Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I am sure you were just as thrilled as I was to witness the wonderful performances and speeches given at Awards Night last week. It was such a great night and it was lovely to see so many parents and grandparents in the crowd. Huge congratulations also to the students who received Academic, Sporting and Encouragement awards for all their hard work during the year. It was great to be able to present so many awards. Thanks also goes to the staff and teachers for working hard on getting the performances up to scratch. As always, a great amount of time and planning goes into these nights which would not be possible without staff contribution and guidance.

Thank you also for your ongoing support this year. Your interest in your child’s school and education is invaluable.

As we are winding down to the end of the year, planning for next year is already underway. I sent home a letter last week regarding the class breakdowns for 2017. A snippet of this information is below:

P–2 – Mrs Jenni Lund/Miss Tarim Kendall (Room AC01)
3/4 – Miss Jessica Hutson (Room AC02)
5/6 – Mrs Michelle John (Room BC11)
7/8 – Mrs Chanelle Goodwin (Room CC12)
9/10 – Mrs Penny Rogers/Miss Tarim Kendall (Room DR01)

We will be having a whole school transition day on Wednesday, where all students will have the opportunity to move to their new classrooms and if possible, meet their new teacher. If their new teachers have not started yet, they will be supervised by Miss Hodge, Miss Grogan, Miss Wilson and Mrs Morgillo.

The choir and 2/3 class will also be heading up to the hospital to perform Christmas carols and also the Penguin play that we saw on Speech Night. We will leave at about 9:45 am and be back by morning tea.

Qld Cricket will also be visiting from 9.00 am-11.00 am to work with the kids on some cricket skills and fun.

Chappy has also organised for the High school students to practice their barista skills on Wednesday morning by offering real coffee and a yummy breakfast from 7:45 am–9:15 am. All welcome!

On Friday, the students who have met the behaviour criteria for the term, have been invited to attend a
fun day at the pool where the Student Council and Chaplaincy have organised water slides for everyone. Students who have not met criteria or have not returned their permission note, will be supervised at school on this day.

Good luck to all our students and families who are leaving to attend other schools or move to new locations. We wish you all the best.

Please take care over the holiday period and take this opportunity to spend time with family and friends. The staff will be back at school doing PD starting the week of the 16th of January. If you would like to meet with a staff member, please make an appointment. I will also be contactable over the holidays via email vkoin1@eq.edu.au

I look forward to 2017 and seeing you all return with renewed enthusiasm

Have a great fortnight.
Vanessa Koina

To
Have a
Merry Christmas
A merry Christmas indeed
Here is a special list
Of a few things you need
There should be smiles and laughs
Scattered all across the floor
Buckets and buckets of love and joy
Hanging by the windows and the door
Every Christmas there’s nothing like happiness
Hanging all over the Christmas tree
And only the thought giving instead of taking
Should completely invade the minds of you and me
Everyone in the family should always try to be helpful
And Carols will be playing all around
Any type of ungratefulness and negativity
Surely will be ignored and nowhere to be found
Your actions should be nothing but gentle, loving and kind
And each word sweet like a cherry
All of these things this Christmas
Will make your Christmas Merry

© Marinela Reka
Prep Newsflash
Hello Parents and welcome to Week 9.

This week will be a busy one, with transition day, Christmas activities, and our end of term behaviour reward at the pool. The students have been busy working, and are now doing maths and literacy related Christmas activities, as well as some Christmas craft. You will notice that the students are now bringing home some of their craft activities, as well as their books, both used and spare. Our aim is to send all of these home before the last day, so they don’t have to be carted to the pool with us.

This Wednesday marks the last transition day for the children from Jellybeans C & K, who will be joining us for the entirety of the day. They will be participating in both PE and Arts classes, as well as our usual classroom activities. As this is my last week at Alpha State School, I would like to say a sincere thank you for making me feel welcome within the school and the community. I have had a marvellous time getting to know you and have enjoyed teaching your children. I wish you a safe and happy Christmas, and all the best wishes for 2017.

Warm regards,
Miss Wilson

Year 1 Capers
Welcome to our last week of school for 2016. As usual it is a busy one with transition day on Wednesday, Christmas activities and our behaviour reward day at the pool on Friday.

We had our Speech night last Wednesday and I was totally thrilled by the performances, perseverance and camaraderie of all the students. As a teacher of Alpha State School I was incredibly proud. Well done to all the students that had-a-go and had fun also.

Transition day on Wednesday will be when the students go to their new classes, for the Grade ones they will go to the Prep classroom and join with the preps and kindy children. This group will be the Prep/1/2 class for 2017. As the new teachers for this class are unable to attend, Miss Wilson, Miss Hodge, Miss Nicole and various teacher aides will be in the classroom for the duration of the day.

Children will continue to bring home their used books and any other unused items including stationery. We will continue to learn incorporating Christmas activities into our daily routine and children are to understand that acceptable behaviour is still applied.

Our Behaviour reward will take place on Friday; we will be walking to the pool in the morning and enjoying a day of fun activities. Children will need to be picked up from the pool at 3.00 pm or other arrangements made.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my teaching colleagues and my teacher aides for all their amazing help and support throughout the year. These people are truly dedicated and I believe that 2016 would not have been the same for me without their support. To the parents of my beautiful Grade ones, thank you for allowing me to teach them this year and for your positive outlook and support. I will miss them but am looking forward to the new challenge of my 5/6 class for 2017. I wish everyone a happy holiday, stay safe and enjoy this special time of the year with family and friends. A big goodbye to Miss Hodge, Ms Morgillio, Miss Grogan, Miss Goodwin and Miss Wilson. You will all be incredibly missed.

Merry Christmas to all
Mrs Michelle John

Year 2/3 Bulletin
Hello Parents!

Thank you for a wonderful year! I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Alpha State School and have many amazing memories that I will take away with me. This Wednesday the 2/3s and the choir will be performing carols at the Hospital. We will also have our classroom Christmas party back at school on this day. If you would like your child to attend both of these events please return the consent forms that have been sent home.

Have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year! All the best for 2017 and beyond.

Kind regards,
Miss Tess Grogan
2/3 Teacher
Dear Parents,

Well, we have made it. We are officially in our last week of school for 2016. What a year it has been! I still can’t believe just how fast it has gone. I look back at our class photo from the first day of 2016 and notice just how much they have changed, both physically and mentally. It’s just so exciting to imagine all the things they will achieve in their futures.

This is also my last week at Alpha State School. I’m trying my very hardest to not get emotional but I am going to miss them all so much. They are what makes me continue to do what I do. You have all raised some beautiful, intelligent and hilarious children. Each of them have played such an important part in helping me figure out exactly what type of teacher I want to be. I love seeing each of their smiling faces come in of a morning and watching them become so confident in their own abilities. They have made me laugh, cry and probably grow some grey hair, but I wouldn’t have it any other way. Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to get to know your kids over the past year or two and for being patient with me in tough times. My future classes have a tough job to do to fill the hole after saying goodbye to these kids.

Kind Regards,
Courtney Hodge

Hi Everyone

Well here we are at the very end of the school year and didn’t that just fly. To the staff who are leaving Alpha I wish you all the very best and hope that someday our paths will cross again.

Thank you for allowing me to teach your children. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with them this year.

Thank you to my Year 7/8’s. To those students who will no longer be with us at Alpha I wish them all the very best and will always be interested in how they are going. Look to the future with confidence and always believe you can succeed because I’m sure you will. Thank you for a great year.

Thank you Parents for the support you have given me over the year as that goes a long way in helping your child make progress when we are all on the same page and working together. I did appreciate it.

I hope you have a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. Enjoy your time together, have a laugh, smile heaps and enjoy the seven week break. If you are travelling do so safely and I look forward to having another successful year filled with making gains and measurably improving every way, every day.

Until then ……

Keep smiling.

Chanelle

Well the year has come to an end and all students have successfully completed their year of schooling.

They have been a pleasure to teach and I wish them all well in their future endeavours, be it here with us next year or off to boarding school. Have a safe and happy Christmas.

See you in the new year!

Mrs Rogers

Here’s to another year over. I would like to thank all the parents, staff and students who have helped me out over the year at school activities.

Alpha State School Values - Respect, Responsibility, Honesty
I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a wet New Year. See you all in 2017.

Miss Clarke

Mr Hammer’s Philosophy News
Thanks to all the staff, students and parents for an amazing journey in Philosophy this year. Unfortunately, I had to take leave unexpectedly the last couple of weeks. It’s been an amazing privilege learning about what students care about and how they think over the last couple years.

When approached with commitment and courage, Philosophy provides students with the knowledge to apply what they’ve learnt in all other fields of schooling.

Not only does philosophical inquiry connect student’s knowledge in meaningful ways, it also leads to very practical and empowering action.

I look forward to teaching and learning in Philosophy again next year. Over time I have developed a passion for this subject which encourages us all how to be more caring, critical and creative thinkers.

Enjoy the last week and take care of your families and yourselves,

Regards,
Marietta Sedgwick
Guidance Officer
Denison, Tieri, Anakie, Alpha and Emerald State Schools
Base school phone 07 49807333
Email msedg1@eq.edu.au

CHAPPY NEWS
Thank you
I would personally like to thank everyone for your support and encouragement throughout my time as Chaplain for Alpha State School. I believe the Chaplaincy program has delivered so many positives both within the school and the community over the past eight years. Without the generous support we would be very limited in what we could do or undertake. We have donors who give month-after-month year-after-year which has blessed this program and allowed us to provide a host of activities for our students. A big thank you to all who have given to this program and as we commence planning for 2017 we look forward to what lies ahead.

End of Year (Christmas)
Yes the school year has almost come to a close
already. I would like to thank all the staff for the great job they have done this year. Sometimes we just need to look back at where we have come from over a period of time to see what has been achieved.

I have been blessed to work with such a great mix of wonderful people and enjoy seeing their enthusiasm for seeing students achieve their goals.

While I am saddened to say farewell to some as they move on, I am also excited to see them reach greater heights in life’s journey. Bless you all.

For the group of us staying we look forward to welcoming and working with our new staff for 2017.

Finally, I would like to wish you all, parents, students, staff and community members a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May you be kept safe and return to us full of joy and excitement in 2017.

HEART News
Hi Everyone,

It’s been a quick year and I’ve just gotten to know faces and names properly. Family commitments have intervened and I need to go home. I have thoroughly enjoyed my art lessons with you all. You truly are a lovely group of students and I’ve seen some wonderful work produced.

I thank you for having me here and wish you all the very best for 2017.

Mrs Morgillo
Art Teacher
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.
School Uniform orders for 2017

Parents wishing to order Uniforms for 2017 please complete your details and return this order to the school office or email to triciamahon@bigpond.com before the end of term.

Name: …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Sports Shirts**

**Team:** (Please Circle) Yungi/Kabi  **Price:** $25.00

**Sizing:** (Please Circle)

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**School Polo Shirts**

**Price:** $25.00

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**Microfibre Shorts $15.00**

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**Girls Skorts $15.00**

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**Slouch Hat**

| SMALL | MEDIUM | LARGE |