From the Principal

Dear Parents, Staff and Students

The first thing everyone will notice is that our newsletter has been revamped. Many thanks to Mrs Issaakidis, for using her creative mind to create such a visually pleasing newsletter. I’m sure you all will agree it looks fantastic. We encourage all families to actively read (not scan) our newsletter for school and classroom news, helpful hints and date claimers. Please keep up to date with your child’s education.

Teachers have begun this week to gather individual student data to map improvement in reading, spelling, writing and numeracy. This information will be distributed with parents at parent/teacher interviews at the end of this term.

If your child needs insect repellent on during the day, please see your child’s teacher about requirements.

A special notice to parents - bicycles left in the school grounds overnight or weekends are left at your risk.

Parents are welcome to join us for Parade held at 9:00am each Friday morning.

Yours in education

Jo-Anne Shephard
From the Junior Classroom

All students are really applying themselves to their learning and following classroom procedures. In our classroom our students show how they can be safe, responsible and respectful by doing their work, following directions, speaking nicely and sitting on their chairs properly.

I ask parents that if you are late to say ‘Good-bye’ to your child at the door and let them come into the classroom by themselves. This then will not disturb the teaching and learning that has already begun in the classroom.

This week the students have begun reading, spelling and numeracy testing for mapping their individual improvement.

Thank you to Mr Frith for assisting with Friday parent reading groups.

Yours in education

Mrs Shephard

Reminder!!

Parents please remember that there are to be no children on school grounds unless a parent supervises them.

No skateboards, bikes, scooters etc. are allowed on school grounds.

Please ensure that you take all rubbish with you when you leave.

From the Senior Classroom

We have had a busy few weeks settling back into school. I would like to say a big ‘Congratulations’ to all students for their adapting to a bigger classroom and larger classroom group. Great job!

We are nearly at the end of our first unit of studies and the students are busy with their English assessment this week.

I have completed our first Fluency tests for the year and I am pleased to say that the students have shown further improvement from last year. This test is done once a term and measures how many words can students read in 1 minute accurately and with expression.

Don’t forget homework is due in on Fridays – no excuses that I left if at home.

Happy learning!

Mrs Issaakidis

The Reading Rockets timetable is displayed on the library window.

Students are to arrive at 8:15 on their appointed day.

Our data shows that students who participated in this program last year, vastly improved in their reading or comprehension.
P&C News

P&C AGM

Another reminder, in accordance with Part 17 of the Association’s constitution, notice is given of the 2014 Annual General Meeting of Byfield State School Parents and Citizens Association. The meeting will be held in the Library 3.15pm Wednesday 26th February. Nominations for all executive positions will be declared open including President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. You must be a member of the P&C to cast your vote. Membership forms are available from the school office. Everybody is welcome to attend the meetings, attending the P&C meetings is a great way to stay involved in your child’s education, and play a part in the decision making process. We will also be holding a general meeting after the AGM in which we will be discussing an overview for the year, including fundraising.

Uniforms

Thank you to everyone who has brought uniforms for the start of the year, it is great to see all the students on parade with their uniforms on. I apologise we have run out of some sizes, they have been ordered and we will let you know when they are back in stock.

Support Your Child Hint

Give your child a chore that is suitable for their age. This helps build independence, self-management, responsibility and self-pride. At school students have ‘Jobs’ to help keep their classroom tidy. They very quickly learn how to be responsible in the different jobs.
Great Results Guarantee

Our school has received additional funding from the Great Results Guarantee and we need to decide how we can use this money to better support our students and improve their outcomes.

We are now working to develop our own Great Results Guarantee with evidence-based strategies and actions to improve literacy and numeracy.

Read more about the guarantee at www.education.qld.gov.au/resultsguarantee.

If you have an idea on a way to support our students to learn more or if you would like to take part in the discussion please get in touch.

Make every day count in 2014

Make 2014 the year when your child doesn’t miss a day of school. Research shows that students who have good patterns of attendance are more likely to achieve at school. If students aren’t at school or don’t stay the whole day, they are missing valuable lessons. Check out the new Every Day Counts videos live on DETE TV.

http://www.youtube.com/DETQueensland

Community News

ROAD SAFETY WEEK 17–23 MARCH 2014

Capricornia Police in conjunction with the Department of Transport and Emergency Services are hosting a Road Safety Week commencing March 17 and concluding with an Expo at the Rockhampton Heritage Village on March 23.

Road Safety Week has been developed to reinforce safety messages to all road users. As you are aware, children’s perceptions of the need to obey road rules and avoid high risk behaviours are greatly influenced by the examples given by adult drivers, particularly their parents. By emphasising the main causes of fatal traffic accidents and educating children on these topics, it is anticipated a reduction in fatal incidents will occur when these children are old enough to drive on the road.

During the past five years the Central Region has averaged around 100 deaths a year as a consequence of traffic crashes.

Most of those deaths could have been prevented!