From the Principal

I respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land, the Yugambeh and Jagera people and recognise that this area has always been a place of teaching and learning.

I extend my respect to the Elders, past, present and emerging for they hold the memories, the traditions, the cultures and hopes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

Sports Day
Thank you to everyone for the huge amount of support we had at our Sports Day last Friday. Everyone had a wonderful time and the weather was perfect. A big thank you to Miss Radicke for all her preparations and planning that led to such a successful day. It was a wonderful event.

Report Cards
Report cards will be sent home on Thursday 23 June. These reports are a summary of student achievement for all of Semester One 2015. This is a great opportunity to read through the report card with your child/ren and set goals for Semester Two. It is vital that we all have high expectations for our students as they will strive to achieve the goals set for them. We expect all children to do their very best.

Late Slips, Early Departures
If a student arrives after 8.40am they are required to obtain a late slip from the office and present this to the teacher upon arrival to the classroom. If a parent requires their student to leave school early during learning time they must present to either the Junior or Middle Campus office and discuss the reason for leaving with a Deputy Principal. If a student is required to leave school during learning time to attend important appointments, then students must be signed out in the office and a release slip be issued before the child can leave the school grounds. Office staff will amend the roll, if required. Students will not be released early from school during the last session of learning time unless a parent presents with an appointment card for a doctor or other similar health professional.

Arriving at School Early
Students are encouraged to arrive at school just prior to the first bell that rings at 8:30am. We certainly do not want students arriving prior to 8am. No staff are rostered for supervision before school, therefore, there is no supervised play time allowed before school. Students who are at school prior to 8:30am are expected to sit outside their own classroom.

P&C Meeting
Our next P & C meeting will be held Thursday night 16 June at 3:00pm. Come along and share your ideas and thoughts with the group. This is a great opportunity to hear all about what is happening in and around the school.

A thought for us all this week:

Once a man was walking along a beach. The sun was shining and it was a beautiful day. Off in the distance he could see a person going back and forth between the surf’s edge and the beach. Back and forth this person went. As the man approached, he could see that there were hundreds of starfish stranded on the sand as the result of the natural action of the tide.
The man was stuck by the apparent futility of the task. There were far too many starfish. Many of them were sure to perish. As he approached, the person continued the task of picking up starfish one by one and throwing them into the surf.

As he came up to the person, he said: "You must be crazy. There are thousands of miles of beach covered with starfish. You can’t possibly make a difference." The person looked at the man. He then stooped down and pick up one more starfish and threw it back into the ocean. He turned back to the man and said:

"It sure made a difference to that one!"

### Upcoming Events

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
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<td>P &amp; C Meeting</td>
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<td>20 June</td>
<td>Principal’s Morning Tea</td>
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<td>Years 4-6 Gala Day</td>
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<td>24 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 July</td>
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### From the Middle Campus Deputies

**Year 4 Excursion - Karawatha Forest Park**

Last week our Year 4 students participated in an excursion to Karawatha Forest Park. Students enjoyed a full day of activities including a tour of the Discovery Centre, Nature Play, bush walking and volleyball. This excursion linked to the Year 4 curriculum, with our students currently learning about life cycles of animals in Science and the basics of playing volleyball in P.E.

Students have reported the experience has been a highlight of the year so far and enjoyed looking back at photographs with their classmates. Special thanks to Mrs Motswagae, Mrs Edmondson, Mr Kearney and the Year 4 teaching team for organising and supervising the excursion.

### Understanding Your Child’s Report Card

For Semester 1 report cards, teachers are evaluating student work based on our Curriculum into the Classroom (C2C) units and assessment tasks from Term 1 and 2 in English, Maths, Science, and History. C2C units are in ongoing review and adjustment, based on feedback from teachers. Report card results in English, Maths, Science, and History this semester are based on the content descriptors and year level Achievement Standards from the Australian Curriculum, and as such may not be reliably compared to previous years’ results. For further information on the Australian Curriculum standards visit the online curriculum at http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/
Over recent years, parents, students and teachers across Queensland are gradually becoming more familiar with a 5-point scale (e.g. A-E) process for reporting in all schools. The system schools are using refers to attainment standards called “benchmarks of achievement” or “criteria.” So what makes an “A”, “B”, “C” etc is predetermined by a scale of achievement. Any student who shows evidence of meeting a particular level, deserves that benchmark grade.

This is what you could consider the new difference for a “C” really means:

A “C” means that the student has met the criteria for a learner to be at the appropriate age level.

A “C” means that the student is doing everything required at their Year Level at school. The best description is to say that a “C” means that the student’s academic development is exactly where it needs to be.

That means attaining a “C” for Achievement means you are ON TARGET for your age level!

With all of this in mind, we must accept that it may be harder to get an “A” or “B”. These grades are not awarded simply to the top students in the class.

From the Junior Campus Deputies

Arriving and leaving school

A number of students pass through the Junior Campus every day on their way to and from school and I am very happy to report that the majority do this with great respect and responsibility. There are a few students, however, who need to be reminded of the expectations when arriving and leaving our school grounds, especially since we have had a few accidents of late that have involved children playing before school.

- Before and after school is not a time to play
- Running on concrete is not safe
- Play equipment is out of bounds

Thank you to the parents who ensure their children are here at a reasonable time and who also monitor their children’s behaviour before school.

Sneaking in Learning over the Holidays

- Let children read ingredients from recipes while you bake together. It’s a great way for them to learn measurements and temperatures.
- Set aside time for kids to “show off” their new reading skills to visiting relatives. Children love being the focus of attention, and grandparents are usually more than willing to see their progress.
- Grab a magazine from the news agent that interests your child
- Find books that focus on an interest your child has. For example if they love bikes, find a book on Lance Armstrong, or a children's book that includes a bicycle adventure. There are books out there to suit every interest under the sun – it just takes a little browsing.
- Use the winter break to strengthen your child’s vocabulary. This is a perfect time to start a treasure chest of words, by having your child look up new words, then write the word and definition on 3×5 cards. Use the word in a sentence or have them write a story based on the word. This exercise will reinforce reading comprehension and writing skills
- Give your child an opportunity to appreciate the arts by attending free events like concerts or plays during the holidays, or stop by a local museum

Many students will already know their username and password for ABC Reading Eggs - a FREE App/website available on all Apple/Android devices and personal computers - which provides access to over 2000 e-books plus online literacy activities, games and rewards.
The ACE Gran Fondo and Griffith University would like to invite you to participate in a free exciting 2 day workshop and research project

Empowering Parents to Guide Their Child’s Learning: Working with schools and professionals to get the best outcome for your child with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

14 and 15 July 2016, 9.15am-3.45pm - Griffith University Gold Coast campus
OR
18 and 19 July 2016, 9.15am-3.45pm - University of the Sunshine Coast, Sippy Downs

Australian parents of an estimated 20,000 school-aged children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) regularly engage with schools and services to access effective learning and education programs for their children as they move from early childhood, to primary and secondary school, and into adulthood. Parents often report feeling frustrated and disempowered in selecting and accessing effective programs and support for their children with ASD during the school years.

The aim of this workshop and research project is to give you, as a parents of a child with ASD the knowledge, strategies and support they need to develop a vision and plan for their child and to work with educators and professionals to develop and implement effective educational programs for their children.

Who should attend: This workshop is primarily for parents or carers of children with ASD, but would also be helpful for parents of children with other developmental disabilities.

Presenter: Dr. Amanda Webster, Autism Centre of Excellence - Dr Amanda Webster has worked for over 28 years with both individuals with autism spectrum disorder and other

Cost to attend: Thanks to the efforts of the ACE Gran Fondo Ride for Autism, this workshop is being offered at no cost. Parking will be $6 for the day. Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be provided on both days.

Questions? Please contact Autism Centre of Excellence on 07 3735 5640 or ace@griffith.edu.au

Professor Jacqueline Roberts
Inaugural Chair of Autism
Autism Centre of Excellence
School of Education and Professional Studies, Griffith University
griffith.edu.au/education/autism-centre-excellence

Special Education Program News

School Wide Positive Behaviour Support

Students who receive Gotchas throughout the term are presented with a Gotcha Certificate for excellent behaviour in the playground.

Gold Gotcha (20): Michael F
Silver Gotcha (15): NA
Bronze Gotcha (10): Roma O, Imogen Q, Zachariah R, Mia J
Weekly Awards

Prep
- Lauina, Misty, Leland, Destiny, Sarah, Keelan, Faith, Dakota, Lilly, Jahmali

Year 1
- Johannah, Amelia, Rahima, Adilah

Year 2
- Muaz, Kaiel, Ezrah, Jada, Arlette, Angel, Krystal, Kaiel, Zachariah, Oliver, Rorie

Year 3
- Jaxon, Mac, Jeremiah, Brayden, Liz, Te Takoha

Year 4
- Mariam A, Summyr-Lilly, Jaelah, Eh Pa, Dusty

Year 5
- Paea, Kiani

Year 6
- Samuel B, Felice M

Extension
- Alexander, Charlee, Lavani, Gwendoline

PE
- NA

Music
- Lilly

History
- Sione, Amelia, Asian, Zack, Nakia, Caleb

Cultural News

Ramadaan 2016

Supporting Muslim students' and staff health and wellbeing

Ramadaan is the ninth month in the Islamic lunar calendar and lasts for 29 or 30 days depending on the sighting of the new moon. This year Ramadaan starts on 7th or 8th June depending on the birth and sighting of the new moon.

Benefits of Fasting

- Welfare
  - The hunger and thirst experienced during fasting for those who are less fortunate and do not have food and drink, or daily meals.

- Medical
  - Fasting enhances metabolism and detoxification of the body, reduces blood pressure, and helps with weight management.

- Health
  - Fasting promotes elimination of toxins from the body, reduces blood sugar levels, and helps maintain normal body weight.

- Spiritual
  - Fasting is a reminder of the belief in the Oneness of Allah and the Prophet Muhammad (Pbuh) and helps in increasing devotion to Allah.

The end of Ramadaan is marked by the festival and celebration of Eid al-Fitr. This year Eid will fall on the 6th or 7th July depending on the sighting of the moon.

How can you support students who are fasting?

1. **Provide a quiet space during lunchtime or during the lessons** - For example, providing a comfortable space in the library or in a classroom.

2. **Encourage students who are fasting not to eat or drink in front of those who are fasting.** This is not about being disrespectful.

3. **Provide alternative activities** - For example, providing a quiet space for students who are fasting.

4. **Ensure that students who are fasting do not engage in non-religious activities** - This may result in fatigue. It is important to consider adjustments to play times, PE lessons, and exams, where necessary.

References:

- www.mosque.org
- www.islamicnetworkfoundation.org
- www.islamicfoundation.org
- www.muslimwebsitefoundation.com

Compiled by: [Name]
Mental Health Co-ordinator - South West Region, Mabel Park State School.
Refugee Week
Organisation: The Refugee Council of Australia
Refugee Week is used to inform the public about refugees and celebrate positive contributions made by refugees to Australian society.

While a refugee’s journey begins with danger, it also begins with hope. Refugees flee their homelands not only because they fear persecution, but also because they have hope: they hope to find freedom from persecution, and safety and security for themselves and their families; they hope to be given a chance to start a new life and recover from past trauma.

National/State: National

Email: admin@refugeecouncil.org.au
Website: www.refugeeweek.org.au/

Advertisements and Notifications


We all know that life is getting busier, and pressure on families is growing. Yet many of us are uncomfortable with asking for help when we need it, or just don’t know where to turn. But you’re never as alone as you might think.

It’s OK to talk about how you feel, or to ask family and friends for the help you need.

One conversation ... could make all the difference.

This is a Queensland Family and Child Commission initiative.

One Place Community Services Directory - https://www.oneplace.org.au/about

oneplace Community Services Directory is an easily accessible directory of community services to help Queensland families to get to the right service at the right time.

From parenting groups and classes to domestic and family violence support services, oneplace is the go-to resource for children, families, community members and professionals looking to find local support in Queensland.

What impact to long-term child health problems have on families?

One in three Australian children has an ongoing, chronic health condition (e.g. asthma, eczema, diabetes, epilepsy, and others). Dr Amy Mitchell from the University of Queensland is seeking families of children with a chronic health condition to take part in a research study exploring the impact of chronic childhood illness on well siblings. Parents and well siblings (aged 6-12 years) will be invited to participate in a brief (<60 mins) face-to-face interview. This study will help inform future programs to support children and families. Participants will go into a draw for a chance to win 1 of 2 $40 Coles and Myer gift cards. Please contact Dr Amy Mitchell on (07) 3346 1202 or email a.mitchell5@uq.edu.au.