



30 October 2013

Principal's Report

Year 6 and 7 Government Excursions

Last week was a very busy week for our Year 6 and Year 7 students learning about government and for being on excursion. A group of 70 Year 7 students with their teachers travelled to Canberra and Sydney last week. This group was notable as the largest group ever taken on this annual trip. They travelled in two buses in convoy via Dubbo, Bathurst, Canberra and Sydney. All reports that I have received indicate that this group upheld the fine traditions of our school students when they were away from the school.

Our Year 6 and 7 students back here at Coomera attended their own excursion to the Queensland Parliament House and Gold Coast City Council Chambers at the end of last week. These students also learnt about the functioning of government as part of their study. Reports are also good for this group travelling away from the school.

NAPLAN Gains

Our school uses the annual NAPLAN testing program to gauge school progress on improving academic outcomes for students. When the results are released, we receive a lot of information that we can use on a number of levels to monitor school improvement.

The following is a summary of the outcomes achieved in NAPLAN this year.

Improvement 2012 – 2013

- Improved in 37 out of 45 measures
- Our Mean Scale Score lifted in 14 out of 15 areas measured

Improvement 2008 – 2013

- Improved in 41 out of 45 areas measured
- Improved in 27 out of 45 areas at the highest rate of improvement

Effect Size – 2011 – 2013

- Our average Effect Size is higher than for Australia
- Our Effect Size is higher than for Australia in 7 out of 10 areas. Other areas show improvement on par with nation.

A.B. Paterson Public Speaking Competition

I was pleased that for the second year in a row, one of our students qualified through to the grand finals of the A.B. Paterson Public Speaking Competition.

Jasmyn S (6B), Jacinta H (6C) and Claire W (6C) competed in the competitive heats and Phoenix B (4B) in the non-competitive heats. We had two students, Jasmyn and Jacinta make it through to the semi-finals with Jacinta making it right through to the grand finals.

These students are to be congratulated for their dedication and commitment on obtaining these fantastic achievements as the calibre of competitors was of an exceptional standard. They have certainly made us all at Coomera very proud.

Notice on swimming payment and deadline

Parents we ask that if you wish for your child/ren to participate that you pay before the final cut-off date which is Friday 15 November. Any payments received after this date will not be processed and any payments received via bank internet transfer will be refunded or credited to your child/rens' account. As this requires a lot of planning and organising on the schools' part, we need to ensure that deadlines are strictly adhered to.

Parking in the vicinity of the school

I wish to update people with regards to parking and driving in the vicinity of the school. I strongly advise all parents parking in the vicinity of the school to check the signage and markings with regards to driving or parking around the school. Due to safety concerns and the potential injury of young people, enforcement agencies such as the Queensland Police or City Council Parking Inspectors may be checking around the school on random and multiple occasions to respond to safety concerns. I issue this advisory to all parents as we don't want parents fined. The best advice is to personally check the signage or markings and don't follow what other drivers might be doing.

Whilst representatives of our school community continue to liaise with levels of government with regards to congestion, parking and road safety, there will never be a parking spot for every parent available at 3pm close to the front gate. Rather than parking across the road, I encourage parents to use the Drop and Go Zone for dropping off and collecting students. Many parents have discovered that this works really well for them in terms of convenience. We can handle more vehicles within the fifteen to twenty minute period at the end of school. On most days, this area is clear at 3:09 or 3:12pm and the

parents who do come through at this time find it is a very smooth run.

Tuckshop Day

This Friday is Tuckshop Day so on behalf of the school community we would like to give a huge thank you to our hard working tuckshop convenors Nikki John and Helen Higgins and their band of fabulous volunteers who help provide our ever-hungry school children with delicious and nutritious food and drinks.

Year 6 and 7 Visit to Parliament House



Year 7 Canberra/Sydney Trip



Measles Health Alert

Queensland Health is concerned about the number of measles outbreaks in Queensland this year. Measles is a highly infectious disease that begins with symptoms such as fever, tiredness, cough, runny nose and/or red inflamed eyes. Measles can lead to complications such as middle ear infections, pneumonia (lung infection) and encephalitis (inflammation of the brain).

Measles can spread very easily. Vaccination is the only way to prevent measles. Queensland Health encourages anyone who has not had two measles-containing vaccinations, or who is not sure about their vaccination status, to get vaccinated as soon as possible. The measles vaccine is free from your local doctor for anyone born from 1966 onwards.

If parents think their child might have measles, they are advised to keep them away from school and make an appointment with a doctor or phone 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84) to organise medical assessment.

More information is available from;
http://access.health.qld.gov.au/hid/InfectionsandParasites/ViralInfections/measles_fs.asp

Have a great week

Chris McMillan
Principal
Coomera State School

Student Weekly Awards

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

Class	Week 2 and Week 3
PA	Jorja D,
PB	Sienna S, Ava W
PC	Christian D
PD	Chelsea B, Eisho S
PE	Summer M
PF	Jemal O, Jordan A
1A	Mia D, Lochlan M, Emma W
1B	Matthew M
1C	Charlotte C, Bella P
1D	Lili R, Blake W
1E	
1F	Thalia C, Liam S
2A	Breeze M
2B	Isabella P
2C	Nathan H
2D	Julian S
2E	Leah H, Elijah A, Brooke F
2F	
3A	Asher W
3B	Max M
3C	
3D	John P, Milly S
3E	
3F	Tara F
4A	Aurora M, Annabel H
4B	Rian F, Erin W
4C	Brayden H
4D	

Class	Week 2 and Week 3
4E	
5A	Shailah C
5B	
5D	
5/6E	
6B	Deegan E
6C	Malachi S
6/7F	Harrison C
7A	
7B	
7C	
7D	

Confirmation of Enrolment for 2014

To assist with 2014 planning, it is important that we know the number of students who will be attending our school next year. If students will not be returning in the new year (other than our current Year 7 students), please advise the school via the "Confirmation of Enrolment" documentation. This form is being sent out later this week and is due back to the classroom teacher by 4 November so the students name can be marked off as having returned the paperwork.

Prep Enrolment Interviews for 2014

We have started to conduct enrolment interviews for Prep for 2014. This process is well and truly underway. We urge all families of Prep aged children to book an interview soon to ensure sufficient time in the lead up to next year.

If you know of any families who intend enrolling their children at our school from the beginning of next year, please advise them, also, to contact our school office on 5519 6333 so that contact details can be recorded and enrolment interviews booked. Your assistance with this would be greatly appreciated.

Dental Van

Students in grades 7, 6, 5, 3, 2, 1, 4A, 4B, PA and ECD have been provided with an offer of oral health care examination card to take home.

If your child is enrolled in one of the grades listed above and did not receive an offer of care pack and you would like to arrange for your child to receive oral health care please contact the Oral Health Call Centre 1300 300 850. Monday to Friday 8.00 am – 4.30 pm Excluding Public Holidays.

If your child requires disability access please identify this requirement with the Call Centre Operator.

Students with Medication at School – End of year process

If your child has medication at school including asthma puffers, epi pens, diabetic equipment, medicines and tablets, etc these **MUST** be collected by a parent from the First Aid room on the child's last day of school in 2013. If the parent is unable to collect it themselves then a letter in writing is to accompany another nominated adult to collect any items stored in the first aid room. Students will **NOT** be allowed to collect medications of any sort.

Any medications of any sort still in the first aid room after the last day of school in 2014 will be disposed of and not held on the premises over the Christmas break due to security reasons.

Please ensure that if your child needs to continue or start having medication at school in 2014 that a 2014 medication form is completed upon return next year. Also ensure that the medication being sent to school is not about to expire and has a pharmacy label and action plan attached to it.

Office News and Reminders

Payments Due

Activity for payment	Amount due	Last day for payment
Seaworld Excursion – Year 2	\$31.00 \$11.00 if student has a pass	Wednesday, 13 November 2013
Swimming program Prep	\$69.00	Friday, 15 November 2013
Swimming program Year 1-5	\$46.50	Friday, 15 November 2013
Swimming program Year 6	\$45	Friday, 15 November 2013
Swimming interhouse carnival Yr 3-7 only	\$ 5.00	Friday, 15 November 2013

Cash payments at the Finance Window

We ask that when making payments via cash that you have the correct money as we do not keep any cash on premises to provide change. Thank you for your understanding.

Swimming Program and Carnival

We encourage parents to pay via internet to avoid the possible long queues at the finance window. However please ensure that you include your child's name and reference code i.e. SWIML or SWIMC when paying via internet.

Australian Government Assistance for National Capital Excursion

Students from our school have recently undertaken an educational tour of the national capital. While on this tour they participated in a variety of educational programmes focused on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy. This involved visits to Parliament House, The Australian Electoral Commission, Australian War Memorial and Old Parliament House.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their National Capital as part of their civics and citizenship education. To assist you (the parent) in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government contributed funding of \$ 60 –per eligible student, under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER) programme toward the travel expenses occurred. This contribution will be paid directly to the school now that our excursion is complete.

We would like to thank the Australian Government for their support of this programme.

Activities undertaken as part of the educational tour have been mentioned above.

We hope that the excursion was a rewarding experience for all students.

Gary Coker
Yr 7 Teacher

Sports News

South Coast School Sport (SCSS) 11yrs and 12yrs Aquathlon

Details of Regional Trials

Sport:	Aquathlon for 11 & 12yr olds (as at 31 December 2014)
Venue:	Evandale Community Park 135 Bundall Rd, Bundall (Behind the Gold Coast City Council Chambers)
Date:	Saturday 9 November 2013
Time:	7:30am start. (Race briefing at 7:00am). Concludes approx.. 9.00am
Cost:	\$12.00 (to be paid on the day)
Distances:	1.0 km Run 200m Swim 1.0 km Run
Nominations Due:	Friday 1 November 2013

Event Information

1. The selection trial for this event has been set down to start at 7.30am on Saturday 9th November 2013 at Evandale Community Park (*behind the Arts Centre*).
2. Primary Aquathlon is now ratified as a Queensland School Sport State championship. Only students aged 11 & 12 years **in 2014** are eligible to enter.
3. Due to the timing of the 2014 State Championships (*week 3 of the 2014 school year*), it is necessary to conduct the regional trial in November of this current year. Consequently, this event is only available to students who are turning 10 years old or 11 years old **THIS** year (2013).
4. The Primary Aquathlon event is a **DUAL** age event. This means that the 10year olds will be competing against the 11 year olds for a position in the Regional Aquathlon team. This should not discourage the 10 year olds from participating however as the regional team has been fairly evenly split across the two age groups for the past two years.
5. South Coast School Sport is allowed to nominate ten (10) competitors, in both the male and female divisions of this event, to the Queensland School Sport State Championship event. **NB.** The 2014 event will be held in Hervey Bay on Saturday 15 February 2014 (and not in Redcliffe as it has been for many years).

Points to Note

- Competitors wishing to trial for this event must be born in either 2003 or 2002
- To be eligible for this event, competitors **MUST** nominate to the South Coast School Sport office by **Friday 1 November 2013.**
- Hand in the fully completed SCSS – Standard Permission & Details Booklet. Students will not be able to compete unless this fully completed booklet is handed in prior to commencement of trials. See your PE teacher or Sports Coordinator for a copy of this booklet

Summary

RACE	(Regional Trials)	DISTANCE	AGE GROUP	RACE TIMETABLE
	DATE VENUE	You must race these distances		
South Coast Aquathlon Trials	Saturday 9 November 2013 Evandale Community Park	1km / 200m / 1km Run/swim/run	11/ 12 year olds Born 2003 /2002	Race Briefing 7.00am Start 7.30am

Contact Details

If there are any questions in relation to this event you can contact one (or all) of the following.

Julie GRANT (SCSS Aquathlon Manager)	4042 862 663
Desley URRY (SCSS Aquathlon Manager)	0414 532 132
Julie HENDERSON (Regional School Sport Officer)	5583 6319

P&C and Tuckshop News

Raffle Tickets

Just a reminder that all raffle tickets both sold and unsold are to be returned by Thursday 31 October to the P&C banking box in the office.

Internet Transfer Banking Details

We have had a few parents deposit money into the school general account by accident to pay for the purchase of school uniforms. Please be aware that the P&C have a separate bank account, as per details below;

Account name:	Coomera State School P&C Association General Account
BSB:	064-474
Account number:	10108090

New Tuckshop Menu

Coomera State School Tuckshop Menu (Term 4 & 1)	
All Foods are available for both breaks (1 st Break – 10.00am, 2 nd Break – 1.30pm)	
Sandwiches, Rolls & Wraps (Fresh/Toasted)	Hot Foods
Standard sandwiches – 1 slice white, 1 slice wholemeal bread) \$1.60	Garlic Bread (Homemade on hot dog roll) \$1.50
Vegemite / Jam / Honey \$2.00	Corn on Cob \$1.50
Cheese \$2.00	Chicken Nuggets (4 in 1 serve) \$2.00
Egg & Lettuce \$2.50	Sausage Roll \$2.50
Ham \$2.50	Pizza (Homemade on English muffin) \$2.50
Ham & Cheese \$3.00	(HandPineappleBBQ Chick or Cheese) \$2.50
Chicken \$3.00	Traveller (Chicken) Beef Pie \$3.00
Ham, Cheese & Tomato \$3.50	Hot Dog (Tomato/BBQ Sauce) \$3.00
Salad \$4.00	Chicken Burger (with Lettuce & Mayo) \$4.00
Ham & Salad \$4.50	Cheese Burger (with Cheese & Sauce) \$4.00
Chicken & Salad \$4.50	Hamburger (with Lettuce, Tomato, Beetroot) \$4.50
	Sweet Chili Chicken Wrap (with Lettuce & Sauce) \$4.50
Salads	Special Menu All \$5.00
Caesar Salad \$4.50	Tuesdays – Quiche (low fat) with Salad
Caesar Salad with Chicken \$5.00	Wednesdays – Jacket potato, Coleslaw & Salad
Garden Salad \$4.50	Thursdays – Special Fried Rice
Garden Salad with Extra (Chicken, Ham or Egg) Each Extra Add \$0.50	
Sushi/Roll	Cold Drinks
Chicken Teriyaki (Mayo/No Mayo) \$3.00	Plain Milk (300ml) \$1.20
Chicken Avocado (Mayo/No Mayo) \$3.00	Juice Popper (200ml) \$1.30
Tuna Mayo \$3.00	Bottled Water (600ml) \$1.50
Torta Avocado \$3.00	Kiwi Lemon (200ml) \$1.80
(Soy sauce by request at no cost)	Flav Water (600ml) \$2.00
Rice Balls (2 in 1 serve) (Chicken/Tuna) \$2.50	Flavoured Milk (300ml) (chocolate) \$2.00
Vietnamese Roll (Chicken/Vegetarian) \$3.50	
Online Order	Cold Snacks
Easy, quick, safe!	Fruit Cup \$1.00
www.flexschools.com.au	Apple \$1.00
(phone: 1300 361 739)	Custard \$1.50
Daily order also available over the counter	Yoghurt \$1.50
	Cheese & Crackers \$1.50
	Please Be Understanding
	No Credit Given

Uniform Shop Opening Hours

- Last week of school:**
ONLY open on Monday, 9 December 2013 and Wednesday, 11 December 2013 from 8.30 am to 11am and CLOSED on Friday for stocktake.
- Week before school returns in 2014:**
Monday 20 January 2014 - 9.00 am to 4.00 pm
Tuesday 21 January 2014 - 9.00 am to 11.00 am
Friday 24 January 2014 – 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm
- First week of school in 2014:**
Tuesday, 28 January 2014 - 9.00am to 10.00am

Wednesday, 29 January 2014 - 8.30am to 9.15am (resuming normal trading from this date).

Community News

COOMERA RIVER FAIR

Coomera Uniting Church, a congregation of the Living River Uniting Church are holding a Fair!

When:	Saturday, 16 November 2013
Time:	6am to 12noon.
Where:	To be held at the Coomera Uniting Church situated in Esplanade Coomera. (Map direction UBD map 25 A11)

You can buy homemade cakes and jams, craft items, plants, books and second hand furniture. Browse the op shop stall for pre-loved clothes and treat yourself to coffee at the coffee shop and even buy yourself a sausage sizzle and cold drink.



GOLD COAST HOSPITAL AND HEALTH SERVICES – ORAL HEALTH SERVICES

Did you know that Gold Coast Hospital and Health Services – Oral Health Services in both the community and school dental clinics accept Teen Dental Vouchers?

Good oral health care is important for young people. The government has provided Teen Dental Vouchers to help enable and maintain good oral health and preventative care. These vouchers can be presented to private dentists or Gold Coast Hospital and Health Services – Oral Health Services, including a community or school dental clinic.

Children attending schools up to the end of Year 10 who present a Teen Dental Voucher with Gold Coast Oral Health Services will receive a comprehensive examination, x-rays, scale, clean and a full course of care. Children in Years 11 and 12 in receipt of a voucher can only be seen by Gold Coast Oral Health Services if the eligibility criteria is met. They will then be placed on a waiting list to receive a comprehensive examination, x-rays, scale, clean and a full course of care.

If the Teen Dental Voucher has been used at a private dental practice, completion of the private dentist's treatment plan will need to be undertaken privately at own cost. Gold Coast Hospital and Health Services will only be able to provide Emergency Care for these children, not a full course of care as prescribed by the private dentist.

Gold Coast Hospital and Health Services – Oral Health Services have qualified and experienced dentists, oral health therapists, dental therapists and dental assistants who work together to provide a range of oral healthcare services to meet your child's specific oral health needs in a caring environment.

As the Teen Dental Voucher expires by 31.12.13, it is important that you arrange your appointment as soon as possible by

telephoning the Gold Coast Oral Health Services Call Centre on 1300 300 850. Oral health services are also provided during all school holiday periods.

For more information on the nearest community or school dental clinic, the Oral Health Call Centre will be able to assist you with your enquiry.

EDUCATION FOR ENTREPRENEURS (e4e) NEW PROGRAM AT HELENSVALE STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Do you have the edge: the ability to think outside the box? Are you interested in becoming an entrepreneur? If you think you can innovate, imagine and inspire, then you need to apply for a place on the team in the most innovative school based entrepreneurial education program developed at Helensvale State High School: e4e. Learn how to train your brain to maximize your creativity, bring ideas to life and work in a team whilst learning from business mentors. If you want to shape your destiny then this program is you. For more information please contact Helensvale High School on 5573 8555.

ASHMORE BMX CLUB SIGN ON DAY

Come along and get information about the club and the sport of BMX. All ages welcome and we will be providing a free sausage sizzle on the day & we have our last day of racing for the year to watch.



Date: 24 November 2013
Time: 11am onwards
Address: Currumburra Rd, Ashmore

For more information contact; info@ashmorebmx.com.au