



ALPHA STATE SCHOOL WEEKLY WATCH 2016

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Issue 15

From the Principal's Desk...

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It is hard to believe that we are on the homeward stretch for 2016. With only 8 weeks to go, even less for some of our students, we have much work to fit into this short amount of time.

Please remind your children to remain focussed on their schooling and really strive to build on the marks they received for Term 3. It is also important to remind them to keep their behaviour in check. It would be a shame if the last few weeks of school were marred with negative behaviours or issues.

I have a few notices below. Please take the time to read.

School Opinion Survey data

The SOS data is available for us to review and over the coming weeks and months we as a staff and school community will review this data in an effort to improve on the results of 2016. Thank you to those parents who took the time to give feedback. Keep an eye out for how you can give feedback to the school.

Purpose of OneSchool

It has come to my attention that there may be some misunderstanding as to what we use OneSchool for in the school. The system has many and varied capabilities, and it is constantly getting updated and new capabilities released. Apart from the mandatory reporting associated with Student Protection, there is no part of OneSchool that reports on parents. All staff are encouraged to record contacts with parents on OneSchool as a record that they took place or if any future provisions need to be made. If you have any questions about OneSchool and what we use it for at Alpha, please direct these queries to me.

Leaving school to collect lunches/ swimming clothes

It has come to my attention, that students are leaving the designated eating/play areas to collect lunches from parents/carers outside of school. This is both a dangerous and non-endorsed practice. As always, if a parent needs to deliver something to a student, they need to sign in at the office or leave the item at the office. Students will not be permitted to leave the school grounds to collect lunch or any other item they have forgotten and parents need to enter the school grounds via the office. As the gates are not supervised during the day, it is imperative that the practice of leaving supervised areas to collect items from parents, stops.

NAPLAN Online Trial

Thank you to all our wonderful students in Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 who participated in the NAPLAN online trial early last term. The data from this is available to schools, and we will spend some time going over this during staff meetings and planning days.

It is important to remember that the trial was designed to test the assessment platform as well as school, student and jurisdictional readiness, the test questions used were for familiarisation only. Results reported in the data are not an indication of academic achievement. The purpose of the Student and School Summary Reports is to allow Pilot schools an opportunity to interact with the new online reporting capability and to give an indication of student engagement with the platform. The trial questions and results do not align with the breadth and depth of actual NAPLAN tests. As a result, the reports you receive from trial will be different from the reports to be provided from 2017.

From 2017, the NAPLAN Online reports will include:

- Descriptions of the skills assessed by each question with links to sample items.

- Student scale scores that align with the current NAPLAN scale (displayed both graphically and numerically).
- Student performance by question or by content classification to diagnose areas of strength and weakness.
- Australian Curriculum references.

Implementing the Australian Curriculum

From Term 1, 2017 Queensland state schools can take a new flexible approach to implementing the Australian Curriculum. Revised Curriculum into the Classroom (C2C) resources will be available from Term 1, 2017. Schools are required to implement Version 8 of the Australian Curriculum by the end of 2020.

Disability Review and online survey has been extended

The Queensland Disability Review has been extended, giving parents, carers and students more time to have their say to ensure a world-class inclusive education is available to all students enrolled in Queensland state schools. The online survey (www.education.qld.gov.au/schools/disability/qld-disability-review.html) will now close on 14 October.

Did you know?

The laws in Queensland are changing and from 2017 it is compulsory for all children to undertake a full-time Prep Year, before they can begin Year 1. Find out more at the Education website (www.education.qld.gov.au/parents/find-school/enrolling.html).

Kidding about for drought DVD

Booyal Central State School students have created a joke DVD to cheer up and raise funds for drought-stricken farmers in Western Queensland. All proceeds go directly to the Public Rural Crisis Fund. Find out more at the Booyal Bunyips website.

New report on Queensland State Schools now available

Did you know that all Queensland state schools are reviewed by the Department of Education and Training every four years?

The reviews are undertaken by the department's School Improvement Unit (SIU) and are a great way for schools to get quality, independent feedback on what they're doing well and where they can improve.

The SIU recently published its first annual report, which is a comprehensive analysis of the 369 school reviews it conducted last year.

The report found that Queensland State Schools are doing some great work, including the commitment of staff, positive learning environments, care and concern for students, and a strong focus on improving literacy and numeracy achievement.

A short animated video highlighting the key findings from the report is available online. To watch the video or to read the report, visit the School Reviews website (www.schoolreviews.eq.edu.au).

Calling all budding artists

Students from Prep to Year 12 have until 28 October to enter the annual QTU Peace Awards. The awards encourage and promote the peaceful resolution of conflict and this year's theme is 'Peace and justice at school and beyond'.

Prep Interviews and transition days

We are going to Jellybeans on Wednesday to conduct Prep interviews for 2017 with the Kindy students. If you know of anyone who is planning on attending Prep in 2017, but does not attend Jellybeans, please let them know we have enrolment packs at school which we can send out. At this stage, it looks like we will have 3 new Prep students next year. We will also have a few Kindy transition days over the next 8 weeks whereby the new Prep students will join Miss Wilson's class at various times of the day, to give them a sense of what school is like. If you see them, please make them feel welcome.

Instrumental Music for Week 2

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:15 – 8:45			<u>Violin</u> Hannah Anna Catie Erin	<u>Violin</u> Claire Alyce Kailum Clay	<u>Cello</u> Anna
1:30 – 2:00		No Choir as Mrs Goodwin and Mrs Koina are away	<u>Violin</u> Matty Sophie Tahlia	<u>Recorder</u> Year 2 - 9	

- ✦ I am away Monday and Tuesday of Week 2
- ✦ I have arranged these times so there are no clashes with getting ready for swimming

Date Claimers

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
2	10 Staff Meeting 3:15 pm Work Experience (Chanelle away – Penny to take 7/8s) Vanessa at Peer Reviewer Training	11 IMPACT 9 – 10 Vanessa at Peer Reviewer training	12 HOSES visit LOTE teacher visit Life Education	13	14	15 First Aid	16
3	17 Pupil Free Day Penny SRES	18 IMPACT 9 - 10 Penny RAIS	19 Penny RAIS Kindy transition - 11 - 1 Vanessa SKLV	20 Penny RAIS Chappy PD	21 Penny RAIS	22	23
4	24 Leadership Team Meeting 2 pm GO visit	25 IMPACT 9 – 10 PBL visit – staff meeting change 3:15 pm	26	27 DISCO	28 Day for Daniel	29	30

PUPIL FREE DAY

Next Monday, 17 October, is a Pupil Free Day and therefore, students are not to come to school on that day.

Have a great fortnight.
Vanessa Koina

Year 2/3 Bulletin

Welcome to Term 4! I hope you all had a refreshing break with your children. I have provided an outline of the learning content and assessments for this term.

Maths:

Students will be learning about shape symmetry, shape movement (e.g. flip, turn and slide), patterns, angles, rounding and estimating with numbers. Revision on time, money and math sums will also be a focus.

English:

Students will be learning how to plan and write a variety of procedures this term. They will also learn how to create multimodal procedures on the computers. We will continue to have literacy sessions on reading comprehension, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, vocabulary and oral language.

Science:

We will be learning all about heat! Students will learn how to work as a small team to conduct different investigations to do with heat.

History:

This term students will explore a significant site in Alpha. They will pose questions, answer questions and write a historical narrative about this significant site.

Assessment:

Maths: Weekly multiplication and mental maths assessment (Friday). Term Test in Week 6.

English: Weekly sight words, spelling and English skills test (Friday). Reading test in Week 4. Term Test Week 5 and 6.

Science: Term Test in Week 5 and 6.

History: Term Test in Week 4 and 5.

This term we will also have the Swimming Carnival, Day for Daniel, Disco and Speech Night. Have a wonderful week!

Miss Tess Grogan
2/3 Teacher

GUIDANCE OFFICER NEWS

Hello everyone and welcome back for Term 4.

This week we are looking at the importance of consistency and developing self-esteem in our children as advised by Andrew Fuller (Fellow of the Department of Psychiatry and the Department of Learning and Educational Development at the University of Melbourne (<http://andrewfuller.com.au/>) from his 10 Resilience Hints for Families publication.

No. 7 Consistency

Consistency is the ideal. Having parents who agree on rules and standards and who convey the same sorts of messages and who value compassion over coercion, clearly has the best outcome in terms of children's well-being. It is also important that parents not be open to manipulation and work together as a team.

Life however is not always so simple and we all know from experience that parents cannot always be consistent. Sometimes parents have different value systems or can't come to a consistent way to handle particular areas. In these situations, a second possibility is to for one parent to take charge of a particular area. This is not the most desirable solution but it is better than having parents in conflict over management issues or worse, undermining one another. In single parent families or where parents are separated the same principle applies.

No. 8 Teach the skills of Self-esteem

Families that work well seem to praise one another a lot. Compliments are made, positive efforts are commented on. Optimism is in the air.

Teaching the skills of self-praise is useful. One way of doing this is to ask questions extensively about any achievement or accomplishment. Asking questions like "How did you do that?", "How come you did so well at that test?" "What did you do?" all support the development of positive self-esteem.

Regards,
Marietta Sedgwick
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Meals on Wheels
Queensland

Meals on Wheels

Volunteer Driver's

needed urgently.

It will only take about 15-20 minutes one day a month to make all the difference to the recipients.

If you think you can help us out please ring me at the CHSP office on 4985 1304.