Dear Parents and Community Members

The school’s winter vacation commences at the end of school on Friday 26 June. The children and school staff have worked extremely diligently throughout this Semester, and deserve a well-earned break. If you are travelling over the holidays I wish you safe travels. Please remember that school will resume on Monday 13 July.

REPORT CARDS

With Semester 1 Report Cards being forwarded home this week it is worthwhile to reiterate some important information concerning grades. Report cards provide that a “C” on the report card means that your child is demonstrating learning at an age/grade appropriate level. Children develop socially, emotionally and academically at different rates. Some children can excel at schooling one year, but the next they may be graded a “C”. This occurs for a variety of reasons (e.g. other children have had a development spur, the work covered this year is considerably more challenging etc.). The delivering of the Australian Curriculum to all children has raised expectations of children’s learning.

KEEP A WATCH ON OUR SCHOOL THESE HOLIDAYS

With the holidays approaching, we need our school community to look out for after-hours crime in our school. If you see anything suspicious call School Watch on 13 17 88. The School Watch Program is a partnership between the department and the State Government Protective Security Service. It aims to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in schools.

CHANGES TO SCHOOL PROCEDURES – Semester 2

Over the term we have sought feedback from the school’s stakeholders concerning changes to the school’s procedures. I am advising that upon commencement of Term 3, the following procedural changes will commence:

1. Break Times – Our first and second breaks will continue to occur at the same time as they currently occur (1st break : 11:00 – 11:40, and 2nd break : 1:40 – 2:10). The 1st break will continue to be divided into a 10 minute eating time and a 30 minute play time. Instead of eating occurring in the classrooms, the eating time will now occur in a designated area outside the classroom. This is in line with the majority of schools in Queensland and allows more personnel to be available for supervision during play time.

   The 2nd break will now be broken up into 2 x 15 minute periods. The first 15 minutes will provide children with the opportunity to sit down and eat, and they will then have the second 15 minute period available for play.

2. Before School Procedures – Similarly there are minor changes to our before school arrangements. The play time before school will now be from 8:30 – 8:50am. A bell will ring at that time to signal children have 10 minutes to be ready for learning. Teachers will either open their classrooms at 8:50am for children to come into class, or establish an assembly area for the children to go to at that time, so that they can be collected and taken to class, ready to commence learning at 9am.

   These changes are focussed on providing children with ample time to eat and play, as well as maximise the learning opportunities throughout the day.

SCHOOL WORKS

Over the Winter Recess vacation we will be installing the remainder of the interactive whiteboards/projectors to all classes that weren’t done over the Christmas break. This means all classrooms will have the interactive projectors installed for the commencement of Term 3 and the Prep buildings will have mobile interactive projectors. The school has allocated $50,000 from its budget to facilitate this learning enhancement. Also, during the break, the school is being sprayed for insects and pests (cockroaches etc.) as part of its pest control requirements, and our old style fluorescent lights will be upgraded to more environmentally friendly lights.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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FROM THE DEPUTIES

Georgina Quinn-Acting Support Administrator Prep

Holiday R & R
With the school holidays nearly upon us, the Preps are looking forward to a well-deserved rest. Whilst holidays are an important time for your child to take a break from the busy school day, it is important for your child to maintain their newly found literacy and numeracy skills. Prep teachers are more than happy to send your child’s homework folder home with them so that they can continue to practise their sight words, sounds, blending and numbers. Remember this task should not be onerous, 10-15 minutes per day is all that is needed. Have your child write a sentence a day about what they did that day or what they’d like to do tomorrow. This will help them to develop their reading skills, that they read daily over the holiday break. Your child’s reading and writing skills are new to them and, like any newly acquired skill, if it’s left unpractised for some weeks those skills can fall away. So please, these holidays: read, read and then read some more! Your child will love showing you how clever they are! The Preps have worked so hard this semester - Parents you should be very proud of their efforts!

Georgeina Quinn-Acting Support Administrator Prep

OPEN COMMUNICATION IS THE KEY

Last week I shared 3 tips for preparing for the formalised parent-teacher interviews early next term. Although the strategies have been based on use for formal parent-teacher interviews, the same tips can be used for any communication with your child’s teacher.

Teachers want children to be successful and are always more than happy to meet with parents to discuss their child’s learning. We encourage that communication is ongoing throughout the year through various means such as face-to-face, email or phone calls.

Tips:

1. Be clear about what is being said. If you need clarification or have concerns about information the teacher is sharing, ask the teacher to explain it further. Having the same understanding is important to ensure that home and school are working together to maximise opportunities for children.

2. Think about what was discussed. Take some time to think about what was discussed after meeting with your child’s teacher. If you are still unclear or concerned about something, contact the teacher to arrange a time to follow up and talk to the teacher further.

3. Follow up at home. Talk with your child after you have met with the teacher. Discuss what was talked about, focusing on the positive and how to achieve the goals set for your child.

Tanya Sutton
Year 1 & 2 Support Administrator

PB4L

Below are some further quotes from Dr Haim G Ginott who, as you saw last week, was a school teacher, child psychologist, psychotherapist and a parent educator. Dr Ginott was a pioneer in techniques for talking with children.

“Misbehaviour and punishment are not opposites that cancel each other - on the contrary they breed and reinforce each other.”

“Parental criticism is unhelpful. It creates anger and resentment. Even worse, children who are regularly criticized learn to condemn themselves and others. They learn to doubt their own worth and to belittle the value of others. They learn to suspect people and to expect personal doom.”

“Children become frustrated and resentful when they view their parents as not being interested “in how they feel and in their point of view.”

These quotes are something that may make all of us, as parents, consider how we deal with our children and how we can encourage them to be the best they can be.

Peter Begemann-Support Administrator Years 4-6

SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Opinion Survey 2015

The annual School Opinion Survey will be conducted between 29 June and 31 July 2015. All families, school staff and a random sample of students will be invited to participate. We encourage you to take this opportunity to have your say about what this school does well, and how this school can improve.

Access details for the Parent/Caregiver Survey will be sent home with students this week. Parents/caregivers are welcome to complete their survey online at the school, and school computers will be available, contact office for further information 40 408 666

Jump Rope for Heart

Hi Kids!

Thursday this week is our ‘JUMP OFF’ Day where every class will participate in different skipping activities. I look forward to seeing all the fantastic skipping skills everyone has learned over the Term.

Congratulations and thank you to everyone who has helped raise money for the Heart Foundation and our school. Please remember to bring your sponsorship forms and all the money you have raised back to school this week. All money must be returned by Thursday.

Keep practising your skipping.

Hope you have a fun day at the ‘Jump Off’ Day!!

Thanks for supporting the Heart Foundation!

UPDATING INFORMATION

Just a reminder that it is very important to update all information as it changes e.g. new mobile, phone, work contacts and new postal residential addresses.

It is vital that we have everything up to date in case of emergencies and we need to contact you.
### Parents Corner

(P&C Meet once a month – Next Meeting – to be advised)

#### COMMUNITY INFORMATION

** Woolworths Earn & Learn 2015 **

Dear Parents,

This year we will be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our school/early learning centre – and all we need you to do is shop for your groceries at Woolworths. From Wednesday 15th July to Tuesday 8th September, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers. You will get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet and when it’s complete, the Sticker Sheet can be dropped into the Collection Box here at the school or at your local Woolworths.

At the end of the promotion, we’ll be able to get some great new equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items ideal for our students – including resources for Maths, English, Science and some fantastic fun supplies for Arts & Craft, Sport and for our library. If you’d like to know more visit woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

** Get your family active and eating well **

Local families can sign up the free healthy lifestyle program called PEACH™ - Parenting, Eating and Activity for Child Health. Registrations are now open for a new group to commence in Cairns at term 3, 2015.

The program is fun for kids and helps parents and carers make healthy eating and activity a part of every-day life. It is available to families with a child aged between 5-11 years who is above a healthy weight their age. It consists of 10 group sessions that run for 90 minutes each. The first 9 sessions are held weekly within the school term. Ongoing individualised family support is offered through the second half of the program ending with one final group session.

Some of the topics covered include nutrition, relationships with food and eating, changing family lifestyle behaviours and making healthy eating affordable. While the parent sessions are taking place, children enjoy active play with a trained child physical activity facilitator.

The program is funded by the Queensland government and being delivered by the Queensland University of Technology.

If you would like more information about the PEACH™ program or to register please contact free call 1800 263 519 or visit www.peachqld.com.au.

### TUCKSHOP NEWS

#### TUCKSHOP ROSTER

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 23 June</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
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<td>Wed 24 June</td>
<td>Ruth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 25 June</td>
<td>Carly Jamieson</td>
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<td>Fri 26 June</td>
<td>Ruth</td>
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<td>Mon 13 July</td>
<td>Christine Thurston</td>
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#### PRESENTATIONS

** STUDENT OF THE WEEK **

- Prep
  - Amelia, Alex

- Year 1
  - Sarah, Tyler

- Year 2
  - Taraleah, Sharri, Charlotte

- Year 4
  - Mandy, Ebony

** HAPPY GRAMS **

- Prep
  - Braeden, Seth

- Year 2
  - Leon, Kayden, Flynn, Zen, Harrison

- Year 3
  - Tyrus, Callum, Shelby-Rose, Daymon, Dylan

- Year 4
  - Tamara, Oscar

#### HONESTY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Zanny, Elia, Laith, Amber-lee Nathan, Hayden, Margaret, Akabu, Rhys, Zen, Bryce

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