

# Friday 21 August 2009

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

**New Number: 3859 6111**

**Open Day:** Our Open Day will be held on Saturday 5 September from 9.00 to 11.30am. We have included a flyer in this newsletter and ask that you pass it on to someone you know who may be interested in sending a child to our school next year. Children eligible for prep in 2010 need to have been born between 1 July 04 and 30 June 05.

**Art Show:** Keep Monday evening on 7 September free for the Toowong Creative Kids Art Show. Mrs Hamwood has been working hard with the students and teachers to ensure that a visual feast is on display. We will also be serving wonderful international food again (see Mrs Dobbs who is coordinator of culinary pleasures if you can assist). The P&C will be running the bar and as usual there will be entertainment and art work galore. Frock up for an evening of artistic indulgence!

**Aboriginal Workshops:** Unfortunately due to illness the Aboriginal Workshops scheduled for today have had to be postponed until Friday 18 September. These are for all year levels and are focussed on art and music.

**School Nurse:** The Community Child Health Service offers a free health screening program for children at school-entry age during their prep year. Our prep parents have been sent home a consent form this week. Please complete and return as soon as possible if you have not done so already. The nurse will be here on Friday 28 August. If you would like to speak to a nurse please call 1300 366 039. If your child is in Year 1 and missed the prep screening program last year please collect a consent form from the school office.

**ICAS Maths Test:** Nominated students sat the Maths test on Wednesday. Now that all the tests have been completed, test papers are available to parents should they wish to have them. Please ask your child to pick up any from the office that you have paid for if you wish.

**Bike Skills:** The bike skills course for those students who have elected to participate will be starting on Thursday. If you are interested and did not receive a consent form, we have more in the office. Cost is \$5 for the 4 weeks.

**Australian Theatre of the Deaf:** Our performance entitled *Bookworm* has been postponed until Thursday 3 September. Since booking this activity it has been decided that the program is not suitable for Years 5, 6 & 7. The cost of \$5 has been included on the term invoice under Arts Council for all year levels, and therefore this amount will be either removed, or credited to families who have already paid in Years 5, 6 and 7.

**Tidy Up:** Keep Australia Beautiful Week kicks off on August 24 providing the ideal opportunity to reduce your household's waste. According to Keep Australia Beautiful, every household throws away up to one tonne of waste a year, 80% of which could be reused or recycled. ([www.kab.org.au](http://www.kab.org.au))

**Active School Travel:** Our winner of this week's interclass trophy goes to 3/4MN with 84%. Our winner every week is actually 6/7A but seeing as they always get 100% we like to share the trophy!

**Deaf Festival:** A flyer is included in this newsletter. If you are interested please see Cameron Miller about the package deal for the rides as he will have the forms. This year it will be held on our lower oval.

**Regards: Brendon Madden**

## For Your Diary

Tues	25 Aug	Book Week Fancy Dress Day
Tues	25 Aug	Hilary Badger Author Visit
Thurs	27 Aug	Bike Skills Commences x 4 weeks
Fri	28 Aug	School Nurse visit to Prep students
Fri	28 Aug	Interschool Sport commences
Tues	1 Sept	World of Maths Years 4 to 7
Wed	2 Sept	World of Maths Prep to Year 3
Thurs	3 Sept	Father's Day Stall
Thurs	3 Sept	Theatre of the Deaf
Sat	5 Sept	Open Day 9.00 to 11.30
Mon	7 Sept	Art Show
Thurs	17 Sept	Jump Off Day
Fri	18 Sept	Aboriginal Workshops

## Information Headquarter News

**Book Week:** What a week we have planned for next week. The theme of this year's Book Week is Book Safari. We will be celebrating this event by having a fancy dress day on Tuesday 25 August. Come dressed as your favourite book character or ready for a tropical safari. A gold coin donation for the library is welcomed.

**Special guest:** Also on Tuesday, Hilary Badger (close associate of Zac Powers) is coming to visit the children and staff of Toowong State School. Hilary will be talking with all of the students from Years 2 to 7, sharing top secret writing ideas and other secret agent stuff. Hilary is even infiltrating the teachers' staff meeting with tales of wonder and awe. Bring along your Zac Powers books to be signed and lots of interesting questions to ask...

**Q150 Train:** Join one of our young and talented writers Luka Ruckels on his journey with the Q150 train. Luka has joined his mum, author Kim Wilkins, also very talented, and other writers such as Nick Earls and poet Hinemoana Baker on board the historic steam train set for Western Queensland. They will be stopping at Toowoomba, Chinchilla, Roma, and Charleville, and giving writing workshops along the way. Luka, along with the other writers, will be keeping a blog of his journey at [http://www.pool.org.au/group/q150\\_steam\\_train\\_writers](http://www.pool.org.au/group/q150_steam_train_writers)

**Premier's Reading Challenge:** Last week we did not have the draw for the Nintendo DS due to the pupil free day, but keep reading those books and bringing in your challenge sheets for the chance to win. Once you have finished your challenge sheets leave them with Mrs Hobart to make sure that you receive your signed certificate from the premier. She will give you an extra to ensure that you can keep going in the draw for the Nintendo.

**Optiminds:** Best of luck to the two Optiminds teams competing on Saturday at Indooroopilly State High School. Both teams are competing in the Science/Engineering category. They have been working on their presentation during the Bright Spark sessions.

**Leigh Hobart**

## Jump Rope for Heart

I hope everyone is practising their skipping skills. Our Jump Off day has been postponed to Thursday 17 September. All money raised goes to the Heart Foundation and children may be able to win some great prizes. The more you raise the better the prize so keep getting those sponsors!

*Amanda Stewart*

## From the Front Office

**Invoices:** These have been sent home for Term 3 and we ask that you pay as soon as possible which will enable us to finalise our own accounts. If you are experiencing financial difficulties please ring the office so we can discuss a plan.

**Recycling Tip:** You may have noticed that some excursions now need to be paid for prior to the day separately from the term invoice. Can we suggest that you save and reuse old envelopes from your mailbox for this purpose and then mark with the child's name, class, excursion and amount. Loose change has a habit of getting lost in school bags!

### Tuckshop Roster

Tues Homebake: 25 Aug: Bronwyn Drinkwater, Meagan Roberts  
Tues Helper: Vacancy  
Thurs Homebake: 27 Aug: Susie Byrnes, Natasha Johnson  
Thurs Helper: Rayna  
Tues Homebake: 1 Sept: Julie Osborne, Caitlin Neville  
Tues Helper: Vacancy  
Thurs Homebake: 3 Sept: Susie Byrnes, Tessa Ronan  
Thurs Helper: Rayna

### Auslan Classes

Classes for parents and other members of the community are held here at school free of charge on Tuesday nights from 6.00 to 7.30pm. Please contact the office or email Michelle on mocon12@eq.edu.au for further questions or to RSVP.

#### Prep **Nerida Swetman**

Last week Mrs McDonald from the Indigenous Education Unit spoke to us about life in the Torres Strait Islands. As well as showing us the flag, we learnt about traditional island life and learnt a new song called 'Taba Naba'. After our talk we played some traditional island games. In our play we have started to set up our own 'Ekka.' We have created signs for stalls, brochures, rides and tickets. The fashion parade was very interesting!

#### P/1CS **Michelle Coleman/Amanda Stewart**

Wow! Our students are amazing! We have been working very hard on our organisation skills. On Wednesday everyone remembered to hand in their blue folders! Great work. Fridays have been wonderful. We really enjoy Active Learning with the Prep class. We have also been practising our skipping skills. P/1CS are proving to be expert skippers!

#### 1/2B **Elitia Brennan**

In Art we designed some creatures with Mrs Hamwood and now we are cutting them out. Then we will cover them with coloured paper for the Art Show. In Gymnastics we have been doing bunny hops, tuck sits and hand stands. Sometimes we have competitions where we need to finish 4 activities and the one who finishes first is the winner. In Auslan with Mr Morgan we have learnt some new signs for animals and also how to fingerspell our names. *by Hugh and Sharanya*

#### 2/3OK **Bronwyn Kelly/Elaine O'Dea**

We have been making bikes out of materials such as paper, milk bottle tops and string. Some of us are trying to copy da Vinci's bike and others are making more modern bikes. Soon we will be making another invention to do with a plant or animal. On Mondays we do fun things at gymnastics. We have learnt to use our hands and no feet to pull ourselves along two hanging bars. And we have learnt to make our bodies into shapes like stars, superman, pencil, tuck-sit, pike and straddle. *by Lara and Zach*

#### 3/4MN **Mary Anne McIntyre/Tracey-Lee Nicholas**

It was great to have the short Ekka break last week. The children have presented their invention and explained how it worked, the simple machines in it and how they designed and made it. They have spent a lot of time completing the chart, researching and building it. They will be displayed in the classroom for everyone to come and see. Next week we have the author visit. Jump Rope for Heart will be at the end of term. We have started learning about how Indigenous Australians lived before European settlement. The children have been reading Dreaming stories and finding out how they used the environment for all their needs.

#### 4/5FM **Elizabeth Fletcher/Cameron Miller**

Recently we went on an excursion to a building that the convicts made called the Commissariat Store. We learnt how the convicts lived and what they had to do. They wore chains around their ankles with a rope attached which they had to pull up to be able to walk. They only had bread and water each week and new clothes only once a year. The bricks used to build the Commissariat Store were made from ground oysters and lemon juice! They are still okay today. We are now learning more about Australian history and the indigenous people. We have been trying to work out how they arrived in Australia all those years ago. Maybe on a raft made out of wood or palm leaves tied with string? Did they come from Asia? How did they survive? We have been trying to find out what they ate and how they lived. *by Jena and Kyle*

#### 6/7A **Keiran Abel**

This week we have been working on writing letters to the editor about issues in our local and wider community. We had a visit from Peter Matic last week who told us about his job. He was a lawyer before he became a councillor. Our class have been making paper mache animals for our Art Exhibition and have started training for Interschool sport which starts next week. This term we are also entering a cricket team in the competition. Many people in our class have already started practising for their Talent Quest act. *by Thomas and Matthew*

#### 6/7BN **Saleigh Noble/Leah Barnett**

Last week a man from Lions came to speak to us about his job and what the Lions do. The club is worldwide and it started in Chicago. We then had a visit from a lady from the RSPCA who told us about animals and how to treat them well. They help unwanted or lost animals by feeding them and giving them shelter. On Monday, Michael Johnson is coming to talk to us about his job as Federal Member for Ryan. We also listened to Peter Matic a couple of weeks ago telling us about his role in council. We have working on a Q150 project where we need to provide an itinerary to take a person to 4 to 6 places that are famous in Brisbane, e.g. City Hall, Treasury Building, Mt Coot-tha or the Botanic Gardens. Our Optiminds groups are participating in a challenge on Saturday. We hope they do well. *by Isabella and Ivan*

### Community News

**School of Psychology:** UQ is seeking participants aged 8 to 12 years to help with a project "The Impact of Mood and Emotions on visual Perception" Participants would receive \$20. More info at the office or ring Felisa on 0423 293 358

**Rainbow Carnival:** Rainworth State School's carnival is on Sunday 30 August at Norman Buchan Park, Rainworth Road, Bardon from 10am- 3pm. A fun-filled day for young and old with rides, delicious food & gourmet treats, books, plants etc.

**Mulch:** The Toowong/Milton/Taringa Scout Group are holding their annual mulch and fertiliser drive. Mulch is delivered to your door on 12 September for \$6.50 per bag. Fertiliser \$11. Call Christine for details or collect an order form from the office. Phone 0418 871 939