



Coomera Link

~ Coomera State School ~

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26 May 2009

From the Principal's desk

Staffing Update

Mrs Cyprien, 1KC's class teacher returned from leave this week and our thanks go to Ms Walter who did a great job teaching 1KC during Mrs Cyprien's absence.

Mrs McCallum, one of our Deputy Principals will return from leave next Thursday 4 June. While Mrs McCallum has been away, Mrs Lucas has been our Acting Deputy Principal and our sincere thanks go to her for the tremendous amount of time and effort she has put into this important role in our school.

Facilities Update

We are getting closer to the completion of our new building for students with disabilities. Some plumbing work and installation of railings still has to be completed but we are still hopeful the building will 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 with the project managers has been held and plans are currently being made to get the projects underway as quickly as possible.

Following an onsite meeting with contractors plans are underway to have construction of our covered area in our senior precinct take place during the upcoming June vacation. This will be a welcome addition to this area of our school.

Further external painting is currently being done on sections of our Year 5 Block, Prep Building and Administration Block as part of the State Government's Schools of Tomorrow: External Finishes Program. This program will also fund the rectification of missing blades in the external shade screens of some of our buildings.

Discussions have been taking place for some time now with representatives from the Gold Coast Council and Transport Department in relation to the parking situation at the front of the school. Representatives of the Transport Department visited the school last week and will return for further discussions later this week. Will provide further information as it becomes available.

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 has now been provided to parents 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: <http://www.mathletics.com.au>

Gold Coast Titans Mathletics Challenge

The Gold Coast Titans and Mathletics are combining to offer schools the chance to take part in the Gold Coast Titans Mathletics Challenge. The Challenge is open to all school students and is absolutely free. Great prizes are on offer, including:

- Opportunity to be part of the Challenge Final at the Titans v Dragons game on June 8
- Signed Titans jerseys
- Titans prize packs
- Trophies, medals and certificates

The official Challenge goes from midnight Sunday 24 May (AEDT) and ends 3pm Friday 29 May (AEDT)

This is a great opportunity for students to have fun and improve maths skills at the same time. To access the Challenge, go to www.titans.com.au and click on the Mathletics banner.

Colour Your Classroom Competition

Recently entries for this Australia wide competition were submitted by a number of our Year 4 students. Following lessons and activities that encouraged expressive writing, students wrote an imaginative essay related to having a classroom makeover. Last week we were advised that our students were placed among the top 5 Highly Recommended entries. A story related

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to our students' success in this competition is to be featured in the Gold Coast Bulletin on Tuesday 26 May. Congratulations everyone!

Premier's Reading Challenge 2009

Literacy is at the heart of a student's ability to learn and succeed – at school and for life. While today's students have access to a world of learning tools that their parents could only have dreamed of, including the internet, some of our best lessons come from one of time's oldest teaching tools – books.

The Premier's Reading Challenge, complements the significant work being done by schools to ensure our children are among the best in the world when it comes to literacy. Now in its fourth year, the Premier is challenging every state and non- state student from Prep to Year 7 to experience or read 20 books between now and 21 August.

Last year more than 65 000 children read over one million books. The Premier's Reading Challenge recognises the range of student abilities in Queensland classrooms. All students are encouraged to participate - knowing the Challenge is not a competition, but a way to encourage greater involvement in reading. Children who take up the challenge and read the required number of books will receive a signed certificate from the Premier.

Our school has now registered for this year's Challenge and information, reading recording sheets etc will be sent home shortly.

EATSIPS Project

We were recently advised that our school has been selected for Stage 1A of the South Coast Region's EATSIPS Project which commences this term.

EATSIPS (Embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perspectives in Schools) Program supports teachers to include indigenous perspectives in schools and this has been identified nationally as a key component to ensuring improved outcomes for Indigenous peoples in Australia. The EATSIPS document was released during NAIDOC week 2006 and is a practical guide for administrators and educators to ensure inclusive school practices. EATSIPS is about celebrating indigenous ways of viewing the world: people, places and things and their interrelationships. It offers students and teachers the chance to share and acknowledge the history and heritage of Indigenous Queenslanders, and enrich our appreciation of this unique part of Australia's cultural heritage. Through a greater understanding and respect we are able to build stronger relationships with Aboriginal students and Torres Strait Islander students. This is the key to Indigenous students achieving their full potential.

The program involves a whole- of- school approach and values the role of community partnerships. Further information will be provided as this project unfolds here at our school.

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

Under Eights Week

Under Eights Week will be from 25 -29 May. This year's theme is "Creativity – Let it Happen" and our school is planning activities between 9:00 am and 10:45 am on Friday 29 May to celebrate this occasion. An invitation is extended to our families to come along and join their children in the various activities on this day.

State Education Week 2009

State Education Week 2009 will be held from 1-6 June and our school, along with schools across the state, is organising

activities 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. Our school will host the Sunshine Beach State High School Band on Wednesday 3 June at 11:30 am and students will be involved in a range of other activities related to their classroom programs during the week. Specific details will be provided shortly.

Key Dates for Term 2:

May:

26: Prep KP Dinosaur Day

29: Under Eights Day from 9:00 am – 10:45 am

June:

1-6: Education Week

3 Jun: Sunshine Beach SHS Musical Performance

4 Jun: 9-10am Taiko Japanese Music Performance Yr 4- 7

5 June: World Environment Day: "Wear Green"

8: Queen's Birthday Holiday

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

Mathletics and Lexile Awards

Week 3

Lexile

10 points

Kaleb G. 4RH

Isaac G. 4NM

Olivia H. 3NH

Ashleigh H. 4HK

Patrick M. 4NM

Ellie B. 4NM

Kiar W. 4NM

Jack T. 4NM

25 points

Ben W. 4NM

100 points

Jesse J. 3KV

Tavis R. 4NM

150 points

Josh M. 6AW

200 points

Atiya L. 6JM

Week 5

Lexile

10 points

Lulu J 5NW

Moana B 4NM

Destiny W 4NM

Hobie W 5NW

Cyrus E 5NW

25 points

Jake P 5NW

Daniel T 5NW

Matisse F 5NW

Mathletics (Silver)

Junior

Jacob I. 1CB

Jeremiah M. 2KF

Shay W. 2KF

Bailey S. 2SC

Jesse J. 3KV

Corey P. 3KW

Jacob M. 3NG

Senior

Jack M. 4AS

Clayton S. 4AS

Lachlan T. 4HK

Nicholas W. 4HK

Rama A. 4NM

Michael A. 4NM

Ben A. 4RH

Madison A. 6AW

Kaitlyn W. 6AW

Mathletics (Silver)

Junior

Isis M 2JL

Caley W 2ML

Aiden S 3KV

Senior

Alana L 4AS (Gold)

Dyllan A 4HK (Gold)

Shannen F 4HK

Sam M 4HK (Gold)

Ellie B 4NM

Thomas H 4NM

50 points
Bronte M 5NW

100 points
Jorel H 6AW

James B 4NM
Liana B 4NM
Tavis R 4NM
Courtney F 4RH
Jared M 5DC
Tahlia G 5DC
Arav Y 6JM
Ashleigh D 6KM

5DC – Leeanne P and Emily G
5RJ – Braydon C and Siobhan L
5NW – Dion B and Connor W
6AW – Jasmine S and Kyle Mc
6JM – Atiya L and Arav Y
6KM – Chelsea C and Samantha O
6JS – Jedd G and Sophie H
7SL – Sarah O and Jinei O
7BF – Jordyn B and Nick Atkinson
7GC – Ethan F and Georgia S

Special Mention: Our First Prep Mathletes

Bronze Certificates
Annabel H PCK
Dylan N PCK
Taylan B PGD
Bryan M PKP
Luke A PKU
Thomas G PKU

District Cross Country 2009

On Friday 8th May, the North Gold Coast District Cross Country was held at Runaway Bay with perfect weather conditions. Our school team of 28 students competed very well amongst the 32 other schools participating on the day. Most of the races had over 120 students lining up on the starting line. Congratulations, to ALL our students who represented Coomera State School on this day for your great effort, team spirit and good behaviour on and off the course.

Overall, 12 students were placed within the first 50 positions to finish and received points for the school and a certificate.

The 10 year old boys 2km race was one of the highlights of the day with Bradley W 5DC placing 4th. Also 12 year old Stephanie P 6AW participated in the 3 km, AWD division and placed 1st. Well done to these two students who have both qualified for Regional Cross Country to be held on the 4th June at the same venue as Districts.

Many thanks to Mrs Rana Jackson who was the Team Manager and to Mrs Kirralee Angus who was an official on the day. A big Thank you to the parents who came to support and cheer on the students throughout the day!

Student of the Term – Term 1 Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have received Student of the Term Awards in Term 1.

Student of the Term – Term 1

PKU – T’Ahna A and Jake T
PMS – Patrick M and Kira E
PCK – Kayla A and Krista P
PKP – Tyla S and Bella I
PGD – Flynn A and Annabelle G
PST – Dionte E and Jake L
1DB – Taylia P and Krish K
1CB – Ella H and Alex S
1KC – Madison C and Charlie S
1KD – Taylor N and Nicholas A
1JE – Courtney W and Joanne B
2KF – Tyler K and Jasmyn S
2JL – Tori B and Bryson T
2ML – Madison M and Ethan F
2/3SC – Samuel N and Mya K
3NH – Madison N and Deen A
3NG – Jasmyn H and Mitchell E
3MB – Tanisha R and Harrison V
3KV – Kristylee W and Ryley B
3KW – Kate G
4CS – Harry H and Jacob Mc
4NM – Damien P and Katelyn M
4RH – Sarah P and Jarrod R
4HK – Aiden D and Ashleigh H
4/5/AS – Alana C and Kimberley W
5MH – Kai E and Emily T

LOTE Awards – Term 1

6KM – Kloe H
6JM – Irene H
6AW – Tiala P
6JS – Thomas E
7SL – Bryce W
7BF – Jahlia A
7GC – Gianni H

Peer Mediator of the Term – Term 1

Mia W and Amelia F

Lexiler of the Term – Term 1

6JM - Cyntia B

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.

Certificate III in Education Support (Teacher Aide)

Career keys is a not for profit organisation, assisting the community with careers, employment, training and support. Career Keys will be delivering Certificate III in Education Support (Teacher Aide) 30613QLD, commencing July 2009. This Nationally Recognised Course runs for 20 weeks part time, 5 days per fortnight. Visit our website: www.careerkeys.com.au and download the enrolment pack phone Career keys on 3200 2700 or email training@careerkeys.com.au. We are taking enrolments now, so don't miss out.

Under Eights Day

Parents, Grandparents, Aunties and Uncles are invited to attend an exciting morning of activities to celebrate Early Childhood for children all over Queensland, next Friday 29th May 2009. There will be over 20 activities for children to engage in on the day. So why not come along and join in the fun from 9am to 10:45am in our beautifully landscaped Prep/Yr 1 playground area in front of the office.

The theme for 2009 is: "Creativity – Let it happen". With 2009 being the Year of the Creativity we want to encourage children to create: to create new ideas, new approaches and new actions. We want to challenge children to express, experiment, consider, create and follow their dreams. Creativity is simply the act of making something new.

All over Queensland, schools, kindergartens, childcare centres, family day care schemes, libraries, councils and other organisations will be holding events to bring to you a fun week for children and an informative week for parents.

We hope you can join us and have a wonderful Under Eights Week 2009 celebrating with children in your communities.