Hi Parents

We have hit the ground running this term with lessons underway in preparation for final assessments and reporting. Mrs Baird has also started preparing a play to present at the end of year BBQ. Students will be required to dress in character, but this has been kept simplistic. A list of what clothing is required is attached to the newsletter.

A reminder that strong attendance is essential for students to consolidate learning and transfer knowledge. When students miss a day here and there it may not seem like much, but it adds up. Personalised attendance letters from Term 3 were sent home last week. If you would like to discuss this, please contact the school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If your child misses ...</th>
<th>That equals ...</th>
<th>Which is ...</th>
<th>And over 13 years of schooling that’s ...</th>
<th>Which means ...</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 day a fortnight 90% attendance</td>
<td>20 days a year</td>
<td>4 weeks a year</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in Year 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 day a week 80% attendance</td>
<td>40 days a year</td>
<td>8 weeks a year</td>
<td>Over 2.5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in Year 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 days a week 60% attendance</td>
<td>80 days a year</td>
<td>16 weeks a year</td>
<td>Over 5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in Year 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 days a week 40% attendance</td>
<td>120 Days a year</td>
<td>24 weeks a year</td>
<td>Nearly 8 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in Year 4</td>
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Don’t forget school finishes at 3:15pm and we require parents who are picking up students to be prompt. We utilise our time after school for meetings and sometimes we need to travel to Biloela and Thangool. Having students left behind means we are often late to attend these meetings. Your assistance in being prompt is appreciated.

Prospect Creek State School acknowledges the Gangulu People, the traditional owners of the land on which the school stands.
P-2 NEWS

In P-2 this week we have been learning about fractions. We had great discussions exploring the use of fractions in everyday life. Students were eager to share their prior knowledge in this area with examples such as pizza, cakes and chocolates seemed to dominate.

We also did a lot of hands on activities to consolidate our learning. In writing Year 2s are still doing persuasives and the focus for the week was ‘forming an opinion’ and thinking about the audience.

The P/1 are exploring characters and have been reading different texts to identify characters.

Our Geography unit is going well and this week we looked at ‘Connection to country’ and we learned about Indigenous art symbols and their meanings. It’s been a very enjoyable week with lots of learning.

Attached to this week’s newsletter is a parent survey and we are asking all parents of our P-2 students to complete this and return to school by next Wednesday.

SWIMMING

Swimming went well (apart from the freezing water) last week and thank you to those parents who braved the swimming pool. I can assure you that the pool is not normally that cold and we look forward to your continued support. There has been a significant increase to our swimming costs this term, which has not been passed on to families. Due to this price increase, the logistics of our swimming program next year and beyond will need to be discussed. This discussion will take place at our next P&C meeting. If you would like input into how swimming is run at our school, please mark Tuesday 10 November at 3:30pm in your diaries. The decision for swimming in 2016 will be made after this meeting and any changes will be communicated to all families through the newsletter.

MONDAY PARADE / CHAPPY BREAKFAST

Don’t forget our parades occur every Monday at 8:45am (after Chappy Breakfast). This is a wonderful way for us to start the week as a school and celebrate student achievements. Parents are notified if their child is receiving a ‘Student of the Week’ award. This award is given to students who have worked well in class and who have earned it – this is certainly something to celebrate! All parents are invited to share Chappy Breakfast with us and stay for parade.

P&C BBQ

The P&C BBQ will take place on Friday 4 December at 5:30pm. Santa will be visiting Prospect Creek and he likes to bring all children attending a book. Please keep your eye out for any appropriate books (there are some great specials in the current issue of bookclub) to help Santa out.

CANBERRA EXCURSION 2016

It is almost time that we will ask for confirmation of numbers for our Canberra camp in 2016. I am still waiting to hear back from the Educatours with a price but they have indicated it should be around the $1500 per child (less fundraising) depending on flights. At a previous P&C, we had a small number of parents who agreed to help with fundraising. If you are unable to make P&C and are willing to help with camp fundraising, please contact me so I can add you to the list. Our first meeting will take place next Wednesday after school. We will go through our ideas and start nutting these out. I will send out an email to every family in the 3-6 class after this meeting to inform you of fundraising ideas and what jobs will need to be done. The only way we are going to raise enough money to cut down the cost of camp is if every family helps. We thank you for your support with this.

I will soon ask for a $100 deposit to confirm your child’s place in this camp. This will be due by the end of the year and will enable me to pay a deposit with Educatours and to start looking at flights. This excursion is going to be filled with experiences many of our students will not have had – snow, aeroplanes, Parliament House etc. It will also be another opportunity for students to mix with their peers in our cluster of small schools. Keep your eye out for future updates in the newsletter!

I sent a text message around to families asking for your help with some baking this week and I really appreciate those families who were able to assist. The Art and Craft Market is a wonderful way to start raising funds for camp. Students spent some time today decorating these cupcakes and making Christmas Cards to sell at the markets. Thank you to Emma Corfield, Trudy Tappin and Linda Marxsen who came in to help with the craft rotations.

If you are able to help on the day, even for a short time, please contact the school so we can put together a roster.
Today we were busy getting ready for the art and craft markets. If you have any candles, glitter glue pens, hessian ribbon, Christmas ribbon at home, we would appreciate you bringing those in. This will help with further Christmas goodies we can make to sell.

This week in English we have had a sight word spelling focus. Many of our students are still spelling sight words incorrectly in their everyday writing. We have also been working on features of Procedural texts. Students should be able to read a recipe to help with cooking now and be able to identify the action verb to start each step.

In Maths we are working on Number. Times tables have been required to solve problems this week so it is time to start revising these at home. Year 3 should know their 2, 3, 4 and 5 times tables while Year 4 should know all their tables. Maths will start to be a challenge for students who do not practise these. Students having success with their times tables have been practising these multiple times throughout the week. Saying them in the car, in the shower, writing them in the steam on the mirror after a shower, using chalk on the cement, using cards and multiplying numbers together are all suggestions. Times table posters on the back of the toilet door is another good idea. This issue of book club has a times table poster for $1. I have offered to add this to my order if students bring in their $1 on Monday.

Attached to this week’s newsletter is a parent survey and we are asking all parents of our P-2 students to complete this and return to school by next Wednesday.

3-6 NEWS

Cooper — Being an enthusiastic learner and doing an excellent job in Maths this week. Go Cooper!

Fraser — Working hard to craft well written texts by improving the word choice in his writing.

SPORTS SHIRTS / P&C SHIRTS

At the P&C Meeting yesterday, our school sports uniform was discussed. It was agreed that we organise school sports shirts, with the school emblem and house name. This will help tidy up our sports uniform.

We will start organising quotes and designs and will bring this to our next P&C meeting.

We aim to order P&C shirts by the end of the year. If you would like to order a shirt for P&C, please contact the office.

CHAPPY CHAT

Because of the Public Holiday this is my first week back at Prossie – and I’m greeted by a new toaster! Yay! The kids were able to have heaps of toast for their first Chappy Breakfast as I can make 8 at a time now. Thankyou to the Norman family JJ for this. I’ve enjoyed hearing all the holiday stories from the students – it’s so good to hear about families spending quality time together. Our children aren’t young for long (I know – mine’s 24 and a long way away!) so it’s great to enjoy them while you can.

I’m sure you all know I’m passionate about helping children learn effective social and emotional skills to enable them to navigate successfully through life, no matter what circumstances are thrown at them. If you’re also passionate about the social/emotional development of your children, check out this really helpful website, it has lots of information and tips for families. It’s put together by the Australian Psychological Society, Beyond Blue, the Dept of Health and Ageing and the Principal’s Association, so it’s all backed up by some pretty solid research! https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/families.

Bye for now – Chappy Selma

School Attendance Term 4, 2015

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Dates to Remember

Pupil free day—Monday 19 October
Mobile library visit—Tuesday 20 October
World Teachers Day—Friday 30 October
Day for Daniel—Friday 30 October

Biloela Anzac raffles—Friday 6 November
Powers Investments Swim Meet—Wednesday 25 November

Prior to Prep last day—Wednesday 2 December
P&C BBQ—Friday 4 December
Reports sent home—Friday 4 December
Last day of term 4—Friday 11 December

Happy Birthday

Corby Wormington—17 October