### Gems 7/2/2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRIZE</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>EXPECTATION</th>
<th>GIVEN BY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marbles</td>
<td>Kasey</td>
<td>2R</td>
<td>Terrific problem solving skills</td>
<td>Mrs Ross</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming Goggles</td>
<td>Esther</td>
<td>1K</td>
<td>Always being respectful</td>
<td>Mrs Kuzewicz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magic Cube</td>
<td>Evon</td>
<td>2R</td>
<td>We Are Team Players Being on the right time</td>
<td>Mrs Kropp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Super Yoyo</td>
<td>Lesina</td>
<td>1K</td>
<td>We Learn Being an active listener</td>
<td>Mrs Kuzewicz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5, 6 &amp; 7 Prize</td>
<td>Tyrone</td>
<td>6H</td>
<td>We Learn</td>
<td>Mrs Hurdle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5, 6 &amp; 7 Prize</td>
<td>Paul G</td>
<td>7FG</td>
<td>We Care Staying on the best sapphire</td>
<td>Miss Finney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5, 6 &amp; 7 Prize</td>
<td>Andrew</td>
<td>6H</td>
<td>We Learn Completing Chinese New Year drawing</td>
<td>Mrs Hurdle</td>
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</tbody>
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Dear Parents/Carers

We are now fully into the school term. Last year we were very successful in getting a significant increase in student performances on NAPLAN. We plan towards achieving optimum results in 2014 as well. We need to be mindful that each year we are writing the school history again, and with different students. NAPLAN year levels have been assessed and programs based on this data set up to optimise student learning in 2014.

Throughout the school, teachers are working with students to develop a current understanding of how individual students in their classes learn, and what their needs may be. Generally, 40% of the effect of teaching is a result of what happens with teachers, around 10% is a result of other school activities, and around 50% is affected by what children and their families bring to the school learning of our students.

Under the Great Results Guarantee (GRG) that brings the new funding to the school, our current understanding is that our funding is similar to that we had under the National Partnership agreement. During 2013 we took steps to prepare our school programs to align with the anticipated expectations, and as such, we have only some fine-tuning to do in our Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) in order to comply with the GRG expectations. Such fine tuning will continue as we receive further information and funds are released to the school.

There are three main parts to our AIP. Continuing to roll-out our whole school teaching and learning framework, and we can see the basic form of that in the posters displayed in every classroom. We have also taken steps to increase student vocabulary development, specifically targeting that area as one our data tells us our students have significant needs. We are also strengthening our mathematics program in our lower school, and following research, anticipate rolling this through the upper school. Our prioritised focus on reading and mathematics continues.

We also are implementing our School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support framework. This goes hand-in-hand with strengthening school-wide expectations in learning, and increasing expectations as we improve. Parents are asked to discuss the classroom system of ‘sapphires’ with their children so as to share understanding of this ‘language of schooling’. If you have any issues or concerns, please take it up with your child’s teacher. While we acknowledge and celebrate the various cultures in our community, our unifying culture needs to be that of the school, and for everyone to know and understand how to work within the expectations of ‘we learn, we care, we are team players’.

To develop higher expectations with students and involve our community and families is to develop the other 50% of influence on our students – families and students themselves. We will be looking for varied ways to enhance our communication with parents and community to better improve attendance and learning for our students, parents also supporting and challenging students to develop responsible behaviour.

(Continued on page 2)
Our P&C have indicated they are wanting to strengthen their commitment to supporting our school programs, and we encourage parents to participate in the P&C to be truly representative of the school community.

The level of uniform dress is currently very good. Please be aware that, in the interests of safety, we will be following up with students who are not wearing secure, enclosed shoes (not slip-ons) that are safe for students and those they play with (so steel-capped BMX sports shoes are not acceptable), and being worn appropriately.

We will also be pursuing hats in the same way. In our climate, hats are an essential part of sun-safety, and also part of our uniform expectations. We will follow up on shoes and hats until we have every student wearing these parts of their uniform appropriately.

Our high expectations are all aimed at strengthening student performance as part of our core business of enhancing teaching and student learning – we work hard and play well.

Swimming Years 4 - 7
Swimming is an essential part of our Health and Physical Education Program (HPE). Children in Years 4 – 7 will be taking part in swimming lessons during Term 1. Children will be placed in small groups to cater for their swimming ability.

It is expected that every child participate for the full program. They will have one swimming lesson per week each Wednesday for five weeks starting on Wednesday, 26 February. The final lesson will be on Wednesday, 26 March. The cost for the five week swimming program is $35.00. Permission forms have been sent home with students.

Early Arrival At School
No student should be at school before 8am. Students are supervised in the undercover area near the canteen from 8.00am to 8.40am. PCYC provides before and after school care.

Gardens In The School Grounds
If you would like to volunteer some time we welcome parents to help out with weeding and clipping hedges, etc. We would appreciate your help to keep our gardens and grounds looking nice. Please contact the office.

**Chappy Corner**
Hello! Let me take this opportunity to introduce myself; my name is Lauren Sturges and I have recently joined the Serviceton South team as Head of Curriculum. Previously, I was posted at Pallara State School where I was also working in the HOC role.

I have been made feel very welcome at Serviceton South and would like to extend my thanks to all of the staff and families who have contributed to this change. Thus far I have been thoroughly impressed by the way all staff have committed to engaging with our explicit teaching framework and the data-driven planning sessions of the Years 3, 5 and 7 teachers.

I am very much looking forward to working within the school and getting to know the families of our fantastic students.

Every Day Counts
We are very excited to re-launch our Attendance Rewards for 2014. This week on assembly Team Respect will present one class from the junior school and one class from the junior school with the fortnightly attendance reward. On Monday 24 February at 2nd break the winning classes will receive a sausage sizzle in the Undercover Area.

This week Team Respect will also announce our End of Term Attendance reward for the class with the best attendance. Make sure your child is attending school every day, and if they are absent because of illness or extenuating circumstances please contact the office. Every Day Counts at Serviceton South.

Team Respect
This will be the 5th year of Team Respect and because there has been so much interest from the senior school we have decided to rotate students in Team Respect throughout the year. We have a Team Respect for Term 1 who have already started work on an introduction video, and ideas for future videos. Jessica, Ateriano, Samson, Charlize, Jacob, Paul, Ismiala, Willow and Jeryle will be our Team Respect members this term.