



# ALPHA STATE SCHOOL WEEKLY WATCH 2015

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**23 June 2015**

**Issue 10**

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

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome to the last week of Term 2. What a busy and fantastic term it has been and I thank all staff and students for continuing to uphold the very high standards that Alpha SS is renowned for. Overall, behaviour has been fantastic, with only a few minor incidents during the term. Hence, all our students are entitled to attend the behaviour rewards afternoon this week to celebrate.

### **Attendance**

As you are aware, we have focussed on attendance this term also. At this stage, the attendance percentage for Term 2 for the whole school is at 90.7%. Our school target for the year is 95% so we have a bit of ground to make up in Term 3 and 4. Congratulations to those classes that have had 100% attendance this term and in particular, congratulations to our Year 5 class who have had 100% attendance all term. Well done Ben and Alyce! Our class with the most weeks of 100% will join in a mini celebration next term to congratulate them.

The statistics for Week 9 are as follows:

Whole School -	90.7%
Prep -	84%
1/2/3 -	89.4%
4/5/6 -	87.8%
7/8 -	96.05%
10 -	100%



### **Behaviour**

Congratulations to all our students who are eligible to attend the behaviour celebrations at the end of this week. It is so refreshing to be in a school where the focus is on learning and not behaviour management. Full credit to the staff and students

here for making this so. Well done.

### **Keep our school safe over the holidays**

With the holidays fast approaching, we need you to look out for after-hours crime in our school. If you see something suspicious, please don't attempt to intervene. Call School Watch on 13 17 88 and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter.

The School Watch program is a partnership between the Department of Education and Training, the Queensland Police Service and the State Government Protective Security Service. It aims to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in Queensland schools.

Keep the number handy and let's work together to help create a safer school community.

### **Date claimers for Term 3**

- July 13 – Term 3 starts and Student Council Meeting
- July 14 – P and C meeting at 4 p.m.
- July 18 – Movies at Jericho for High school students
- July 22 – Athletics Carnival
- July 24 – Attendance Brekkie for Year 10 (winners of Term 2 attendance!)
- July 30 – Principal Business Meeting (Longreach)

I hope you have a safe and relaxing holiday. Take care and see you all next term, ready to go!

Take care

*Vanessa Koina*

## Prep Newsflash

Hello parents,

Once again it has been a busy few weeks in the Prep room. Over the past couple of weeks the students have been completing their assessment for Math, English, Geography, Science, and Health. We also had the privilege of having Fire Chief John and Fireman Ben come and visit the P-3's to talk about fire safety. They will be visiting us again on Friday this week, as will Sergeant Lingard coming to the Prep classroom to talk to the P-3's about being safe.

In class this week the Prep students will focus on their writing and sounding out skills as they have finished their English unit work. In Maths they will be working on different measurements, such as short and long, heavy and light, and volume. As the end of the term is drawing nearer and students are becoming tired, they will only have sight words as homework this week, as the home readers are being collected to stay at school over the holidays. Please remind your child to return their homework book by Friday this week.

Happy holidays!  
Miss Wilson

## Years 1/2/3 Bulletin

Welcome to the final week of term! The students have been doing a wonderful job staying on task these last few weeks.

In English we have been conducting information reports on sea creatures! We have made our very own information booklets comprised of Bottlenose Dolphins, Seahorses, Electric Eels and Yellow-bellied Sea Snakes!! We have also been exploring these sea creatures in Science!

In Maths, the year 1's have been working on place value and money, while the year 2's and 3's have been working on division and time elements. We have also been conducting mathematical investigations!

In Geography, we have been narrowing in on the world continents! Students have been labelling maps and researching different continents in pairs.

Thank you for a wonderful, productive term. I look forward to all the learning Term 3 has to offer!

Have a wonderful fortnight!  
Miss Grogan

## Years 7/8 Broadcast

Well here we are – last week! Yay!! No doubt our kids are feeling exactly the same way and looking forward to a break. Already halfway through the year – hard to believe!

So what's happening in our classroom this week?

In English we will be completing our Aboriginal unit on values. Together we have watched and evaluated both the videos and written down heaps and heaps of notes to help with their essay. Monday and Tuesday they will have to complete their rough draft and then Wednesday and Thursday will be spent finalising their good copy to hand in **BEFORE** holidays.

In Maths, the Year 7s and 8s will be looking at areas where they need extra work in order to consolidate these concepts before the new term begins.

In ICT we continue looking at Microsoft Word and learning about some features which they may not know about. Last week I showed the students how to get back a document which may have been lost because the machine failed etc and wasn't saved. Ask them how – we have all had things we've had to re-type in the past which have caused us much angst – no more. Best thing I've learnt in a while as well. So more of the easy ways to do things which they can incorporate when typing up assignments. I will again be emphasising proper fingers and proper hands while keying in information.

**Homework** – I'm still expecting the usual homework to be done - 100 minutes of Lexia, Maths Mentals, practice their spelling and do a Wonderword – very little really. After this week I will give them a two week break (except for Lexia). ☺ It is all about filling in the gaps of their knowledge so it doesn't get harder as they go further into high school.

**In the Electives:**

**Business** – We will look at Petty Cash– what it is and what's involved.

**ICT** – students should well and truly be into creating their game, putting the extra levels on, putting the finishing touches to it, making sure the written part is done and finally testing, evaluating and making changes as a result.

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

So with this short amount of time left it is definitely going to be 100% time on task.

Until next time .....

Keep smiling. ☺  
Mrs Goodwin

## **YEAR 10 NEWSCAST**

Hi All

Well the end of term has certainly caught up with us. It has been a very productive term and students will have completed their last pieces of assessment on Monday.

For the remainder of the week students will be engaged in reviewing concepts not quiet consolidated in Maths and English.

Yr 10's have their own choice cooking on Wednesday morning and Yr 8's have own choice cooking on Friday.

I hope everyone has a safe and relaxing holiday and I am looking forward to Term 3.

Have an enjoyable holiday...  
Mrs Rogers

## **Sports News**

The School Athletics Carnival will be held on the following dates **Monday, 20 July (High School day)** and **Wednesday, 22 July.**



Miss Clarke

## **Mr Hammer's Post**

### **Year 7-10 Philosophy**

Our Years 7-10 Philosophers have been exploring questions relating to friendship and love over the last few weeks. I was really impressed with the quality of the listening at the end of our last philosophy lesson. Being able to listen and be interested in what other people have to say is an invaluable life skill. Many conflicts and mistakes occur in our life simply because we are not actively listening, respecting and paying attention to those around us. While there are still the occasional side remarks being made in our circle of inquiry, on the whole I can see the students becoming more compassionate, creative and critical thinkers – which is the aim of our philosophical community. Next week, while I am away in Windorah, students will be analysing the ending of Wall.e to identify the 4 different types of love (agape, storge, philos and eros) as defined by the Greeks.

### **Year 10 History**

Our Year 10 Historians have recently embarked on the road to Human Rights and Freedom. They've been tracing the origins of the concept of Human Rights back through the ages. Coincidentally, it is currently the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta, which was one of the first attempts in England to secure the rights of individuals against ruling Monarchs. Next term we will be studying the concepts of Human Rights closer to home. The Year 10's will be examining the significance of the Australian High Court's Mabo Decision in the development of The Native Title Act. However, before throwing ourselves into the analysis and

*Alpha State School Values - Respect, Responsibility, Honesty*

synthesis of various source documents relating to Mabo, Land Rights and Reconciliation, students will have the opportunity to finish watching Kokoda on the last day of Term 2.

### **1-3 Health and Technology**

The 1-3's have had a great time finishing off their Technology Unit: Making a Healthy Sandwich for a Friend. It was delightful to see everyone enjoy their sandwiches and later reflect on what they had learnt through the experience. To finish off the term, students have had a wonderful opportunity to learn about fire safety from our local firefighters. It was heartening seeing such vital skills and knowledge be shared with the children. To build upon their learning, make sure you take the time to ask your child when, how and why do we 'stop, drop and roll', 'get down low and go, go, go', call '000' and make lots of noise if we are stuck inside. Students were also encouraged to ask parents what their evacuation spot is so that in case of a fire everyone knows a safe place to meet.

I hope you have a safe and enjoyable holiday. See you in Term 3.

Mr Hammer

## **P & C NEWS**

Greetings,

Here are a few key points from the last P & C meeting held on Tuesday 16/06/15.

It was decided that the P & C would make a donation towards the Yr. 4-10 school camp in October. This donation will subsidise the cost of the camp for each student.

The P & C will also be providing financial assistance to both Clay Gleeson and Zack Bryce following their selection in the North-West U/12 Boys Touch team which requires them to travel to Toowoomba in August.

So far this year the P & C has had a number of very successful fundraising events, these include the Pink Stumps Day (\$1011.76), the Central-West U/12 Touch Trials (\$446.64), the Alpha Show (\$3602.37) and the North-West U/12 Touch Trials (\$714.34). Thanks to all the volunteers who have assisted the P & C with these events. Your hard work is for the benefit of the students.

And finally, thanks to Chappy and Miss Clarke for the BBQ and Gaelic Football day on Friday 12/06/15. All

the students showed great skills and good sportsmanship in what is a very unique sport.

We intend to keep putting these P & C updates in the newsletter every month, following our meetings.

**Date Claimer – 17/10/15 – Touch Footy Comp.**

**NEXT P & C MEETING:** Tuesday 14/07/2015 at 4.00 pm (in Mrs Goodwin's classroom).

Kind Regards,  
The Alpha SS P & C Executive Committee 2015 (Ben Standerwick, Steve McGrath, Tina Standerwick & Mick Lingard).

**CONGRATULATIONS:  
MISS SHELBY HOWARD HAS BEEN  
SASHED 2015 CENTRAL HIGHLANDS  
SHOWGIRL RUNNER-UP. WELL DONE  
MISS HOWARD...**





## **Alpha Police Station**

19 Milton Street

Alpha Q 4724

Ph. (07) 4985 1200



### **Checking Vehicle Registration Details –**

We get inquiries about how people can check the status of their vehicle's registration. There are Apps available (such as Qld Rego) or you can use the TMR website and there are links on the front page that will give you the information you are seeking. You can check any vehicle's registration status. It simply tells you if the rego is current and when the rego is due. The Apps and the website do not give out the owner's details. You will still get a vehicle registration renewal notice in the mail about a month before your rego is due and you will get reminders as well if it is overdue or goes unpaid. Please be aware that the driver of the vehicle is responsible for making sure that the vehicle they are driving is registered.

### **Annual Fee Increases –**

Please be aware that as of the 01/07/2015 all Government fees will go up. This means that things such as driver's licences and weapons licences will cost more to renew or apply for. And fines, such as speeding tickets, will also go up. If you have concerns about this, address them to your local State MP – they make these decisions, not us.

**QPS Blog** – [mypolice.qld.gov.au](http://mypolice.qld.gov.au)

**Phone numbers:** Weapons Licencing Branch – 3015 7777.  
Qld Transport & Main Roads – 132 380.  
Road Conditions Reports – 131 940

The Alpha Police Station counter hours are **Tuesdays and Thursdays between 8:00 am and 12:00 pm** when possible. **There will always be exceptions to this such as emergency callouts, training, meetings and other operational policing demands**, so it may be best to check in advance or phone before attending.

Take care  
Mick Lingard & Darin Coetzer

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

IF NOT, THINK  
POLICELINK.  
CALL 131 444.

**CRIME  
STOPPERS**  
com.au  
1800 333 000

# **Learning about healthy eating and world cultures through cooking at Jellybeans!**



*At Jellybeans, we would love to spend some time learning with the children about healthy eating as well as different foods from around the world!*

*We are seeking people in our community that might be able to partnership with us to teach us some cultural recipes!*

*Do you have a family recipe to share? Are you able to talk to the children about your culture?*

*Please see any of our staff around town or contact us on 4985 1888 / 0447 141 378 / [jellybeans@candk.asn.au](mailto:jellybeans@candk.asn.au) if you can help us!*

