Principal’s Message:
Welcome back to Term 2!! After a fairly eventful end to Term 1, it was wonderful to see the happy smiling faces of our students on Tuesday morning in the hall. Thank you also for your support over the last two days of Term 1 with our school being closed. The safety of our families was our most important consideration and I thank you for your assistance. I trust you all had a restful and enjoyable break over the vacation period. We have a very exciting and busy 10 week term ahead of us.

ANZAC Day Commemoration
We will hold our ANZAC Day ceremony on Monday 24 April at 10:30am at our usual place, at the front of the school. All community members are invited to come along to this very important event. The ceremony will be led by our 2017 School Captains.

NAPLAN (National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy)
On Tuesday 9, Wednesday 10 and Thursday 11 May, students in Years 3 and 5 will undertake the 2017 NAPLAN tests. These tests assess literacy and numeracy skills that students are already learning through the school curriculum. Friday 12 May has been set aside as a catch-up day for students who miss tests due to absence. Parents or carers of students who undertake the NAPLAN tests will receive a written report of their child’s achievement in August.

Teachers will ensure that students are familiar with the test formats and will provide appropriate support and guidance. NAPLAN tests provide very valuable information. At the classroom level it is one of a number of important tools used by teachers to measure student progress. Excessive preparation is not useful and can lead to unnecessary anxiety. If you have
any questions about your child’s preparation for NAPLAN, you are encouraged to make a
time to speak with their teacher. Parents and carers can also access further information at

Cross Country – Friday
We held our Year 4-6 Cross Country event today. More news about the cross country will
appear later in this newsletter.

A Visit from our Assistant Regional Director
Mrs Helen Kenworthy our Assistant Regional Director (ARD) visited our school towards the
end of last term. She was particularly interested in finding out more about the education of
our youngest students at CPSS and so spent time in our Prep classrooms - observing
lessons and speaking with students and teachers. She offered the following feedback:

“It was wonderful to see these classrooms and the focus on teaching in Prep. My
feedback to you was that this excellent work will have a strong and positive
influence up through the school in the coming years as the high expectations for
Prep students to read, write and be numerate flow onto Year 1 and beyond.

This is excellent work and your teachers and teacher aides should be very proud!”

We are naturally thrilled to receive such affirming feedback about the great work happening
in our Prep classrooms and hope that Helen will be able to visit classrooms in other year lev-
els during future visits in order to see the fabulous work that is also happening there.

Staffing Changes for Term 2
Mrs Grace Herrera, one of our wonderful SEP Teachers, has taken up a temporary position
as Head of Special Education at Woodcrest College for Term 2. This is a fantastic
opportunity for Mrs Herrera and we wish her well in this new position. We welcome Mrs
Michelle Priem as she takes over Mrs Herrera’s role at CPSS for Term 2. Mrs Priem is also a
special education trained teacher, who has worked previously at our school. Mrs Herrera
will definitely be returning to us at the beginning of Term 3.

Cooler Weather is Here!
The Uniform Shop has just received a delivery of brand new zip front
sweaters. We had a couple of our younger boys model the new school
sweater this morning in the hall. As you can see they look very smart. As I
said to the students this morning, it is not necessary to wear the school
jumper, but, it is essential that all students wear full school uniform,
which includes a navy or maroon jacket or jumper. If it is not a school
jumper, then it must be a plain sweater. With cooler weather creeping up
on us, please help us to maintain a high standard of school pride, by
making sure your child has the correct uniform. Jumpers/jackets, track
pants and tights which are not purchased from the school or plain school
coloured are unacceptable. Be sure to organise the correct winter uniform
for your child. Also, please name all items. We often have overflowing
lost property, which is unnamed and therefore unable to be returned to
the rightful owners.
How to help your child succeed!
During the holidays I know sometimes reading gets dropped off the daily routine as children are busy doing other activities and enjoying their holiday time. Reading is a great habit to develop but it is also meant to be an enjoyable activity. Children are never too old to have their parents read to them!

“Parents who read to their children weekly or daily when they were young raised children who scored twenty-five points higher on PISA by the time they were fifteen years old. That was almost a full year of learning. More affluent parents were more likely to read to their children almost everywhere, but even among families within the same socioeconomic group, parents who read to their children tended to raise kids who scored fourteen points higher on PISA. By contrast, parents who regularly played with alphabet toys with their young children saw no such benefit.”

— Amanda Ripley, The Smartest Kids in the World: And How They Got That Way

Children learn so much from the reading habits that parents model to them. If children see their parents reading for enjoyment they are more likely to read for enjoyment as well. Remember that reading doesn’t always have to be a thick book. It could be a newspaper article, a magazine, signs you pass while on a bushwalk, reading novels on an iPad and even recipes.

“If parents simply read for pleasure at home on their own, their children were more likely to enjoy reading, too. That pattern held fast across very different countries and different levels of family income. Kids could see what parents valued, and it mattered more than what parents said.”

— Amanda Ripley, The Smartest Kids in the World: And How They Got That Way

Playgroup – The first 5 years matter and last a lifetime
Our playgroup is back in full swing. Every Thursday 9:30-11:00 for children from ages bump (and we have a few of those at the moment!) to 5 are more than welcome to attend with their mum/dad/aunty/uncle/grandparent.

Important Reminders
Parents are not permitted to drive into the school grounds to drop off or collect students. Parents are endangering the lives of their children as well as other students entering and leaving the school grounds.

Meridee Cuthill—Principal
I can hardly believe that we’re already into Term 2. We packed in so much great learning in Term 1 along with lots of wonderful events and the last two weeks of term were no different!

Week 9 was particularly busy. On Tuesday and Wednesday we welcomed parents and carers to meet with teachers and discuss their children’s progress. Parent engagement is important to student success so we greatly value close and positive relationships between home and school and always welcome the opportunity to share information about classroom work as well as seeking input from parents / carers about the needs and aspirations of their children. If you were unable to attend a parent teacher interview during Week 9 then please contact your child’s teacher to set up a mutually convenient time after the holidays.

Harmony Day – 21st March
Week 9 also saw CPSS celebrating Harmony Day. Our special Harmony Day assembly celebrated our school’s cultural diversity with students sharing something of their languages and cultures. Thank-you to Mrs Armstrong (our Student Welfare Officer) and the rest of the Harmony Day team for organising this and other activities throughout the week to help us all focus on inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for all.

Excursions
Year 1 students enjoyed a wonderful day at Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary last Friday, consolidating their Science learning while Year 5 attended Nudgee Beach Environmental Education Centre on Monday. Apparently the mud crabs were enormous and, on their return to school, the students told me all about the adaptations they had noticed in the various coastal creatures they had seen.

Easter Bonnet Parade
Students in Prep, Year 1 and 2 donned their Bunny Ears and performed a wonderful collection of Easter songs at the Easter Bonnet Parade on Wednesday this week. 2A demonstrated great resilience when they were unable to wear the ears that they had worked so hard on, due to damage caused by broken windows in their classroom the night before. However, some substitute ears were found and their Prep Buddies came to the rescue with face paint to help set the scene for a great performance. All the students were fantastic but special congratulations are due to our Prep students who performed on our stage for the first time for a hall packed with proud parents!

We understand that parents and carers are keen to take photographs of their children at these events. However, please remember that photographs which include images of other people’s children are not to be posted on social media without the express consent of their parents / carers.

The P&C Easter Raffle was also drawn at the Easter Bonnet Parade with lots of great prizes. Thank-you to everyone who sent in items for raffle prizes or purchased tickets.
and to Alicia Booth and the other P&C volunteers for organising the raffle. The raffle raised just over $450.00.

Positive Behaviour for Learning
I enjoyed the privilege of drawing our end of term Care Token draw at Wednesday’s Assembly at the end of term. Two tokens were drawn from the huge number collected over the term – each token earned by a student who demonstrated one of our CARE Values. On this occasion, the lucky draw winners were Danyal and Ameena, both (coincidentally) from Year 4. The first of our 2017 CARE Bands went home with students before the holidays. Students will have the opportunity to earn a different coloured CARE band each term this year and those students who have earned the set of four CARE Bands will also be awarded a special CARE Crow pin.

Rewards Day was postponed due to the early closure of school before the holidays. Students who achieved a Gold, Silver, Bronze or Improvement Award in Term 1 will enjoy a “Cold Rock”-style ice-cream treat today instead.

Jill Rutland
Deputy Principal
On Friday 24 March the year 3 and 5 Religious Instruction (RI) students took part in an Easter assembly in the hall. As weekly RI lessons for these year levels will not start until after NAPLAN, it was great to be able to share with them the meaning of Easter. Students were involved in an excellent drama (special thank-you to Mrs H for providing the costumes) where they re-enacted the first Easter Sunday. A group of year 3 students performed the song ‘He’s alive again’ that they have been practicing on Monday lunchtime’s and we talked about the meaning of Jesus being alive today!

Week 1, Term 2 sees our Senior Inter-House Cross Country event for students in Years 4-6 on Friday 21st April. This event will take place between 9.00am and 11.00am. This carnival starts with a short course run for Year 4 students born in 2008 (9yrs), followed by the 2007 (10yr) event runners then 2006 (11Yrs) and finishing with the 2005 (12yrs). The 9yrs course is approximately 1000m long the 10yrs the 11yrs & 12yrs 2000m and finally the 12yrs course 3000m long. All students who run will be eligible for house points and age champion medallions. Only competitive students finishing in the top 5 girls’ students and the top 5 boys’ places in the 10yrs ,11yrs and 12yrs age group will qualify for the District Cross Country which will be held on Thursday 4th May at Woodcrest College.

Age champion medallions will be awarded to these students on the Wednesday assembly (26th April). Congratulations to Taya, Junior, Tevita, Shylo, Peter, Annika, Claire and Cooper.
Our amazing patch of rainforest in the corner of the school was assessed by Ipswich City Council’s Land For Wildlife Officer and has now been registered as a Land For Wildlife site! This is exciting news as it means we can be supported to maintain and manage this space to become an ecological haven for our local wildlife and a fantastic learning environment for our students – inside our school grounds.

We need help to make this project a success so please come and join us at our first working bee on Earth Day, Saturday 22nd April! Our first goal is to remove any litter and invasive weeds. The project will be launched by Cr Kerry Silver and our local Land For Wildlife Officer, Stephani Grove is really excited to be able to assist us.

**WORKING BEE DETAILS**

**Date:** Saturday 29th April  
**Time:** 8.00-9.30am  
**Location:** Back gate of rainforest area (see map)  
**To bring:** Water bottle, gardening gloves (if you have any)  
**Clothes:** Please wear clothes, hats and shoes that will protect from sun, insects and scratchy plants

*All students attending must be accompanied and supervised by an adult.*

Working bees will run weekly during term two, every Saturday morning so if you can’t make the first one, we’d love to have you join us at another time during the term.

*For more information, or donation of gardening tools/ gardening gloves, please contact Cathy Turrall – cathyturrall@yahoo.com.au*
Gold Coast 2018 Queen’s Baton Relay Baton bearer Program

The Gold Coast 2018 Queen's Baton Relay Baton bearer Program is a major element of the Queen’s Baton Relay (QBR) for the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018). Commencing in Australia on 25 December 2017, the Baton will travel for 100 days bringing together everyday Australians to become baton bearers and carry the Baton with pride through Australian Celebration Communities.

Baton bearers will be selected from nominations received through a number of different programs including the Queensland Schools’ Baton bearer Nomination Program. This means that schools are able to nominate one student to be a baton bearer.

We are looking for someone to share the dream and become a Baton bearer for the GC2018 Queen's Baton Relay. A Baton bearer is someone who meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Has achieved something extraordinary or inspired others to achieve something extraordinary.
- Has made a significant contribution to either sport, education, the arts, culture, charity or within their community.
- Has excelled, or aspires to excel athletically or personally. Contributes to a fun, friendly, vibrant and inclusive community.

Other eligibility rules:
- The minimum age of a Baton bearer is 10 years old as at 25 December 2017 (start date of Relay in Australia).
- All nominees must be Australian Citizens or lawfully entitled to reside in Australia during the Relay period (25 December 2017 – 4 April 2018).
- The student is to explain in 100 words or less how they meet one or more of the Baton bearer criteria and why they should become a Baton bearer.

The nomination process closes at 11:59pm AEST Monday 15 May 2017. As a school, we will not be able to enter any nominations after this date.

The Queensland Schools’ Baton bearer nominees will be judged by ESG representatives, who will assess which students (selected nominees) will proceed through to the next stage of the Queensland Schools’ Baton bearer selection process. The judging process will be conducted on 29-30 May 2017.

Students who would like to be considered for nomination by the school must explain (in writing) in 100 words or less why they should become a baton bearer an how they meet the criteria. Students must enter their nomination to the school office by 9:00am Friday 5 May 2017.
Prep students may now order tuckshop, Tuesday to Friday only.

THE TUCKSHOP IS CLOSED ON MONDAYS.

Online Ordering
If you are ordering tuckshop online please make sure that you have updated your student/s class.
If you can assist at tuckshop, please give us a call as we would really appreciate your help.

Should you have a problem or cannot make your rostered day, please give the tuckshop a call with as much notice as possible.

P & C Administrator—Karen: 0733814336

Download the school star app today and receive and send absence messages to school at NO COST TO YOU!