Dear Parents/Carers

Rolling Up To The End Of Term

There are many events, both school and P&C which contribute to a busy end-of-year. Please keep an eye on the calendar so you can plan accordingly.

At this time we are working intensively to ensure students’ learning and assessments are completed ready for reporting. This process continues over a period of time and school attendance is important to allow students the opportunity to benefit from teaching which is going on.

Data gathered on student performance is also collated and made available for following teachers, so the more information a teacher has at the beginning of the year regarding class members’ various learning needs, the more rapidly teachers and support staff can get down to taking students forward.

2015 School Preparations

2014 is unique across Queensland as we have two year levels in their final year of schooling. While various steps have been undertaken already to allow our years 6 and 7 students a ‘flying start’ into secondary school, it is also important that the school’s opportunity to benefit from teaching which is going on.

Social Media And Students

At our School we take our responsibility to maintain the health and safety of our students and staff very seriously. This responsibility includes considering issues related to behaviours online.

With increasing access to social media by students, a number of students and parents are reporting concerns and sometimes those concerns involve the school when the matters are brought into the school.

You need to have already contacted the high school your child will enrol into so they can plan for this, but also that you are prepared to deal with young people who may be feeling a bit uncertain as to what next year will be like.

At our school, based on information provided by parents, we are now working on class and staffing options for 2015. It is critical to this process that we have as accurate a record of which students will continue and enrol with us in 2015. If your situation is changing and will affect enrolments at our school, please let us know as soon as possible.

After a 2-year interval, a permanent Principal has been located to our school for 2015. Marni Morrison is a very experienced Principal and brings understanding of the programs being rolled out at our school. Our school is anticipated to benefit and grow in directions already started and to be followed through with consistent management and leadership.

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Behaviours in the online environment can cover a broad range of issues including online privacy and information protection, good and bad manners, digital citizenship and knowing how to get help to deal with online issues.

As you may be aware, comments posted online may impact permanently on the digital reputation of those affected. This includes all members of our school community. There can be very real negative consequences from online posts – relationships between people can be permanently changed for the worse.

Facebook and other social networking sites are generally not private communities and, depending on an individual’s security settings, comments can be read by many people and remain online indefinitely.

If you or your child are posting information online about the school, staff or students, I ask that you consider the ramifications of these comments on the school and any individuals in the school community concerned. As a rule of thumb:

- Public discussion is most effective when it is conducted in a polite and respectful manner.
- Before posting, consider whether these people you are posting about want information, including photos and comments regarding them and their children, posted on Facebook or on other sites. Perhaps ask them before you do it.
- Rather than airing complaints or grievances in a public forum like Facebook, talk to the people involved first about how to resolve your concerns, one may not always agree, but at least one can arrive at an understanding of different views.

Brisbane Individual Age Chess Tournament
Serviceton South State School entered 8 students in 4 age groups at the Brisbane Individual Age Chess Tournament, held at Nundah State School on Tuesday 28 November. The students represented our school very well, and achieved the following results:

- 2006: Anthony, Laelhan and Vincent each won 5 of their 7 games and a ribbon of merit.
- 2007: Jake won 4.5 games and ribbon of merit.
- 2008: Thomas won 5 of his 7 games and came second in his age group.

As this tournament is for the whole of Brisbane, these are very good results for our students.

A big thank you to Mrs Duggan for transporting students to and from this Tournament, and to the P & C for funding the students’ entry fees.

Music Notes
It has long been believed that Music education and the playing of instruments is very beneficial for children. We will soon be sending home offers to be involved in the 2015 Instrumental Program. Here are two internet links about music education that are well worth viewing:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R0JJKCYZEdg

Della Martin
Classroom Music Teacher & Instrumental Teacher

Remembrance Day
We will be holding a Remembrance Day parade on Tuesday 11 November to commemorate fallen soldiers and all those who have suffered as a result of war.

Remembrance Day commemorates the event that occurred at 11am on 11 November 1918 when the guns of the Western Front fell silent after more that four years continuous warfare. This day has been proclaimed as the day we remember those who died on or suffered for Australia’s cause in all wars and armed conflict. On this day we observe a minute’s silence at 11am. This silence will be observed in all of our classrooms at this time on Remembrance Day. All welcome.

Pizza Making With 4H
A group of students in 4H took part in a fun Make-it-yourself Pizza party! Students were rewarded for consistently bringing "nude food" to school. A “nude food” is healthy, nutritious and environmentally friendly without having any unnecessary wrapping. Thank you to Ms Hickey for coming up with creative ways to get her students thinking about healthy eating and waste reduction.

P & C News and Upcoming Events
This Friday QLD celebrates World Teachers Day. The P & C on behalf of parents and students would like to take this opportunity to THANK and acknowledge our teachers here at Serviceton South State School. Their invaluable contribution, dedication and commitment to students by opening minds, touching hearts and shaping futures. Our school has many opportunities for you to become involved in your child’s learning such as volunteering your time at Breakfast Club on Tuesdays, volunteering at Discos, Sports Days or on your child’s class excursions.

This Term we are organising a Fun Family Movie Night fundraiser on Friday 29th November, more details to come.

Please come along to our next P & C Meeting on Monday 10th November at 9.10am in the Parent Room.

A reminder that school banking is every Tuesday from 8.20am – 9am. Prizes have to be ordered, so when your child is up to ten deposits please ask the banking coordinator for an order form.

Closing date for applications for the position of Canteen Convener are this Friday 31st October. A Blue Card and a Food Safety Certificate are requirements for this position. Please submit your resume and copy of your blue card and food safety certification via email to P&C Executive p.c.executives.ssss@gmail.com. Interviews will take place first week of November based on submitted applications. The suitable applicant will start immediately.

During Term 4 the Canteen will be opening each Tuesday first and second break for over the counter sales. No orders will be taken however students will be able to purchase drinks and ice-blocks over the counter. Parents please note that the Canteen does NOT offer credit so please ensure your child has the correct money when ordering their lunch. Volunteers are always welcome in the Canteen and most needed from 9.00am-11.00am Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. If you can assist please let us know.

Our Uniform Shop is located in the Parent Room and open Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 8.15am – 9.15am. Sorry no credit can be offered and no EFTPOS available. We can do 12 week Lay-bys.

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