Dear Parents/Carers

P & Cs Are Valuable and Valued

Our Parents and Citizen’s association is active in our school. Without them, various parts of our school operations could not run. In this newsletter, we acknowledge the efforts of P & C volunteer members, their staff and community links that support our school community. Our students and families are the winners. In most schools, the P & C is made up of a small and dedicated group of parents with a diverse range of skills and experiences. These folk are just doing it for the benefit of all our children and students. We thank them for their efforts and support.

As well as running its two business units of Canteen and Uniform Shop, our P & C are active in planning, organising and following through with events for students, families and community such as Mother’s and Father’s Day stalls, student discos, community trivia nights, and various other special events.

Much of P & C activity can be seen as fund-raising supporting its operations ($250 million last year across Qld) and student access to, and involvement in, enriched school programs, and it is also concerned with enriching a culture of support within the school. Our P & C was acknowledged in 2013 with an award for its exemplary practices in this aspect of its operations.

The P & C is concerned with operations, functions and events. If individuals have particular concerns about the school, staff or operations, these may be considered by the P & C Executive, and generally such issues may be referred to the school principal for appropriate follow-up. Dealing with individual concerns is generally not a P & C function except within the P&C business units. The P & C may then involve the principal, or as operations related to the school, the principal may intervene when, for instance, it involves the good order and management of the school. P & C members and executive are not asked to deal with such issues without support.

During the next week, please take time to consider and thank P & C members for their work in support of our whole school community.

Parents And Community Members On School Grounds

Many parents or family members enter the school to drop off and pick up their children on a regular basis. This is

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encouraged and supported. Issues may occur when people then also contact other students. We sometimes have parents approaching, or being approached by students not their own children. Departmental policy states expectations that the school works to have no person without “parental responsibility for a child should not be allowed access to a child at school without the consent of the parent who retains parental responsibility.”

At our school, we have numbers of students with extended families, and determining who may or may not have permission can be difficult. Parents should be aware that if they are asking students, they may be asked by supervising staff to produce identification (driver’s licence or passport), sign-in as visitors at the office and have approval for the contact as part of which they may need to provide evidence they “retain parental responsibility”, or evidence they have permission to have contact with a child.

Departmental policy also states “Contact should not be allowed to become routine and should be monitored.”

“So as to avoid unnecessary disruption to school routine, communication between a child and a parent during the school day, either in person or by telephone ... should be limited to if necessary: to help with the education or welfare of the child; to assist the administration of the state school, because there has been an accident or emergency concerning the child; to allow the child to attend medical or other appointments; to help with school disciplinary action concerning the child.”

We ask that parents keep these expectations in mind when at school and contacting children.

NAPLAN, Teaching, Assessment, Reporting And Attendance

With NAPLAN now behind us, we look forward to the results when they become available to us. In the meantime, teachers are now full-swing into completing curriculum units of work and compiling assessments to inform end of year reporting. Please remember that, while children should not be a school when ill, especially when they may spread infection; catching up work by coming late to school or missing school, makes learning so much harder for students and teachers to follow up.

Parade Arrangements

Our trial of changing parade to Tuesday afternoon is starting to swing into completing curriculum units of work and compiling assessments to inform end of semester reporting. Please remember that, while children should not be a school when ill, especially when they may spread infection; catching up work by coming late to school or missing school, makes learning so much harder for students and teachers to follow up.

End Of Lunch Assemblies

To better smooth transitions from breaks to lessons, end of breaks have staff and students at a brief assembly before commencing instruction periods. This is to speed up transitions, encourage contact and positive relationships with supervising staff and resolve any playground issues before entering class. Our aim is to encourage positive behaviours and foster stronger learning environments.

Community Information Sessions - SWPBS

We are having two School Wide Positive Behaviour Support Community Information Sessions on Tuesday 3 June 9.00 - 10.00am & Thursday 5 June 2.00 - 3.00pm in the hall. All welcome.

2014 Premier’s Reading Challenge

I am proud to announce that Serviceton South State School students will have the opportunity to take part in the Premier’s Reading Challenge for 2014.

The Premier’s Reading Challenge is a state-wide initiative for students from Prep to Year 7. Since 2006, the PRC has aimed to improve literacy and encourage children to engage in reading for learning and pleasure. In 2014, students will once again be called upon to read or experience an allocated number of books for their reading level during the period of 20 May to 5 September 2014. Prep to Year 2 students must read or engage with 20 books, Years 3 and 4 students must read 20 books and Years 5 to 7 students must read 15 books.

Each student from Year 3-7 will be issued with an Individual Reading Record on which they will record books read during the period above. Students in Years P-2 will have their Reading Record completed by their classroom teacher.

Should you have any queries about this, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Thanks for supporting your students!

Lauren Sturges
Head of Curriculum

Chappy Corner

CHAPPY WEEK IS HERE!!! Next week will be an action packed, fun filled week. There will be many activities to celebrate Chaplaincy in the school.

Starting on Monday 19th to Friday 23rd.

Teachers vs Students Basketball – Monday 1st Break Pancake Breakfast - Tuesday 8:00-8:30am – 50c. Do you think you can Lip-Sync – Friday 1st Break (Sign up at Office in Chappy’s Mail Box)

Looking forward to seeing you and joining in all the fun.

Chappy Lane

Police Bike Safety

Last term students in Years 5-7 participated in a Bike Safety Session run by the local police. They learnt the importance of wearing a helmet and being safe on the road. The students were challenged to make a poster to promote bike safety and had the opportunity to WIN a Brand New Helmet or Bike! Here are just some of the posters entered. Well done to all who participated!

Winner will be announced in the next 2 weeks.

Dental Clinic

To make a dental appointment with Metro South Oral Health please call 1300 300 850.

P&C News

Thank you to those parents who attended our last meeting, it’s always great to see new faces. All welcome to next P&C meeting Monday 19th May, 9.10am in the Parent Room.

Mother’s Day Stall

We hope all the mothers enjoyed their Mother’s Day presents. Thank you to everyone who purchased from our stall. The winner of the raffle was Jennifer from 5/6/7, Congratulations.

A big thank you to all the students who helped with the Mother’s Day stall, we are pleased to assist in developing your life skills in communication, sales, marketing and money management.

P&C Event Calendar - Up-Coming Events

* Sports day Monday 23rd June. We will host a BBQ for families.

* Disco Years 3-7 (night) Thursday 26th June and Preps – Year 2 (during the day)

The P&C June Event Calendar will be sent home soon.

Term 3 will have a Crazy Mad Hatters theme, the P & C have lots of fun things coming up to celebrate!

Any parent’s who wish to assist on any of these events please see our P & C President, Amy Whiteman in the Parent Room / Uniform Shop, Wednesday – Friday from 8.15am. We are always grateful for the help and your child/ren will love seeing you participate.

Thank you to Kayla Morgan & Nikki Nowlan for taking up the roles as School Banking Co-ordinators.

Any Whiteman
P&C President

School Banking

Reminder that School Banking is every Tuesday. Please see Kayla or Nikki for an application form. For every 10 deposits your student will be rewarded with a fantastic prize, there are loads of fun prizes.

Kayla Morgan & Nikki Nowlan
School Banking Co-ordinators

We respectfully acknowledge the Jagera people, the Traditional Owners of the land on which this school stands.

IMPORTANT DATES

19 May P & C Meeting
3 June SWPBS Information Session 9.00-10.00am
5 June SWPBS Information Session 2.00-3.00pm
5 June Planetarium Excursion - 5BM
9 June Queens Birthday Public Holiday
18 June School Photos
25 June Sports Day