Principal’s Message:

Finally

The refurbishment of our Prep playground is complete! It looks absolutely fantastic! I am sure the children will enjoy having a more even surface to run on, without having to avoid many of the raised tree roots of the past.

Photos by Leah Anstey and Ebenezah Lauvi.

The classrooms in A and E block are almost finished. The builders are coming in on the weekends and early mornings to complete the cabinetry. New furniture for all 8 classrooms should arrive any day. I know the teachers are feeling very excited about having completed classrooms.

Annual Implementation Plan

Each year our school leadership team develops the Collingwood Park SS – Annual Implementation Plan (AIP). The plan outlines the strategies and actions that we will implement over the course of 2016 to improve outcomes for our students. The strategies have been drawn from the core school priorities outlined in our School Strategic Plan 2015 – 18 and are the broad, long-term goals of our school.

Over the next few weeks, I will outline the key focus areas for our school in 2016. Below is a graphic representation of the work we will be undertaking in 2016. As you can see, surrounding all that we do is high expectations and authentic relationships. If we don’t have these key elements, none of the other work we need to do is possible.
High Expectations:
We will set the bar high and expect that our students will strive to achieve their best results. We expect that all students, regardless of ability will be motivated and put in their best effort with their school work. High expectations also extends to our staff. Our teachers will strive to ’maximise the impact’ (Hattie, 2014) of their instruction through high quality teaching experiences and consistent teaching protocols. Our focus for the first part of the year is around students knowing what they are learning.

Authentic Relationships:
The best work in schools is achieved when key stakeholders involved in a child’s education have strong, connected relationships. We will communicate with parents/carers and actively involve them in their child’s education. We will embed systems and structures that foster the collaborative empowerment of our school staff. We also know, that good teaching and learning relies on positive relationships between students and staff. We know that ‘a good school has a good school down the road’ (Walton, 2014) and we will continue to collaborate, innovate & elevate our school’s performance by sharing ideas and resources with other schools.

Our full AIP document will be found on our website in the very near future. Please read through this plan to learn about what’s in store for our school in the year ahead. If you have any questions about this information, please don’t hesitate to give me a call.

School Uniforms
Thank you to all the parents who have ensured their children are coming to school every day in the correct Collingwood Park SS uniform. There are only a couple of students who are wearing shoes that are not completely black and there are a few others who are wearing socks that come above the ankle. Over the next few weeks I will be making contact with the parents of those students. Quite often it is the students who do not wear the correct uniform who have poor behaviour. Allowing your child to wear incorrect uniform items is encouraging your child to show reduced regard for school expectations and values.

Staff Spotlight - Mrs Claire Hornagold
I am the new classroom music teacher at CPSS this year. I was at WoodLinks State School from 2012-2014, and have taught classroom music and instrumental music at other schools in Ipswich, Brisbane and the Gold Coast. Last year I was on maternity leave looking after our son Ryan, who will be turning 1 in March. At CPSS I’m really looking forward to teaching all the students and doing a variety of music activities with each class, as well as conducting the choirs. I will be at CPSS on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays – please feel free to drop in and say hello!

Congratulations Students!
A huge congratulations to our students who have had a fabulous start to the school year. Over the past two days our students have received postcards outlining that they are on their way to achieving the end of term reward. This is what we refer to as a mid-term check-in and it gives students an idea of whether they are on track to achieve a C.A.R.E wrist band at the end of Term 1.

Our students have also been working exceptionally hard to follow the C.A.R.E. expectations in both the classroom and playground. This can be seen by the number of C.A.R.E. cards currently in our draw for the end of term prizes.

Principal’s Message Cont....
How do children learn?
I visited lots of classrooms last week to check in with students and talk to them about their learning. It was wonderful to see new records being set for class reading stamina and to hear students’ self-reflections about how they are doing.

Typically, I ask individual students three questions:
  - What are you learning?
  - How are you doing?
  - How do you know?

Teachers at CPSS share the aims and success criteria for each lesson with the class so that students will understand the purpose of the lesson (what they are supposed to be learning), and how they will know if they are succeeding (what the teacher is looking for).

Parents often comment on how different school is now to their own experiences as children. Some things haven’t changed, but the things that have, have done so for sound reasons. Teaching practice in Queensland is informed by evidenced based educational research – both national and international. We benefit from learning about the most successful education systems and strategies from around the world and strategic decisions are made to select and implement appropriately in classrooms here. Both teachers and teacher aides at CPSS undertake regular professional development to learn about this research and ensure consistency and continuity for our students.

So how do children learn?
We know that babies learn first by copying those around them – e.g. speech and clapping. Next, as very young children, they learn through experimentation – putting things in their mouths, pushing, pulling, exploring. These learning methods continue into adulthood. If you aren’t sure which door to use you’ll probably copy what everyone else is doing. If you’ve lost the instructions for your new gadget, you’ll probably push buttons and experiment to help you figure it out. This sometimes causes challenges for parents - only saying and doing the things we want our children to copy! However, when it comes to learning abstract concepts it’s difficult to learn in these ways. Very few people can work out how to solve simultaneous equations by experimentation! So, drawing on evidenced based research, at CPSS we teach in a deliberately explicit manner – whether we’re teaching how to calculate the internal angles of a triangle or the way to walk in line from the hall. We break down the concept or procedure into small steps and then use “anchor charts” to remind everyone. These hand-written charts are referred to regularly and are revisited whenever necessary.

We also recognise that children have different learning styles. Some children learn best through listening or doing. Many are visual learners and need to see something for it to make sense. To cater for all learning types, we often use a “Gradual Release of Responsibility” model (I Do, We Do, You Do). The teacher shows the students how to do something while the students watch and listen (I Do). Then the teacher shows the students again, this time more slowly so that each child can do the process for themselves at the same time as the teacher (We Do). Now the new concept doesn’t feel quite so new, so students can try for themselves (You do). Students may work in groups or with a partner (You do together) before trying by themselves (You do alone), freeing the teacher to reinforce learning for those who need more help or provide more challenge for those who have learnt quickly.

This Gradual Release of Responsibility model may sound familiar. Many crafts and trades are taught this way. It works! As a parent, I am sometimes guilty of impatience when I think I’ve given careful instructions to my children about how to do something only to find that they clearly haven’t understood. I’m sure we’re all guilty of this sometimes. However, if it works in school, it will work at home too. I have been putting this into practice at my house with the making of pancakes on Sunday mornings! I’ve been doing “I Do” for years! So now we’ve had a couple of weeks of “We Do” and next week I’m looking forward to sitting back for the “You Do”. I’ll let you know how it goes!

Jill Rutland
Deputy Principal
Welcome back!

Our school staff have been very busy preparing for the year ahead to ensure a consistent approach to behaviour across the whole school. Positive Behaviour for Learning is a behaviour support framework that clearly defines expectations for student behaviour. The framework includes the explicit teaching of expected school behaviours, routines and procedures and frequent acknowledgement and reinforcement of positive behaviours.

All students at CPSS are expected to behave in a manner that reflects the four values of our school – Co-operate, Attend, Respect and Excel. Students are encouraged to be self-monitoring and take responsibility for their actions. Each student is also expected to be at school every day wearing the correct uniform including black shoes.

The information explaining how behaviour is supported and rewarded across our whole school can be found on our school website at this location:

https://collparkss.eq.edu.au/Supportandresources/Behaviourmanagement/Pages/Behaviourmanagement.aspx

We will also be providing information updates each week in our school newsletter.

We are CARE Crows and we are going to make 2016 the best year yet!
**Classroom Music & Choirs**

The first rehearsal for each choir has taken place in the last week. Passionato Choir began on Thursday with 22 Year 4-6 students attending. Piccolo Choir started this Tuesday – an astonishing 43 Year 1-3 students came, eager to start singing. Any students who would like to join the choirs are welcome to turn up at rehearsal times – the more the merrier!

There will be a prize each term for students who have attended every rehearsal (excusing illness). There will also be awards given out at the end of the year for students with excellent attendance records. Where possible, students should let Mrs Hornagold know in advance if they can’t make a rehearsal. Both the choirs will be performing songs for Harmony Day later at the end of term, so stay tuned for more details.

Finally, I will be redecorating the Music room over the next few weeks, which includes taking down posters that were made by students last year. Anyone who would like to keep their posters and work from 2015 is welcome to take it home – please see me in the Music block on Mondays, Tuesdays or Thursdays.

Yours in music,

*Mrs Hornagold*

**Instrumental Music**

The CPSS Instrumental Music Program is well and truly up and running for 2016. It’s been great to see all our new beginners excited to try their new instruments for the first time. I’ve been very impressed with everyone’s enthusiasm, punctuality and behavior during our first few lessons and rehearsals.

**Participation Levy**

A reminder that there is a $20 Participation Levy for all students enrolled in the Instrumental Music Program. This includes students in their second or third year of IM. Parents and carers, please ensure your child has had his/her levy paid to the School Office as soon as possible.

**Hire Instruments**

There are still a few students who have not returned hire forms, and/or have not had their $50 Hire Fee paid. Students cannot take instruments home until the Hire Fee has been paid.

**Senior Band**

A reminder to second-year instrumentalists that Senior Band rehearsals are on every Thursday morning at 7:45am. It is important that everyone arrives punctually in order to maximise our learning opportunities.

*Mr. Scott Bignell*

CPSS Instrumental Music Teacher
The aim of Collingwood Park State Primary School is to achieve the best learning outcomes for all students. Each year, the school asks parents to contribute to the payment for classroom consumables and other resource items as deemed necessary by the teacher and school.

From 1 January 2012, the scheme has operated under the policy and guidelines of the Department of Education and Training FNM-PR-018: Student Resource Scheme. The scheme is still supported and approved annually by our Parents and Citizens Association (P & C), is still managed by the school and operates in accordance with section 51 of the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006.

Our Student Resource Scheme is not a fundraiser for the school. Its purpose is to provide you, the parent, with a cost effective, value for money alternative to purchasing textbooks, resources, consumables and materials from elsewhere, through reduced prices gained from the school’s bulk purchasing processes.

Participating in the Student Resource Scheme includes these benefits:
- Minimize resource expenses to parents when providing children with their school requirements for instruction
- To maximize teaching and learning opportunities so that all children have access to the same resources for instruction
- In 2015, a number of incursions were provided to students at no additional cost to families, eg Maths World and our Science Fair
- Access to digital subscriptions for use by students both at school and at home eg Reading Eggs

Items provided by the scheme could include: reproduced class workbooks, additional art and craft supplies, stationery, writing and drawing equipment, consumables and cooking materials.

The scheme is voluntary. However, please be aware that books, materials and consumables required under this scheme are not funded by school grants. Therefore if you do not wish to join the scheme you are still responsible for providing your child with the items that would otherwise have been provided by the scheme as detailed below to enable your child to engage with the curriculum.

Each child who has paid by the closing date will go into a draw for a prize of 4 movie passes to Limelight Cinemas which will be drawn on Wednesday 23rd March.

The participation fee for 2016 will be $60.00 per child for Prep to Year 6. To ensure that the operation of the scheme is consistent with legislative and policy requirements a standard Participation Agreement Form is attached for Parents/Caregivers to complete and return the form and payment to the school office before Friday 18 March 2016.
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 can not order tuckshop and can purchase ice-blocks.

Tuckshop arrangements on swimming days. (15th, 17th, 19th, 22nd, 24th and 26th February)

Students in Years 4 & 5 who are attending swimming may only order tuckshop for 2nd lunch on swimming days.

Students in Year 3 who are attending swimming may only order tuckshop for 1st lunch on swimming days.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A CPSS PARENT REPRESENTATIVE?

*Parent Reps provide a supportive link between the classroom teacher and parents.*

As a *Parent Rep* you would...

- Assist the teacher with getting information to the parents/carers of your class in a quick, easy and informal way - usually via email.

- Organise informal class gatherings for the students and families.

- Promote communication between the school and parents/carers.

- Liaise with our Parent Rep co-ordinator and attend P&C meetings where possible to keep up to date with what’s happening around the school.

If you think you would be interested in being a Parent Rep, or would like further information please speak with your child’s classroom teacher or contact Tracey Boyter - tboyt4@eq.edu.au
Please label your donation with ingredients.

Kindly drop off your donation to the hall.

Donations and volunteers needed.

CPSS P&C are holding a sausage sizzle/cake stall for the local election.

Please help!!

VOTE 1 SAUSAGE CAKE STALL SATURDAY 19/03/16

Volunteers and donations are needed. Register your help at the uniform shop 33814336

CPSS P&C
BBQ / Cake Stall
7am – 1pm
Register your help at the uniform shop 33814336
**Women on Wheels: WOW**

WOW, or ‘Women on Wheels’ is a fun initiative providing *wheely* good activities for women and girls. Activities on offer include: cycling, mountain biking, skateboarding, scooting, roller skating, roller derby.

All activities are suitable for absolute beginners and are free (although some activities may require you to bring your own equipment, like mountain bikes). Bookings are essential.

For more information and to book, please take one of the cards displayed at our office or visit the following website: [http://www.ipswich.qld.gov.au/](http://www.ipswich.qld.gov.au/)

**Ryan Raghoo**

On Wednesday, 24 March, we will have an athlete from the United Kingdom visiting our school during assembly. Ryan Raghoo is a Paralympic Athlete with a very interesting background. He overcame many obstacles in his life and we are excited to hear all about it.