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16 July 2015

## Principal's Column

A warm welcome back to all families in semester two despite some quite unusually chilly weather this past week. Semester One Reports were issued in the last week of term two and I trust that parents have had the opportunity to discuss their child's progress during the break. Our school has a strong focus on having a growth mindset, a concept which focuses especially on our children having an understanding that they can achieve many things with the required commitment and effort. Our school vision, which is focussed on 21st century learners, is underpinned by having a growth mindset and that every child will achieve if they believe that they can and that they apply themselves through hard work and effort. In this way, we are becoming more proactive in using "growth mindset" language with our students. Instead of the children saying, "I can't do this," or, "I'm not good at maths", our language as adults is more around, "You're just not there yet!" or, "If you work really hard, you can get there....you mustn't give up." It is for this reason that, whilst the achievement rating A-E on the report card is important, the effort rating and comments are far more important in really determining a child's true progress.

## 2015 School Opinion Survey

Earlier this week, information about the 2015 School Opinion Survey was sent home with the eldest child in each family. The survey allows parents/carers to have their say about what the school does well and how it can improve. This information is extremely important to us. The online survey is open until 31 July 2015. Participation is anonymous and all information that you provide will be treated confidentially.

While participation in the survey is purely voluntary, the validity of the survey can obviously be affected if we only have a small number of responses, so we would encourage all families to complete the survey. Last year we received approximately 180 responses and it would be great if this year we could even improve on our response rate.

## Staffing Changes

Mrs Marg Heiser, Associate Principal Prep – Year 2, will be on long service leave for the duration of this term. Mrs Mary Jane Leak from Prep Orange will be acting as Associate Principal during this time. Mrs Melinda Bransden, our Support Teacher Literacy and Numeracy, has been successful in being offered a position working as a Master Teacher at Surfers Paradise State School for the duration of semester two. It is unclear at this stage whether Melinda will continue in this role beyond this school year, so for the moment we wish her all the best and will keep our community informed when more information comes to hand.

## Farewell Ms Hellowell

Caningeraba State School, at 28 years strong, is coming of an age where we have seen over recent times, and will continue to see, several of our long serving staff retiring from service with Education Queensland after long and distinguished careers. Ms Leigh Hellowell has officially retired as of the end of semester one after having served the Caningeraba community for over 20 years. Leigh came to our school as a young classroom teacher in a very young school under the principalship of Peter Hulett. After many successful years in the classroom, Leigh was promoted to the role of Head of Curriculum in recognition of her wealth of curriculum knowledge, leadership and teaching expertise. She has made a strong contribution to the teaching of literacy, gifted and talented education and supporting the implementation of several Queensland curriculum reforms.

Leigh considers Caningeraba as her extended family and has become part of the very fabric of our school. She has many fond memories and stories to tell of the many families, children and staff that she has come in contact with over these years. She would be well remembered by many of her past students who now are all grown up with children of their own. One of Leigh's greatest strengths is her enormous capacity to support and guide others and to ensure that their health and well-being are always at the fore. She had a lovely way of dotting on all our wonderful volunteers and enjoyed acknowledging their efforts, especially at the end of year function.

Over the past 18 months, Leigh has been on leave caring for her elderly parents. I know that her decision to retire has not come easily, officially leaving the school that she loves so much. She has made many lifelong friends, touched the lives of so many and will be missed dearly by all. The fact that

Leigh has been on leave in recent times should in no way diminish the absolute dedication and selfless contribution that she has made across three decades to help drive the success of the Caningeraba State School we see today. Leigh, we will miss you and your wicked sense of humour, and trust in the knowledge that you have indeed made a difference in the lives of many children. On behalf of our school community, I wish you a happy and rewarding retirement and every success for the future.

### **Regards**

**Ray McConnell, Principal**

## **Book Club News**

Book Club orders are due by Friday 31 July.

Remember, we do not accept cash at the payments office anymore. Orders are to be done online or by phone to scholastic and just the order form is to be handed in at school.

## **Canberra PACER Program**

Year 6 students from our school will soon undertake an educational tour of the national capital, Canberra. Students will participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion, the Australian Government will contribute funding of \$60.00 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion and was considered in the preparation of the excursion costing.

## **Student Council Raffle – Help Rebuild Nepal**

Over the past few years, Caningeraba State School has supported the Children's Learning Access Program (CLAP), a charitable program instigated by our PE teacher Mr Hugh O'Toole and his family. Children living in remote areas of Nepal have been given the gift of an education through the ongoing construction of a primary school. Members of the Student Council have felt a real connection with students across the world through watching this building take shape, hearing about the personal circumstances of the children and seeing the difference that education can make in their lives.

Unfortunately, the recent devastating earthquakes in Nepal have destroyed the high school that these children would attend in the next stage of their schooling. Of even greater concern is the destruction of housing in this area. Families are sheltering in flimsy bamboo huts during the torrential rain of the monsoon season. We are hoping to assist families to buy sheets of tin roofing material to weatherproof their shelters. All funds raised will go directly to those in need in Nepal.

Student Council members will be selling raffle tickets for \$5.00 before school in the tuckshop area and in the general community.

Super prizes can be won, including a Jack Freestone Surfboard; \$400 worth of Rip Curl Clothing; All Point Photography Sessions; Books and more.

Please see Mr O'Toole if you are able to help by selling extra tickets.

### **Student Council**

## **PE News**

### **Sporting Schools Program**

Term 3 Sporting Schools Programs are as follows:

#### **AFL EXCELLENCE**

Yr 3/4/5 Boys/Girls; Mondays, Weeks 2-5, 3.10-4.10 pm; Maximum Numbers = 30

#### **TENNIS ACADEMY**

Yr 4/5/6 Boys/Girls; Mondays, Weeks 6-10, 3.10-4.10 pm; Maximum Numbers = 16

These programs are provided free for students who wish to extend their skills and game knowledge in the chosen sport. Sign on sheet and Parental Permission Slips are available from the school office.

Programs are provided by Mr. O'Toole.

Term 4 Programs are:

#### **SOFTBALL/T-BALL**

Weeks 2-5, Mondays, 3.10 – 4.10 pm

#### **CRICKET**

Weeks 6-9, Mondays, 3.10 – 4.10 pm

### **Open Boys Soccer**

Wednesday 22 July, Week 2, our schoolboys Open Soccer Team will play a Cross-Over Final to decide the South Coast Entrant in the SEQ School Soccer Titles at Broadbeach State School Oval at 11:00am. Good Luck!

### **District Athletics**

42 Students have been chosen to represent our school at the Oceanic District Athletics Carnival at Pizzey Park on Wednesday 22 July, Week 2. Students need to return notes by Thursday 16 July, Week 1, to enter.

Own transport needs to be provided. A school tent will provide students, teachers and parents a base camp for the day. The day starts at 8:30am and will be completed by 2:20pm.

New school athletics singlets will be provided, but will need to be returned by the end of the day.

Big Thanks to the Rhodes and Waetford families who made a generous donation towards the cost of these uniforms.

### **Outstanding Interschool Sport Uniforms**

Students are required to return any outstanding jerseys provided for last semester's interschool sport season.

**Hugh O'Toole, PE Teacher**

## Free Dress Day – Friday 24 July

Caningeraba Student Council are raising funds for Nepal's Earthquake Appeal. Money raised goes towards providing materials to create emergency shelters for distraught people living in the village district of Dhobane in Eastern Nepal, while they start the process of rebuilding their lives.

"Colour your World with Kindness Day" is a Free Dress Day celebrated by students wearing colourful clothes and providing a \$2 gold coin donation on Friday 24 July, to help raise money for this cause.

## School Excursion Refund Guidelines

At Caningeraba State School we are committed to providing a safe and supportive learning environment for students, staff and volunteers. This commitment includes the health and safety of staff and students when conducting curriculum activities in the school or in other locations.

School excursions and camps enhance a student's learning by providing opportunities for the student to participate in activities, both curriculum-related and recreational, outside the normal school routine. All planned school excursions are approved by the Principal and endorsed by the Parents and Citizens Association.

State schools are able to charge a fee for:

- an educational service including materials and consumables not defined as instruction, administration and facilities for the education of the student
- an education service purchased from a provider other than the school where the provider charges the school and
- a specialised educational program.

A school fee is directed to the purpose for which it is charged.

School fees for extra-curricular activities are calculated on a cost recovery only basis, according to the number of students who have indicated their attendance.

Participation of students in an extra-curricular activity is indicated through payment of the fee and provision of a permission form completed by the parent.

As the school budget cannot meet any shortfalls in funding for an extra-curricular activity due to the subsequent non-participation of a student who had previously indicated attendance of the activity, fees already paid for an extra-curricular activity may be refunded in full or in part or not at all, having regard to the associated expenses incurred and the circumstances of the non-participation.

If a parent wishes to apply for a refund due to their child's non-participation in an extra-curricular activity, they may do so by completing a Request for Refund form available from the school office. Where possible, the request should include the receipt relating to the payment for which a refund is being sought.

It is preferred that refunds be made as a credit against the student's account at the school, and used to offset any future charges.

Department of Education and Training policy references:

Education (General Provisions) Act 2006

SCM-PR-002: School Excursions

FNM-PR-019: State Education Fees

## Student of the Week

Congratulations to the following students who have received a student award at their assembly.

6B	Jamie & Manjeet	6G	Ethan
4G	Jaedon	4M	Kira
1O	Abbey & Travin		

## Diary Dates

REMINDERS:

1. Please phone our hotline on 5568 6388 for ALL up to date information on excursions, interschool sport draws, athletics and cancellations due to weather.

Date	Year Level	Activity
Tuesday 21 July	Various	ICAS English Exam
27 – 31 July	Yr 6	Canberra and Day Camps
Tuesday 4 August	PG & PS	Currumbin Farm Visit
Wednesday 5 August	PB & PR	Currumbin Farm Visit
Friday 7 August	PW & PM	Currumbin Farm Visit
Friday 7 August	Yrs 5 & 6	Summer Interschool Sports Muster
Monday 10 August	Yr 1	Raw Art
Tuesday 11 August	PO	Currumbin Farm Visit
Tuesday 11 August	Various	ICAS Maths Exam
Friday 14 August	Yrs 5 & 6	Summer Interschool Sports Trials
Tuesday 25 August	All	School Photos
Wednesday 26 August	All	School Photos
Thursday 27 August	Yr 3	Raw Art
Friday 28 August	All	Gold Coast Show Holiday

## Snack Shack Roster

Date	Names
Monday 20 July	Tasmyn
Tuesday 21 July	Cheryl
Wednesday 22 July	Carolyn, Greta & Esther
Thursday 23 July	Marnee & Carolyn
Friday 24 July	Maureen & Keryn

***Katrina and Michelle, Tuckshop Convenors***

## Community Notices

### Happy Parents Happy Kids Free Parenting Course

A basic two session course that will give parents information regarding skills they need for a healthy, peaceful, active, courageous and loving family in a changing world. Wednesdays 23 & 30 September 2015, 9:30am – 12:30pm at Palm Beach Neighbourhood Centre, 16 Third Avenue, Palm Beach. Bookings are essential 5598 1505.

### Co-Parenting Workshop

Wednesday 20 July at Broadbeach State School 9am to 1pm. The focus of this workshop is to – build resilience in your children; honesty between parents and children; promoting flexibility and critical thinking skills for children. For further information phone 5598 1505. Bookings essential.