



Coomera Link

~ Coomera State School ~

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4 August 2009

From the Principal's Desk

Staff Literacy Training

As part of a statewide Literacy Professional Development Program, most of our Years 4 and 5 teachers will be undertaking a 5 day Literacy Professional Development workshop off site this week. Participation in this workshop will further enhance their knowledge and skills in the teaching of Literacy. In Week 6 this term, many of our Years 6 and 7 teachers will participate in this program and in Week 8, a few of our Junior School teachers who have not yet completed the workshop will have an opportunity to do so. While our teachers are attending these workshops, many of our regular relief teachers will teach the classes whose teachers are involved.

Facilities Update

The Project Manager for our federally funded National School Pride Projects is continuing to organise quotes and arrangements for our classroom refurbishments and front entrance upgrade. Most of this work is now planned for completion during the September school holidays to minimise disruption to the school. These projects will be further welcome improvements to our school facilities.

At the end of last week we were advised that initial arrangements for our P21 component of the Federal Government's Building the Education Revolution Program have commenced. A project manager will soon be appointed and meetings commence to develop the project brief for the construction of our new building or buildings which will incorporate a Resource Centre, a Science & Technology Centre and Hall component. Funding of \$3 000 000 has been allocated for this very exciting project.

We are still awaiting clearance to occupy our new Special Needs building and very much looking forward to using these new facilities to support our programs for our students with disabilities. Phones have now been installed recently and the building will also be air conditioned in the next week or so.

Year 7 Camp

Our Year 7 students recently spent a very enjoyable week at the Tallebudgera Beach School. They participated in a comprehensive program of activities including a mountain walk, tobogganing, sailing and other water related activities. Our students were great ambassadors for our school with their participation and good behaviour being acknowledged by the Beach School staff.

Senior Athletics Carnival

Our annual Senior Athletics Carnival was held last week and it was lovely to see some of our families join us. I was very

pleased indeed with the fantastic behaviour and participation of our students in the various events. Judging by the enthusiastic war cry displays, a competitive spirit and good sportsmanship is alive and well here at Coomera. It is the support of many of our school community members which makes days such as these such a success. Special thanks, however, must go to Mrs Felton for her organization and participation, Mr Rohwer for his efforts preparing our grounds and setting up each day and to Mr Squelch for being an excellent announcer. Our staff did a terrific job training our students prior to the carnival and running the events over the two days.

Following the keen competition, a team of students will represent our school at the District Athletics Carnival which will be held on August 17 and 18. Our best wishes go to our Athletics Team as they participate in the District competitions.

Junior Sports Day

Our Junior School Sports Day will be held this Friday 7 August from 9:00 am. All members of our school community are invited to come along and join in the excitement of the day.

J Rock – Congratulations!

Last Thursday was certainly a colourful and moving night for many students, families and staff of Coomera! Our J Rock performance at the Brisbane Entertainment Centre was an experience not to be missed.

Anyone associated with Coomera could not help but be moved incredibly by the performance on stage by our children. We had close to one hundred students moving, dancing, screaming and miming together to tell the story of living a healthy and active life.

Our team was acknowledged with:

J Rock™ Award of Excellence for Costuming: Character

J Rock™ Award of Excellence for Soundtrack

J Rock™ Award of Excellence for Performance Skill

The results are now available at the J Rock™ website <http://www.rockchallenge.com.au/index.php>. We expect that photos and video will be available in time through this website and the evening will be broadcast on subscription television. Once we know more details, we will publicise this information.

Our thanks go to J Rock Leader and teacher Jo De Goldi, who coordinated our participation along with other staff members Kerri Underwood, Diana Corrie, Rebecca Hodge and Andrea Roper. Thanks go to the many parent helpers, supporters, ex student-helpers, families and friends who assisted during the event. Special thanks to the large team of helpers in black shirts who assisted throughout the day and evening. I want to also pay a special acknowledgement to the families of the 84 children who participated. It was a massive commitment in terms of time, costuming, and general coordination required for

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the event. I know many people put their lives on hold to get the performance to the high standard that it was.

Whilst I expect that most people would consider organising almost 100 young children to perform a spectacular performance at the Queensland's premier entertainment stage to be fairly impressive. For those that were in the audience, there was certainly a collective euphoria that meant that it was very much all worth it. For those who couldn't make it, the video and television presentation will be much awaited.

Well done J Rock team!

Australian Youth Choir Visit

An Australian Youth Choir representative will visit our school on Wednesday 19 August. During a short visit to classes, a singing activity will be conducted and an information letter provided for the students to take home to parents. This letter will outline details for parents who may be interested in arranging an audition for their child to participate in the choir.

School Photographs

Our school photographs will take place on Wednesday 26 August and Thursday 27 August. This is a wonderful opportunity for your children to have a lifelong memento of their school life here at Coomera. The photographer will provide further information shortly.

Continued Management of H1N1 (Human Swine Flu)

Education Queensland is working closely with Queensland Health and will continue to be guided by the advice provided by their medical experts in relation to any situations where action by schools would benefit the school and broader community.

Under the 'protect' phase, Queensland Health is no longer routinely following up on all confirmed cases of Human Swine Influenza. Individuals with flu like symptoms who see a doctor are not being routinely tested unless they are in a vulnerable group or have moderate/severe disease. However some people beyond these groups may still be swabbed by their general practitioner for laboratory testing and have a clinical confirmation of HSI.

This flu season

This winter, H1N1 influenza 09 (human swine influenza), along with other influenza viruses is circulating in the community. Generally, the virus produces a mild disease in most, severe disease in some, and is a moderate illness overall. Many more people are likely to be affected by influenza-like illness this year than in recent flu seasons, because the community will not have immunity to the H1N1 influenza 09 virus.

The best way to stop the spread of influenza, and to protect people who may be more vulnerable to severe outcomes if they contract the virus, is to keep sick children home and encourage good hygiene.

What are the symptoms of Human Swine Influenza?

They are similar to those of seasonal influenza - fever (greater than 38°C or a good history of fever) plus cough and/or sore throat. Other symptoms can include fatigue, myalgia, headache, body aches or chills.

What are the vulnerable groups?

Those most at risk of serious illness as a result of Human Swine Influenza include people with chronic diseases such as respiratory disease (including asthma), heart disease, diabetes, renal and liver disease, morbid obesity and immunosuppression. Pregnant women and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are also at higher risk from this infection.

What should I do if my child develops flu like symptoms?

- Keep your child at home and limit contact with others until your child is well. Your child may return to school and other activities when they are completely well, or when at least 24 hours have passed since their fever has resolved, whichever is the longer.
- Mild flu like symptoms in those at low risk generally can be treated at home with simple measures including fluids, rest and paracetamol to reduce fevers.
- Seek medical advice or contact 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84) if symptoms are not relieved or worsen.
- Seek medical advice if your child is in a vulnerable group or has other underlying medical conditions. Antiviral treatment may be indicated and should be commenced as early as practicable and within the first 48 hours of illness.
- If your child's illness is moderate or severe, treatment is likely to be indicated and your child should be seen by a doctor.
- Please call ahead if seeing a doctor, advising of your child's symptoms.
- Ensure your child and those around them practice good hand hygiene, cover their nose and mouth when they cough and sneeze, and dispose of tissues promptly.
- Restrict close contact (within one metre) with others as much as possible, especially with any family members who are in a vulnerable group. If your child is in a vulnerable group, or their illness is moderate or severe, antiviral medications such as oseltamivir (Tamiflu) or zanamivir (Relenza) may be prescribed by your doctor.

What is the best way to protect myself or my children from Human Swine Influenza?

The best way to protect yourself and others is to:

- stay home when you are sick
- wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand gel
- wash your hands prior to touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- when coughing or sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with disposable tissues which should be disposed of immediately
- clean toys or anything which could be contaminated with respiratory secretions
- maintain at least a one metre distance from people who have flu-like symptoms such as coughing or sneezing.

Further information is available on the Department's website, Queensland Health website or the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing website or by contacting 13 HEALTH.

Upcoming Student Free Day

Wednesday 12 August is a designated Student Free Day and staff will be involved in a range of Professional Development activities focusing on the use of technology in teaching and learning on the day.

Upcoming Dates for Term 3:

August

- 7: Junior School Sports Carnival
- 12: Student Free Day (Brisbane Exhibition)**
- 14: Visit by Channel 7 Weather team/Helicopter
- 15: LOTE Speech Competition, Griffith Uni:
- 17: District Athletics
- 18: District Athletics
- 19: Australian Youth Choir Info Visit
- 26: School Photographs
- Year 2 Fire Safety House
- 27: School Photographs
- 28: Gold Coast Show Holiday /Tournament of Minds

September

3: Annual Athletics Carnival – SWD
6 (Sun): "Dream A Better World" Film Festival
9: Yr 6 Tallebudgera Excursion
Yr 5 Camp, Mebbin Springs, NSW
Chess Competition
10: Yr 5 Camp, Mebbin Springs, NSW
11: Yr 5 Camp, Mebbin Springs, NSW
15: Lower "Student of Term" Assembly
16: Upper "Student of Term" Assembly
18: Reward Sessions
Last Day of Term 3

October

5 (Mon): First day of Term 4
19: Student Free Day

Lexile and Mathletics Awards

Lexile Awards – Week 2

10 Points

Daniel D. 4CS
Taine N. 4CS
Christopher P. 3KW

25 Points

Bailey T. 6JM

50 Points

Molly M. 6JM
Jackson A. 4NM
Kimberly W. 4AS

150 Points

Loseli T. 5RJ

900 Points

Cyntia B.6JM

Mathletics (Silver) – Week 2

Junior

Ethan G. 2JL
Keely B. 2ML (GOLD)
Harrison C. 2SC
Jesse J. 3KV (GOLD)
Jordan M. 3NG
Zoe J. 3NH
Jake T. Prep KU

Senior

Ben M. 4AS (GOLD)
Jack M. 4AS (GOLD)
Dylan Y. 4AS
Harry H. 4CS
Paul N. 4CS
Kai W. 4CS
Aiden D. 4HK
Frankie S. 4NM
Jake H. 4RH
Sean R. 6JM
Chelsea C. 6KM

Northern Gold Coast Communities Free Kids Sports Program

Kids Sports, funded by Northern Gold Coast Communities for Children, is offering **FREE FUN physical activity sessions** in parks for primary school children, toddlers, and their families. For more details refer to the attached information or register online at www.kidssports.com.au or phone 3030 3355.

Student Weekly Awards

Congratulations to the following classes and students who have received awards in Week 2 and 3.

Class of the week for week 2 – Junior: 3NH

Tidy Class – Junior: 1JE
Tuckshop – Junior: 2KF

Class of the week for week 3 – Junior: 2JL

Tidy Class – Junior: Prep KU
Tuckshop – Junior: 3KW

Week 2

Junior

PMS – Kegan M
PKU – Adam C
PKP – Joshua G
PCK – Odin W
PGD – Ella P
PST – Ruby R
1DB – Dehlia R
1KC – Cody S
1CB – Sarah Y
1KD – Kira V
1JE – Rima F
2ML – Noah R
2KF – Jasmyn S
2JL – Shaunna W
2/3SC – Jared S
3NH – Zanda W
3KW – Sivarn O
3MB – Alex L
3KV – Dayna M and Kody G
3NG – Noah S

Week 3

Junior

PMS – Lachlan S
PKU – Rhiana W
PKP – Jeremy M
PCK – Immy N
PGD – Sara M
PST – Matthew L
1DB – Charlie D
1KC – Nikiah J
1CB – Alex S
1KD – Leah – Rhys T
2ML – Thomas S
2KF – Thomas H
2JL – Isis M
2/3SC – Lillian K
3NH – Kalu B
3KW – Hannah B
3MB – Stella M
3KV – Aiden S
3NG – Mitchell W

Week 2

Senior

4CS – Kyi C
4HK – Erica V
4RH – Ethan C
5MH – Logan G
5RJ – Haedyn W & Johny H
6JM – Shaylee A & Brianna J

Student of the Term – Term 2 Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received Student of the Term Awards in Term 2.

Prep KU	Taya C Jack W
Prep MS	Lachlan E Amy H
Prep CK	Tom N Phoenix B
Prep KP	Jake W Holley M
Prep ST	Jazmin N Madison O
Prep GD	James C Tairi M
1CB	Sophia M Oli S
1KC	Harrison F Tyson D
1KD	Flynn G Ebony M
1DB	Jordyn F Raquel M
1JE	Benjamin P and Ella A
2ML	Alexander K Adam K
2JL	Amy W Summer N
2KF	Alexander W Mikah W
2/3SC	Deegan E Bailey M
3NH	Olivia H Charles F
3MB	Nathan C Stella M
3KW	Tangaroa B Byron E
3KV	Jaison B Harley D
3NG	Nathan A Beth C

Office Reminders

School Resource and Class Contribution Scheme

Thank you to those parents who have already paid their resource scheme and class contribution scheme. **Fees are now due** and we will be sending statements as a reminder to all parents who are still yet to make payment in the near future. Please be aware that parents not wishing to participate in the schemes or are having financial difficulty need to make an appointment with the Principal to discuss further.

Student Contact Details

It is very important that contact details, medical information and emergency contacts be accurate so that school staff is able to contact you in case of emergency and know how to best support your child.

If you have any details that change throughout the year please contact the office to ensure your child's records are accurate.

Student Absentee Line

The student absence line is 5519 6360. Please call this number when your child is going to be absent from school. This is recorded and provided to the teacher for roll marking purposes and their records.

Finance Window

Please be advised that the Finance Window is open every Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 8:15am – 9:30am for parents and 8:15am – 8:45am for students. These are the **only** collection times available to accept cash, cheque, money order or debit card. For safety and security reasons the office and teachers will not be collecting or storing money provided outside of the allocated times under any circumstances.

Due to administrative processes, money will also **not be** collected in the last week of each term. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Internet Banking

Coomera State School is now offering an **internet banking option** for parents to pay fees, activities and excursions directly into the school's bank account. It is essential that activity details are included in the transaction identification section when you are processing your payment. These details will be advised at the time of activity notification from the class teacher. (E.g. Student Name: Class: Activity Code)

Note: It will be essential that you enter the student name and not parent/caregiver name.

If only a name is supplied with the payment and we can't determine which activity is being paid for, the amount will be applied against the oldest debt. If no information is supplied with the payment or we can't identify the information provided, the amount will be placed in a holding account.

As there is often a delay by a day or so between banking institutions before the payment shows up on our statement, it is important that you don't leave it until the due date to make the payment as it will miss the cut off.

Should you have difficulties with payment of fees, excursions or activities by the due dates, please contact the School Office so alternative arrangement can be negotiated.

The school's banking details are:

BSB: 064-430 Account Number: 00090286

Account Name: Coomera State School General Account

If you prefer not to use this method of payment you can still utilize the current methods available (credit/debit card, cash, cheque or money order). Credit card payments can be made over the phone; however, this can take several minutes as details are obtained. Alternatively, you will be able to complete a credit card payment advice that will be attached to the activity notification.

If you have any queries regarding the internet transfer process, please contact Ann Arthur (Business Services Manager) or Alissa Murphy (Administrative Officer) at the office for assistance.