Author Visit

On the first day of term 3 the school was visited by award-winning author Irena Kobald, who wrote last year’s CBCA Picture Book of the Year My Two Blankets. Ms Kobald read her book to classes 3A, 3/4B, 4A, 4/5C and 5A, and answered students’ questions. She also displayed translations of her book in 10 other languages.

The book is about what it feels like to come to a strange country as a refugee and learn a new language. The two blankets in the title are the first blanket, which symbolises the native language, and the second blanket, which symbolises the new language, which has to be gradually woven from new words taught by new friends. The book was inspired by an interaction between the author’s daughter and a refugee girl from Africa.
Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members

A huge welcome to our new Deputy Principal, Mrs Alison Prendergast, who joined us last week. Mrs Prendergast is quickly settling into our school community and we hope she will become a long term member of the team. Please join us in making her feel welcome. Mrs Gail Kennett returned to her substantive position this term, but we acknowledge the good work done by Mrs Kennett and wish her all the best for her next adventure.

Our School Annual Report was published on the website on 30 June and is available for all parents. It will also be serialised in the newsletter this term. The first excerpt is about the school’s progress towards its goals in 2015 and Reading, Writing, Numeracy and Attendance, engagement and transition have been included on the first page of this week’s newsletter. Next week’s newsletter will include progress towards goals for School Discipline and High Performing Teaching Team.

Last week we concluded our Sports Day with field events and the results will be announced on Parade tomorrow. Who will it be? Neptune, Pluto or Mars? Information for students who qualified for the events and the results will be announced on Parade tomorrow.

Warm regards
Ms Marni Morrison
Principal

Spotlight on Reading
Premier’s Reading Challenge

Congratulations to Patiliki, Junior and Glory for being our first students to complete the challenge. Students have until August, 26th to complete the challenge. 20 books read for Prep-Grade 3 and 15 books read for students in grades 4-6. The first class to have all students complete the challenge will have a pizza party.

Reading at Home

It is an expectation that all Serviceton South State School students read every night. Our younger students are provided with texts at their reading level but may also chose a text that captures their interest. When students are independent readers they should be reading anything that interests them eg stories, information texts, instructions for games, cooking and building, lyrics, poetry – the list is endless.

Morning Reading

Every Monday morning this term (from 25/7/16) students arriving between 8:00 and 8:30 will participate in Reading Buddies. Students will pair up and either read or listen to reading. Parents are encouraged to come along and join in.

Pre Prep

Pre prep classes have started at Serviceton South State School on Wednesdays, from 1:30pm-2:30pm, in the library. This program is for 3 to 5 year olds and their parents. The program is play-based, focussing on speech, oral language, vocabulary and social skills.

Multicultural Day 2016

August 18. Save the date!!! That is when we will be having SSMS Multicultural Day. Students are already practising performances but we would love community involvement. There will be 4 strands to the day: (1) performances in the Hall; (2) artefacts from different cultures on display; (3) activities: craft, games and demonstrations; and (4) ‘The Long Table’ where we share food from all over the world. Students and their families will be able to come in their cultural clothes and join in the fun. We need families to become involved by teaching or performing cultural items, providing objects from their cultural background to be displayed, providing food for The Long Table and demonstrating and/or getting students to participate in a craft or game. If you are able to help out with any of these activities please contact Mrs Debbie Poppi (Teacher) or leave your name and contact details at the office.

School Opinion Survey

Every year, Education Queensland asks all staff, parents and a sample of students to give their opinions about their school. The School Opinion Surveys are anonymous and the information is used by schools to help assess existing programs and to help plan for future initiatives. This year, some students in Years 4, 5 and 6 will be asked to do the survey along with all of our families.

Earlier this week, the youngest child of each family should have brought home a letter advising how to log on and complete the survey online. The closing date for completing the survey is Friday 29 July. If you do not have access to the internet at home, Mrs Prendergast will be opening the Computer lab in the library at 8.15am - 8.45am on Wednesday 27 July. Please bring your letter with your logon details with you.

P & C News

The P&C would like to give a big thank you to all the parent volunteers who helped on Sports Day. Without their help Sports Day would not have been possible.

Future Events:

“Glow In The Dark”, Disco

Date: 9 August 2016
Junior Disco: 5.00pm - 6.15pm
Senior Disco: 6.30pm - 8.00pm
Cost: $3.00 per student

Food and drinks are available for purchase on the night. We will also be selling glow sticks.

Father’s Day Stall

We will be holding a Father’s Day stall from 31 August until 2 September (or until sold out). The price of gifts will be from $1.00 to $5.00. The stall will be held at the front of the canteen from 8.00am - 8.45am.

Free Dress Day

There will be a Free Dress Day on Friday 9 September. The theme is favourite sports team.

Family Portraits

Family Portraits will be held on Thursday 6 October. Further information will be sent home closer to the date.

Parent Lounge-With Chappy Sian

Parents and carers are invited to come to parent room to enjoy a free cup of tea or coffee before school. The parent lounge is a place where parents and friends of the school can come to socialise and find out more about what is happening in the life of the school. The parent lounge is on Tuesday mornings from 8.00am - 9.00am.

Thank You

A big thank you to Col at the Crossacres Garden Centre who has donated the seedlings for our revamped school garden. The students are patiently waiting to harvest a range of vegetables and herbs including tomatoes, cauliflower, carrots and coriander. All the seedlings are flourishing thanks to the efforts of Mr Goody, our Facilities Officer who spent many hours preparing the garden beds for planting and the quality of the seedlings.

Please try and take the time to complete this survey as your feedback is important to us and will help us set our school’s future direction.

IMPORTANT DATES

9 August Glow in the Dark Disco
Junior Disco 5.00pm - 6.15pm
Senior Disco 6.30pm- 8.00pm
10 August Exhibition Holiday
12 August Ekka Excursion - 3A,3/4B,4A & 4/5C
18 August Multicultural Day
24 August Glenala Transition Day - Year 6
31 Aug-2 Sept Father’s Day Stall
31 August Ipswich Little Theatre - Prep
2 September Prep Information Session
2 September Planetarium Excursion - Year 1
5 September P & C Meeting
6&7 September Parent Teacher Interviews
8 September Chess Tournament - Stretton College
9 September Free Dress Day - Theme - Favourite Sports Team
16 September Teacher Aides’ Day
16 September Positive Behaviour Day
6 October Family Portraits

Crossacres Garden Centre is open to the public 7 days a week at 58 Crossacres St Doolandella.

Breakfast Club

Don't forget that breakfast club is on Thursday mornings before school starting at 8am. Students can attend breakfast club during the before school activity time between 8.00am-8.30am. Come to the parent room near the canteen for yummy cheesy toast, baked beans, cereal and other goodies. Breakfast club costs 20c.

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