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9 February 2017

## Associate Principal's Column

Hello and welcome back to all of our Caningeraba families. It has been exciting to meet so many new families of our Prep Stars and also parents of our new students throughout our school. The beginning of a new school year is always busy, however it always gives us a feeling of pride when prospective parents make appointments several years early to come and 'walk through' our school because they have heard it is a great school!

It always makes me so proud of our staff and students when visitors to our school can be taken on a 'tour' during any time of the day and be assured that quality learning is happening and that there will always be such great evidence of respectful and happy staff and students. Visitors are always really impressed with the learning opportunities for students at Caningeraba and the enthusiasm shown by both teachers and students.

Our Student Leader Investiture ceremony for our new school leaders was held at 9.30am on Tuesday 7th February. This ceremony recognises the importance of the high expectations that our school community holds for our students. We congratulate all of our student leaders and know that they will uphold the values of our great school.

### Parent Information Sessions

Thank you to all of our parents and carers who attended the Meet the Teacher sessions also held on Tuesday 7th of February. These sessions are always a good opportunity to hear about the curriculum, classroom expectations and routines for your child and their new year of learning. Please contact your child's class teacher if you were unable to make

the session and would like a copy of the information presented on the day.

### Stories from the Land of Prep!

We've been at school for such a short time and I already have so many funny stories from the prep playground! Some I can publish in our Caningeraba newsletter and others I will just keep to myself and laugh about for years to come! Firstly I will start with a joke from one of my newest little friends. "Why do bananas have to wear sunscreen?" I know you are thinking very carefully about this one ..... "So they don't peel." Don't worry, this little guy had about ten more jokes for me after this one, some of them are filed in my 'Not suitable for general publication' file, and others I am still pondering on!

My next funny was when the reminder callout for students attending beginner guitar lessons at lunchbreak was broadcast over the playground intercom system – a gorgeous little Prepstar came up to me and asked for directions to the music room as she really wanted to play the guitar! We are extremely proud of our strong instrumental and strings program at Caningeraba, but unfortunately we don't start in the first week of Prep!

My final funny for this week is when a Prepstar looked me up and down in the playground before paying a compliment regarding my dress. "I really like your dress Mrs Heiser. It's really pretty." "Oh thank you", I replied. She then added, "Did you know that your shoes don't match your dress though?" Over the years that I have been at Caningeraba most people have become accustomed to my dress sense for spending time in the land of Prep – fashion has to take a holiday and at lunch time I swap my high heels for my joggers so that I can truly enjoy the Prep playground experience! I guess our new Prepstars are still getting used to the look!

I was also 'pulled over' by another young member of the Prepstar fashion police after she had spotted me earlier in the day wearing heels and then sporting my joggers at morning tea. This little officer of the law said, "Hey where are your shoes?" Before I was able to respond, she whispered, "Did you think you might fall over in those high heels?"

You've got to love working with kids, every day is a new adventure in the land of the little people!

## Before School Supervision – Keeping our Caningeraba Kids Safe

To help create a place for all of our students to wait safely and comfortably before school, we would like to remind everyone of the before school supervision arrangements. Upon arrival at school, students from Prep – 2 are to wait in the tuck-shop undercover area. Students in Years 3 – 6 are supervised in the Year 5 eating area. For safety reasons, all students are to remain seated in these areas and remain clear of covered walkways. Supervision is provided for students from 8.15am. Students are reminded of our school rules at our daily assemblies. A huge thank you to all of our parents who are helping to teach our students that rules are for everyone. It sometimes makes things difficult for students to respect our school rules if the adults they are with do not show this respect. We also ask that all children are kept off playground equipment before and after school as there is no supervision available in these areas. Please take care with young children in and around our school. Parents are asked to use pathways to access our school as walking small children through the carpark is extremely dangerous. Taxis use this park in the morning and afternoon to drop off and pick up some of our students.

## Home Reading

As part of our whole school approach to reading we have reviewed our Home Reading program to ensure our children are using the same language and strategies when they read at home and at school.

In order to support you and your child with our Home Reading program we would like to invite you to one of the following information sessions to be held in the school library:

**Years 1 and 2:** Wednesday 8th March at 3pm.

**Year 3:** Wednesday 15 March at 3pm.

This session will be facilitated by our Reading Coach, Sandra Green.

The sessions will focus on the following areas:

### Why do we do Home Reading?

**How** does Home Reading link to our STARS Reading at school?

**What** does Home Reading look like in Year 1, Year 2 or Year 3?

**What** are the expectations of parents, students and teachers in our Home Reading Program?

**How** you can support your child with Home Reading.

Home reading will commence once our new process and resourcing of books is complete.

We look forward to seeing you at these informative sessions!

## Early Start

Our Prep teachers will administer Early Start Literacy tasks with our Prepstars during February. These tasks are administered individually as short interviews between the classroom teacher and each child. Each interview takes about 20 – 30 minutes and provides a wonderful opportunity for the classroom teacher to gather information and monitor your child's literacy progress across the early years of schooling. So, whilst you may see your child's teacher at school during these days, there will be another teacher responsible for teaching your child's class for the day.

Early Start Literacy materials were trialled in selected Queensland schools throughout 2013. The materials have been developed by ACER (Australian Council for Educational Research) and are based on essential foundation literacy knowledge, understanding and skills and are aligned with the Australian Curriculum.

If you would like further information regarding the Early Start initiative, go to the link below

<http://education.qld.gov.au/strategic/advice/earlychildhood/docs/early-start-parent-factsheet.pdf>

## Supporting your Child's Development at School

The development of oral language skills is a prerequisite to acquiring literacy skills and forms the foundation for reading and writing development.

Although formal training in literacy usually starts when a child begins school, literacy acquisition is built upon a foundation of language skills that are learned at home. In the early years of children's lives, parents are their most important teachers and the verbal environment they provide sets the stage for children's language learning.

Parents play a key role in fostering children's oral language skills. First and foremost, it is important to talk with children frequently, and about a range of topics. When we talk with children about past events and future plans, about emotions, and about explanations we use a wide variety of vocabulary and more complex grammar, and these in turn help develop language skills.

Reading and talking about books with children is also an important activity. Children who are exposed to more books not only have better vocabulary, but they become better readers. Research suggests that children need to hear 1000 stories read aloud before they begin to read themselves. Three stories a day will deliver 1000 stories in one year alone!

We are extremely fortunate at Caningeraba to have the expertise of Cindy Apap, a Senior Speech Language Pathologist, who is extremely passionate about developing oral language in our young students. Over the past several years Cindy has provided training for parents and volunteers to support the development of oral language and early literacy skills. This year Cindy will once again present these free sessions at our school.

**Where:** Caningeraba State School Library

**When:** Tuesday 21 February

**Time:** 9am – 11 am

We look forward to seeing you! Have a great week,

**Margaret Heiser**  
**Associate Principal P-2**

## Message from the Crossing Supervisors

Hello everyone! We hope you and your children have had a good start to Term 1.

Please take a moment to familiarise yourself with safe school crossing procedures.

### Pedestrians

- **When crossing please cross in a straight line between both red and white poles rather than crossing diagonally.**
- Students should be instructed to use authorised crossings where they are installed.
- Pedestrians should wait on the footpath behind the yellow line on the footpath and wait for the supervisor to blow his/her whistle before leaving the curb and cross the road at a brisk walking pace – never run.
- When using the pedestrian crossing, cyclists and scooter riders must dismount and walk.
- Please discourage children from playing with balls or other toys when walking to school as they may run onto the road to retrieve them.
- Children learn road safety habits by watching and copying others, so set a good example.
- Please don't allow your children to swing on the crossing barriers on Whistler – it's distracting and dangerous.

Finally, we've all had problems finding a parking spot. Dropping your child off at school a few minutes before or later can make a huge difference to your stress level and how your day starts or finishes. The undercover areas are supervised from 8:15am by Teaching Staff and a Crossing Supervisor is at both crossings until 3:15.

### Drivers:

- Children can be unpredictable so always slow down around schools. Watch for children riding, walking or getting out of vehicles.
- When stopped at a pedestrian crossing PLEASE don't stop on pedestrian (zebra) crossings – ensure that you are behind the white lines and not blocking the crossing so that we have a clear path for the children to cross safely. It also makes it difficult for other motorists to see children.
- Please keep traffic flowing through the school parking lot and be courteous to other drivers. When traffic backs up into Whistler Drive, it can impede buses from safely parking in the bus zone as well as blocking clear vision on Whistler Drive.
- Please indicate which direction you are turning when exiting the parking lot onto Razorbill Street and make

sure you come to a **full stop at the Stop sign – not on the footpath.**

- Please do not make U Turns near the pedestrian crossing. This is dangerous not only to the children but also to other drivers.
- Drivers stopped at the crossing are not to move their car forward towards the crossing until the crossing supervisor is on the footpath. Failure to adhere to this traffic rule is subject to a traffic fine.
- Please watch the speed you are going, our children's lives are precious to us.

Thank you for reading, we wish you and your children a happy and safe year!

**Lisa, Mel & Donna**

## Same Day Student Absence Text Messaging

From Monday 23 January 2017, our school has been alerting parents/carers of same day student unexplained absences by text message. From 2017 all Queensland State Schools are required to send out these notifications.

Please remember to phone the school on our **absence phone line 5568 6377** as soon as you are aware your child will be away or arriving late, so your child's absence can be recorded correctly. The school will contact parents/carers at 9:30am via text message for any unexplained absences.

If you advise your child's class teacher of an absence you must also notify the office staff as teachers are unable to record this information electronically.

If you are advised by our school that your child is away without a reason, please contact us as soon as possible by reply text or phone call on 5568 6377 to let us know the reason your child is absent.

We thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

## Sports News

During the school holidays Luca in year 6 was selected in a Gold Coast representative team that participated in the Craig Foster International Futsal Challenge Cup at Coomera. They played teams from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane to name a few and eventually came out winners beating Brisbane in the Final 11-1. Because of winning the Cup the team has been invited to an International event in Florida later in the year. The team will next play in the Queensland State Titles at Easter. Well done to Luca and his teammates.

## Library News

Thank you to the Kariko family for their kind donation of books to the library.

## Student of the Week

6B	Jimi	6G	Luke
6M	Tresna	6O	Imogen
5M	Charlotte	5S	Karissa
4B	Malachy & Talia	4G	Jack
4P	Dash	4S	Kaiza
3G	India & Lachlan	3O	Chloe & Alexavier
3P	Billy	1O	Lucy & Ella
PG	Josie	PS	Willow
PM	Genevieve	PR	Chloe
PW	Jardi		

## School Banking News

Congratulations to classes 1O, 2G & 5S for being school bankers of the week. School banking occurs every Tuesday and is a great fundraiser for the school while instilling saving habits in our children. Accounts can be opened via the link below or in person at the Commonwealth Bank (your licence and your child's birth certificate will be required). We will be holding an account opening day in the near future, watch this space for a date.

<https://www.commbank.com.au/personal/kids/school-banking.html>

## Diary Dates

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

Student Resource Scheme payments for 2017 are payable now.

Friday 10 Feb	Yrs 5 & 6	Farewell to Chinese Visitors 1:10pm in the hall
Thursday 16 Feb	Various	District Swimming Carnival
Tuesday 28 Feb	Yr 5	Raw Art
Wednesday 1 Mar	3P/S	Jacobs Well
Monday 6 March	3M/G	Jacobs Well

Tuesday 7 March	3B/O	Jacobs Well
Wednesday 8 Mar	Various	Chess at Caningeraba
Tuesday 14 Mar	Yr 2	Raw Art
Wednesday 15 Mar	Various	Somerset Celebration of Literature
Wednesday 29 Mar	All	P&C Colour Run

## Snack Shack Roster

Date	Names
Monday 13 February	Volunteers Needed
Tuesday 14 February	Carolyn, Natalie, Cassandra
Wednesday 15 February	Carolyn, Chaille
Thursday 16 February	Carolyn, Chaille
Friday 17 February	Michelle, Helen, Shelley

***Katrina and Michelle  
Tuckshop Convenors***

## Community Notices

### Milo T20 Cricket

For kids aged 7-12years who have basic cricket skills. For more information visit the link below

<http://playcricket.com.au/>

### Arts Festival Sand Safari

Inspired by sand and sea at the Surfers Paradise foreshore, from 10th – 26th February. Visit the link below for further information.

<http://www.surfersparadise.com/>

## Visit Our Website

We encourage our parents, carers and family members to visit our website, to see ongoing class activities.

<http://www.caningerss.eq.edu.au>

***Sheryll Eades,  
Website Coordinator***