Hi Parents,

Thank you to Ali and Paul Natoli who helped me with the raffles at ANZAC Memorial Club last Friday. This is an easy fundraiser so please keep your eye out for the next one. Thank you also to Trudy Tappin and Karen Donald who sold surplus cakes and jams from the Market Day at the shopping centre on Monday.

This week Chris and I travelled to Rockhampton to visit three schools that are recognised throughout the region as having a strong literacy focus, utilising high impact teaching strategies.

STUDY TOUR

Glenmore SS is a large school making headlines with their literacy and numeracy improvement. We visited a Year 3 class and spoke with the principal, Christine Hills. A non-negotiable 2 hour literacy block is evident in every classroom with warm ups and explicit teaching of key concepts and skills, mapped out by the curriculum team. We thank Glenmore SS for sharing this valuable resource with us.

Byfield SS is a small school with the same class make up as Prospect Creek. We spent time in the P-2 classroom where Jo Shephard took us through her curriculum plan and resources. This was a great opportunity to share expertise and resources. Fitzroy Readers are a large component of their reading program, consolidating Consonant Vowel Consonant word skills.

Bajool SS is an Explicit Instruction lighthouse school for Band 5 schools. Again, consisting of a P-2 and a 3-7 classroom. We spent time in both classrooms and again, shared and gathered information about best practice. We have brought back with us a swag of ideas, resources and contacts which we look forward to utilising to enhance student outcomes at our school.

We thank the three schools for welcoming us into their schools and being willing to share with us their thoughts on maximising student improvement.

We also saw some fabulous scarecrows at the schools we visited. So, we are looking for donations of pots, old metal buckets, any old gardening equipment (not sharp) that we could utilise to create our own Prossie scarecrow. Also, if there are any creative parents out there, wanting to help us with this, we would be very grateful!

Students participated in a Life Education visit this week. Unfortunately there was no van but we still enjoyed the sessions. This was funded through our RREAP cluster.

On Tuesday we held our September P&C meeting. Thank you again to our P&C representatives who attend these meetings. It was great to debrief after the market day and suggest ways that we could make it even better next year. We also discussed the school’s Quadrennial School Review. This is in the process of being signed off and our four-year School Plan has been started to reflect this. Thank you to those families who provided feedback to the school.

While we are always encouraging students to attend school every day, we do understand that at times children get sick. The last couple of weeks have seen many students come down with an illness and this is an acceptable absence from school. Thank you to all families for continuing to keep us updated on your child’s health. This allows us to stay informed of their wellbeing and keep our rolls up to date.

SEAT VISIT

We have a visit from the Spinal Education Awareness Team next Thursday afternoon. They will be coming to talk to both classes about preventing spinal injuries. This is a highly interactive and engaging session. Families are more than welcome to attend.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING JUNIOR SECONDARY 2015

Monday 15th September 2:00-6:00pm. Parents are invited to the high school for enrolment interviews for both year 7 and year 8 in 2015. No appointment necessary, just turn up with your completed paperwork, including a birth certificate. This is the final day of the scheduled interview allocations.

Wednesday 17th September - Year 6 into 7 Transition Day at Biloela State High School from 9:00am to 2:50pm. Students are required to make their own way to and from the high school. Please note, this is a clash with our Interschool Netball Carnival. This is unfortunate but can’t be helped. It is important that students attend the Transition Day.

Thursday 18th September - Year 7 into 8 Transition Day at Biloela State High School from 9:00am to 2:50pm. Students are required to make their own way to and from the high school.

For further information, please contact the high school on 4992 8666.

INTERSCHOOL NETBALL CARNIVAL

Our Year 3,4,5 and 7 students are preparing for the Netball Carnival next week. Katherine Terwin and I will be supervising. Students are to make their own way to the netball courts. Thank you to Trudy Tappin who has helped out with netball training at lunchtimes prior to the event. The Netball Carnival is always a great day; students get the opportunity to mix with other schools while having fun playing sport. The day is usually hot so remember your hats please.

TERM 4 SWIMMING

Don’t forget swimming money and permission forms are needed back at school this term. We start swimming Monday of week 2 (due to the public holiday in week 1). All money will be required upfront. Please remember to reference your surname when paying via direct deposit or bring the correct money into the school office on Monday, Wednesday or Friday. Invoices which included Term 4 swimming were sent home last week. Please finalise payment as soon as possible.
We had a great visit by the local Fire Brigade a couple of weeks ago. They would like, as a follow up, for you to fill out a quick questionnaire on fire preparedness at your home. It would be a good excuse to go through again with your kids what they should do at your house if there is ever a fire. Please fill it out over the weekend if possible and send it back next week. I'll then pack them up and send them into the station.

The station is also having an open day next Saturday 20th September from 9.00—3.00. It looks like a fun outing for the kids.

Students are working on poetry at the moment and I do hope all the fathers enjoyed their poem on Sunday. A couple more examples for you this week:

**Softer than a Puddy Cat**

*by Shakira Johnson*

Softer than a Puddy Cat,
Softer than a wonderful bear,
Softer than a fluffy mat,
Or wonderful clear knitted wear,
Softer than a cute kitten,
Or a super slimy green frog,
Softer than fluffy mittens,
That’s as soft as my brown puppy dog.

**Softer than Sand Between your Toes**

*by Jock Youles*

Softer than sand between your toes,
Softer than hundreds of ducks,
Softer than a baby boy’s nose,
Or lots of brown gully muck.
Softer than a green parrot sings,
Softer than balls of yarn,
Softer than a grey furry thing,
Or a hay-filled yellow barn.
Softer than a washed pink blanket,
Softer than lots of mittens,
Softer than old Mrs Kranket,
That’s how soft my cat treats kittens.

**Smellier than a Rotten Prawn**

*by Kahu Norman*

Smellier than a rotten prawn,
Smellier than mouldy cheese,
Smellier than fertilized lawn,
Or disgusting minted peas.
Smellier than your father’s rug,
Or a dozen creepy dogs.
Smellier than a dozen grubs,
That’s as smelly as my stinky togs.
STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Ayda Labuschewski — Working hard to improve her writing
Grace Stringer — Continually displaying persistence in class

Dear Parents and Community,
You are cordially invited to attend Jenny Bauer’s farewell afternoon tea.

Day: Monday 15th September
Time: 2.30pm
Location: Prospect Creek State School
Please bring a plate to help us farewell Jenny.

School Attendance Term 3

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TARGET — 95%

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Nicholas—8th Sept
Jock—15th
Mackinlay—18th
DATES TO REMEMBER

Life Education — Friday 12th September
High School enrolment interviews for 2015 Yr 7 & Yr 8 intake — Monday 15th September 2.00pm — 6.00pm
Jenny Bauer Farewell — Monday 15th September 2.30pm
Year 6 into Year 7 Transition Day at Biloela State High School — Wednesday 17th September 9.00am — 2.50pm
Biloela Interschool Netball Carnival — Wednesday 17th September 9.00 am at Magavalis Sports Club
Year 7 into Year 8 Transition Day at Biloela State High School — Thursday 18th September 9.00am — 2.50pm
Last day of Term Three — Friday 19th September
First day of Term Four — Tuesday 7th October
School swimming starts — Monday 13th October
School camp meeting — Wednesday 15th October 3.30pm
Gazetted Student Free Day — Monday 20th October

INCLUDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER:
• Treat Kitchen form
• Arts and Craft Market Day Flyer
• Biloela Fire and Rescue Station Open Day
• QLD Fire and Rescue questionaire
• PACE Newsletter