How you can help your child with reading
As a parent, you are your child’s first teacher and it is important to encourage your child to read outside of the classroom. Our school is asking all parents to help their children to improve their reading skills. You can do this by:

• visiting the local library – this is an economical way to provide access to different kinds of books and learning materials and allows children to borrow from a wide range. Your library may also offer a reading program which makes reading an exciting experience and allows them to mix with other children

• asking ‘why’ questions as you read a book or story together to help your child understand and asking them to think about alternate endings to make much-loved books even more interesting

• reading to your child as often as you can and by trying to carry a book with you when away from home

• letting your child hold the book and turn the pages when you are reading together – this lets your child join in and allows you to talk about the pictures

• congratulating your child on their reading – this will encourage them to enjoy the reading experience

• pointing out words as you read them, especially long or interesting words – this will create a word bank or a spelling list which will help your child with their writing

• making a message board or space at home and encouraging your child to read and leave messages for other family members – this will also give them an important job in the household.

Every day counts at our school
Our school encourages all parents and members of our community to support the new State Government initiative to improve student attendance.

The new program – Every Day Counts – has four key messages:

• all children should be enrolled and attend school on every school day

• schools should monitor and create ways to improve attendance in schools

• attendance is the responsibility of everyone in the community

• children may find themselves in unsafe situations if they choose not to attend or skip school.

While most students attend school consistently, there is a small number of students who are absent from school without an acceptable reason and this may harm their education.

Going shopping, visiting family, staying up late and being tired or extending school holidays are not acceptable reasons to be away from school.

Research shows that if your child has a record of good attendance, they are more likely to achieve high results in the future.

For more information or if you need support regarding your child’s attendance, see our school principal and download the guide for parents at: www.education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts/

Community News

Pegi Williams Book Fair
Byfield State School Library
November 10th to 14th
Public are invited to purchase items.
From the Junior Classroom

Junior students aim high!

We have finished pre-term testing for measuring student improvement. A few students are achieving well above year level benchmarks AND school target gain. Others are not quite at benchmark but they are maintaining at least the required gain each cycle across the four areas. A few students are only making progress in a couple of the areas. The students really love counting all their red, yellow and green squares.

Is your child practicing a Sight Word set each night? Only five students have achieved their year level target for the year so far!!!!

Yours in education
Jo-Anne Shephard

Very wise Owls!

Hi everyone

We are already nearly halfway through the term and are busy little owls!!!! Students have had their final fluency test for the year and most have shown a great improvement. Well done! It is great to see the students participating regularly in Reading Rockets doing well.

One of our SMART goals this term is to improve in the weekly spelling test. I am happy to say that so far students are showing an improvement from pre-test to post-test. Practice … Practice …!!! Good spelling = better writing and reading.

Mrs Issy

REcReAtIOnS

Is your child attending?

Tuesdays Group—3 students have attended 3 or more times

Wednesdays Group—1 student has attended 3 or more times

Thursdays group—1 student has attended 3 or more times

Students of the Week:

Jade—improvement in her mental computation speed accuracy

Poppys—for her constructing very interesting sentences using her spelling words every week.

Joe—for working well in History with Mrs O’Hare

Hayley—for consistently presenting her bookwork to a high level of neatness and organisation.

Rhys—for taking on the challenge to improve in his weekly spelling test.

Ajay—for showing resilience in trying to learn and understand his math task and showing a great improvement in his fluency with reading.

Reading Rockets

Tylah—improving sight words

Joseph—for recognising and recalling sight words.

P & C News

School Concert: Wednesday 3rd December from 6pm.

The end of year raffle will be drawn on the night. $2 per ticket. Prizes:

1st—Webber BBQ and BBQ pack
2nd—Byfield Rainforest Retreat package
3rd—Party Pack

Donations please!! We are asking for donations for the 3rd prize. Any non-perishable food items would be appreciated.

Donations need to be handed in to the office by Friday 7th November (NEXT WEEK)

LIFE ED

Friday 7th November from 9:00 $6 per child

CLUED UP—PREP—YEAR 2

• Awareness of the basic needs to stay healthy and safe
• Identifying safe and unsafe behaviours and environments
• Knowledge of safe people and places to turn to
• How to help others
• Exploring healthy food options

HAROLDS DIARY—YEARS 3-4

• Emotions connected with new situations
• Importance of friendships and support networks
• Strategies to manage peer pressure and bullying
• Benefits of an active lifestyle and healthy diet

IT’S YOUR CALL—YEARS 5-7

• Exploring the decision making process
• Safe and appropriate use of communication technology
• Short term and long term consequences of a range of legal drugs
• Factors that influence decisions such as friends, family, media and laws

More information
https://www.healthyharold.org.au/

PRE-PREP DAYS

Byfield will be running their Pre-Prep program on the following dates:

Wednesday: 9:00—11:00
12th November
19th November
26th November
2nd December

Whole day
8th October
10th October

All 2015 Pre-Prep students welcome!

Behaviour and Attendance

We have introduced a behaviour recording sheet for students to record their attendance on. We thank Milman State School principal for sharing this terrific idea.

This sheet will give students great visual evidence for them to actually see how well they are on track to achieve the attendance target of 95%.

This means that out of 50 days students should not be absent for more than three days.

Students are also monitoring their behaviour. Their aim is to have all ‘green’ days. Yellow means they chose not to change their behaviour after being prompted.

Design a plates are due back between the 3rd and 23rd of November.