2013 PRINCIPAL’S CONFERENCE SUMMARY

The Principal’s conference focused on three key messages last week. These were:

1) State schools continue to be at the forefront of improving student outcomes, with Queensland in particular having the highest gains in student achievement over the past 2 years when compared to all other states.

2) In order to remain successful, schools must embed well researched and established teaching practices. As mentioned before the conference, Prospect Creek State School is embedding Explicit Teaching as a part of its everyday lessons. This framework utilises the “I do, We do, You do” lesson format emphasising a gradual release of responsibility to the student.

3) That community involvement is a key indicator as to whether or not a school-based program will succeed or fail.

What does this mean for Prospect Creek State School?

1) That the students of Prospect Creek State School are receiving an extremely high quality education which is founded on well researched practices and that the quality of education will continue to improve.

2) That the contribution of the community to the students’ wellbeing and overall education cannot be underrated. In fact, it was highlighted at the conference that the school itself accounts for 20% of a student’s wellbeing, while the community contributes the remaining 80%.

Having been surrounded by so many inspiring principals over the 2 days has left me incredibly enthused about Prospect Creek State School’s current and future projects. Whether it’s through a treat kitchen, becoming a member of our P&C, helping with swimming, or supporting your child’s learning through reading and homework, I invite you to continue to be involved in our school community because it’s incredibly clear that, without you, we cannot function as well as we do.

THANK YOU TO THE STAFF AND FAMILIES DURING WEEK 5

Thank you to the staff and families who dealt extremely well with our second round of flooding last week. Our motto during these times is to ensure the safety of the students and, thanks to everybody’s cooperation, we were able to get everybody safe and sound. Thank to Mr Couchman for the terrific job he did as Acting Principal in my absence.

TREAT KITCHEN

Thank you to Trudy Tappin, Rechelle Rowe, and Sally Neve, for their efforts in successfully running this week’s treat kitchen. Remember that running a treat kitchen is easy, fun, and rewarding for both the school and the students! Please call our treat kitchen co-ordinator, Sally Neve, on 0477 048 609 to find out how you can get involved!

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.

2013 SCHOOL LEADERS

Due to the flooding and school closure, the process for deciding the 2013 School Captain and House Captains will be put back a week. Eligible students in Yrs 6 & 7 will begin to write their persuasive speeches next week. Here is the revised timeline of expected events leading to the announcement of our 2013 school leaders:

Week 6—Eligible students write, edit, and review their speeches.
Wed, March 13, 9am—Students deliver speeches
Thu, March 14—Formal interview held
Mon, March 18—School leaders announced on parade.

28.

SCHOOL PHOTOS THIS MONDAY

Miss Emma Smith will be taking our school photos on Monday, March 11 at 9am. Students are reminded to wear their full school uniform with the latest style shirt if they have it.

TERM 1 INVOICES—DUE FRIDAY, MARCH 22.

Term 1 invoices were sent home with last week’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.

FUN RUN

The annual fun run is being held once again this year on the last day of term (March 28). This is a great opportunity to raise money for the school for sports equipment and resources as well and earn prizes along the way. Sponsorship brochures and money need to be returned to the school by Thursday, March 21.

Sincerely,
Gregg Savage
This week we have been learning how to write short stories in literacy. The 6/7’s have been working on their speeches for school captain and house captain. Also we have planted our beans in the garden that we have been growing for the past 4 or 5 weeks. We have been doing a new strategy called SISTER spelling to help us remember our spelling words.

Hi Parents. Another busy week this week in the P-2 room. Lots of counting & writing in all year levels.

MAGAZINES—We would like to ask for donations of any old (appropriate) magazines that the children could cut up to use for classroom activities. If you have any used appropriate magazines that you are finished with, please send them in with your child. Thank you.

JUNK CONSTRUCTION—We are also asking for donations of “Junk” items. We have included a list of items that you may like to collect for us. Thank you for your support.

- Cereal Boxes, Small boxes, Buttons, Magazines, wool, beads, bottles, cardboard rolls (not toilet rolls), material/felt scraps, bottle caps, old cards, curling ribbon, cotton reels, egg cartons, lace off-cuts, ribbon, sequins, wrapping paper, plastic, coloured/patterned paper or cardboard (Eg scrapbooking offcuts)

***Any other items that you think may be useful***

2013 SCHOOL CALENDER

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

!!Happy Birthday!!

GRACE STRINGER

8TH MARCH
Congratulations to our Students of the Week!

Staff Members of PCSS for keeping the kids safe & helping them learn during week 5.

Tom Neve from P-2 for his hard work during spelling.

Well done everyone!

DONATIONS

We are currently looking for some donations of Hay, to use in our garden bed. 2 Bails should do the job. If anyone can help out—please contact the school. Many thanks from P.C.S.S.

A BIG Thank you to everyone who helped participate in the Woolworths “EARN AND LEARN” program. We have claimed a large amount of prizes that will benefit the School and our children.
DATES TO REMEMBER

- SWIMMING — Every Friday — 1pm
- SCHOOL PHOTOS — Monday 11th March
- CROSS COUNTRY — Friday 22nd March
- TERM 1 INVOICES DUE — Friday 22nd March

INCLUDED IN THIS LETTER:

- TENNIS FLYER
- TENNIS PERMISSION FORM
- ANGLICARE FLYER
- Biloela Little Athletics Flyer