Dear Parents,

Next week I will be attending the 2013 Principal’s Conference in Brisbane. Each year, this conference provides a great opportunity for principals from around Queensland to coordinate, network, and discuss the most recent advances in one of the most important topics one could think of: The education of your children. Following last year’s conference, Prospect Creek State School began to implement a teaching method known as Explicit Teaching across all year levels. Explicit Teaching is a framework of gradually releasing independence of set activities to the students and lends itself extremely well to the key learning areas of literacy, numeracy, and science. This year, we have formalised this process into our school plan and have set a target of using Explicit Teaching in a vast majority of our literacy and numeracy lessons by the end of this year. In brief, Explicit Teaching involves three steps: I do (the teacher models the activity), We Do (the teacher supports students as they complete an example activity) and You Do (the student demonstrates that they can complete the activity independently). As Explicit Teaching continues to be a major focus for the Central Queensland region, I am confident that all students will benefit from the combined knowledge that will be shared at the conference in the coming days. Please join me in supporting Mr. Couchman as Acting Principal in my absence and I look forward to sharing many exciting ideas with the staff and community in the coming weeks.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MISS MCBRYDE!

A huge Prospect Creek congratulations to Leisa and her fiancé Matthew who are getting married in Brisbane this weekend! (Hence the early newsletter!) Leisa has been the Administration Officer for our school for over 6 months now and has shown great enthusiasm for both her work and for the students, often working ‘behind the scenes’ to assist in the organisation of many of our excursions, camps, and school-based events. Let’s hope the weather holds up and that the two of the them have a terrific day! Leisa will be back at school on Thursday of next week and we thank Linda Sheppard for filling in for Leisa in the meantime.

P&C UPDATE:

POSITIONS YET TO BE FILLED

CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARY
CO-CONVENOR FOR TREAT KITCHEN
FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR
RECYCLING COORDINATOR

Please contact the school office for further clarification of any of the above roles should you be interested in becoming a part of this very important aspect of our school community.

P.S. PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF TIME FOR OUR NEXT P&C MEETING

P&C Meeting – Tuesday, March 12 – at 3:30pm
The next P&C meeting will be held at the above time in the school library. Important matters to discuss include this year’s camp, cross country and future sporting events, fundraising ideas, and show submissions. All parents are more than welcome to attend our extremely productive meetings.

SWIMMING

Swimming is cancelled for Friday March 1st, due to Mrs Stewart being away.

LONG JUMP PIT

We received a shipment of sand courtesy of The Mathews and Hanson’s Concrete. This sand is to replace the sand lost from our long jump pits during the recent floods. Another terrific example of our school’s community spirit!

2013 SCHOOL LEADERS

The process for deciding the 2013 School Captain and House Captains will begin next week with eligible students in Yrs 6 & 7 beginning to write their persuasive speeches. Here is a timeline of expected events leading to the announcement of our 2013 school leaders:

Week 5—Eligible students write, edit, and review their speeches.
Wed, March 6, 9am—Students deliver speeches
Thu, March 7 - Formal interview held
Mon, March 11 – School leaders announced on parade.

CROSS COUNTRY

Prospect Creek State School’s cross country date has been set for Friday, March 22 with training to begin next Friday morning and continuing for 3 mornings a week until our carnival. Students will gradually build their fitness levels over the coming weeks and I am confident that all students will participate and enjoy the day as a result of their hard work.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Miss Emma Smith will be taking our school photos on Monday, March 4 at 9am. Students are reminded to wear their full school uniform with pride on the day.

TERM 1 INVOICES—DUE FRIDAY, MARCH 22.

Term 1 invoices will be sent home with today’s newsletter. The due date for these invoices is Friday March 22. Invoices can be paid in person on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays (administration days). Alternatively, you can send a student to school with the payment in an envelope.

Sincerely,

Gregg Savage
Another busy week in the 4-7 class, with the students continuing their focus on practicing mental strategies to use when multiplying and dividing decimal fractions by orders of 10. In literacy, the students are delving deeper and deeper into the world of narratives with some trying to wrap their thoughts around some of those crazy endings to the short stories we have been reading. Our room has turned into a temporary green-house with the students’ science experiments growing on, um, my desk. (At least I don’t THINK I had beans growing on my desk this time last week.) In art, the students learned about the Rule of Thirds when composing photographs (and how to get their photos from their cameras, place them on the computer’s hard drive, rename them correctly and upload them to our class website!) and in History, the students will again work to interpret the events of Australia’s past (circa 1788) through discussion, writing, and activities. Like I said, another busy week in the 4-7 classroom!

**Happy Birthday!!**

Joshua Rowe  
February 21st :)  

Zoey Johnson  
February 26th :)  

2013 SCHOOL CALENDER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
<th>Weeks</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>Tuesday 29rd January</td>
<td>Thursday 28th March</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Monday 15th April</td>
<td>Friday 21st June</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Monday 8th July</td>
<td>Friday 20st September</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Tuesday 8th October</td>
<td>Friday 13th December</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Congratulations to our Students of the Week!

Ella Gardiner from 4-7 for working hard to understand the new concepts introduced to her in the upper classroom!

Joshua Rowe from P-3 for his enthusiasm and focus in class and to

Elli Blyton from P-3 for her enthusiastic work in alphabet sequencing!

Well done everyone!

Please remember
SWIMMING IS CANCELLED ON FRIDAY, MARCH 1ST due to Mrs Stewart being away.

Congratulations Miss McBryde!
We wish lots of happiness on your Wedding Day!

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DATES TO REMEMBER

SWIMMING – Every Friday – 1pm
SCHOOL PHOTOS – Monday 4th March
CROSS COUNTRY – Friday 22nd March
TERM 1 INVOICES DUE – Friday 22nd March

INCLUDED IN THIS LETTER:

- Beaumont Photography Order Form
- Biloela Visual Arts - Basket Workshop Flyer
- Bus Tags for Yr P-3