Dear Parents,

What a wonderful start to the year we have had with so many smiling faces ready to begin the new school year. It was great to see so many of our parents attend parade on Tuesday morning. Thank you for staying parents. Parades will normally take place on Monday morning at 8:45am. You are always very welcome to attend.

Congratulations to our school leaders:
Kahu Norman – School Leader 2015
Ezekiel Jackson – Grevillea House Captain 2015

The Koombit House Captain is still open with a new enrolment hoping to win the position. He will present his speech at parade on Monday February 16.

Thank you to you all for ensuring your child/ren were ready and prepared to start school. Students were well equipped with their book list items ready to hit the ground running!

We have a few changes of staff this year. Jodie Cleave was unable to return to Prospect Creek in 2015 and so Jacinta Phillips will be replacing her until our enrolment collection (Day 8) on Thursday February 5. Final teacher aide hours will be given to us on this date and arrangements for the remainder of the 2015 school year will then be made. Patrice Baird has accepted a teaching position 2 days per week. Patrice will be delivering Learning Support (extension), History (Years 3-6), Science (Years 3-6) and The Arts (Years P-6) on Wednesdays and Thursdays. We would like to offer a warm welcome Jacinta and Patrice to our staff. In the office, Leisa Jordan has extended her leave until March 2016. We are fortunate enough to extend Robyn Matheson’s contract for this position to this time. Congratulations Robyn.

Chappy Selma continues as our Chaplain for 2015. She will be at Prospect Creek on Mondays. We will indulge in our Chappy Breakfast on Monday mornings before parade.

Keep your eye out for important dates to remember. We have Cross Country creeping up and training will soon start in the mornings when students arrive at school. To begin with, training will occur around the school oval only. We will require parent volunteers to assist with training through the cross country track closer to the event and on the big day please. At this stage, training will take place on Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:15-9:00. Some students will prefer to play sports with their friends before school and this is ok also. Training is optional for those students wishing to increase their fitness before the event on Friday March 13. At this stage, the Small Schools Cross Country will be hosted here at Prospect Creek on Friday March 27.

Bus meeting and P&C AGM
There will be a bus meeting followed by our P&C AGM and meeting on Tuesday February 10. The bus meeting is for parents who have children travelling to and from school by bus and will take place from 6:00pm with the P&C AGM to follow at 7pm. At our first P&C meeting, some of the items we will be discussing are the small schools sports rotations and the Years 3-6 camp indicative costs and fundraising. The P&C is a great way for you to become more involved in the school and have a say in your child/ren’s education. We look forward to seeing as many of our parents at this meeting as possible.

Swimming
Thank you to those families who were prompt with returning permission notes for swimming. We are now set up to receive payment. Please ensure your swimming bill is paid promptly. All money is due by Friday February 13. If you are collecting your child/ren from the pool, please do so by 2:45pm. Any child not collected will return to school on the bus. Thank you to our helpers! We have on board Kelly, Trudy, Kylie and Emma. We really appreciate your assistance in ensuring our students benefit from small groupings in the pool.

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!

Smoking banned up to 5 metres around school grounds
Smoking any tobacco products or using an electronic cigarette within five metres of any state or private school grounds has been banned. This applies before, during and after school hours as well as over weekends and school holidays.

On the spot fines can be issued by environmental health officers, police or other officers authorised by the local government to anyone found in breach of this legislation. The ban does not extend to businesses or residences that share a property boundary with a school.

Smokers are asked to put out their cigarette and dispose of the litter thoughtfully well before reaching the school boundary. Please visit this website for more information:


Forms to sign
Every year there are forms that the school requires parents to update and sign. Please find attached the Contact Details form. An updated Contact Details form is vital so that the office has all current phone numbers and emergency contacts. Please read and complete this form and return to school as soon as possible.

Parent meeting
With a new year comes some new changes. To explain these changes a parent meeting will take place on Wednesday February 12 at 3:30pm. All parents are encouraged to attend. Some of the items on the agenda will be timetables, homework, social media, ICT agreement, curriculum and expectations. An official agenda will be sent home with the newsletter next week.

Prospect Creek State School acknowledges the Gangulu People, the traditional owners of the land on which this school stands.

From the Principal...
Hi All,

What a fantastic start to the year we have had this year. I have been so impressed with the way students have returned to school and our Year 3 students are already part of the furniture!

This year we are going to be teaching the Traits of Writing. This is a structured approach to teaching and assessing writing. Students will be setting writing goals and will be sharing these with you in a few weeks. We will continue to publish examples of students writing in the newsletter and samples will be displayed in the library. Explicit lessons will be taught using the 6 +1 Traits. These are ideas, organisation, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, conventions and the +1 Trait is presentation. Next week we will start with ‘Finding a Topic’.

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Hi All,

What a great start to the year! Really great to see so many parents on the first day. Both the kids and I have had a blast this first week.

Homework is starting next week. The homework grid should be pretty self-explanatory. If you have any troubles understanding it, please don’t hesitate to send in a note or pop in to see me. I am sending home some laminated flash cards with the Preps. They just need to be cut up.

I might sound like a broken record. I can’t emphasise enough how important reading every night and learning sight words are. I am getting the kids to write them in a homework book this year, so I can monitor it better.

See you all in a couple of weeks for the parent information afternoon.

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Community Resource Centre (CRC)

The CRC is excited to advise there is an outreach paediatrician who will be available in Biloela in 2015! Please see this link for further information:

Dr Tran will see patients by Skype initially, and follow up face to face at clinics four times a year (if there is a need for that). He can see children with a range of medical and developmental issues, and he is passionate about working collaboratively with other medical or allied health services in the area.

Referrals from a GP are essential. For further information, please contact:

Paediatric Outreach Services Queensland

Info@outreachqld.com.au
P: 3188 5253
F: 3041 4771

www.outreachqld.com.au

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Like us on Facebook

Part of our Community Engagement and Partnerships strategy is to continue keeping our community engaged and informed with school happenings. While we have our website (which is continually updated) and our QSchools app (which is available on android and apple devices), we believe we could still engage with our community further. Prospect Creek State School also has a Facebook page which you can ‘like’ and have news feeds come through on your personal wall:

https://www.facebook.com/pages/Prospect-Creek-State-School/704250269613200

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Stay in touch with the QSchools app

Families can keep up-to-date with the latest information from our school through the QSchools app. It’s an easy way to find vital school information including events and newsletters.

The QSchools app now allows for push notifications to deliver essential information directly to your device, including emergency alerts and important updates.

Find out more on the DETE apps page:


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HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Mikalah Wormington—16th Dec
Nicholas Steger—1st Jan
Jordan Tappin—3rd Jan
Hayden Urquhart—12th Jan
Ezekiel Jackson—23rd Jan

Kahu Norman — School Leader
Ezekiel Jackson — Grevillea House Captain
DATES TO REMEMBER

Bus Meeting – Tuesday 10th Feb 6.00pm
P&C AGM and Meeting – Tuesday 10th Feb 7.00pm
Parent Meeting Prep – Year 6 – Thursday 12th Feb 3.15pm
Cross Country – Friday 13th March

Biloela Anzac Memorial Club Raffles – Friday 13th Feb
Biloela Anzac Memorial Club Raffles – Friday 24th April
Biloela Anzac Memorial Club Raffles – Friday 8th May

INCLUDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

- Book club
- PCYC Before & After School Care flyer
- Lunch box safety fact sheet
- Contact details form

Callide United Soccer Club sign on