



ALPHA STATE SCHOOL WEEKLY WATCH 2014

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2 September 2014

Issue 13

From the Principal's Desk...

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Parent/Teacher interviews are on Wednesday night

- ✦ 4-5 pm Open Classrooms
- ✦ 5-7 pm Closed Classrooms appointment for 10 minute appointments with teacher

Chappy on BBQ

Parent and student volunteers in the BER building as per note for organisation

Congratulations to Kate and Dan for getting in the 'Take the Lead' one week intensive leadership course. This is a state-wide competitive entry course and reflects their effort and ability in the class and the leadership skills they have developed.

This week is Teacher Support week where we celebrate the contributions of our support staff and value their contribution. Please thank a support staff member when you run into them around the school this week. This Friday is also Teacher Aide's Day!

Report cards will be issued by Thursday the last week of term. Final date for the day the reports to be sent home will be advised.

Curriculum and the classroom

I would like to give a brief dot point of each person's role within our school

Annalise – 5/6 teacher, inclusive educator coordinator, and project for maths fluency

Anne – Cleaner, tuckshop volunteer

Alycce – 2, 3, and 4 teacher

Bernie – Human Resources, Teacher Aide in charge of Lexia and IPAD technology

Chanelle – Senior teacher, Jnr Secondary Coordinator and Indigenous officer

Chappy (Tony Dodge) – Chaplain for the school and community

Dan – 7/8 and 9/10 history teacher and Prep/1/2 teacher at Jericho

David Roach – My direct boss and Assistant Regional Director within Central West

Gemma Thorpe – Alpha State School's critical friend who provides an educational expert's objective view to our school

Hannah – HPE, Sport Coordinator and intervention teacher – Jnr Secondary

Henry – Facilities at the school and all round master of things that need to be fixed, thankfully

Jan – Teacher Aide for Prep/1/2/3/4 and intervention one-on-one

Jo L – Call in Aide across the school

Kate – Prep/1, Whole Brian Teaching across P-10, and explicit instruction

Kerryn – Arts P-10, manual arts and intervention P-6

Leisa – Business Service Manager, WH & S, Tech support, administration and facilities, within the AO role.

Penny – Curriculum Coordinator, explicit instruction, planning P-10 and 9/10 teacher

Pete – Principal and responsibility for the daily operations and strategic direction of the school.

Rod – Capability coach for the Central West and within that role for Alpha SS

Shannae – Prep Aide and performance and

practice officer

Shelby – Prep Aide

Sharon – Cleaner across the school

All staff have negotiated multi-faceted roles at the school and the scope of each person's role extends into many areas. Thanks to my staff for their dedication to their job and being a cohesive and high performing team.

Behaviour expectations

We have started touch football up for this term. In my parent email I wrote about what the students need to do to keep it going.

Behaviour in general is of a really high standard and I am confident that for the remaining three weeks of term students will continue the high standard already set.

Thanks for taking the time to read our newsletter. Please see me for any issues or great news stories.

The school contact details are

Phone: 4987 0888

Pete's email: pstan24@eq.edu.au

Pete Stansfield mobile: 0419 982 413

School mobile: 0427 158 456

Kind regards

Pete Stansfield

When can my child attend kindergarten?

	2 0 1 5	2 0 1 6	2 0 1 7	2 0 1 8
Child Born				
1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011	✓			
1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012		✓		
1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013			✓	
1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014				✓

A bite of our fortnight in P/1

"No one should teach who is not in love with teaching." ~ Margaret E. Sangster

I always say it around this time of the term, but it is hard to believe that we only have 2 and a half weeks left of school! The days, weeks and months may have flown by, but the Prep One's certainly have made the most of their learning time. Everyone has worked really hard in the classroom and many students are regularly completing work (with ease) that is above their grade level. How exciting!! We have set high expectations in the Prep One room and our little learners continually accept the challenge every day that they walk through those classroom doors. It is very rewarding to see, very clearly their enthusiasm for knowledge and love of learning. I don't think there are many other Prep One classrooms who can tell you many of the scientific names of the human bones, recall some past Prime Ministers or rattle off the Periodic Table. These guys amaze me every day and I love being their teacher.

Reading Lexia has helped to boost our student's results in reading and I am pleased with everyone's progress. I will be testing students on the PM benchmark in Week 10 and I expect that we will again see some movement in our reading levels. Our goal is to have some Preps reading on a Level 12 or higher by the end of Term 4 and we are certainly on track to achieve this.

I am very excited to have been accepted into the "Take the Lead" program where I will be learning about the ins and outs of the role of a Teaching Principal. I will be in Stanthorpe during Week 9 and Miss Lois Marshall will be taking the Prep One Class while I am away.

Don't forget that the Parent Teacher Interviews will be held this week on Wednesday night. I will be catching up with every parent this time, so if you can't make it on the Wednesday please see me to organise an alternative. I very much look forward to meeting with you regarding your child's progress.

Have a great Week Eight ☺
From Miss Priddle
& the Prep One's

Year 2/3/4 Kapers

Behaviour

All of the students in the 2/3/4 classroom have been having a great week behaviourally.

In class

We have continued our History this term learning about Anzac Day. In Health and Technology we are beginning our healthy living assessment tasks. In Maths this fortnight we will be completing an assessment task for those in year 2 and year 4. In English we are up to creating a powerpoint presentation to accompany our oral presentations. Currently most students have finished the oral part of their presentation, and will soon be bringing a copy home to practice. They will be presenting their oral tasks next week, in week 9. Next week we will

also be beginning our Science and History assessment. For this semester, the student's technology assessment is the powerpoint presentation that accompanies their English presentation.

Homework

So far this term, homework is going well. Remember, homework club will be run on Mondays only. If your child is attending homework club, please pack them some afternoon tea to share with homework club.

Parent teacher interview notes have all been sent home, please return these as soon as possible (if you haven't already), so that we can make an appointment to discuss how your child is going. The interviews are running this Wednesday from 5 pm. I have contacted most of those parents whose notes have been returned. If you are unsure of your interview time, please email me and I'll reply with your time. If you do not wish to make an interview, I will be in contact with you over the phone.

In other news, 2/3/4 Wanpa-rda Camp notes have been sent home on Friday. If your child is attending, please return these forms as soon as possible.

I hope to speak to you soon,

Alycce Wilson,
2/3/4 Teacher

Year 5/6 Reporting Live

Congratulations to Catie Rogers, Ryan White, Brooke Mohi, Corey Rogers and Kailum McGrath who received awards on parade for week 6 or 7. Keep up the fabulous work!

In science the students will be conducting an assessment exploring reflection. For this assessment the students will need small cardboard boxes (about shoe size). If you have any, could you please send them into school with your child? Thank you.

Just a friendly reminder that homework is due every Friday.

Have a splendid fortnight.
Miss Gulliver.

SEVEN/EIGHTS

Well here we are and it's already Week 8. Don't forget about Parent Teacher interviews this week. I look forward to catching up with each and every one of you and discussing your child/ren. You can come and have a talk to me or you lucky things you get a phone call from me – either way we get to talk. ☺ A bit of trivia about Hawaii – Did you know that there are 137 islands which make up the Hawaiian Islands and that they move an inch further north each year. The actual island of Hawaii, also known as the Big Island, is the largest of Hawaii's main islands and it continues to grow each year as a result of the volcano which has been erupting continuously for 31 years.

So what are we doing in our classes this week? In English we are concentrating on revising persuasive texts in our lead-up to this unit's assessment. The Year 7s have to persuade me one way or the other as to whether Ned Kelly is a hero, a victim or a villain. In Maths the Year 7s will be looking at the order of operations, fractions, decimals, percentages and parallelograms (just a big word for a quadrilateral). In Year 8 English the girls and I will be analysing character profiles and looking at ethical issues. Their assessment for this unit will be to write a persuasive blog which expresses a character's viewpoint on ethical issues. This unit continues looking at Noah and Saskia – the two characters that were in the television series from the last unit of work. In Maths the girls will be looking at ratios, graphs, time zones and plotting points on a Cartesian plane. Please remember that each night your child should be doing at least 20 mins of Lexia, learning their spelling, doing some reading (a novel) and if they don't know them learning their times tables.

Keep smiling. ☺
Mrs Goodwin

LOST PROPERTY

If families are missing lunch boxes and coats, please check at the office for these items. They need to be collected by the end of term.

Arty Treats

I can hardly believe week 8 is upon us already. Most of the music classes (Prep – 8) are busy finishing up their assessment tasks for the unit (and doing a spectacular

job!). We will be starting next term's Dance units a little early, as soon as the Music units are wrapped up. This is because term 4 is always a busy term, and with camps and other end-of-year activities/ events, there tends to be more disruptions to classes.

In the Dance units this year students will be exploring bush dances and progressive partner dances. This will be a bit of a learning curve for me too, and I'll be enlisting Miss Clarke and Mrs Goodwin as helpers (they don't know this yet), as I hear they both have some experience with this dance genre!

I hope you all enjoy a productive few weeks as we close in on the holidays. ☺

Miss Gray

NORTH-WEST TOUCH U/12 GIRLS NEWS

Congratulations to Giaan Green who recently competed at the U/12 Touch State Championships in Mackay. Giaan did a tremendous job of captaining the North West Team over the four days.

Miss Clarke



FIRST AID NEWS

The First Aid full course and CPR Refresher will be held at Alpha State School BER building on Saturday, 11 October (to be confirmed) commencing at 8.00 am.



Alpha Police Station
19 Milton St.,
Alpha Q 4724

Ph. 4985 1200

Policelink App - A new Policelink App has just been released to the community through both the App Store (Apple devices) and Google Play (Android devices). The app can be used to contact Triple Zero, Policelink and SES. The app also includes access to social media, a rolling news screen, access on online reporting crime mapping and other Government services and much more. There are 20 online reporting options and which now include online noisy party reporting, track-my-crime, stolen property updates and supplementary information and withdrawal of complaint forms. You can get the Policelink App by searching for "Policelink" within the App Store or Google Play, or here (using a QR code reading on your smartphone):

For Apple:



Android:



Windows:



Wandering Stock on Roadways – If you are encounter wandering stock on any of the major roads in the area that are fenced, the local council (i.e. Barcaldine Regional Council) is the authority responsible for dealing with the matter. They have an obligation under the Local Government Act to attend and deal with the matter under their local laws. Or, being locals, you may know the property owner/manager responsible and a friendly phone call may be all that is needed to deal with the problem yourself. But this does not negate the responsibility of the driver to remain vigilant and drive with due care and attention at all times on our roads, especially at night time. Wandering stock are not the only hazards on our rural roads – roos, pigs, dogs and other motorists can all pose a risk to the unwary driver.

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 and other operational policing demands.** We try to adhere to these times as strictly as possible but incidents occur which are beyond our control and this then impacts on these scheduled counter days.

Take care
Mick Lingard & Jason Robertson.