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3 May 2017

## Principal's Column

At the time of writing my previous newsletter near the close of term one, I would never have imagined the devastating impact of Tropical Cyclone Debbie and the unprecedented closure of many Queensland schools over the two days leading up to the Easter holiday period. I would like to thank our community for their cooperation and support during this time tuning in to, in particular, our P&C Facebook and our school website as news was unfolding. Fortunately, the decision to close schools on the Friday was made in a timely manner allowing communities to respond appropriately and hence no students presented at Caningeraba on that Friday morning. Whilst it would appear that locally it is back to business as usual for most, we are also mindful of the many communities in Queensland and New South Wales who are deeply affected by this event and will be rebuilding for many months and years to come.

I know Mrs Heiser may have mentioned it but it is not every day that a principal gets to stand alongside so many awestruck students watching a giant excavator with huge mechanical jaws crunch into and demolish an entire classroom right before their very eyes. No doubt there was many a story around the kitchen table of an evening. As one boy noted, "Mr McConnell, this is my best day at school ever!" There were a number of students who commented that it was their old year three or four classroom that was being knocked down. I can't say I was too saddened by the demise of these old demountables given the prospect of a beautiful new building space and improved drainage infrastructure for our school.

Bryant have successfully tendered for the construction of the new Senior Learning Centre and as such the site fencing is already in place, demolition is almost finalised and building

works will soon begin. The construction company is most aware of the challenges around traffic congestion and will make all reasonable attempts to schedule major deliveries outside the busy drop off and pick up times. In due course, they will establish a traffic management plan to accommodate traffic flow, construction vehicle parking and any associated challenges. It should be noted that the current school entry in front of the hall will most likely be closed off at some stage to allow the drainage works to be completed between the hall and Teaching Block 2 near the uniform shop. It is hoped that some of these works can be scheduled during vacation periods to minimise disruption where possible.

Now that our ANZAC day and Labour Day public holidays are behind us, we can return to our normal rhythm of five day a week school life. NAPLAN will be held next week across Australia with our Year 3 and Year 5 students sitting this standardised national assessment in numeracy and literacy. As is always the case at Caningeraba State School, we just ask that our students put forward their best effort and that is simply all we can ask. NAPLAN is an extremely well composed test designed by the Australian Council of Educational Research (ACER) each year and is based on the Australian Curriculum. Whilst it can often get a pretty bad wrap in the media for all the wrong reasons, I believe strongly that used in the right way for the right reasons, that the NAPLAN assessment provides invaluable information to parents, teachers and schools as to how well our children are progressing in literacy and numeracy and indeed when compared with their age appropriate cohort across the nation.

Understandably, there have been ongoing concerns about the impact NAPLAN may have on children who are not achieving at their year level achievement standard and who don't perform well on this point in time test. It is perhaps therefore timely for me to begin the conversation with our community that it is intended that all students across Australia will sit NAPLAN in

an online format in 2019. It is important to note that the online NAPLAN assessment will be formatted differently to the current paper and pencil "one size fits all" format. The online format will respond to an individual student's responses and have the capability of tailoring questions to suit their level of ability. In short, a student who would normally struggle to even attempt or be successful at higher level questions would be provided with more questions at a similar level. Conversely, a student who is achieving at a very high level would be directed to more higher levelled questions. In this way, this tailored approach would provide a greater richness and depth of information on what students actually can do rather than what they can't do. NAPLAN online testing is currently being experimentally tested and trialled in selected schools across Australia. All Queensland students will sit a pen and paper test in 2017. I will bring more information to hand as this initiative rolls out over the next 24 months.

It is timely however that we pause and reflect as both parents and educators alike, that it is not the actual score on the NAPLAN assessment for an individual child that is most important. It is in fact how well a child has progressed over a certain period of time that matters most. A child who is achieving at a lower level may make significant progress over a one or two year period whereas a student achieving at a higher level may make little or no progress. We can never underestimate the power of a growth mindset, the notion of "I'm not there yet" and the belief that success equals hard work.

#### **Regards**

**Ray McConnell, Principal**

## Attention Caningeraba Chess Enthusiasts

We are pleased to announce that Caningeraba is offering students the chance to sign up for ChessKid.com. This online program is designed to challenge children's chess ability in a new, fun and interactive way. This is a great opportunity for beginners to learn the basics and develop their skills and also for our more advanced players to learn and improve their chess skills at home.

The premise behind ChessKid is a combination of unlimited games, puzzles, lessons, videos and articles for students to watch that will improve their ability to play chess.

The **cost per student (licence) is \$11.00** which will be valid through until Feb 13, 2018.

If you would like your child to be signed up for the online program you will need to pay the \$11 to the school payment window by May 8th. Personalised login details will then be arranged for your child and be passed on to them

Please see the attached flyer for more information or email Mrs Christy at [rpick33@eq.edu.au](mailto:rpick33@eq.edu.au)

**Kind regards, Renea Christy**

## Winters Sports Draw Friday 5 May

**TBA**

## "Sporting Schools" After School Sport Programs

### Term 2

#### Weeks 2 - 5, Wednesdays, 3-4 pm

##### **Australian Football**

School Oval  
Boys and Girls  
Years 3-6  
Catering up to 28 students  
Cost: Free

#### Weeks 6 - 10, Wednesdays, 3 - 4 pm

##### **Table Tennis**

Sports Shed  
Boys and Girls  
Years 5-6  
Catering up to 16 students  
Cost: Free

Coached and supervised by Mr. Hugh O'Toole

Parents to sign up at school office or see Mr.O'Toole for permission slip and details

## Chaplain News

### Ks 4 Kids is here again!

If you and your children are looking for a fun day out, the Ks 4 Kids fun run (or fun walk) is on Saturday 17th June! This fundraiser supports Chaplaincy in schools on the Gold Coast. We start at, and return to Queen Elizabeth Park at Coolangatta.

If you sign up early, not only do you get a free t-shirt, but your name will be printed on it!

There are a few options for walking and running: 2km, 5km, 10km or 21.1km. There are fantastic prizes, especially if you are fundraising for this worthy cause.

If you'd like to sign up online, this is the link to join our Caningeraba team:

<https://ks4kids2017.everydayhero.com/au/leisa-j-1>

**Have a great week!**  
**Chappy Leisa**

## Library News



We are hosting a **Carnival Book Fair**.

Each class will be invited to preview the books. The preview sessions are an ideal opportunity for children to share and discuss the books with their teachers and peers.

The selection of books at our Book Fair will include a wide range of quality books from the best Australian and overseas authors & illustrators.

All books are discounted.

When you or your child buys a book, our school benefits by receiving a commission (up to 35%), which we can use to improve our resources.

### Our Book Fair selling times will be:

8:15 - 8:50am Wednesday 17 May – Tuesday 23 May  
 2:50 – 3:30pm Wednesday 17 May – Tuesday 23 May  
**Not open after school Friday 19 May**  
 Wednesday 24 May 8:15 – 10:30am

Credit Card/Debit Card facilities are available. No AMEX please

## NAPLAN Testing for Year 3 and 5: Week 4 - 9, 10 and 11 May

**Tuesday 9 May:** Language Conventions and Writing tests  
**Wednesday 10 May:** Reading test  
**Thursday 11 May:** Numeracy test

## School Banking News

Congratulations to classes 2P, 4S and 5P on being our awesome bankers of the week. There are now 17 School Banking days left before the end of Term 3. Don't forget you need 15 deposits to be in the running for the Commonwealth major prize of the trip to Japan. We will be holding another Account Opening session on Friday morning May 12, from 7:45am – 9am before school in the tuckshop area. All new Youthsaver Accounts must now be opened online, The banking ladies can then issue the student a book. Any questions, please feel free to call in and ask.

<http://www.commbank.com.au/youthsaver>

Congratulations to the following students who made 10 deposits and received a Bronze Certificate:

6B	Jimi	5P	Nicholas
2S	Thomas	6G	Tazmin
5O	Malakai	4M	Lacey
4M	Brandon	3B	Kris
6B	Liam	3/4R	Riley
6M	Noah	1S	Claudia
2G	Kai	3B	Lola
2P	Phoebe	2G	Hannah
2O	Coco	2G	Amber

1B	Valentina	1W	Jasmine
1G	Harry	1G	Jersey
2S	Sharla	1S	Georgia
PG	Lily	PM	Levi
PS	Amelia		

## 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.
- Year 5 Camp balance payment of \$133 due Friday 5 May.
- Year 5 Grip Leadership payment of \$20 due Friday 5 May.
- Chess Kid payment of \$11 due Monday 8 May.

Tuesday 9 May	Yr 3&5	NAPLAN – Language Conventions /Writing
Wednesday 10 May	Yr 3&5	NAPLAN – Reading
Wednesday 10 May	All	Mother's Day Stall
Thursday 11 May	Various	Catch up – Mother's Day Stall 9am – 11am
Thursday 11 May	Yr 3&5	NAPLAN – Numeracy
Friday 12 May	Yr 5&6	Interschool Sport
Mon 15-Thurs 25 May	All	Book Fair in the Library
Tuesday 16 May	Yr 4	Raw Art
Friday 19 May	Yr 5&6	Interschool Sport
Mon 22-Wed 24 May	Yr 5	Camp Goodenough
Thursday 25 May	Selected	District Cross Country
Friday 26 May	Yr 5&6	Interschool Sport
Tuesday 30 May	Yr 6	Raw Art
Thursday 1 June	Yr 5	Lightning Carnival
Friday 2 June	Yr 5&6	Interschool Sport
Monday 5 June	Yr 2&3	Athletics Carnival
Tuesday 6 June	Prep	Athletics Carnival
Tuesday 6 June	Selected	Regional Cross Country

<b>Wednesday 7 June</b>	Yr 1	Athletics Carnival
<b>Mon &amp; Tues 12 &amp; 13 June</b>	Yrs 4-6	Athletics Carnival
<b>Thursday 15 June</b>	Various	Winter Concert 5pm in the hall

## Student of the Week

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

<b>6B</b>	Lily	<b>6G</b>	Aidan
<b>6M</b>	Alba	<b>6O</b>	Jasmine
<b>4B</b>	Cooper	<b>4M</b>	Lucas
<b>4P</b>	Oscar	<b>3G</b>	Cooper
<b>3O</b>	Mariella	<b>3P</b>	Marcus
<b>3S</b>	Imogen	<b>2M</b>	Felix
<b>2O</b>	Rusty	<b>2W</b>	Lincoln
<b>PG</b>	Beatriz	<b>PR</b>	Stella
<b>PS</b>	Alira	<b>PW</b>	Mia

## Snack Shack Roster

<b>Date</b>	<b>Names</b>
<b>Monday 8 May</b>	Shelley, Bola
<b>Tuesday 9 May</b>	Susana
<b>Wednesday 10 May</b>	Carolyn, Natalie, Fiona
<b>Thursday 11 May</b>	Carolyn, Chaille
<b>Friday 12 May</b>	Michelle, Helen, Shelley

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

## 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***