



ALPHA STATE SCHOOL WEEKLY WATCH 2014

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Website: www.alphass.eq.edu.au

18 March 2014

Issue 4

From the Principal's Desk...

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Lots of good news and reports from staff about behaviour and engagement of students in class and at playtime. This is an ongoing positive for 2014 and benefits student academic achievement and their learning environment.

The end of term is quickly coming upon us. Students will bring home in the last week of school an interim report card. There won't be comments as this report is a progress report with an A-E for academic, behaviour and effort. Parent/teacher interviews will be early in term 2. More information to be sent home with students and put on our facebook page.

Curriculum

Real gains are being made by students in their weekly writing task set by teachers to measurably improve their writing skills. Weekly testing in five areas of numeracy and literacy allows staff to identify gaps and give students a chance to ensure they are mastering new learning before moving on.

Bookwork will be the focus as I walk around classes in week 8. For the most part our students take exceptional care in their bookwork. Bookwork being such an important part of effective communication we take it seriously at the school. Students will be asked to improve their bookwork if there is room for improvement and to re-write tasks when they have not made the best effort to write neatly.

Behaviour expectations

Students are really doing well as a cohort in respect to behaviour currently. When incidents

do arise students are taking the steps to put positive plans in place to avoid further issues and are really keen to put perspective on each situation that helps events from becoming significant issues.

I would like to recognise parents' integral role in helping us with students having a positive frame of mind about school and working through any issues in a very constructive way. Thank you for your help in the goals kicked so far in 2014.

That wraps up my newsletter for this fortnight with our fantastic students really make it all about them in a great way!

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

High School Hi-Jinx

It has been a big fortnight in the Year 9-10 classroom, both in terms of learning and birthdays. All three Year 9 girls celebrated turning 14 (3 days in a row- what are the odds?) Thanks to Miss Jo for making the best cupcakes and bringing them in for us to share.

We have been having explosive cooking sessions in HEC and the Man Arts group are really shaping up with their skateboards (inside joke). We have changed practical lessons to Wednesday for the next few weeks to catch up on some missed time. The reasoning for this is that some of the class are involved in Project 600 (an online reading course) aimed at moving the students who are good readers to become great readers.

Student's weekly data in literacy and numeracy is on the up. They are becoming great spellers and incorporating this into their writing tasks. We have been working through numeracy problem looking at how to solve those more challenging problems. I am very pleased with my students' enthusiasm and engagement with Reading Lexia. Mrs Ruthenberg has reported to me that the Year 9-10 students are always keen to go to class and have spent time at home completing levels. We have the most progress in achieving movement through the levels compared to the rest of the classes. Keep up the great effort students.

Have an incredible week! (why did I select an instead of a?- Ask your child)

Mrs Rogers ☺



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.

LEXIA CORE 5 NEWS

Parents, if you're trying to download Lexia Core 5 on to your ipad the app won't work at the moment as the app has to be changed over to adobe air to allow it to work at the Apple Istore. I will let you know when it is available for you to download on your Ipad.

Thanks
Mrs Ruthenberg

DON'T FORGET:

**P & C Meeting
Special Meeting**

**TODAY, TUESDAY,
18 MARCH**

**COMMENCING AT
5.00 PM**

**AT THE SCHOOL
LIBRARY**

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**

2014 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence

Our school is taking a stand against bullying and violence in 2014.

Our school has registered to be part of the 2014 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence, being held nationwide on Friday, 21 March.

The National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence (National Day of Action) is Australia's key anti-bullying event for schools. It's a day where school communities across Australia 'take a stand together' against bullying and violence.

Alpha State School is dedicated to creating supportive school environments, free from bullying, harassment and violence. By working together we are sending a clear message to young people that bullying and violence, in or outside of school, are not okay at any time.



The National Day of Action is an initiative of all Australian education ministers and is coordinated by the Safe and Supportive School Communities (SSSC) Working Group, with representatives from all Australian educational authorities.

The SSSC is also responsible for the [Bullying. No Way! website](http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au) which offers practical resources and information to help schools, parents and students counter bullying, harassment and violence.

Also available on the site is the Take a Stand iPhone app, to keep tips and advice on dealing with bullying close at hand, as well as The Allen Adventure iPad app, designed for children under 8 years.

Download these free apps now in the Student's section of www.bullyingnoway.gov.au

Students are allowed to wear orange clothing, bows etc to celebrate the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence on Friday, 21 March 2014. Please remember that students still need to wear closed in shoes and appropriate clothing for school.

Every child has a good day every day. | Every child matters every day.



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.

Alpha State School Values - Respect, Responsibility, Honesty



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



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





**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