



Coomera Link

~ Coomera State School ~

Dreamworld Parkway, Coomera Qld 4209

Phone: (07) 5519 6333 :: Fax: (07) 5519 6300 :: Absence Line: (07) 5519 6360

Email: the.principal@coomerass.eq.edu.au :: Website: www.coomerass.eq.edu.au

27 November 2012

Principal's Report



Swimming

We are in the midst of school swimming program at the school. This program is the most significant logistical exercise for the school and for parents throughout the school year. For parents, it involves daily bag checks, washing and drying, packing of swimming gear and tired children. For the school, it involves bus

movements, roll calls, quick changes and whole school change to timetables.

Our school considers learning to swim as being vital during the primary ages. This is important anywhere but as residents of the Gold Coast, proficiency in the pool, in the surf, open water and water parks is essential to life. The Gold Coast region consistently produces more great swimmers than arguably anywhere else. This region produces many state champions, Olympic, World and Commonwealth record holders in swimming. Although the school will continue to provide a significant program in swimming, it should be augmented by some private lessons and possibly stroke and squad lessons for those who choose to advance in this wonderful sport.

As our first cohort of Prep children move through the school and our school moving from a P-7 school to a P-6 school in 2015, our vision for swimming has had to adapt. We believe that a combination of school swimming over some years followed by surf awareness and lifesaving program during later years will be ideal. We have also had previous suggestions of a school swimming club and even a pool. I am opening up the conversation with parents about swimming at this time and invite your thoughts via email to the.principal@coomerass.eq.edu.au.

Family Law Matters Affecting Schools

I am advising families that the Department of Education Training and Employment has implemented a changed policy for schools in managing family law matters. This policy impacts upon the way we manage matters involving students who reside within split, blended or rebled families.

Our primary focus is upon the education and welfare of every child. The vast majority of Family Law orders apply to the parents and between the parents and do not explicitly apply to the school. Whilst we record details, we cannot guarantee to uphold informal requests from one parent against the other that are not supported in Law or Policy. For one birth parent to be totally denied any involvement with the child's school, the Court would have to specifically state this within an order or else be deemed an unfit person or risk through their behaviour.

Where this works best, birth parents maintain open communication to ensure that disputes are worked out away from the school and the school is not used as a method to facilitate a remedy within a family law dispute. This enables

the school to maintain our focus upon learning and welfare for every child.

Newsletter upgrade coming

We have been informed that we will be upgraded to a new version of our electronic newsletter in the near future. Our newsletter service is maintained through Schoolzine with the costs involved being covered through advertising and sponsorship. There will be a number of improvements coming that are intended to build the school as a community and link to local events and to encourage support for local businesses. The business side of the newsletter will be totally managed by Schoolzine.

One of the improvements will be the capacity of the school to communicate updates via email. Parents can expect a fortnightly newsletter in 2013 with an update via email on the alternate week. The email data base is via subscription through Schoolzine and parents and family members are encouraged to subscribe their email address.

The electronic Schoolzine newsletter will be supported by other communication methods including email, Facebook, school website and an App is in the pipeline. SMS messages will continue to be used for emergent or changed information. All methods of digital communication will be designed for capability for computer, tablet and smartphone formats.

Parents now have totally different expectations on how they can obtain information from the school than ten years ago and also want to be more active in the process. The newsletter upgrade will support the changing ways of communication.

Have a great week,

Chris McMillan
Principal

CSS News

Student Weekly Awards

Congratulations to the following classes and students who have received awards in Week 6 and 7.

Class Awards - Week 6	PY - 1	2 - 4	5 - 7
Class of the week	1C		
Citizenship	PD		

Class Awards - Week 7	PY - 1	2 - 4	5 - 7
Class of the week	PB		6/7F
Citizenship	PC		7A

Class	Week	Week
PA	Peyton K	
PB	Charli L	Charli L
PC	Jack W	Tayla C

PD	Ella F	Taitoa T
PE	Jack M	Jordan H
PF	Dennison S	Kiara G
1A	Ayman Y	
1B	Lachlan S	Tia D
1C	Chelsea S	Maddisyn S
1D	Samantha K	Ava B
1E	Kalen D	Brooke F
1F	Madelyn M	Dylan W
2A		
2B		
2C		
2D		
2E		
2F		
3A		
3B		
3C		
3D		
3E		
4A		
4B		
4C		
4D		
5A		Eithan H
5B		Amy W
5C		Douglas B
6/7F		
6B		
6C		Rachael N
6D		James S & Emily R
6E		
7A		
7B		James K & Olivia W
7C		
7D		

Good Behaviour Certificate and Reward Activity

At the end of each term Responsible Behaviour certificates are presented to students who have strived throughout the term to follow school behaviours, expectations and have consistently worked to the best of their ability, both in the classroom and playground environments. It is therefore expected that students who receive a Responsible Behaviour certificate have demonstrated consistent responsible behaviour, have not received any Orange and Red slips, classroom stars exceed steps or have demonstrated consistent or remarkable improvement in their behaviour and attitude. Parents of students who have been issued with Red or Orange Slips or Classroom Steps will have already been informed, after having sighted and signed the slips. All students are encouraged to take responsibility for their behaviour and continue to strive to make responsible, independent choices to work towards achieving a Responsible Behaviour certificate. Students receiving their fourth Responsible Behaviour certificate for the year will be presented with a gold certificate and students receiving their

third, second or first for the year will receive a bronze, silver or blue certificate consecutively.

Reward Behaviour certificates for Term 4 will be handed out on the Wednesday in the last week. Students in Prep to Year 6 who receive a Responsible Behaviour certificate will be invited to participate in a School Disco Reward session in the school hall. Year 7 students who receive a Responsible Behaviour certificate will be invited to participate in a day at White Water World.

Staff and students who joined the 2011, Term 4 Reward Session enjoyed themselves immensely and can be excited about this year's session too!

Finance Window

FINANCE WINDOW NOT OPEN FOR CASH AND EFTPOS PAYMENTS IN THE LAST WEEK OF TERM.

Details for any internet banking payment are:

BSB: 064-430

Account number: 00090286

Account Name: Coomera State School General Account

- **Year 7 farewell evening (various costs) last day for payment is 3 December 2012.**
- **Student Resource Scheme - Final Payments now due**

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.

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 over the break please contact the office to ensure your child's records are accurate.

Students with Medication at School

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 2012. 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 2012 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 2013 that a 2013 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.

Lost Property Items

There are a large number of items such as lunch boxes and drink bottles being collected as they have not found their way home with the student.

The lost property box is at the Administration block just outside the door at the back of the building. Please encourage your child to come and see if they have any items that they have misplaced and return them home.

If you have misplaced smaller, more valuable items on the school grounds please see the Office staff.

ALL LOST PROPERTY IS CURRENTLY ON A TABLE OUTSIDE THE OFFICE SO PLEASE COME AND HAVE A LOOK.

At the end of each term the lost property box is cleared and any non school items without a name on it is donated to the local Op shops. School items in the lost property box are washed and provided to the Uniform shop to sell as second hand or for children in need.

Semester 2 Student Reports

Staff are currently finalising semester two Student reports which will be issued to parents on Thursday 13th December.

Procedures for Day 1, 2013

Staff will be on campus on Thursday 24 January and Friday 25 January as these are designated Student Free Days. Staff will be involved in a range of professional development activities as well as finalising preparations for the start of the new school year. Families and students commencing in the Prep Year, will be able to come to the school from 2:00 pm on Friday 25 January to locate their Prep classroom and visit in preparation for a smooth start on the first school day.

The first day of school for all students will be **Tuesday 29 January 2013**. Proposed class groups for students in Years 1-7 will be posted on noticeboards in the covered area near the Tuckshop on this day. Parents and students are invited to check these lists from 8:00am and staff will be on hand to assist with directions to classrooms where necessary.

P&C and Tuckshop News

Next Meeting: Monday 3rd December, 6.30pm in the Library

Calling for help! We are looking into refurbishing the Tuckshop. If anyone has any experience in obtaining grants and/or sourcing, contracting, fixing, or anything that could help us get a bigger and better Tuckshop, please come forward.

School Banking – don't forget to bring in your bank book each Thursday

Book Club – please ensure all book club orders are returned to class teachers. Do NOT place these in the P&C box in the office. If they are not returned to teachers, they may not get ordered.

A4 Book Covers – by the time newsletter reaches you, the book covers with the school logo will have arrived. Place your orders asap so you don't miss out. We are confident they are going to be popular. You can view these at the uniform shop.

Xmas Raffle

We are kindly asking for donations for our Xmas raffle. All non-perishable items accepted – festive food, toys, vouchers, books etc.

Donated items can be dropped off at the tuckshop until Wednesday 5 December (week before school finishes)

Winners announced at end of year assemblies!

Please support our students and our school. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Tuckshop Opening times for last week of school

Tuckshop's opening times for the last week of school are:

Normal trading through to Thursday 13th December 2012

Friday 14th December the tuckshop will be closed.

As this is the final week stock will be low in some items and therefore your child may order an item that has run out. If this occurs we will endeavour to arrange a suitable replacement from the healthy choices on the menu.

Thank you for your support and understanding in advance on this matter.

Uniform Shop Opening Hours

The Uniform Shop operating hours:

- **Last week of school:**

ONLY open on Monday 10 December 2012 and Wednesday 12 December 2012 from 8.30 am to 9.15 am and CLOSED on Friday for stocktake.

- **Week before school returns in 2013:**

Monday 21 January 2013 - 9.00 am to 3.00 pm
Tuesday 22 January 2013 - 9.00 am to 11.00 am
Friday 25 January 2013 – 1.00 pm to 6.00 pm

- **First week of school in 2013:**

Tuesday 29 January 2013 9.00am to 10.00am
Wednesday 30 January 2013 8.30am to 9.15am
(resuming normal trading from this date).

Win iPad Mini's for Christmas with School Banking

Simply making a deposit through School Banking will put you in the draw to win one of twelve iPad Mini's (2 per state) valued at \$369 each for Christmas.

- Make a deposit into your CommBank Youthsaver account at school any time between November 19 – December 14 2012.
- Every student that makes a deposit during the competition period will go into a draw to win one of twelve iPad Mini's (16GB with wi-fi).
- For more information and terms and conditions visit www.commbank.com.au/schoolbanking