

Friday 8 May 2009

Dear Parents and Carers,

School Traffic: I would like to ask that parents please be careful and considerate when driving around the school. We all need to work together to make drop-off and pick-up of children safe and efficient. There are designated parking spots for cars to stop. Parents should not stop their vehicles in the turning circle at the top end of St Osyth Street. Thank you for your support.

Influenza and Viruses: If children show signs of influenza or illness could parents please keep them at home.

NAPLAN Tests: These will be on next week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for the Years 3, 5 and 7. Good luck!

Contact Details: A form has been included with this newsletter in case contact details have changed. We need to keep contacts up to date on our computer system especially in the event of an emergency. If you do not receive newsletters and KITs via email, could you also include an email address somewhere on the form so we can add you to our list?

RACQ Road Safety Team Visit: As part of our Active School Travel Program children will be given the opportunity to learn road safety from the RACQ safety team on 18 May. Skills such as walking to school, crossing safety and pick-up and drop-off will be specifically talked about. Parents are welcome to participate. Details about class times will be in the next KIT.

Australia's Walk Safely to School Day: The Pedestrian Council of Australia's Walk Safely to School Day is on Friday, 15 May 2009. This is an annual, national event when all primary school children will be encouraged to walk and commute safely to school. It is a community event seeking to promote road safety, health, public transport and the environment. As an Active School Travel school, we are already ahead of the pack. For more info, go to the website: <http://www.walk.com.au/wtsd01/page.asp?PageID=268>

Tuckshop: We are sorry to announce that Bonnie will be leaving her position as tuckshop convenor at the end of this term. She has done a wonderful job and we will miss her very much. If anyone is interested in this position please let us know.

Indooroopilly Maths Tournament: This year we will be fielding two teams for the Indooroopilly Maths Tournament on Friday 22 May. This competition calls together the best Maths students from our area. Notes will be sent home shortly to nominated students. A practice session will start next week.

Movie Night: Flyers have gone home for this. If you did not receive one please request one at the office.

P&C Meeting: Our next meeting is on Monday 18 May. (Not the second Monday of the month as usual)

Active School Travel Results: This week the honour goes to 6/7A yet again! Come on you other classes! Here we have our school captains holding up the Golden Boot which we won over several other schools!



Regards: **Brendon Madden**

For Your Diary

Tues	12 May	NAPLAN – Language Conventions/ Writing
Wed	13 May	NAPLAN - Reading
Thurs	14 May	NAPLAN – Numeracy
Fri	15 May	Walk Safely to School Day
Mon	18 May	RACQ Road Safety Education Team
Mon	18 May	P&C Meeting 7.00pm
Fri	22 May	Movie Night and Book Fair
Mon	25 May	Under Eights' Day

Information Headquarter News

Premier's Reading Challenge: Monday May 11 is the first day of the Premier's Reading Challenge. Students from Prep - Year 7 are challenged to read 20 books by the 21 August. Those who meet the challenge will receive a certificate signed by the Premier. Younger students may experience their 20 books. Challenge sheets will go out next week. To coincide with reading challenge there will be a school based competition. This will be launched on Friday at assembly. Keep tuned for details.

Book Fair: We will again be holding our Book Fair in association with the Movie Night. Students who are not attending will be given an opportunity to buy books the following week. Purchasing a book assists the school to raise money for more books. You may even like to consider donating a book to the school library.

Tween's Bookclub: This is held at Toowong Library every 4th Friday of the month. This book club is especially for 9-12 year olds who enjoy reading great books or watching movies. The next date is Friday 22 May, 3:30-4:30pm. The book is "The Haunted House" by Angie Sage. Please contact Mira at the Toowong Library on 3403 2590 if you have any queries.

Leigh Hobart

Under Eights' Week

Under Eights' Week is an event organised annually by the Early Childhood Australia Queensland Branch. The theme for 2009 is 'Creativity - Let it Happen.' As part of Under Eights' week, Toowong State School will hold an Under Eights' Day celebration on Monday 25 May. Children will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities, play on the jumping castle and watch a performance by Timbarra Productions called 'Pirates.' To get into the mood for the performance children can wear a pirate outfit on the day. If you have any questions about the day, please see your class teacher. The cost of this is \$6 and will be included on your term invoice.

Nerida Swetman

Tuckshop News

What a fantastic day we had for our Meal Deal. I was totally overwhelmed by the numbers! Apologies to those who missed out for not having enough of the chocolate slice. And a huge thank you to my helpers Thuy and Rayna. *Bonnie Brown*

Tuckshop Roster

Tues Homebake:	12 May:	Liz Freeman, Melissa Watson
Tues Helper:		Thuy
Thurs Homebake:	14 May:	Susie Byrnes, Melissa Freeman
Thurs Helper:		Thuy
Tues Homebake:	19 May:	Caitlin Neville, Miranda Cornish
Tues Helper:		Thuy
Thurs Homebake:	21 May:	Susie Byrnes, Nic Mahler
Thurs Helper:		Thuy

Prep**Nerida Swetman**

Prep students enjoyed the 'Celebration of Sports Day.' Students had the opportunity to participate in tennis, cricket and Deaf Sports. For the next five weeks 'Young Sports' will visit us on Friday afternoons with a range of activities including golf and athletics. In our focused learning we have been developing language to describe 3D shapes and investi-gating why some objects roll and slide. We have also looked at toys and grouped toys according to specific features of movement. This term Prep will work with P/1 on Friday for 'Active Negotiated Learning.' Students choose from a range of activities. They can choose to be actors, artists, builders, gardeners or cooks. I would like to thank Mrs Basu for her lovely donation of toys. Don't forget to wear your pirate dress-up on Under Eights' Day!

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

The Year 1 children have been working very hard on their writing. They are simply champions! The Prep children have also been doing really well in our 'mass' lessons. Great work class! We welcome a lovely new boy in our class, Jesse. Other exciting news is that we will be working with the Prep class on Fridays for Active Negotiated Learning and 'Young Sports' started today as well. Happy Mothers' Day!

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

The children have had a very 'hands-on, minds-on' week! In language rotations they carefully followed a recipe procedure to make homemade lemonade. They were surprised to discover that real lemonade does not have lots of gassy bubbles! Neither is it very sweet, but it tastes good all the same! In integrated unit time they followed another procedure to make ectoplasmic gunk. Very messy but great fun and in making it we discovered that matter can have its consistency and shape change by adding things to it. The next day the children experimented with warm and cool tones and perspective in Miss Kelly's art session. They came up with some wonderfully mature work to demonstrate their understandings. Then on Thursday, they enjoyed their first specialist art lesson with Mrs Hamwood. We teachers do not know what she worked on with the children **yet** but all should be revealed after their next lesson in three weeks time. Welcome back to Todd who has returned after being sick for more than two weeks and we wish a fond farewell to Zahra and her family who leave us today to return to Indonesia.

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

Short weeks are busy weeks! We have been measuring length and learning about perimeter and area. Narratives can have dialogue and these sentences with talking need to be punctuated properly. This can be difficult and we have been learning all the tricks so we can write dialogue in our stories. Next week are the NAPLAN tests for Year 3 so there won't be any homework sheet or new spelling words. Changing library books has been changed to Tuesdays immediately after our library lesson. This is more convenient and doesn't eat into our Maths time. We are very lucky to have two student teachers with us for four weeks.

4/5D**Emma Dixon/Olivetta Harris**

Writing, writing, writing. We have been composing short stories over the last 2 weeks and there are a number of very creative ideas. When our short stories are finished, children will then modify them to suit an oral story-telling presentation. Children can use props and costumes so it will be a very fun and creative task. Preparation for the presentation is going to be homework for Week 5. Next week Year 5 children will be completing the NAPLAN tests. The areas tested are reading, writing, language conventions and maths. Reading questions carefully and checking that answers make sense will ensure children achieve great results. Early to bed on those nights please! On a sad note,

4/5D is saying goodbye to a very special class member this week. Afrah is moving back to Indonesia with her family after being at our school for 5 years. We will all miss Afrah's beautiful smile.

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

We have been acting in plays which we have written ourselves in groups. We have been wearing costumes and using props. Some have been very funny. Yesterday we had our first art lesson with Mrs Hamwood. We had to trace around our hands and then fill in with colours and she is also teaching us about symmetrical and asymmetrical shapes. On Wednesday we had a Torch test where we had to read a story then fill in missing words.
by Ben and Jiah

6/7A**Keiran Abel**

Miss Abel was away at professional development on Monday and Tuesday so we had Ms Nicholas. She taught us about being confident and positive in ourselves by using the 1, 2, 3 method. When you are in a negative situation you should try and think positively to get around it. The first stage is to breathe in deeply. Second is to breathe out and think positively. Thirdly we need to find a positive solution for the problem.
by Eli

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

Over the last two weeks our class has been doing Science. Last week we did an experiment called 'Slime'. This week we are now doing an experiment called 'Evaporating Water'. It is going very well. Next week the Year 7s are doing a test called NAPLAN which will go for 3 days. As you know Mothers' Day is on Sunday and the Year 7s did the stall. *by Jessica and Rena*

This week our class activity was to think of an unusual way to brighten up a lonely elderly neighbour's day. Here is Willow's idea:

My Neighbour's Yard

Last week I mowed a smiley face into my neighbour's back lawn as a gift. My neighbour is very lonely and she needs company, so I decided to mow her lawn into a smiley face. When it was done, I called her outside. She slowly walked down the back steps into the garden and her face lit up with joy. She asked, "How much?" I replied, "It's free!"

School for Parents

Reading to your child – hints for parents

Comics, magazines, library books, signs and even shopping lists can stimulate your child's reading. Asking your child to read these aloud with you will improve their reading in the classroom.

You can help your child with their reading by:

- * reading to them from an early age – to let them know that reading is a fun and relaxing activity and not just for work and school. Children love to copy, so it's a great way to set an example that reading is important

- * asking your child to read aloud each day for at least 10 minutes from a variety of texts, such as beginner readers, library books and picture books – this will establish a routine and make reading aloud easier

- * using expression and feeling when you read and using different voices for different characters – this can make a story more entertaining

- * letting your child choose what you read together – it doesn't matter if you read the same book several times

- * joining a library and borrowing books to read is inexpensive. Most libraries will have a children's librarian – it is a good idea to speak with them about books you can share with your child.

For more tips on helping your child to embrace reading visit:

www.education.qld.gov.au/parents/map/

