



Coomera Link

~ Coomera State School ~

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5 June 2009

From The Principal's Desk

Under Eights Week and State Education Week

It was wonderful to see our students, staff and families involved in activities here at school to celebrate Under Eights Week and State Education Week. The wide range of activities including musical performances, science, technology, environmental, cooking, physical education and art activities were very enjoyable and a great celebration of various aspects of our school and our students' learning programs.

Showcase 09 Awards for Excellence in Schools is also a very special part of the State's Education Week celebrations. Our school submitted two entries into this year's Showcase. "All for One" focuses on the Early Childhood Development Program here at our school and it links with the Bonny Babes Children's Centre to deliver an innovative inclusive intervention program for young children with disabilities. Our second submission was based on our school's "Dream a Better World" Film Festival which is an Australia wide film festival hosted by our school. It gives students the opportunity to speak out and communicate their ideas and dreams about the world in which they live. This submission was awarded the Regional Award for Excellence in Innovation at an awards presentation last Wednesday and will now be considered as part of the State Showcase Awards in the near future.

For your information, this year's "Dream a Better World" Film Festival will be held at Dreamworld on Sunday 6 September. Further information is included in this newsletter.

H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza)

Recently you would have received a letter advising of the seven-day time out period from school for students returning from countries of concern that are affected by H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza) and what will happen in the event of a school closure.

The letter, which has been translated into several languages including Burmese, French, Simplified Chinese, Spanish and Vietnamese, and other important information such as a 'frequently asked questions' document, is available on the Department of Education and Training website at www.deta.qld.gov.au

The countries of concern currently include the United States of America, Mexico, Panama, Canada and Japan. For the most up-to-date list, visit the Australian Government's Department of Health and Ageing website at www.healthemergency.gov.au. To

minimise the spread of H1N1 Influenza A, students coming to Queensland from Victoria are now required to observe a seven day time out period before entering our school.

Children and adolescents from the affected countries who are being billeted through homestay arrangements will also be required to observe the seven-day timeout period. Siblings and other household members are not subject to the timeout period.

This seven-day timeout for school students has also recently been extended to children attending Queensland's early childhood education and care services.

Good hygiene practice, including coughing or sneezing into tissues, disposing of used tissues and washing your hands with liquid soap or alcohol-based gel, can help reduce the spread of influenza and other common respiratory infections.

For the latest information about Human Swine Influenza, visit the Queensland Health Swine Flu website at www.health.qld.gov.au/swineflu

Parking: Please Park Correctly

As previously advised, parking can be a challenge at many school locations, particularly at peak drop off and collection times and wet weather certainly does not help the situation. Collection of students in the afternoons is probably our most challenging time. While the school day concludes at 3:00 pm., school staff provide supervision of students at our Beattie Road gate and front pedestrian gate until 3:20 pm. each afternoon. Please consider delaying your pick up time by a few minutes in the afternoon. This would greatly assist with the current parking congestion and lack of parking spaces experienced right at 3:00 pm. Any students who have not been collected by 3:20 pm go back to the school office with staff.

Safety is always our first priority and parking within the school grounds is limited to staff, selected visitors, disabled persons and others authorised by the Principal. Parents who drive their children to or from school should park outside the school grounds (at the front of the school, on Beattie Road or near Viney Park) and park correctly when dropping and collecting students from school. In special circumstances, parents can apply in writing to the Principal for a School Parking Permit for limited parking in the school grounds.

*** For the safety of everyone, please park correctly. Recently, the area around the school has been visited by both police and staff from Gold Coast Council to address correct parking in our local area. Please ensure you are parking legally ... check the location of yellow lines, do not double park etc.**

Several on site meetings have been held with staff from the Gold Coast Council and Transport Department in relation to the

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parking situation at the front of the school. Further information will be provided as it becomes available.

Semester 1 Student Reports

Staff are currently finalising Semester 1 Student Reports for students in Years 1 to 7 which will be issued on Thursday 25 June. These reports will also include information on student absences. For your information, Departmental guidelines state that if students arrive after the first 30 minutes of the scheduled school day this will count as a morning/half day absence. Similarly, if a student leaves earlier than 30 minutes prior to the end of the scheduled school day, this will count as an afternoon/half day absence.

Where no reason has been provided for an absence, the absence is recorded as unexplained and the number of unexplained absences is listed on the student's report also.

Student absences can be provided to the school by the parent/caregiver in person, in writing e.g. note to class teacher or by leaving a message on the school's absence phone line (PH: 5519 6360) stating the student's name, class, date and reason for absence. Students arriving late in the morning need to check in at the Health Room in the Administration Block on arrival. Students departing school early must be signed out and collected from the school office. Please notify teachers in advance of any foreseeable early departures. Where possible, students should not be collected during our breaks (10:50 am – 11:30 am and 1:30 pm – 2:10 pm) as students are more difficult to locate during these times.

Parent Teacher interviews for our students in the Prep Year will take place between now and the end of Term 2.

Student Absences

Regular school attendance is important and has a positive impact on student performance.

Our school encourages all parents and members of our community to support the State Government initiative *Every Day Counts* to improve student attendance. The program has four key messages:

- All children should be enrolled and attend school on every school day
- Schools should monitor and create ways to improve attendance in schools
- Attendance is the responsibility of everyone in the community
- Children may find themselves in unsafe situations if they choose not to attend or skip school.

While most students attend school consistently, there is a small number of students who are absent from school for all or part of a day without an acceptable reason and this may impact on their education.

For more information, you can refer to the guide for parents at www.education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts/

While class teachers may communicate with parents on a regular basis regarding student absences, the Administration Team is also monitoring student absences across the school and will be contacting parents where a pattern of student absence is of concern and providing support and assistance where required.

Upcoming School Holidays

The final day of second term is Friday 26 June. **School will resume for students on Tuesday 14 July** as Monday 13 July is a designated Student Free Day and staff will be participating in professional development activities on that day.

Extension of current Acting Principal Position

I have recently been advised that my time here at Coomera as Acting Principal has been extended until the end of this year and I look forward to the opportunity of working with you, and for you for a little longer. I have greatly appreciated the support

of our school community since my arrival here at Coomera and remain committed to providing the very best educational opportunities for all our students.

Dianne Moore

Many members of our school community may have known Dianne Moore who was very actively involved in the school in recent years. Dianne was the P & C President in 2006 & 2007 and did a lot of volunteer work at the school in the uniform shop, tuckshop and the Supporter A Talker Program.

Sadly, Dianne passed away peacefully at home with her family on 3rd May 2009. Aged 31yrs. Dianne suffered from brain tumours and was very ill in last few months of her life.

Dianne is survived by her son Adrian, who is a student here at Coomera State School.

Dianne's Mum, Sandy, would like to thank everyone who visited Dianne and recently attended the special morning tea for her. Thank you also to those who sent flowers, cards, messages, and attended Dianne's funeral.

The Dianne Moore Memorial Walk 2009 will be held on July 19th to help raise funds for more research on Brain Tumours with the hope of helping other sufferers. Further information about the walk is included in this newsletter.

Key Dates for Term 2:

June:

- 9: Chess Competition
- 16: 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

Tuckshop News

Meal Deal – Friday 12th June 2009

Chicken Fingers, Chocolate Cake, JJ's and a Popper - \$5.50

Meal deal – Friday 19th June 2009

Pie with sauce, Popcorn, Apple, Jelly and a Popper - \$5.50

The tuckshop will be closed on the last day of school – Friday 26th June 2009.

P&C News

A school disco will be coming very soon so watch this space.

Chocolate Drive

Chocolates have gone home with students this week – selling at \$2.50 per bar.

Please return money to the Tuckshop area between 8.30 – 9.00 am or in the P&C box in Admin building. Please ensure student name and class is clearly labelled on envelope and prizes are highlighted on sheet upon return.

If another box is required please return money first and another one will be issued.

Please make sure money and unsold chocolates are returned by Friday 16th June 2009 to ensure child is eligible to receive selected prize.

Thank you for your support of the P&C in its efforts to provide extras for the students of our school.

Ormeau Mini Ekka and Fair

Ormeau Lions Club are supporting the Ormeau Mini Ekka and Fair and Family Day Out on the 8 and 9 August 2009

For more details please contact Norm Jessen on 0411 645 520 or norm@OrmeauFair.com.au or www.OrmeauFair.com.au

Mainly Music Program

This program starts on Thursday July 23rd 2009 at Holy Rood Family Centre, 192 Oxenford-Tamborine Road, Oxenford. Each Thursday morning, parents and caregivers can bring young children, aged from birth to 5 years to a 30 minute morning tea/play session followed by a 30 minute music session, with rhyme, movement, listening and more (\$5 per 1 hour session.) Adults are encouraged to interact and participate with their children.

Two sessions will run each Thursday: 9.15 a.m.-10.15 a.m. or 10.45 a.m.-11.45 a.m.

All interested please phone **Mae Simpson** on **0409 766 159**.

Check the website: www.mainlymusic.org.au

Congratulations Jin

As manager of the South Coast 12yrs golf team, I would like to acknowledge the achievements of Coomera State School student, Jin O at the recent State Championships. As well as being a member of the winning South Coast team, Jin came 5th overall in the boy's competition and was invited to represent Queensland at the National Championships in November in Victoria. Throughout the carnival Jin displayed a great attitude to a very difficult individual sport, a wonderful friendliness to his team mates and a supportive approach to fellow competitors. He was, as a member of my team a credit to his family and his school.

Well done Jin, we at Coomera State School are very proud of your achievements.

Mathletics and Lexile Awards

Lexile - Week 6 Awards

10 Points
Ben A. 4RH

100 Points
Kade K. 6AW

150 Points
Kyle T. 4/5AS

300 Points
Lachie M. 4/5AS

Special Mention

To **3NH** and **4AS** - **all** students in these classes received a Mathletics Award this Week. This is an OUTSTANDING achievement!!! Well done to your inspiring teachers and well done MATHLETES!

Congratulations to Reece C. 7SL for reaching the top 100 in the WORLD for Mathletics

A big thank you to all students who **gave their all** for the TITANS challenge. We may not have won a place in the top 20 schools, but what a fabulous effort from our school with over one third of students contributing for the week. Let's keep up the good work and see if we can double our efforts next week!

Mathletics (Silver)

Junior

Ella H. 1CB
Timothy A. IKD
Tyler K. 2KF

Isaiah U. 2KF
Alexander W. 2KF
Alexander K. 2ML
Faith L. 2SC
Emily H. 3SC
Mya K. 3SC
Brock T. 3KW
Carolyn R. 3MB
Alyssa S. 3NG
D'Andre W. 3NG
Charles F. 3NH
Olivia H. 3NH

Senior

Will S. 4AS
Olivia C. 4CS
Taine N. 4CS
Makeely A. 4HK
William E. 4HK
Jack E. 4HK
Thomas H. 4NM
Katelyn M. 4NM
Challen W. 4NM
Jordan M. 4RH
Jayden K. 5DC
Georgia N. 5DC
Leeanne P. 5DC
Logan E. 5NW
Cooper M. 5RJ
Joshua M. 6AW
Jasmine S. 6AW
Brianna J. 6JM
Jedd G. 6JS
Kaitlin T. 6KM
Yaren B. 7BF
Hannah D. 7BF

Student Weekly Awards

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

Class of the week for week 6 – Junior: 3NH Senior: 7GC
Tidy Class – Junior: 2KF Senior: 6KM
Tuckshop – Junior: 3KV Senior: 6KM
Peer mediator of the week: Heath L

Class of the week for week 7 – Junior: 1KD, Senior: 5DC
Tidy Class – Junior: PKP, Senior: 4HK
Tuckshop – Junior: PKU, Senior: 5MH
Peer mediator of the week: Nick A

Week 6

Junior

PMS – Amy H
PKU – Zoe F
PKP – Jasmine A
PCK – Jake G
PGD – Jaydn S
PST – Marco P
1KC – Zyah M
1CB – Milly R
1KD – Kye E
1JE – Lachlan M
2ML – Jacinta H
2KF – Jacob H
2JL – Jack L
2/3SC – Bailey M
3KW – Jai P
3MB – Shona B
3KV – Beau B
3NG – Justin D

Week 7

Junior

PMS – Pinar O
PKU – Annastasia R
PKP – Jake W
PCK – Annabel H

PGD – Charlotte C
PST – Aaliyah B
1DB – Jaida C
1KC – Nikiah J
1CB – Morgan S
1KD – Maui B
1JE – Ella A
2ML – Declan M
2KF – Isaiah U
2JL – Hunter M
2/3SC – Caleb M
3NH – Dylan M and whole class
3KW – Ryu O
3MB – Jon Pierre M
3NG – Jesse J
3NG – Justin D

Week 7

Senior

4CS – Jake M
4HK – Kayleigh H
4NM – Courtney M
4/5AS – Clayton S, Shanaya W and Sam N
5MH – Chloe G
5DC – Tilly W and Jayden K
5NW – Lauren B and Lachlan R
5RJ – Matt D
6JS – Jessie O and Yossra Y
7GC – Daniel N and Lauren C
7SL – Megan W
7BF – Jordyn B and Sam M

Fun Run Results

Congratulations Coomera State School parents and carers, students and teachers, the fun run was a great success raising \$11,015.00 with approximately \$5000 going to school resources.

The class that raised the most was PMS with \$804.50

Highest individual fundraiser in the school was Kira V 1KD with \$271.75

Year level winners

Prep – Emma G and Patrick M
Year 1 – Kira V and Jordan W
Year 2 – Chloe G and Daniel H
Year 3 – Sydnee V and Aiden T
Year 4 – Georgia S and Adrian M
Year 5 – Annaleise B and Ethan C
Year 6 – Shannon G and Seth P
Year 7 – Amber S and Ben F

Office Reminders

School Resource and Class Contribution Scheme

Thank you to those parents who have already paid their resource scheme and class contribution scheme. In week 7 we will be sending statements as a reminder to all parents who are still yet to make payment. Remember that school payments may be able to be claimed as part of your tax return if paid by the end of this financial year.

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.

St Vincent de Paul Society - Seeks Volunteers

The St Vincent de Paul Society is seeking volunteers for the Stronger Families Program in the Beenleigh, Logan and Gold Coast areas. As a volunteer you will be required to attend a comprehensive training course, fortnightly meetings and visit families weekly to support them on a wide range of issues in the family home. Such issues include, parenting skills, routines, budgets, cooking skills, behaviour management strategies etc.

Experience is not necessary. Information Sessions will be held on Wednesday 8 July, 5:30pm- 7:30pm at Nerang and Wednesday 15 July 5.30pm-7.30pm at Beenleigh, with training

commencing in August one day a week, over a 5 week period. For more information call Melissa or Lyn on 3807 6623 (Beenleigh office).

Instrumental Music News

Congratulations to our Instrumental Music students on their achievements at the Beenleigh Eisteddfod on Thursday 4th June. The results certainly reflect the effort and dedication that these students commit to developing their music skills.

String Duo (Clayton 4/5AS and Shanaya 4/5 AS) - 1st place
String Duo (Kaitlyn 6AW and Shanaya 4/5AS) - 3rd Place
String Quartet (Yaren 7BF, Kaitlyn 6AW, Shanaya 4/5AS, Clayton 4/5AS - Highly commended

Special Thanks to Mrs Futo who continues to encourage and support the students in the Instrumental Music Program.

Under 8's Day

A special thank you to all the parents and families who joined the Prep to Year 2 students at our Under 8's Festivities on Friday 28th May. The smiles on faces and buzz within classrooms following the morning session were a sure sign that the students enjoyed their creative experience. It was also lovely to have numerous parents sharing feedback about the event and certainly highlighted the dedication that our teachers here at Coomera go to in creating fun and educational experiences.

Regional Cross Country Championships

The Regional Cross Country Championships was held last Thursday 4th June at Runaway Bay "Luke Harrob Oval", in wet weather conditions. Our congratulations to 10 year old Bradley W 5DC who has qualified to the next level, "State" competition in the AWD Cross Country Division. Bradley ran with 40 District competitors, positioning himself very well throughout the race between 5th and 7th place and qualified with a fast time of 7mins 43secs for his 2km race. Well Done Bradley!! A huge thank you to Mrs Dianna Corrie, 5DC who supported and timed Bradley running on the day. We all wish you well in your up and coming competitions!