Principal’s Message:

Principals’ Conference:
Last Thursday and Friday, I attended a State Schools Principals’ Conference in Brisbane. The conference theme was ‘a great school has a great school down the road’. With this theme the key messages were collaborate, innovate and elevate. It is essential that schools work together, sharing knowledge, understandings and resources to ensure we achieve the best possible outcomes for our students.

Absences:
Absences from school can impact significantly on students’ learning and wellbeing. Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance is associated, on average, with higher student achievement. Additionally, attending school every day helps children to build social and emotional skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience. Under the law, you must make sure your child is enrolled and attends school on all school days unless there is a reasonable excuse. We must monitor attendance of our students and follow up with parents and caregivers any unexplained absences. It is pleasing that most parents and caregivers do contact school staff and explain student absences. However, there are still a number of parents and carers who are not following this procedure.

Did you know that if your child misses 1 day a week that equates to 40 days (on average) they miss a year (nearly a WHOLE TERM). Attending school 95% of the time, equates to missing only 2 days per term.

Data for this term:
Whole school – 94% (our goal is 95%, so we are nearly there!)
PREP: 93.9%  YR 1: 93.4%  YR 2: 95.7%  YR 3: 93.4%
YR 4: 93.4%  YR 5: 93.7%  YR 6: 94.5%

Meridee Cuthill
Principal
Deputy Principal’s Message

Assembly
It’s always wonderful to see so many parents joining our Wednesday morning Assembly. This is a special time when the school community meets to celebrate success and reflect on the school’s values. However, the Hall is particularly full on these days so it can be a little daunting for our youngest students to find their way to the front, especially when Assembly is already underway. To address this problem, we tried out a slightly different seating plan last week.

Feedback from parents and teachers was overwhelmingly positive so we will continue with this arrangement from now on.

Prep students arriving after 8.30am will be greeted at the Hall door by the Prep Teacher Aides who will then deliver them to the appropriate class at the front. This enables parents to say goodbye to their children and then join the other parents at the back. There are less distractions for the seated students, teachers are able to supervise their classes more actively and the job of leading the assembly is made easier for our fabulous student leaders. Thank-you for your support with this new arrangement. We look forward to welcoming you to future assemblies.

Head of Curriculum’s (HOC) Message

Toys from the Past
This week, Year 2 students shall attend a workshop by Hands-On Education and will be provided with hands on activities looking at toys from long ago and how they have changed. This will occur on 12th March from 11:30am to 1pm in our school hall, and will support student learning in History this term. This workshop has a huge collection of toys from the past. Students will be amazed at the variety, craftsmanship and beauty of toys from long ago and how well they have lasted. They will also discover that the materials and skills used to make these toys differed from the materials and skills used today, and that toys long ago were made by hand not by machines. By participating in such activities, students will develop their ability to analyse aspects of daily life to identify how some things have changed over recent times while others have remained the same.

A reminder for parents/carers of Year 2 students that they will need to return their payment of $7 and the permission slip by Thursday should they wish for their child to attend this event.

Amanda Mulcahy
Head of Curriculum
Deputy Principal’s Message Cont..

Reading Tips
When improving skills in reading, one important area of focus is Fluency – the ability to read out loud with speed, accuracy, and proper expression. Fluency is one of several critical factors necessary for successful reading comprehension.

Here are some clues that your child may have problems with fluency:
- He knows how to read words but seems to take a long time to read a short book or passage silently.
- She reads a book with no expression.
- He stumbles a lot and loses his place when reading something aloud.
- She reads aloud very slowly.
- She moves her mouth when reading silently (subvocalising).

There are several possible reasons to explain lack of fluency. Your child’s teacher will seek to address these and talk to you about any concerns they have regarding decoding accuracy or phonemic awareness (awareness of the tiny sounds or phonemes that make up words in speech). However, the most common group of non-fluent readers are those children whose decoding skills are accurate but halting, and who simply need a great deal of practice. Some of these children may be second language learners. These children need lots of opportunity to practice - from story books to cook books to comic books. Find every avenue possible that encourages print reading (For example, make visits to interactive museums where directions need to be read; have a weekly library trip; make a habit of list making; write notes to your child with directions and instructions; play games with the family that encourage these skills like scrabble, etc.) Fill the world with print-moments.

With the help of parents and teachers, children can learn strategies to improve their fluency. Below are some more tips and specific things to try.

Why not try…
- Reading aloud to your child to provide an example of how fluent reading sounds. Older children love to hear stories too.
- Re-reading favourite books aloud and encouraging your child to read along with you – matching his / her voice to yours.
- Helping your child to choose books with predictable vocabulary and clear rhythmic patterns so that the child can “hear” the sound of fluent reading as he or she reads aloud.
- Using recorded books and encouraging your child to follow along in the print copy.
- Encouraging your child to pay attention to, or “read” the punctuation marks – e.g. we should “hear” a comma in a short pause.
- Encouraging your child to read favourite books and poems over and over again to practice getting smoother and reading with expression. (Make sure your child is enjoying this - reading is meant to be a pleasurable experience!)

Happy Reading!

J Ill Rutland
Deputy Principal
Class Parent Representatives 2015

Class parent representatives will be working actively with teachers, parents and the wider school community throughout 2015.

The class parent representative system was implemented in 2014 as part of our school’s Parent And Community Engagement (PACE) initiative. This system provides an important link between teachers, parents and the community.

Class parent representatives are part of a school wide network providing a point of contact for parents. Parent representatives:
- Establish a contact list and welcome parents
- Share information
- Answer questions – if they do not know the answer they will do their best to find out!
- Organise social activities with the class or cohort

Thank you to the parents who have kindly volunteered to be class parent representatives this year.

If you are interested in becoming a class parent representative, please contact Tracey Boyter - boyter4@optusnet.com.au

### Class Parent Representatives 2015

| Prep Blue   | Aimee Watson   | 4A  | Sarah Wimpenny |
| Prep Red    | Sam Butler    | 4B  | PARENT REP NEEDED |
| Prep White  | Delmy Quintanilla |  |  |
| 1A          | Vanessa Langdren | 5A  | Denise Reed    |
| 1B          | Delmy Quintanilla | 5B  | PARENT REP NEEDED |
| 1C          | Jodi Ruben    | 5C  | Tracey Boyter  |
| 1D          | Tracey Boyter/Courtney Witts | 5D  | Kirsten Anstey |
| 2A          | Michelle Grice | 6A  | Jodi Ruben    |
| 2B          | Jenny/Ross Langford | 6B  | PARENT REP NEEDED |
| 2C          | Jasmine Klein  | 6C  | Kim Stanton / Nikki Elphinstone |
| 3A          | Karen Horner  |  |  |
| 3B          | Nikki Elphinstone |  |  |
| 3C          | Sonia Mozes   |  |  |
Collingwood Park State School is a “You Can Do It” school. Every couple of weeks, your child will be learning about a new “KEY TO SUCCESS” and how these keys help us become successful learners.

In Weeks 6 and 7, your child will be learning about CONFIDENCE.

In the classroom, your children will learn how developing confidence will help them achieve their goals and become successful learners. Confidence is the ability to believe in yourself, to work independently and have an optimistic outlook, and recognize making mistakes as part of authentic learning.

Did you know that your child can earn “YOU CAN DO IT” tickets on the playground for displaying any of the Keys to Success traits? These tickets are placed in a box in the office. Each week on assembly, Mrs Cuthill will draw out one lucky ticket for a prize.

The “YOU CAN DO IT” focus for Weeks 8 and 9 … RESILIENCE

Numeracy Natter!

For students to develop numerate behaviour, they have to have opportunities to apply mathematical skills in a range of learning areas. In this week’s Numeracy Natter, I would like to offer some more activities you can do with your child to develop their numerate thinking.

- Think of different ways to solve a problem
- Ask, “does that make sense?”, “is the answer reasonable?” or “what other ways could we do this?”
- Discuss the use of numbers, patterns and shapes in your day to day life e.g. numbers found on library books, spatial patterns or shapes in playgrounds, the home, architecture etc.
- Talk about occasions when you are using mathematics in daily jobs and real-life situations e.g. cooking, map reading, building, gardening, sewing and playing sport
- Explore situations using money e.g. shopping, budgets, credit cards
- Observe and use timetables, calendars and clocks found in lots of different purposes, e.g. planning television watching times or homework times, holiday planning, catching public transport

Jane Appleton
Numeracy Coach
Congratulations to 1B who received the Junior Music Award for Week 7. Congratulations must also be given to 6C who used their creativity to choreograph dance routines and were presented with the Senior Music Award for Week 6.

**Year 4 Performance**
Year 4 students have been exploring and practising rhythmic ostinatos and are ready to inspire students to learn their number facts through the rap ‘Number Facts, Learn Them’. They will be showcasing their musical talent in the Hall next week on **Thursday 19th March** at 8:30am.

**Passionato Choir**
The Passionato Choir will be performing on Assembly for National Day Against Bullying/Harmony Day on **Friday 20th March** at 8:30am.

**Piccolo Choir**
The Piccolo Choir will be performing on **Thursday 2nd April** at 9:30am at the Prep to Year 3 Easter Bonnet Assembly in the Hall.

Anna Polomski
Music Teacher

Scott Bignell
Instrumental Music Teacher

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**Tuckshop News.**

**Online Ordering**
If you are ordering tuckshop online please make sure your student/s class are correct.

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.

Dianne: (07) 3818 0687
Mobile: 0403 945 014
Tuckshop: (07) 3381 4335

**PLEASE NOTE:**
Prep students are NOT able to order tuckshop until Term 2.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 16/3/15</td>
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<td>Tuesday 17/3/15</td>
<td>Doreen Clement</td>
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<td>Wednesday 18/3/15</td>
<td>Courtney Flynn / HELP NEEDED</td>
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<td>Thursday 19/3/15</td>
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<td>Friday 20/3/15</td>
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<td>Jessica Williams</td>
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<td>Tuesday 24/3/15</td>
<td>Michelle Handyside</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25/3/15</td>
<td>Doreen Clement / HELP NEEDED</td>
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<td>Thursday 26/3/15</td>
<td>Carol David / HELP NEEDED</td>
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<td>Friday 27/3/15</td>
<td>Doreen Clement / Courtney Flynn</td>
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Get your family active and eating well!

Local families can now sign up the free healthy lifestyle program called PEACH™ - Parenting, Eating and Activity for Child Health. Registrations are now open for a group to commence in term 2, 2015.

The program is fun for kids and helps parents and carers make healthy eating and activity a part of every-day life. It is available to families with a child aged between 5-11 years who is above a healthy weight their age.

It consists of 10 group sessions that run for 90 minutes each. The first 9 sessions are held weekly within the school term. Ongoing individualised family support is offered through the second half of the program ending with one final group session.

Some of the topics covered include nutrition skills, relationships with food and eating, changing family lifestyle behaviours and making healthy eating affordable. While the parent sessions are taking place, children enjoy active play with a trained child physical activity facilitator.

The program is funded by the Queensland government and being delivered by the Queensland University of Technology.

If you would like more information about the PEACH™ program or to register please contact free call 1800 263 519 or visit www.peachqld.com.au
Walk or Ride to School Day!

Walk or Ride to School Day on Wednesday March 18!

Tie up those shoelaces and pump up those tyres - IT IS WALK/RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY soon.

Join us for a great morning starting with a play at the park, a coffee van and a finish with a fabulous breakfast.

Meet at Banjo Paterson Park - ready to depart at 8:00am (see attached map).

See you there!
We Have two significant dates approaching, both of which we believe are important for our children to focus on. The first is Friday 20th March – ‘National Day of Action Against Bullying’ and the second is on Saturday 21st March – ‘Harmony Day’.

Leading up to Friday 20th, the Anti-bullying and Harmony Day focus will be incorporated into the classroom where appropriate. Children will be involved in activities related to such. A special school assembly will be held on Friday 20th March where these two worthy causes will be discussed. The children will then partake in a special project and enjoy performances of special guests. Parents and carers are invited to attend and also celebrate the diversity of CPSS and make a stand against bullying.

Louise Armstrong
Student Welfare Office

From our Student Welfare Officer

We’re on the Web.......

www.collparkss.eq.edu.au