a system of care for them. The students have had an interesting time using the design process; investigating, ideating, creating and evaluating.

Students used the technology design process to build a straw tower and a paper tower to practise using the process before attempting their assessment task.
## Dates to Remember

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<td>17 March</td>
<td>Spellathon Week</td>
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<td>21 March</td>
<td>National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence</td>
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<td>24-28 March</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher interviews</td>
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<td>28 March</td>
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<td>4 April</td>
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<td>13-15 May</td>
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<td>23 May</td>
<td>FFF - Student/Teacher Ball Games</td>
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<td>School Photos</td>
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## Principal’s Piece

**Every day is a learning day!**

The term is flying by with only three short weeks until the Easter break. For those new to the Queensland Education system, we now have a full two weeks holiday at Easter with teachers working up an additional 15 hours (3 school days) outside of school time for this to happen. The last day of this term will be Friday 4th April. Term two resumes on 22nd April, but remember this is only a three day week because of Easter Monday and ANZAC Day.

We celebrate the end of term with a Principals’ Parade at 2pm instead of the usual Friday morning parade. During the Principals’ Parade, there are a number of performance items by classes and the presentation of Principals’ Awards. At Easter time, the Prep – Year 3 students also parade their Easter bonnets, which will be made during class time in the last week of school. All parents and friends are welcome to join us.

NAPLAN is held from 13 – 15th May. If your child is in Year 3, 5 or 7 please make sure that you do not schedule holidays on these days.

This Friday we commemorate National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence. There will be a range of lessons delivered around this topic. Our school defines bullying as when someone:

- Keeps picking on someone again and again and tries to make them feel bad
- Says or does lots of mean things that upset someone
- Makes fun of someone a lot
- Tries to stop someone from joining in or make others not like them
- Keeps hurting someone such as hitting or punching them.

Bullying needs to be reported to the class teacher or to Admin so that the issue can be investigated and consequences applied if necessary.

Next week we are holding Parent-Teacher interviews. We choose to hold these interviews at the end of term one, once teachers have worked with students for a period of time but before a whole semester has passed. We feel that this can help students, parents and teachers work together as a team to improve learning sooner rather than later.

Regards

Marni Morrison

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## 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 office 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**
Chaplaincy Junior Bike Challenge 2014
The Gladstone Schools Chaplaincy Committee will be holding a Junior Bike Challenge as a fundraising event for School Chaplaincy on Saturday 10th May between 2.00 and 4.30pm. This event allows riders from years 4 to 7 to choose the distance they think they can ride in 2 ½ hours and then challenge themselves to achieve their goal. The venue for the ride will be the Gladstone Showgrounds. Riders fundraise by gaining sponsorship for their personal effort and can win a great prize if they become the rider who raises the most money. Riders will need both permission and support from their parents/caregiver to participate. For more information and registration please email Chappy Sonia soniar@chappy.org.au or see her on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the school.

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: Adding zero**
While it sometimes seems obvious that adding 0 to a number leaves the number unchanged, it is necessary to ensure that students understand why this is so and that they have opportunities to apply the rule.

**Years 4-7: Open number line for addition**
Using an open number line allows students to identify and show efficient strategies for addition. Strategies such as number splitting, doubling and using rainbow facts not only speed up addition for pairs of numbers but also computation of strings of numbers. It needs to be noted that addition is carried out from left to right on the number line and subtraction is carried out from right to left. Generally there are many ways of adding a string of numbers and the open number line not only makes them visible but also shows clearly by the number of jumps required the efficiency of each method.

Spellathon
Students will be completing their Spellathon during the week this week. Results will be sent home and all money raised needs to be returned by 28 March. Thank you for your support with our Term 1 fundraising activity.
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 Musical
We still have some places available to attend the Combined Schools musical – Peter Pan, so a note will go home this week to our year 3 students. If you would like your year 3 child to attend please send the payment and permission form to school. It is a first in, first served basis.

6A Sizzling Start – writing examples
Disco Fever
Bang, spray fffff. Ahh my dress cried Teena. Bright colours bright colours everywhere wait that’s water awhh slam slam slam by jingo that door is slamming rather loud holy dooly the hall is flooding. Now’s my chance to a kiss for saving beautiful Teena.

Calliope’s Wide World of Sports!
Upcoming Events
24th of March: Port Curtis Basketball Trials
27th of March: Port Curtis Hockey Trials
2nd of April: Cross Country Trials
3rd of April: Port Curtis Touch Trials