



ALPHA STATE SCHOOL WEEKLY WATCH 2014

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Website: www.alphass.eq.edu.au

4 March 2014

Issue 3

From the Principal's Desk...

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Lexia reading and Maths Symphony e-learning are running strongly in our learning programs. These programs facilitate filling 'potholes' in a child's learning journey to ensure all the foundations are solid to extend your child. Students are encouraged to access these programs before school and for homework as well. Lexia does have a restriction currently on maximum students at any one time. Therefore, students may need to try at different times to get onto the program at home. This should be rectified with an update to the program by the end of this term. These programs support/compliment reading students have to do at home for 15 minutes a night.

Thanks to parents for the 100% support for uniform and hats for our students. Students are already wearing the uniform every day and sports/rep uniforms on Friday.

P & C Executive for 2014

President	Ben Standerwick
Vice President	Stephen McGrath
Treasurer	Heidi Howard
Secretaries	Cathy Goodwin and Alannah Allen
QCPCA Rep	Linda Sellers
Tuckshop	Anne McGuire
Uniforms	Samantha Stansfield
RREAP	Chanelle Goodwin

I am looking forward to another great year working with our P & C.

Curriculum

Our teachers are collating weekly data information on five areas in literacy and numeracy to measure each students improvement and master learning before moving on. The five areas are

- ◆ Numeracy
- ◆ Reading
- ◆ Writing
- ◆ Spelling
- ◆ Grammar/punctuation

This is where attendance becomes vital because every minute counts in learning at school. Teachers are committed to making sure your child is learning and welcome any discussion with you about your child's progress.

Behaviour expectations

The Student Council have been taking on their role with gusto and helping out in all aspects of school life. Students are encouraged to look to their student council for help, guidance and positive playground relationships.

Within our 'No Drama' mantra we promote students acting calmly and in a considered way. The overwhelming response from nearly all students all the time makes for a noticeable positive difference to the school environment.

Students who disrupt learning time will be 'buddied' to another class. Time is valuable and every minute counts in learning.

Students can still turn it around the next lesson and have overall, a great day at school.

The school contact details are:

Phone: 4987 0888

Pete Stansfield email: pstan24@eq.edu.au

Pete Stansfield mobile: 0419 982 413

School mobile: 0517 100 274

Kind regards

Pete Stansfield

A bite of our fortnight in P/1

When children pretend, they're using their imaginations to move beyond the bounds of reality. A stick can be a magic wand. A sock can be a puppet. A small child can be a superhero" - Fred Rogers.

The students in Prep and One have had a very busy, challenging and enjoyable start to the term. We have had fun completing morning activities on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The activities so far have included sight word practice (read it/make it/trace it), number making, play dough, painting, writing, dress ups, pretend play and craft. On Tuesday and Thursday mornings the P-4 students read with a helper or their Mum and Dad. Morning reading has been a great way for the Prep/One students to practise, consolidate and improve their decoding and comprehension abilities in a fun and relaxed environment. I would like to thank the students from the 5/6 classroom and all of our fantastic parents for all of their support and help during morning reading.

The Math and English C2C is progressing well and we are now ready to begin Unit Two in each subject. The Year One students have been working on their spoken presentations for English in the recent weeks and they did a great job last Friday of presenting them. They were required to write in paragraphs and had to respond to a picture book about the emotions and feelings of the character. In English, the Preps have been learning about signs, symbols and sequencing. They read a book called "Dougal and Bumble and the Long Walk Home" and then they created their own story, a big book, called "Bear, Whale and the Journey Home from the Circus". If you are ever in the P/1 classroom the students would love to show you what they created.

As a way of tracking student's progress in P/1, we are using a **weekly data cycle**. Each week, the P/1 students are tested on their knowledge of learned sounds, spelling, numeracy, sight words, grammar and punctuation and samples are also taken of their writing. From a teaching

perspective, this is a very effective tool as it allows us to track the improvement and need for intervention and extension of each student on almost a daily basis. These assessments are low key, often completed as part of a lesson and are not stressful in any way for the students. At the end of Term One, I will be sending home a copy of student's results to their parents. From the beginning of Term Two, I will be sending updates home weekly in student's KIT books. If you have any questions about this process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Weekly Reminders:

- ◆ Homework is due in each Friday – Don't forget to bring your readers in!
- ◆ Homework Club is every Tuesday from 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm
- ◆ P/1 PE is Wednesday from 2.00 pm-3.00 pm. Students may wear their sport uniform.
- ◆ Morning Reading is on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

We hope you have a wonderful week! ☺

From Miss Priddle & the Prep/1's

YEAR 2/3/4 CLASS BITS

We have had a great start to the school year in the 2, 3, 4 classroom so far. The 2, 3, 4's are having no issues following our school routine, and often join us early on Tuesday and Thursdays for reading club in the Prep/1 room.

In Maths so far, we have learnt about time, multiplication, word problems, and are currently working on fractions, while in English, we are currently working on our own chapters for the narrative "The Twits." In Science we have moved on to animal habitats and natural influences to these habitats. Finally, in Geography we are now learning about using co-ordinates and scales with maps, to help us plot locations.

Homework club has been running on Tuesday afternoons each week, from 3:05 until 4:00, with afternoon tea provided. Don't forget, that if your child needs help to complete their homework, this is a perfect opportunity for them to receive that help, and have their homework completed on time. A reminder that homework is due each Friday, and will then be sent home for the following week. Please also remember to bring reading folders as soon as they are

finished, so that they can be swapped with new readers for your child.

Have a great week!
From Miss Wilson & the 2,3,4's.

High School Hi-Jinx

Well can you believe that half of the term has gone by? I suppose you could say that we have been so busy in class that time is flying.

It has been a very pleasing start to the term with all students behaviour being positive in class. The students themselves have high expectations and are working industriously during lessons to complete all the set tasks.

Students are in the midst of completing mid-term assessment in English and soon Science. We are also busy learning about algebra and are having some success in grasping the new concepts. Weekly writing to a stimulus topic is starting to have real impact on the quality of our writing.

Students are finding it easier to plan their writing and include the essential 5 (spelling, punctuation, vocabulary, sentence structure and paragraphing) to their writing. We will continue to complete writing tasks each Friday looking at both Narratives and Persuasive writing.

Students are again reminded that if homework is not set for a given night they are to visit the Reading Lexia or Maths Symphony websites. I have been told that the YR 9-10 students are showing the most improvement in these programs, which is extremely satisfying to me as a teacher. ☺

Have a fabulous week!
Mrs Rogers

Arty Treats

Students in years 2-8 are charging along with their paintings. They are using colour mixing techniques and other art elements such as form, shape and space to create artworks that tell a story or convey a message showing mood, feelings and emotion. I am regularly amazed and impressed at what students come up with. A special congratulations to the 7/8 class who

have accepted their challenge of addressing important global issues through art head-on. They impressed me with their depth of knowledge on a range of significant global issues, and continue to impress me with the thought and skill that goes into their work each week.

The Prep/1 class have been looking at how we use pictures to help tell stories and show emotions, and will begin experimenting with warm and cool colour schemes this week.

Feel free to pop in to the art room after school and have a look at the works-in-progress!

Miss Gray

CATHOLIC CHURCH NEWS:

Parents of Catholic children who are 8 or older and wish their child to begin preparation for their first Communion, please contact **Trish Mahon on 4985 1332** as soon as possible.

Emerald and District Athletics Association Inc

2014 Season Sign-On

Sunday March 16

2.00 pm-3.30 pm

Club House - Marist College Oval

Athletes 5 yrs and over Welcome

Sign on \$85 per Athlete

Birth Certificates are required for new registrations only

Season commences Sunday, March 23rd

Come and Try/Coaching Day

2.00 pm (5-12yrs)

3.00 pm (13 yrs - Masters)

For more information, contact Wayne Gakowski 49820746

Mob 0411 717477

Volunteer Drivers Needed Urgently

Meals on Wheels

If you have 1/2 hour spare once a month, we need you. We are looking for Volunteers to deliver meals. It doesn't take long and the recipients are very grateful when they receive their meal and they enjoy having a little chat also.

All you have to do is contact us at the HACCC office 4985 1304 and we will help you go through the necessary procedures.

**Thank you
Donna & Merlene**



Footy Season Begins 6 March 14

Who is going to win the Comp this Year???

Come on join the Footy Tipping Competition for 2014

Alpha Merchandise is coordinating the tipping competition for 2014.

If you are interested in becoming one of the tipsters please call Alpha Merchandise on 07 49 851123 to register your place.

The cost is \$60 per person which needs to be paid before the start of tipping.

First Game is on the Thursday 6th March 2014

More details will be available in the next two weeks



**The Greatest
Game of All**



Alpha Police Station

19 Milton Street

Alpha Q 4724

Ph. (07) 4985 1200

It has been fantastic to see some decent rain falling in the local area and hopefully there will be more good rain to follow.

National Heavy Vehicle Work Diaries

The new National Heavy Work Diaries are now available for purchase from the Police Station. These new diaries have been updated to comply with the new legislation. The new diaries cost \$20.00.

Flooded Roads

Following the recent heavy rain, several roads and highways in the local area were closed due to flooding. If there are "Road Closed" signs and barricades across the roadway blocking access, you cannot proceed past these barriers. The only exceptions are to local traffic who reside beyond the barriers and then only to gain access to their residence or if you have obtained permission from a council foreman or the police. If you drive around the barricades for any other reason you will receive a \$660.00 on the spot fine. Basically, this means that you cannot go past the barriers to go sight-seeing or to check the roadway yourself. As part of the road safety campaign, drivers are advised not to cross flooded roads. Pedestrians should also not cross flooded roads for their own safety as well. This warning is in every weather warning issued by the Bureau of Meteorology as well. Unfortunately, drivers and pedestrians regularly drown in such scenarios due to their own stupidity, impatience and/or complacency.

Mobile Phones

Using a handheld mobile phone (including texting) while driving a motor vehicle incurs a fine of \$330.00 and the loss of 3 demerit points.

The Alpha Police Station counter hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays between 8.00am and 12.00pm when possible. **There will always be exceptions to this such as emergency callouts, training and other operational policing demands.**

Take care

Mick Lingard & Jason Robertson

**IF A CRIME'S HAPPENING
RIGHT NOW, CALL
TRIPLE ZERO (000).**

**IF NOT, THINK
POLICELINK.
CALL 131 444.**



IAAF KIDS ATHLETICS COACHING COURSE

COURSE CONTENT: includes modified kid's games, introduction into athletics events, basics on training and development and organising athletics competitions

When: 29 – 30 MARCH 2014 (2 days)

Where: MARIST COLLEGE OVAL EMERALD QLD

Cost: **Free** – Funded by the Queensland Government through the 'Get Going' program

Catering: Emerald & District Athletics will provide smoko



**Queensland
Government**

A colorful graphic for a Kids Athletics Competition. It features stylized figures of a child in mid-air, a child running, and a child holding a javelin. The background is a blue and yellow globe. The text 'KIDS ATHLETICS COMPETITION' is written vertically on the right side. Below the graphic, there is text about the event.

**KIDS ATHLETICS
COMPETITION**

Emerald Athletics Club will be conducting a Kids Athletics Competition on Sunday 30 March

Modified Kids Athletics

Ages 4 -12

And it is **FREE** !!

Come along and have some **FUN**

Held at
Marist College Oval
between 2pm to 4pm

The IAAF Kids' Athletics logo, featuring a stylized figure of a child in mid-air, jumping over a red and yellow curved shape. Below the figure, the text 'IAAF' is written in large, bold, black letters, and 'Kids' Athletics' is written in a smaller, blue font below it.

IAAF
Kids' Athletics

The Marist College Kids' Athletics logo, featuring a stylized figure of a child in mid-air, jumping over a red and yellow curved shape. Below the figure, the text 'Marist College Kids' Athletics' is written in a smaller, blue font below it.

Marist College Kids' Athletics

The Marist College logo, featuring a stylized figure of a child in mid-air, jumping over a red and yellow curved shape. Below the figure, the text 'Marist College' is written in a smaller, blue font below it.

Marist College



**IAAF KIDS' ATHLETICS COACHING COURSE
29-30 MARCH 2014
EMERALD, QUEENSLAND**

An International Association of Athletics Federation (IAAF) Lecturer will be holding an IAAF Kids Athletics Coaching Course in Emerald on the 29-30 March 2014. This is a full two day course.

IAAF Kids' Athletics is one of the biggest grassroots development programmes in the world of sports. Created in 2005, the programme by the end of 2011 had reached a cumulative audience of 1.5 million kids across 100 territories. It aims to ensure a steady and sustainable policy of development of the sport of Athletics.

Participants of the course will learn about modified kid's athletics games, introduction into athletics events, basics on training and development principles, and organisation of kid's athletics competitions.

This coaching course is open to teenagers-adults that have an interest in coaching athletics.

It is recommended that participants complete the Beginning Coaching General Principles before participating in this course.

<https://learning.ausport.gov.au/jportal/Courses/tabid/62/Default.aspx> . Please note qualified teachers don't need to do this.

This is a great opportunity for clubs, coaches, teachers and athletes to get accredited in the North Queensland region as a Kids Athletics Coach.

The cost the course will be \$40.00 per person. To register for the course, please fill in the following details:

Name:

Club/ School:

Address: Postcode:

Email:

Date of Birth

Beginning Coaching General Principles Number (if you have one)

RETURN
Dayne O'Hara
Email: dayne_ohara@norfolk.net.nf
Mobile: 04 4810 3333
ABN: 6057 0773 393