



# ALPHA STATE SCHOOL WEEKLY WATCH 2017

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**Issue 13**

## *From the Principal's Desk...*

Dear Parents and Friends,

Welcome to Week 6! It is shaping up to be another full on term with lots of activities happening and teaching and learning well under way. Some classes have upcoming assessments in the next few weeks and I ask that students attend school each day in order to continue learning. I also ask that you remind your children about the schools expectations and values of Respect, Responsibility, Learning and Safety.

It is disappointing to hear that one of our trees on the oval has been defaced recently including names of students scratched into it. While I can't fix the tree, I hope that the students involved will come forward and admit their wrong doing and face the consequences of this vandalism. I also suggest they fix the behaviour relating to this incident or face further consequences as a result of their actions.

I am also disappointed to hear about name calling and nasty behaviour from some of the high school students. Not only that, but a group of students who are not participating in this behaviour are then be alienated by the group that are, creating a divide amongst the high schoolers. Basically, if your child is involved in this bullying behaviour, they will be put on a yellow level straightaway as I will not tolerate behaviour like this from students at this school.

If you have any concerns about your child's behaviour or have any information regarding behaviour incidents happening at school, please let me know as I would like the staff and I to work together to address these issues.

### **Outback futures**

Next week, the Outback Futures team will be visiting and bringing with them a speech language pathologist, an occupational therapist, two learning and literacy specialists and a counsellor. We have prioritised some timeslots for students who do not access the EQ speech language and OT specialists, however, if you do not receive and permission form for this service and feel that your child may benefit from this service, please contact me.

### **State-wide Inquiry**

I have signed the school up to be part of a State-wide Inquiry into what Queensland state schools have to do to Close the Gap in Year 3 reading achievement and to improve Year 9 writing achievement. Mrs Lund and I will attend the first meeting in relation to this on Monday and aim to draw up a plan as to how we can address the learning needs in our context. More information will follow as we progress through this inquiry process.

## **SOS**

Don't forget to complete your School Opinion Survey by August 25. Thanks to those parents who have completed theirs.

## **Sign in**

Please remember to sign in and out if you are having a meeting with a staff member or visiting specialist during school time. It is imperative that we maintain accurate records of who is in the school especially while we have different personnel working on site and also in the case of a fire or lockdown drill. The sign in book is located in the office.

## **Fire and Lockdown**

If you are physically present at the school during a lockdown or fire drill, you need to adhere to the school's processes. Parents will be required to evacuate the school in the same way that the children are during a fire drill and will also be required to take a secure position in a classroom during a lockdown. If you would like a copy of the fire and lockdown procedures at the school, please contact me, otherwise, follow the direction of school staff during these drills.

## **Earn and Learn**

We are collecting the Earn and Learn stickers from Woolworths. Please help us out!

## **Principal Awards**

I was thrilled to be able to hand out an abundance of certificates at parade today for academic, behavioural and music success. Congratulations to those students who got an award, but also congratulations to the students who are always doing the right thing and who constantly try their best and achieve results through sheer hard work and diligence.

Have a great fortnight, and as always, if you are having concerns, I would appreciate you discussing them with me so we can address them in a supportive and collegial manner.

Have a great week,  
*Vanessa*



## Prep/1/2 Kaperz

Dear Parents,

Wow, this term is just flying by!

Last week, we introduced a new way to interact with phonics (sounds of letters). All year levels will be revising "Jolly Phonics" to improve students understanding of the sounds that make the words. The goal is to better equip students to read, spell and write as they will be able to recognise what letters make the relevant sounds in words.

Due to a number of staff attending a Philosophy workshop this week, our class has had a couple of philosophy lessons. They read the book "The Hungry Caterpillar", brainstormed questions which the book does give the answer to. The most prevalent topic was beauty. The students made a connection with being colourful is equal to beauty. The next lesson, students were given a variety of pictures to place on a scale, most beautiful to not beautiful. This created conversation around the following ideas:

- ◇ boys can't be beautiful
- ◇ storms aren't beautiful (they are scary) but the rain is
- ◇ tigers have sharp teeth (scary) so they can't be beautiful
- ◇ not all colourful things (art work) are beautiful
- ◇ the way people behave can be beautiful – our grandmothers are beautiful because they spent time with us, they do things with us, they buy us stuff, they love us.

It was nice to see the students first idea of grandmas change from the first lesson (ugly, they have too many wrinkles, wear old clothes, glasses) to how beautiful they are because of what they do for their grandchildren.

Enjoy your week,  
Mrs Lund

## Year 3/4 Jottings

The last couple of week's year 3/4 have been busy designing and constructing their own Cereal boxes. The student had to come up with a brand, flavour, audience and design for their cereals. We looked at different cereals boxes to see the type of texts and visuals the students should incorporate in their own designs. We discussed the idea of health ratings, food ingredients and even the concept of recycling. Next week the students will visit other classes to market their products.

The students have also been busy writing their own

narratives about a sports carnival. They are currently up to their complications; and all the characters have got themselves into a bit of strife! We have been focusing on using adjective and verbs to add excitement to our stories. And I am excited to read the final products.

Congrats to the students who have received a principals, teacher's award or reading award in the last couple of weeks.

Thanks heaps!  
Miss Hutson

## Year 7/8 BULLETIN

Week 6 and already halfway through the term. School photos were taken on Monday and the students reminded me it was the first time in three years that I had actually been present for them. Soon realised that I had been away on PD in 2015 and had that terrible allergy that I spent travelling backwards and forwards to the specialist last year. Oops!

In English students are well-and-truly into writing their persuasive monologue or blog on an ethical or moral issue which has been raised in the television series "Noah and Saskia".

In Maths students have been working on their inquiry-based assignments. The Year 7s are in the middle of designing the 'best' BBQ they can for their fellow classmates and determining whether or not they have enough money – working within a budget does tend to make them stop and think about choices. ☺ At times they are finding it challenging as I won't even let them go over by five cents. The Year 8s have been looking at the English Scrabble game and determining whether the scoring would be fair if another language was being used instead of English.

In ICT students continue to code using the program Scratch. They have been designing a ping pong game, a space invaders game and a crazy fish game. All fun stuff which they have taken to like a duck to water.

### In the Electives:

**Business** – this week we looked at Application forms. We looked at the appropriate way in which they need to be completed – full block writing in blue or black biro. This continues our unit on Employment in the lead up to Work Experience next term.

**ICT** – students continued learning how to create web pages: putting together a site about sea creatures, how to add pages, interactive buttons, hyperlinks etc. Since we have new machines we are now able to use industry-standard software so have been learning about Dreamweaver.

Until next time .....

Mrs Goodwin

## **YEAR 9/10 BROADCAST**

### **Yr 9-10 News**

Students have been working hard all week on the English Romeo and Juliet film review. I am very pleased with the content they have written as this shows that they have taken the content learnt in class and applied it to their writing. We are focussed in class on writing and students have been practising their 10% summary as well as type 2 and Type 3 writing.

Students have also submitted their Science investigation on acceleration. They designed and conducted many interesting experiments to test Newton's law  $F=m \times a$ . We have started the new unit this week which continues to look at these laws. Their assessment task for this unit is to design and conduct their own investigation about Dr Hardcase, an engineer working with a disaster relief team, trying to work out how to protect small supply packages dropped to groups of people who have been isolated by floodwaters.

Her team is seeking to develop a lightweight apparatus they call SCRUNCHBASE, a crumple zone arranged under the package. The purpose of the SCRUNCHBASE apparatus is absorb as much of the impact as possible in order to prevent destruction of the supply package when it lands.

Her team has been asked to design and test a lightweight SCRUNCHBASE that can allow a 20 kg supply package to be dropped vertically onto hard ground surface from an altitude of 20 metres without damage to the package. The SCRUNCHBASE is meant to collapse instead of the package. So I look forward to many unique designs for this task.

### **Yr 9-10 HEC**

Students will be cooking next week. They are to select a recipe for the healthy events recipe book. This

cooking is preparation for their assessment task of designing and preparing a healthy recipe for a school event.

### **Ag Science:**

We have submitted our entry for the BRC garden competition and await for the results which will be announced at Westech in September. We appreciate all the help from Ilfracombe Nursery and the donation of the plants. Stay tuned ...

We are also busy learning about sheep and the many breeds. Students have studied the ruminant digestive system of sheep – 4 stomachs.

### **HEC – Yr7-8**

Last week the students planned, prepared and cooked their assessment parcels. There was many interesting cuisines fused and from all accounts they were very tasty. We had chilli pies, French braised onion pies, curry pies and Moroccan roasted cauliflower and chicken pie. This Friday they are working on completing their assignment. The completed assessment is due next Friday.

Have a great break

Mrs Rogers



## **Miss Kendall's Newsflash**

Hi All,

Hard to believe we are already past the half way mark.

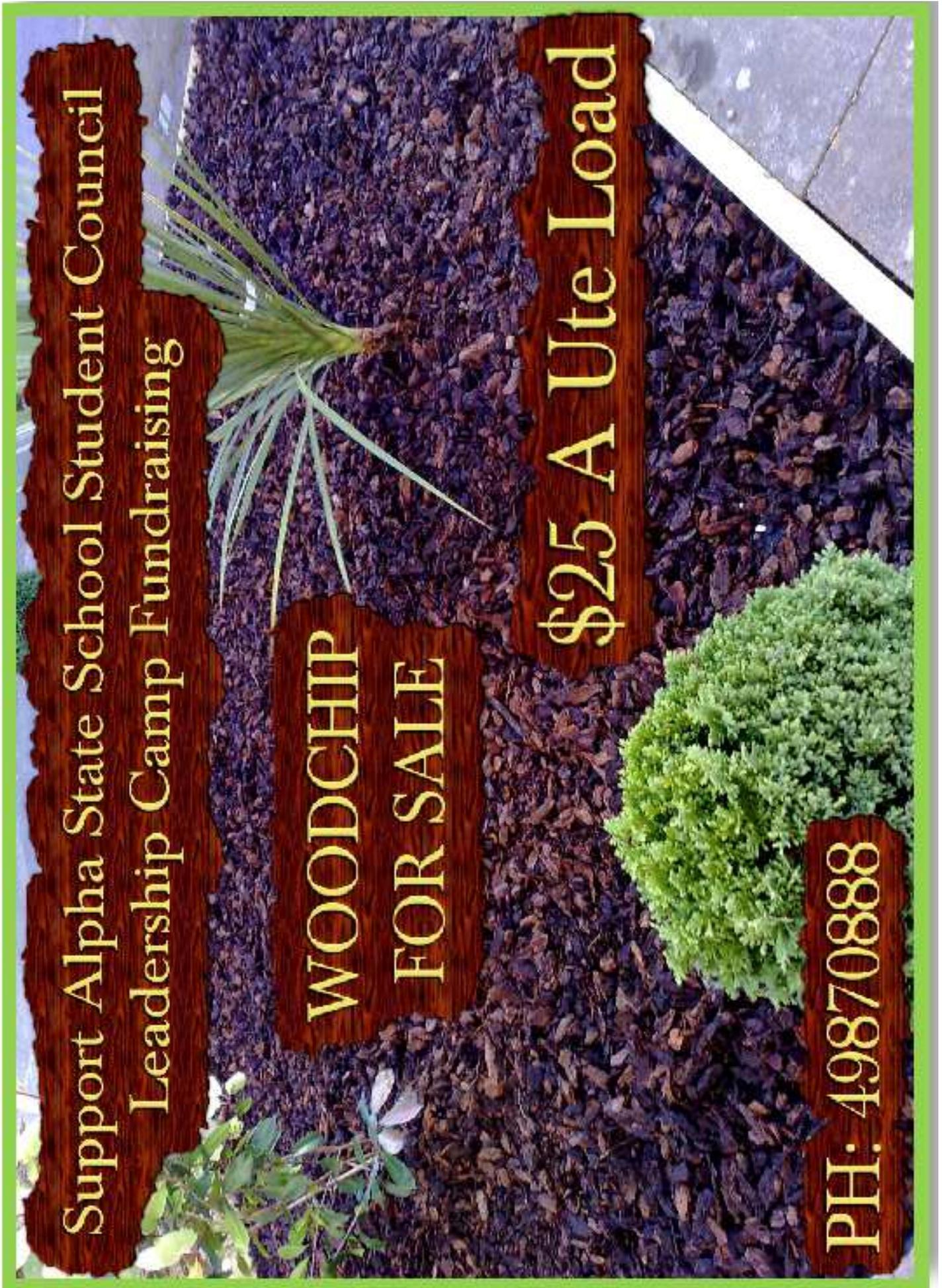
Next week I will be attending the Clermont ICPA Sports Camp with majority of our students in grades 4-7. Information was sent home this week in regards to transport, departure times and luggage, from both myself and the camp coordinators. Students will need to be at the camping grounds between 2:00 pm-4:00 pm on Sunday, and we should be back at school by end of day Friday.

We should be in for a long, exciting week! I know I am really looking forward to it, and the students I have spoken to are keen also.

Have a great weekend! ☺

Miss Tarim Kendall

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# SAVE THE DATE:



## BOOK WEEK DAY

Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017

Theme: *“Escape from  
Anywhere”*



Come dressed as your favourite book  
character!



## C & K Jellybeans Open Days for 2017



Jellybeans will be hosting open days on the following dates:

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 10 am to 12 noon - Kindy**

If your child is eligible to attend Kindy in 2018 please come along and let them experience the Jellybeans setting.

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 10 am to 12 noon Limited Hours Care**

We have vacancies available for 2017 and 2018. Call in and have a play, meet the staff and enjoy a morning of fun and creativity.

Activities include, Art and Craft, storytelling, music and dancing.

Please let us know if you will be joining us by the 1<sup>st</sup> of September, 49851 888 or [jellybeans@cank.asn.au](mailto:jellybeans@cank.asn.au)



Look forward to meeting you all.