



Coomera Link

~ Coomera State School ~

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12 May 2009

From the Principal's desk

Staffing Update

Mrs Cyprien, 1KC's class teacher has had unexpectedly had to take leave until 22 May. Ms Walter, who has regularly taught here at Coomera this year, will teach 1KC during Mrs Cyprien's absence.

Facilities Update

Work is almost completed on our new building for students with disabilities. Some plumbing work and installation of railings is yet to be completed, but much of the external work including turfing of the surrounding area has now been completed. Furniture is to be ordered and hopefully the building should be ready for use by the end of this term.

Recently our school was selected for inclusion in Stage 1 of the Federal Government's \$14.7 billion Building the Education Revolution economic stimulus package. As part of the National School Pride component our school has received funding approval for three facilities projects totalling \$200 000.00. These projects involve the refurbishment of a number of our classrooms, upgrading of the front entrance of our school including widening and installation of pedestrian pathways and small covered area as well as the installation of a small playground for our Early Childhood Development Unit. An initial meeting will be held with the project managers this week with the aim of getting the projects underway as quickly as possible.

An onsite meeting was held earlier this week to discuss the next stage of the proposed covered area in our senior precinct. This will be a welcome addition to this area and it is hoped construction will get underway shortly.

National Literacy and Numeracy Testing in 2009

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests for 2009 is being held this week from Tuesday 12 May to Thursday 14 May. Students in Years 3, 5 and 7 are participating in four tests during this period – Language Conventions, Writing, Reading and Numeracy. The Language Conventions test will incorporate spelling, grammar and punctuation while the Numeracy testing will incorporate number, space and measurement. The Year 7 Numeracy tests will consist of a calculator-allowed test, followed by a non-calculator test. If your child is absent for school during this period, they will still be able to participate in catch up testing sessions on Friday 15 May.

At the completion of the testing program, student test books will be sent away for marking. Results from the tests will provide

important information about children's progress in literacy and numeracy. By early October, schools and students will receive a statement of performance in relation to the national benchmarks. A copy of each participating student's report will be provided to their parent/caregiver at this time and a second copy retained at the school.

A brochure with more information about NAPLAN 2009 is available for download from the Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs at http://www.naplan.edu.au/verve/_resources/NAPLAN09_WebsiteBrochure_v3.pdf Information about NAPLAN 2009 is also available on the Queensland Studies Authority website at .

Mathletics

Our school subscribes the mathematics website, Mathletics. Many of our students are already using the website and receiving relevant awards for their participation. The use of Mathletics is being expanded right across the school to enable as many of our students as possible to utilise the site. Our prep students have now been enrolled and are currently having sessions in the computer lab to familiarise them with accessing the site. Information about prep students' passwords will be provided to parents this week to enable students to access the site from home.

Mathletics is seen as the next generation in learning, helping students to enjoy mathematics and improve their results. It is now used by more than 2000 schools and over 500 000 students worldwide. Covering all aspects of mathematics, it has more than 750 learning activities for students aged 5 – 18 years and responds to students' individual learning needs. The site can be accessed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and provides step by step animated support for students, a variety of challenge opportunities as well as reports and results to show student performance.

Further information can be obtained by viewing the Mathletics website:

District Cross Country

Congratulations to the students in our school's cross country team on their recent participation in the District Cross Country Championships. Although no students gained a position in the District Team, our students gave their best and displayed great sportsmanship. Well done everyone!

Evacuation and Lockdown Drills

In coming weeks we will be conducting our regular evacuation and lockdown drills to ensure all members of our school community are familiar with these routines. These drills are an important safety aspect of our school and take place from time

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to time. If you are on campus at these times, please follow the directions of staff.

Walk Safely To School Day

Friday 15 May is Walk Safely to School Day, an annual, national event when all Primary School children will be encouraged to walk and commute safely to school. It is a

Community Event seeking to promote Road Safety, Health, Public Transport and the Environment.

The objectives of this event are:

- To encourage parents and carers to walk to school with primary school age children and reinforce safe pedestrian behaviour.
 - To promote the health benefits of walking and help create regular walking habits at an early age.
 - To ensure that children up to 10 years old hold an adult's hand when crossing the road.
 - To help children develop the vital road-crossing skills they will need as they become mature pedestrians.
 - To reduce the car dependency habits that are being created at an early age and which will be difficult to change as children become adults.
 - To promote the use of Public Transport.
 - To reduce the level of air pollution created by motor vehicles.
 - To reduce the level of traffic congestion.
- Happy Walking!

Australian Early Development Index

Schools across Australia, including our school, will soon be participating in the Australian Early Development Index: Building Better Communities for Children Program. This program aims to help communities understand how their children are developing by the time they reach school age and to assist schools, local agencies and early childhood professionals to work together to improve the outcomes for all children in the community.

The Australian Early Development Index (AEDI) utilises a checklist of over 100 questions focussing on five areas of child development:

physical health and wellbeing

- social competence
- emotional maturity
- language and cognitive skills
- communication skills and general knowledge

The checklist will be completed by our Prep teachers and information has been provided to our families with students in the prep year.

Under Eights Week

Under Eights Week will be from 25 -29 May and our school is planning activities to celebrate this occasion. Specific details will be provided shortly and an invitation will be extended to our families to come along and join their children in the various activities.

State Education Week 2009

State Education Week 2009 will be held from 1-6 June and as the week gets closer, our school, along with schools across the state, will be preparing to join in the week-long annual celebrations. This year's theme is Celebrating 150 years of Education and it is an ideal opportunity for Queenslanders everywhere to recognise the talent and achievements of students and teachers in state schools. Further information will be provided shortly.

P&C Annual General Meeting Rescheduled

Due to unexpected delays in receiving the auditor's report, our P&C Annual General Meeting has been rescheduled to Monday 18 May commencing at 9:30 am in the staffroom. This will be followed by the regular monthly P&C Meeting. All members of

our school community are invited to attend. Any assistance you are able to give throughout the year would be most welcome and greatly appreciated.

Mother's Day Stall

Our P&C held its Mother's Day Stall here at the school last week. Students were able to purchase gifts for their Mother or "Special Someone". It was wonderful to see the excitement of our students and the time and thought they put into making their selection of their very special gift.

Our sincere thanks go to our P&C helpers for organising the gifts and manning the stall for this special fundraising activity.

Festival of Light 2009

Festival of Light 2009 is an initiative of Lifeline Gold Coast and the Northern Gold Coast Communities for Children. It will be held beside the lake at the Oxenford Youth Centre, 25 Tamborine - Oxenford Drive this Saturday 16 May commencing at 2:00 pm. From 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm there will be a family fun day with free activities, entertainment and workshops for the whole family. At 5:30 pm, the "Dreams Alive" lantern parade will move around the lake, with the evening ending with a spectacular fire display in the centre of the lake.

This year, students from 6JM and 6AW participated in workshops here at school to make lanterns to carry at the parade. Our students are to be congratulated on the wonderful lanterns they have made as well as their very good behaviour during the workshops.

An invitation is extended to all members of our school community to come along and enjoy this year's Festival of Light.

Key Dates for Term 2

May:

- 4: Labour Day Holiday
- 7,8: Mother's Day Stall
- 8: District Cross Country
- 12: NAPLAN Testing Program
- 13: NAPLAN Testing Program
- 14: NAPLAN Testing Program
- 15: "Walk to school" Day
- 16: Festival of Light
- 22: Year 2 Bee Man
- 25 - 29 Under Eights Week

June:

- 1-6: Education Week
- 4 Jun: 9-10am Taiko Japanese Music Performance Yr 4- 7
- 8: Queen's Birthday Holiday
- 9: Chess Competition
- 10: Year 3 Excursion
- 17: Pet Awareness Sessions (Years 5 & 7)
- 22-26: Behaviour Reward Sessions
- 23: Lower "Student of the Term" Assembly
- 24: Upper "Student of the Term" Assembly
- 25: Semester 1 Student reports issued
- 26: Final day for Term 2

July:

- 13: Student Free Day
- 14: Students commence Term 3

Class A+ Recycled Water Is Coming

Class A+ recycled water will become available to specially plumbed homes and businesses in Pimpama Coomera during the July to December 2009 rates cycle.

Class A+ recycled water will be supplied for toilet flushing and to outdoor taps for external non drinking uses. The Class A+ supply network is separate to the drinking water supply network

and can be easily identified by its purple pipes, taps and water meters.

The price of Class A+ recycled water is significantly lower than drinking water, allowing residents and businesses connected to Class A+ recycled water to save on water charges.

Class A+ recycled water is part of the Pimpama Coomera Waterfuture (PCWF) Master Plan, which aims to secure a sustainable water future for residents in the region.

To assist in spreading the word about Class A+ recycled water, local community representatives are now taking part in the PCWF Community Advocacy Group (CAG). Members are now feeding information back to a variety of organisations including schools and local businesses.

In addition to this, The PCWF Master Plan will soon be featured on Nine Gold Coast News as part of a series focusing on sustainability initiatives. Community displays will also be set up at a variety of shopping centres in June.

For more information go to www.goldcoastwater.com.au/pimpamacoomera

Mathletics and Lexile Awards

Mathletics Week 1

Silver Awards

Junior

Ryley B. 3KV
Olivia H. 3NH

Upper

Bianca B. 4RH
Jorja H. 4RH

Lexile Week 1

Junior

10 Points

Siahna C. 3KV

Senior

10 Points

Matt M. 6KM

Courtney M. 4NM
Damien P. 4NM

25 Points

Breanna J. 4AS

100 Points

Jared W. 6KM
Irene H. 6JM

750 points

Cyntia B. 6JM

1200 points

Megan W. 7SL

Mathletics Week 2

Junior

Jack J. 3MB
Deen A. 3NH

Senior

Ethan C. 4CS
Lucy M. 4CS
Kai W. 4CS
Irene H. 6JM

Wilson G. 4HK GOLD

Lexile Week 2

10 points

Tilly W. 5DC
Rachael G. 5NW
Sylvia R. 5NW
Challen W. 4NM
Zali T. 4NM

25 points

Kimberly W. 4AS
Liana B. 4NM
Jackson A. 4NM
Daniel T. 5NW

50 points

Will S. 4AS
Jack M. 4AS

Student Weekly awards

Congratulations to the following classes and students who have received awards this week!

Class of the week for week 2 – Junior: 2ML

Tidy Class – Junior: Prep KU

Tuckshop – Junior: Prep CK

Class of the week for week 3 – Junior: 2/3SC, Senior: 4/5AS

Tidy Class – Junior: PR - MS, Senior: 4RH

Tuckshop – Junior: 2ML, Senior: 4/5AS

Peer mediator of the week: Daniel E

Week 2 – Junior

Cooper M –PR-MS
Thomas G – PR- KU
Shari C – PR-KP
Casey W – PR-CK
Dean D – PR-GD
Anabella A – PR-ST
Aliesha A -1DB
Kane C- 1KC
Seth C – 1CB
Brianna M – 1KD
Shana S – 1JE
Campbell K 2ML
Aidan T – 2KF
Ryan S – 2JL
Dakoda V – 2/3SC
Rowan R – 3NH
Tangaroa B – 3KW
Carolyn R – 3MB
Sam M and Holly R – 3KV
Greta L - 3NG

Week 3 – Junior

Billy H – PR-KP
Shinbe K – PR-CK
Tiare I – PR-GD
Erin W – PR-ST
Laveena B – 1DB
Rory E – 1KC
Sara-Kate J – 1CB
Hayden S – 1KD
Andre M – 1JE
Bailey Mc – 2ML
Alex W – 2KF
Holly P – 2JL
Isaiah J – 2/3SC
Caitlin D – 3KW
Breezanah T – 3MB
Summer K – 3KV
Lara B – 3NG

Week 2 – Senior

Tye N – 5RJ
Tayla S and Mark W – 7BF

Week 3 – Senior

Tavis R – 4NM
Payton K – 4RH
Nicholas H – 5MH
Dylan L and Derya O – 5NW
Lennon G – 6JM
Rachel C and Katelyn N – 6JS
Matoa B – 7SL
Khaled Y and Jessica S – 7BF

Family Open Day

WASP CREEK FIRE STATION - 66 Colman Road Coomera

Sunday 24TH May 2009
10 am - 3pm

Come along and learn how to use fire extinguishers and fire blankets

Demonstrations

Kitchen hot fat fire - Demo by QFRS
How to Use a fire blanket safely - Demo Wasp Crk
How to use a fire extinguisher - Demo by Wasp Crk
Simulated bush and grass fire - Demo by Wasp Crk
Be a Bushfire prepared community (Prepare to stay defend or go early) - Presentation by QFRS
Simulated car accident - Demo Helensvale QFRS
(watch how a car is cut open to rescue trapped person)
S.E.S. Presentation - Runaway Bay S.E.S.

Children's rides and games

Meet Blazer the bear

Ride on squirt the fire truck Sausage Sizzle
Free balloons and
Giveaway games Soft drinks for sale

Face painting

FIRE BLANKETS - FIRE EXTINGUISHERS - SMOKE ALARMS
WILL BE ON SALE

Supported by Councillor Donna Gates – who will be present on the day

Office Reminders

Student Contact Details

All parents will have received a copy of student information cards that list contact details, medical information and emergency contacts. It is extremely important that these be accurate so that school staff is able to contact you in case of emergency and know how to best support your child.

Please send this form back to the office, even if details have not changed, with a signature at the bottom by Friday 15th May 2009.

If details 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.