Dear Carers and Parents,

You may have heard in the news that the school will be receiving additional funding through the Great Results Guarantee. This is an exciting time for schools as we hone in on what really makes a difference to improving student learning outcomes. I have collaborated with other principals and regional personnel to discuss research-based strategies which we can implement in our small school setting. As I have conducted research I have come across some alarming pieces of information, highlighting the needs for students to engage in reading every night.

DID YOU KNOW?

Students who do not read outside of school: The amount of time spent reading and the amount read are important. For example, a student who reads 21 minutes per day outside of school reads almost 2 million words per year. A student who reads less than a minute per day outside of school reads only 8,000 to 21,000 words per year.

As a result of this research, I have decided to start a homework club. Each Tuesday and Thursday morning, I will be available in my classroom to support students in completing their homework. Students can read on the cushions in our class library, complete literacy or numeracy activities while getting support and extra guidance. This is an optional activity if students would like to receive some extra help between 8:15 and 8:55. It would be great if students could bring along an extra piece of fruit to enable a brain break before the school day begins.

Thank you for patience with the cancellation of swimming this week. We look forward to picking up from where we left off next week.

Cross Country is creeping up. Students have been training on the oval but we would like to start getting students used to the track. If you can spare half an hour after dropping your child off next Friday, we would really appreciate some assistance around the track. We will run the track if we have enough parent helpers.

Next week Mr Couchman will return but we would like to thank Lisa Tansey for her hard work and commitment to keeping routines going and students focused while Chris has been away. We look forward to seeing you at Prospect Creek again soon.

Sincerely,

Jo Northey

GREAT RESULTS GUARANTEE

As you know, our school will be receiving additional funding from the Great Results Guarantee and we need to decide how we can use this money to better support our students and improve their outcomes.

We are now working to develop our own Great Results Guarantee with evidence-based strategies and actions to improve literacy and numeracy.

Read more about the guarantee at www.education.qld.gov.au/resultsguarantee.

The guarantee will be discussed at our P&C meeting on Tuesday so please come along and discuss how we can best support our students to improve learning outcomes.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

For those students who participate in Religious Education, it will resume on Monday 24th February. The year 3-7 students will participate from 12:30-1:00pm and the year 1 and 2 students will participate from 1:00-1:30pm. The time change is to ensure our morning sessions are focused with literacy and numeracy instruction.

TREAT KITCHEN

For those of you who are unaware, we rely on our fabulous volunteers to provide Treat Kitchen for our students. If you are able to donate your time (even if it is cooking a meal the night before) we would love to hear from you!

SUPPORT A READER

Thank you to Liz Norman who is overseeing the Support a Reader program this year. Students involved in the program made excellent progress so if you can spare an hour then we would like to hear from you! Thank you to those parents who have already expressed an interest in helping. We do require more. Please contact the school ASAP if you can help out with listening to a few children read one afternoon a week. This is a great program and a great way to become involved in the school.

BUS MEETING AND P&C AGM

A reminder that there will be a bus meeting followed by our P&C AGM and meeting on Tuesday 18th February. The bus meeting will take place from 6:30pm, due to drivers needing to return from bus runs, with the P&C AGM following at 7pm. The P&C is a great way for you to become more involved in the school. We look forward to hitting the ground running and are hoping to see as many parents at these meetings as possible.
What a busy week we have had with many disruptions, but we have got through it. Well done guys!

Apologies to those families struggling with the Mathletics program at home. I have been in contact with the company and they are getting back to me with some possible solutions. Apparently we aren’t the only school with these issues. For those who have access to the internet and have been able to access the program, activities are opened based on classroom learning. Log in details are pasted into the front of students homework books so this is a fun way to consolidate their skills.

Throughout the week we have been focusing our writing on using different words to describe emotions, encouraging the students to use other words other than sad, happy and replacing them with words like upset and thrilled, to build on their vocabulary knowledge. We have continued on in Maths looking at place value, number lines and writing numbers in words. Fish were the topic for science as we compared features of them to ourselves. Then we talked about and watched a presentation on different families in history, even had a laugh at Mrs Tansey’s photo of her as a baby. Just wanted to say a very big Thank-you for having me over the last couple of weeks and we will say hello again to Mr Couchman who returns on Monday.
STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Cameron Muller—Working hard and taking risks
Lyndon Urquhart—Consistent effort

UNIFORMS

We have all sizes of school shirts available in the office. Sizes are as followed:
Size 6, 8, 10, 12, 14,
Adult XS & Sml

We also have school hats available in sizes S, M and L

WHY IS READING AT HOME EVERY NIGHT IMPORTANT?

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JOSH JACKSON & GRACE STRINGER RECEIVE THEIR PEN LICENSE.

SCHOOL BANKING

We are registering for school banking with Commonwealth Bank. If you would like your child/ren to get involved, you will need to go into the Commonwealth Bank branch with your child’s birth certificate and open an account. Younger siblings can also join up. Then the account will get attached to our school banking. It is a good fundraiser for the school as we earn a commission based on the amount our students save, and a very worthwhile habit to start.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Chappy Selma
14 February

Commonwealth Bank
DATES TO REMEMBER

Swimming—Every Friday 1:30–2:30pm
Mr. Couchman Returns from Leave—Mon 17th February
Bus meeting—Tuesday 18th February
P&C AGM—Tuesday 18th February
Mrs. Jordan’s last day—Friday 7th March
Cross Country—Friday 14th March
Anti-Bullying Day—Friday 21st March
Parent Teacher interviews—Monday 31st March—Thurs 3rd April
(more information to come in regards to parent teacher interviews)
Last Day of Term 1—Friday 4th April
First Day of Term 2—Tuesday 22nd April
School Photo’s—Thursday 1st May

INCLUDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

• Quiz Night Poster
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