Dear Carers and Parents,

I have been so proud of the attendance of students this year. Three weeks in a row we have hit our 95% target and absences are being notified to the school. Last week we dropped a little but I am confident we will pick it back up again. It is great to see the school and community working together to ensure all students have maximum opportunity to improve student learning outcomes.

Last week I attended the Principal Business Meeting for Gladstone schools. We were fortunate enough to have our Regional Director Paul Wood attend the meeting, who emphasised the region’s Key Accountabilities. These are:

1. **Great Results Guarantee.** This is well underway with Liz and myself attending an oral language PD today. We look forward to working with key personnel to develop an explicit program for our school context.

2. **Explicit Instruction.** We have had one visit from our Pedagogy Coach who conducted observations, feedback and coaching for all teaching staff. Our coach facilitated a writing PD and we look forward to her next visit on Monday 17th March.

3. **Curriculum.** We have in place our spelling, reading and writing programs which are taught explicitly in both classes. We are utilising the C2C as a resource to implement the Australian Curriculum.

4. **Planning Reviewing and Reporting.** Next week we will be discussing data in our staff meeting and reviewing goals and targets. An opportunity will be provided at the end of the term to discuss progress with your child’s teacher.

5. **Teaching and Learning Audit.** This will take place for our school on June 23rd.

6. **NAPLAN Response.** NAPLAN 2013 has been and will continue to be analysed to drive students improvement. A response to NAPLAN 2014 will occur when we receive the results in September.

7. **Closing the Gap.** Thank you to the parents volunteering to be on the Biloela Indigenous Advisory Group. I look forward to collaborating with other schools to complement our EATSPS program. Keep your eye out for NAIDOC activities coming up later this year.

8. **Junior Secondary.** This is a priority with Year 6 and 7 students moving to High School next year. Watch this space for opportunities for our senior students to become involved in activities to support this transition.

9. **Developing Performance Framework.** Plans are in place for all teaching staff to complete this process this term. This is an ongoing review to target Professional Development and ensure research based pedagogy is occurring in classrooms daily.

10. **Disability Standards for Education.** I will undergo some online modules prior to the Regional Principal Conference in May. A full day workshop will be hosted by QSL to support our journey.

11. **Collaboration.** Collaboration amongst staff is prioritised in staff meetings and Non Contact Time. Principals within our cluster are meeting on a termly basis to ensure the Key Accountabilities remain priorities and create and share documents.

**SENIOR SHIRTS**

This week students took home a note to order senior shirts. I have attached to this newsletter a slip indicating whether you have purchased or intend to purchase a shirt and also the size. A reminder that money is to be paid no later than Friday 21st March.

**CROSS COUNTRY**

A reminder that next Friday 14th March is our Annual Cross Country carnival. This will take place at 9am. We welcome parents to attend this event as all students will be participating. We also require parent helpers to supervise the track. Thank you again to those parents who have been doing this for training. We are hoping to have a Treat Kitchen following the run so if you are able to help out with either cooking, serving or both, then please contact the school.

**ANTI BULLYING DAY**

On Friday 21st March the school will be participating in Anti Bullying Day. Students are able to wear casual clothes on this day and participate in a shared morning tea. Please bring something to share on this day.

**PROSSIE CREEK IS GOING PURPLE**

On Wednesday 26th March we will be participating in Purple Day for Epilepsy. Students are able to wear purple on this day for a gold coin donation. Thank you to Trudy Tappin for registering our school for this worthy cause.

**POSITIONS VACANT**

We will have some Teacher Aide hours become available next term. An official advertisement will be included in the newsletter next week.
**BATTERY DRIVE**

The P&C is in the process of organising a battery run however, we require a drop off or several where batteries can be stored for a short period of time. If you can help out or have an idea please contact the school. Please see the attached flyer and distribute to your local contacts. This has been an extremely successful fundraiser for other schools and organisations. We thank you in advance for your support.

**FUNDRAISING**

We have hit the ground running with fundraising this year with 3 spots being booked at Woolworths this term. A cake stall will be held on Thursday 27th March and a raffle will be held on Monday 31st March and Wednesday 2nd April. These events were run last year and were very successful fundraisers. We will be requiring donations of cakes/ biscuits/ sweets for the cake stall and Easter donations for a hamper to raffle off. We will also be seeking support with volunteers to man the stalls on these days. Please mark these days in your diaries if you are able to spare an hour or two.

**PARENT READING WORKSHOP**

I will be facilitating a reading workshop on Wednesday 26th March at 3:30pm. The session should take no more than 2 hours and is a great way to learn how to support your child with reading and comprehending texts at home. Reading is important and the only way to improve is to read more! Please RSVP (for materials) by Wednesday 19th March.

**OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS**

It is great to see so many of our families volunteering their time to help out with teaching and learning programs at school. A reminder that we will have an afternoon tea for our volunteers on Wednesday 2nd April. All our volunteers and families are welcome. This is an opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support. Through our recent audit process, I was reminded that while members of the P&C sign a Code of Conduct agreement at the AGM, not all volunteers have this information. Please see the attached fact sheet for an outline of our confidentiality and code of conduct agreements. I will take you through this during our afternoon tea as well as some other mandatory information.

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**3-7 News...**

Well done to those students who are completing their homework regularly. Don’t forget, homework club is available if you run out of time or you need some extra help.

This week we have been learning about tightening tension in our stories to help build suspense. Tension is everywhere. Reality TV, movies, books, even some ads create tension. Keep your eye out!

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**P-2 News...**

Our pumpkin experiment has worked!!! We currently have 5 growing strong and 1 poor nibbled one. The kids are really excited to see the growth each day and are enjoying looking after them. Fingers crossed we can make pumpkin soup one treat kitchen in the future!

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**School Attendance Term 1**

![School Attendance Graph]

TARGET—95%
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Grace Stringer—8th March

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Kahu Norman—For being a great class leader.
Quaid Blyton—Excellent work in the classroom.

WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student A Reads</th>
<th>Student B Reads</th>
<th>Student C Reads</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20 minutes per day.</td>
<td>5 minutes per day.</td>
<td>1 minute per day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,600 minutes per school year.</td>
<td>900 minutes per school year.</td>
<td>180 minutes per school year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,600,000 words per year.</td>
<td>282,000 words per year.</td>
<td>8,000 words per year.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scores in the 90th percentile on standardized tests.
Scores in the 50th percentile on standardized tests.
Scores in the 10th percentile on standardized tests.

If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3.

WORKING BEE

We have noticed a few odd jobs need to be done around the school. Unfortunately we don’t have the resources within the school to complete so we are hoping you might be able to spare a couple of hours on Sunday 16th March to help. A few things that spring to mind are:

- Maintenance of the snake repellents
- Trimming of trees (Thanks to Gavin for volunteering to do this)
- Sand raked and weeded
- Guttering on sheds and buildings
- Blowing out the sheds
- Cobwebs around the playground and general garden maintenance.
- Removing garden near P-2 classroom (ready for a vege garden!)

The school would like to thank you for your ongoing support and contributions to make Prospect Creek a happy and safe place for our students!

SWIMMER OF THE WEEK

FRASER BLYTON
DATES TO REMEMBER

- Swimming — Every Friday 1:30 – 2:30pm
- Mrs. Jordan’s last day — Friday 7th March
- Anzac Club Raffles — Friday 7th March
- P & C Meeting — Tuesday 11th March
- Cross Country — Friday 14th March
- Anti-Bullying Day — Friday 21st March
- Parent Reader Workshop — Wednesday 26th 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
- PCSS Sports Day — Friday 30th May

INCLUDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

- Parent Statements
- Little Athletics Sign on
- P&C Battery Drive
- Volunteer Code of Conduct
- Anglo American iPad donation
- Senior Shirt Order/sizing