Principal’s Column

**Tournament of Minds**

The Tournament of Minds is part of the suite of enrichment activities offered to our high ability learners across the school. This year was our first entry to the Regional Tournament.

Congratulations to Mia Bennett, Chase Davis, Shiran McLean, Joel Sidney, Faith Roche, Mitchell Willis and Riley McNamara who competed in the Tournament of Minds competition last Sunday. Their task was to create a performance around the invention of a wearable device that assists in the gathering and storing of data. These students and their teacher (Danae Steer) had great fun creating this piece. To the surprise of all the students, they were awarded first place and now go on to compete in the State Final in Brisbane on Sunday 14 September. Well done, all of you – we are so proud!

As a school we are making a continued commitment towards supporting our high ability learners with enrichment and extension where possible. Class teachers also make adjustments (or twists as we call them) to their provision of curriculum in the classroom to ensure that children are offered suitably challenging tasks and learning activities.

Our NAPLAN data indicates that approximately 40-50% of our students are quite capable of tackling challenging curriculum in the areas of English and Maths. As a result, we are working with a consultant, Michele Juratowitch from Clearing Skies, on our strategies and provisions for these children across the school.

Michele is providing articles for our newsletter on gifted and talented education and parenting – the first of these on Nurturing Nature appears in our newsletter today.

**Progress in Year 1**

I’ve been spending time in our Year 1 classrooms over the last fortnight. It seems as if they have all suddenly improved. There is some really terrific reading, writing and numeracy happening and children are demonstrating clear thinking processes and a real readiness for more challenging tasks. This often happens in Year 1 and Prep at this time of the year – I often say to teachers who are feeling a bit worried about their students, ‘wait until September – you will see they are learning what you are teaching them!’ and this year, we are certainly seeing that.

It is very obvious which children are lucky enough to have parents or older siblings hear them read and practice their sight words. There is no replacement for this daily practice in early literacy development.

Thank you to parents who are able to spend time listening to their children reading, to read to them and to work through spelling and sight words. It can be the most valuable 15 minutes a day you can spend.

**mLearning Program – Bring Your Own Device**

We are offering two information sessions for parents of Year 4 students who would like to know more about our one to one laptop program in Year 5.

The sessions will be offered on

- Friday 12 September at 9.30 a.m. (after Assembly); and
- Tuesday 16 September at 5.00 p.m.

Both sessions will be the same and will include an overview of our program, what we ask of parents who would like their children to participate, teachers’ presentations and a display of the products available from Smile IT (formally Leading Edge Computers).

Parents wishing to attend can enrol in their preferred session through Schoolzine - http://peregiansss.schoolzinenewsletters.com/bookings.htm.

Our website also has a lot of information including Frequently
Parents who are unable to attend one of these meetings are welcome to make an appointment to see either Rose Marszalek, Dave Foxover or myself.

Our P&C

It was terrific to see so many new faces at our last P&C Meeting. Thank you all for coming. Our P&C Executive is made up of

- President – Dawn Shelton
- Vice President – Damien Swan
- Treasurer – Sandy Goodall
- Secretary – Lisa Von Germeten
- P&Cs Qld Rep – Jodie Curran

If you would like to speak with any member please email pandc@peregianspringsss.eq.edu.au or contact Elaine at the school office between Tuesday and Friday.

Our next P&C Meeting is Thursday 11 September.

Some Staff News

Emma Smith has, due to unforeseen circumstances, started her maternity leave early this week and Brooke Saunders starts her maternity leave tomorrow. We wish both staff members all the best as they bring new babies into our community. Chris Gibbs is now working with Kirsten Holmes on 5SH and next Monday Kerryn MacPherson will take over teaching 4S.

Rebecca McCann will be transferring to Coolum High School next year and working in the Junior Secondary Program. We wish Rebecca all the best with her new endeavour, and thank her for the past four years of hard work in our school.

Food Rescue

The Peregian Lions are helping us again. They are embarking on a food rescue program, Oz Harvest and each Thursday will deliver rescued food from Essential Grain to our office. This helps us cater for emergencies and feed children who have accidently brought nuts or eggs in their lunches. Please support our local Lions – they do so much for us.

History Mystery Object Challenge

During week 8 there will be a mystery in school and we will need all our history buffs to go down to the Resource Centre and check out the funny looking objects on display. Most of us will have no clue what these things are. Students will be able to complete an entry form to go into the draw for a copy of Historicool to be drawn at the end of the Term. There will be more mystery object competitions throughout term 4. Well done to Logan Gray and Jake Feeney-Durre in 6M for this initiative.

Principal’s Blogspot

This last fortnight I blogged about the big, messy, noisy learning going on in 6S and 6M and Magic Month in Prep and Year 1 - http://peregianposts.blogspot.com.au/.

Until next fortnight …

Gwen

Dates for your diary

Keep an eye on the calendar in Schoolzine (our newsletter service) and on the website. All important dates and changes are recorded there.

Here are a few things coming up:

- Friday 29 August – Book Week Assembly
- Sunday 31 August – Japanese Speaking Competition
- Thursday 04 September – Prep Father’s Day BBQ
- Friday 05 September – Lapathon
- Thursday 11 September – P&C Meeting 6.00 p.m.
- Friday 12 September 9.30 a.m. (after Assembly) - mLearning Program Information Session for parent of Year 4 students
- Sunday 14 September – Indoor Sports Centre Grand Opening
- Tuesday 16 September 5.00 p.m. - mLearning Program Information Session for parent of Year 4 students
- Friday 19 September – Last day of Term 3; Uniform Free Day (bring a gold coin)
- Tuesday 7 October – First day of Term 4
- Friday 12 December – Last day of Term 4

Download the QSchools App and get these updates and more to your smartphone or tablet. See http://deta.qld.gov.au/about/app/qschools-app.html for more details.
Since Charles Darwin wrote his book, *On the Origin of Species*, there has been discussion about the role of nature and the environment in the development of the individual and the evolution of the human race. Often referred to as the ‘nature or nurture debate’, the pendulum has swung depending upon the current societal viewpoint. With recent developments in science – specifically the Human Genome Project (HGP), research into the role of epigenetics and functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) of the brain – we now have a clearer understanding that these forces do not occur on an either/or basis. It is, instead, a dynamic where nurture impacts upon nature.

How much is inborn and how much can we influence in the way we nurture these traits? Research has identified that temperament and gender traits, natural abilities, learning styles, mood and behaviour patterns, stress responses, emotional and relational styles are all predetermined at birth. How parents, siblings, friends, teachers and mentors respond to these traits over the years and the choices that the individual makes will influence and nurture the development of these innate traits into personality characteristics, behavioural habits and talents. The interaction is a two-way process and we each have a role in nurturing nature. Too much push and there is resistance; not enough encouragement and there can be apathy; motivation can overcome obstacles; passivity can result in withdrawal.

When we identify naturally occurring traits and characteristics, we are working with – not against – nature. Cognitive abilities, temperament and learning styles can be identified and matched with interests and subject areas to enhance the best outcome in academic achievement and career selection.

In Michael Gurian’s book, *Nurture the Nature*, he encourages a strength-based approach in parenting and teaching. Gurian maintains that young people and their parents need to take time to identify inherent gifts and strengths and look at ways in which these can be enhanced and nurtured. He likens this process to a treasure hunt in which we are searching for hidden treasure.

Similarly, Mel Levine, the author of *A Mind at a Time*, outlines the need for us to identify innate neurodevelopmental strengths, foster connections with subject matter and promote interests in specific subject areas. He maintains that young people should be able to follow their inclinations because natural affinities promote the development of expertise and lead to passion about involvement in a particular field or talent area. To facilitate positive personal, academic and professional outcomes, we need to allow children to explore their natural abilities; follow their interests; develop passion in their areas of talent and as adults, we should expend time and effort in nurturing nature.

© Michele Juratowitch - michele@clearingskies.com.au

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**Deputy Principal’s Column**

I was in a classroom the other day and was amazed by the creative talents of the children doing some art work. Their minds were alight with enthusiasm and determination to produce a piece of work that they were proud of. Creativity is one of the most valued skills of society today and in the future. Encourage your children to become involved in imaginative play and discuss interesting scenarios for problem solving whenever the opportunity arises.

**Travel Smart**

Last week we had a visit from Mr Lee Berrill at Assembly who spoke once again about the need to be Travel Smart by riding, walking or car pooling to school each day. Many of the students have been creating some very interesting Travel Smart Posters which will hopefully be selected to appear on the 2015 Calendar.

**Lost Property**

The trolley is getting very full again at the office and there are so many jumpers. I regularly check for any items that have a name on and then I give it back to the class teacher. However, this is only possible if both names are written clearly on the item. It is impossible to locate the owner of a jumper if it only has the initials or first name written on it. I urge you to check your child’s clothing and write on their full names very clearly.
Lapathon

On Friday 5 September, we will be holding our annual Lapathon day. Parents are welcome to watch but are advised to bring their own shade cover if required.

The children are encouraged to seek sponsors and then dress up in beach-wear. Correct footwear for running is required.

The Lapathon will start at 9.30 a.m. after Assembly with the Prep and Year 1 classes. Year 2 and Year 3 classes participate 11.15 a.m. - 11.45 a.m. and the Year 4, 5, 6 and 7 classes participate from 11.50 a.m. – 12.50 p.m.

I wish you all a safe and healthy fortnight!

Sandy Cathcart

Head of School – Student Support

Teacher Aide Day

Next Friday 05 September our school will celebrate Teacher Aide Day with our amazing teacher aides. Our school has an excellent team of teacher aides that work across all year levels, in a variety of roles, to support student learning and development.

Our teacher aides are proactive in undertaking their own training to increase their skills and the school also runs training throughout the year in a range of areas including: numeracy, social and emotional learning, writing, ICT, Sounds to letters, to ensure there is a consistency of approach between teachers and teacher aides with our students learning and development.

I have had the opportunity to work closely with these staff members and I am very proud of their commitment to developing their skills and the strong relationships they have developed with each and every child they come into contact with. Thank you again for your efforts, I know our staff, parents and students, all appreciate your support.

Sally the Smart Pup!

One of our families has recently had a Smart Pup, Sally, placed with their family.

Sally is a fully trained Smart Pup and you will recognise her as she has a red harness with the words ‘Service Dog’ printed on it.

Many children are familiar with Guide Dogs for the blind, assisting people with Visual Impairment, but they may need more information about Smart Pups. Smart Pups have special ‘task specific’ training so they can assist a young person, from

Head of School - Curriculum

Tournament of Minds

Our school participated in the Tournament of Minds for the first time this year – and we won! Congratulations to Miss Danae and her team of students – Chase, Faith, Shiran, Joel, Mitchell, Mia and Riley, for their preparation and performance on the day.

The team had 6 weeks to work on a long-term challenge in the discipline of Applied Technology. They created a presentation for the judges about their original product, the ‘TT’ or ‘Teen Tracker’ earrings. The video they created for this presentation was shared at last week’s assembly, and if you were there you would have seen some fantastic acting!

On Sunday, the team also participated in an unseen spontaneous challenge, which required the ability to think creatively and demonstrate their group’s co-operation skills.

The judges were impressed with the creativity, collaboration and originality our students showed in both challenges. The students spoke well when questioned by the judges, about how they had used the school’s 3D printer to print their ‘Teen Tracker’ earrings and could even outline the costings involved.

The team now moves onto the State finals, to be held in Brisbane on 14 September. We wish them well for the finals and look forward to seeing more updates and pictures on the school Facebook page as they complete this next challenge.

Rose Marszalek

Catering For All Learners

 Regards
Dave Foxover
the age of three and up, with handling day-to-day routines and events.

**Smart Pups** are placed with families who have a child (or children) with a Disability.

**Smart Pups can:**

- Assist with the development and improvement of motor skills
- Provide greater freedom and independence
- Improve self-esteem and confidence
- Give love and companionship and provide emotional support as well as a physical service to their ‘team mate’
- Be a great icebreaker and help their owner become more involved in the community reducing the feeling of isolation
- Guide their ‘team mate’ through their daily routine, to keep them safe and to comfort them when the world just gets too much


If you would like to ask Kelly (Sally’s Mum) any questions you are welcome, but please remind your child that while Sally has her harness on she is working, and children and adults shouldn’t touch her.

‘Outside of a dog, a book is man’s best friend. Inside of a dog it’s too dark to read.’

Groucho Marx

**Your Special Education Program Staff Team:**

Jane Thiselton, Hilary Dean, Janet Crow, Amanda Tinney, Melissa Martin, Maree Burgess, Natalie Trappett, Trillian Wansbrough and Jodie Dennis

**Noosa Heads Surf life Saving Club- Seahorse Nippers Program**

Noosa Heads Surf Club is delighted to announce that they will once again be running a 4 week Seahorse Nippers Program for children with special needs, over the month of September. They would love to see new families as well as regulars, please pass this information to those you believe may be interested.

Please see the attached flyer for all the details or contact Lorna Garden on 0412369451 if you need more information.

**Sports news**

**District Sports News**

Our school Athletics Team headed to Girraween Sports Complex on Wednesday 27 August. Our team of over 50 athletes competed against all of the other schools in our district vying for district selection. All of our athletes have been training hard.

An up to date report in our next newsletter!

Special congratulations to Jessica Doyle who place second in her 100m and 200m events at the recent Secondary Zone Athletics Trials. Jess is now off to the Regional Secondary Track and Field Trials in a few weeks. Good Luck Jess.

**Lapathon**

Our school annual fundraiser is fast approaching. Mark Friday 5 September into your diaries. The theme for this year’s Lapathon is Sun, Surf and Sand and we encourage all students to dress up and participate. Our Lapathon raises much need funds for our school. Our previous Lapathons have raised over $22000 in total for our school. These funds have been used to pay off some of our multipurpose courts and buy sporting equipment for our Indoor Sports Centre and classrooms.

Sponsorship forms have been sent home and I’ve been told by several students just how many sponsors they have acquired. Well Done!

This year we are hoping to use this year’s Lapathon funds to build a fitness trail around our school. This equipment can be used as part of our school’s Smart Moves Program and during lunchtimes. We look forward to seeing many parents and family members at our Lapathon. Feel free to dress up as well.

**Yours in Sport**

**Mr Hutchins**

**Supporting Early Readers- Prep Parent Workshop**

Would you like to know how to assist your child with their reading and encourage them to become a confident early reader?

I will present Supporting Early Reading, a workshop for parents. During the workshop I will share tips that will assist you when reading with your child, provide helpful handouts and an opportunity for discussions and question.

What effective early reading looks like

- Reading Cueing systems
- Tips for reading at home
- Discussions and questions
- Helpful handouts

**What:** Supporting Early Readers. Prep Parent Workshop

**Who:** Melanie Timbs (Learning Support Teacher)

**When:** Tuesday 9 September 8.50 a.m. – 9.45 a.m.

**Where:** Junior Demountable Room O

To book click the link below:


**Melanie Timbs**
Creating a Happier Life with Choice Theory

What have you noticed about your Power need since the last newsletter? Were you aware of the times other people tried to have power over you? Did you try to have power over other people in your family? What did you notice about your relationship with that person – did it bring you closer together, or move you further apart?

The fourth need is the need for Freedom. The higher someone’s freedom need, the more they like to do what they want, when they want, without restriction or interference. Sometimes we want the freedom to do things such as spend our time with the people we choose, engage in the activities we like, and come and go as we please. There is also a drive for freedom from certain things such as bureaucracy, micro-management and oppression. People with a high freedom need tend to value their time alone. They can be fiercely independent and often highly creative. High freedom people often question rules and restrictions and tend to think outside the proverbial box.

What are the things you do each day (or refrain from doing) that provide you with a strong sense of personal freedom? Do you reject the status quo? Do you oppose being told what to do in any shape or form? Do you need your own space, finding people annoying at times? Do you find it difficult to ask for help? Do you sometimes do things just because you can?

There is no ‘best’ level to be with any of these needs (high, low or in between is fine). Each need comes with pros and cons, advantages and disadvantages. You will feel your personal best when you are getting exactly the amount of that need that you want. You will feel deprived if you aren’t getting enough and you will feel over saturated when you are getting too much. Becoming aware of how much you require of each is the first step to understanding how to create a happier life.

Developed from The 21 Day Challenge at http://mentalhealthandhappiness.com/

More next time
Gerard

Resource Centre News

If you are reading this on Thursday (August 28), please remind your son or daughter that tomorrow morning is our special Book Week assembly and students and parents (if you want to get into the spirit of things!) have been invited to dress in the costume of a book character who is connected to another, who is part of a couple, a trio, a larger group or a family. Last minute ideas include being one of the seven dwarfs, Charlie or Lola, the Famous Five, Three Musketeers, Robin Hood and his band of Merry Men, King Arthur and the Knights from the Round Table, Peter Pan, The Wizard of Oz or Alice in Wonderland. We look forward to seeing you there.

How cute were a few of the 101 Dalmatians (a.k.a. the Junior Choir) conducted by the wicked Cruella de Vil (a.k.a. Mrs Hobson)! What a wonderful way to launch Book Week last Friday.

We were also able to show some of the Book Trailers of the CBCA’s (Children’s Book Council of Australia’s) short-listed books. They have been playing on the monitor in the Resource Centre all week. Thank you to Zoe and Abby, Makaeli, Amber and Ellie, and Alice and Emma.

The winners of the CBCA Children’s Books of the Year, ( cbca.org.au/winners-2014.htm ), are, as follows: -

- Book of the Year Younger Readers: - A Very Unusual Pursuit by Catherine Jinks
- Honour Book Younger Readers: - My Life as an Alphabet by Barry Jonsberg
- Honour Book Younger Readers: - Lighthouse Boy by Diane Walker
- Book of the Year Early Childhood: - Swap by Jan Ormerod & Andrew Joyner
- Honour Book Early Childhood: - I’m a Dirty Dinosaur by Janeen Brian & Ann James
- Honour Book Early Childhood: - Banjo and Ruby Red by Libby Gleeson & Freya Blackwood
- Book of the Year Picture Book: - Rules of Summer by Shaun Tan
- Honour Book Picture Book: - King Pig by Nick Bland
- Honour Book Picture Book: - Silver Buttons by Bob Graham
- Eve Pownall Award for Information Books: - Jeremy by Christopher Faille & Danny Snell
- Eve Pownall Award for Information Books: - Ice, Wind Rock by Peter Goldthorpe
- Eve Pownall Award for Information Books: - Welcome to My Country by Burarrwanga, Laklak and Family

It is only fitting in Children’s Book Week to leave you with a photo of a Year One student, Finn, who earlier this year, couldn’t wait to read his book and only made it as far as the garden bed seat outside the library.
May we all learn to be ‘book whisperers’ transforming children, such that they make this same ‘reading connection’ early in their lives.

Happy Book Week,
Maree Johnson
Teacher-Librarian

Uniform Shop
Thank you to all those people who have offered to help in the uniform shop – it’s really appreciated.

For Prep uniforms the shop will be open on a Wednesday morning between 10.00 and 11.00 a.m. after the Pre-Prep playgroup (Term 4 only).

This is an appointment only session so please contact the office in Term 4 to make a 20 minute appointment.

The shop will also be open at the usual times: Wednesday 2.00 – 2.15 p.m. and Friday 8.30 – 9.30 a.m.

Currently out of stock items:
- Polo shirts – size 6 & 8
- Girls blouses – size 8
- Shorts – size 6
- Culottes – size 6 – very low stock

Thanks
Sonia Sheridan
Uniform Convenor

P&C News
We had an overwhelming attendance at our meeting on August 14, thank you all for coming!!

Welcome to our new committee members;
- Damien Swan- Vice President
- Jodie Curran – P&Cs Qld Rep

Thank you for joining, I look forward to working with you.

ISC Grand Opening - Family Fun Day 14 September

Please come along and celebrate our School’s new great facility. The day promises to be fun filled with rides, side shows, face painting, entertainment, performances in the hall, Darren Percival performing live. There will be a BBQ tent by Pergeian Lions Club and yummy food by Cream Catering/Benchmark.

A big thank you to everybody who has generously donated prizes for the side shows and the fabulous bakers who are madly making cakes and biscuits to sell at our cake stall. All of you are contributing to make this day a fantastic success, the school community greatly appreciates it.

We will have raffle tickets on sale, prizes include 1 girls and 1 boys bikes. Glen Elmes MP is donating one and Venture Cycles, Noosaville is donating the other. Starshots Maroochydore have donated a photo package including styling, makeover and 1hr studio time.

Thank you to our generous sponsors; Drive Yourself Crazy- Pedal Carts, Aveo Group (formally FKP), Jodie Curran from Star Realty, Venture Cycles, Zest Factor and Oracle Realty

Ongoing ways to help our School

Entertainment book

The Entertainment Book is now available from our school, they are packed with lots of discount vouchers for local restaurants, attractions and more. There is one on display in the office and can be purchased from Elaine or ordered online via our special link https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/22863s2

Discounted Movie Tickets


Purchase adult movie tickets from $10.50 and children’s tickets at $10.00 and help raise money for our school, please copy the above link into your browser, the school receives $1.00 per ticket purchased.

Sticky name labels

If you need to buy labels for your children’s books, Bright Star Kids Labels do provide the school with a donation for every order, so when you’re ready to purchase please try www.FDR000.brightstarkids.com.au or call 1300 668 997.

Til next time
Dawn Shelton
Acting President

Tuckshop

PLEASE if there are ANY Super Fantastic Bakers out there that would love to bake the Tuckshop some homebaking, we would appreciate that!! Anything from Cookies to Cakes, Muffins or a Slice….Please list ingredients as we are completely nut free!! (Eggs can be cooked into cakes, but no quiches etc.) Thanks so much to anyone who feels they can help us out.

FRIDAY SPECIAL 29 AUGUST

Morning Tea $3.50
Crackers/ Cheese and Fresh Fruit Salad

Lunch $5.00
Homemade Ravioli in a Napoli Sauce Sprinkled with Cheese and Just Juice Poppa OR Water.
Both for $8.00
Please note there are NO other menu items available on Friday, Only PIES AND SAUSAGE ROLLS and Counter foods.

**Thanks very much**
*Mel and Rae. Tuckshop convenors*

**Hi School Bankers!**

Remember your bank books every Tuesday to be in the draw for *Student Banker of the Week!*

Please ensure deposit slips are filled out correctly with Full name, Account Number, Student ID and correct amount of the deposit.

**Thanks and Happy Banking**
*Kim and Nat*

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**Student Celebrations**

We have amazing kids in our school achieving in their chosen interests at high levels. If your child has achieved something wonderful outside school please let us know either through the office, your child’s teacher or email the.principal@peregianspringsss.eq.edu.au

We love to hear about what our kids are doing!

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**Payments Procedure PSSS**

Please ensure when you are making a payment to the school for an Excursion or Camp by EFT or Cash/Card that the permission forms are also forwarded to the office. We are then able to match payment to permission forms and stamp them paid and hand them on to the teacher concerned. Please do not send any money to your student’s teacher. All money is to come directly to the office. Payment times are 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. every week day.

Due to the requirements of Education Queensland with regards to banking and cash on premises, the school office is unable to process payments after 12.00 p.m. each day.

**Student Resource Scheme**

These funds cover costs associated with special activities including Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, Easter and other special events.

The Student Resource Scheme payment can be made at the school office or directly into the school bank account. Did you know that PSSS is registered with Centrelink and you can arrange through the BSM to have payments deducted directly each fortnight from your nominated benefit. If you wish for this to happen please make an appointment to speak with the BSM Jill Hamilton.

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**UNIFORMS**

Please ensure students have the correct uniform at all times by ordering items from the Uniform Shop.

All children require **black shoes with navy or white socks**. We recommend black joggers as children are engaged in a lot of physical activity at school. Currently there are many children wearing shoes of other colours or wearing shoes that do not support vigorous activity.

Our school community is proud of our school uniform and takes pride in the way children present themselves. We note that children who present at school in clean and tidy uniforms are often better behaved and more attentive in class.

Your cooperation in ensuring your child is wearing the correct uniform is appreciated.

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**Follow us on Facebook**

Search Peregian Springs State School and click ‘Like’. We are regularly posting news and reminders. Our feed also appears on the opening page of our website. **This service is for parents**. Children must be 13+ to be allowed a Facebook page.