11 September 2014

Principal’s Column

Spring is here!

Spring has certainly arrived in the last week. The sunny days are very welcome. And school holidays are just around the corner. This is the last newsletter for the term. The last day of term is Friday 19 September and first day of Term 4 is Tuesday 7 October. Monday 6 October is a Public Holiday. Happy holidays, everyone!

A challenging time

The last week or so has been a challenging time in our school. And I’m sure everyone knows why. The week before I had blogged about the week we had won Tournament of Minds, topped the NAPLAN scales, blitzed the District Athletics Trials, the wonderful Book Week Assembly and our awards at the Japanese Speaking Contest – see http://peregianposts.blogspot.com.au/. And it’s a shame that a safety issue overshadowed all this good news.

Thank you to all the parents who emailed and came into the office showing their support or who rang and emailed to ask further questions. This was very much appreciated by teachers and the non-teaching staff. The issue has attracted negative commentary and correspondence about our school, which has been very upsetting for a staff who pride themselves on doing the best they can for children every day.

We appreciate that parents will not always agree with our procedures at school; however, we always hope that you will understand that things that work well in a family or in the backyard do not always work so well when translated into a setting where there are 820+ children and 100 adults. Our procedures are based on the Department’s Policies and Procedures Register. Parents can read these at http://ppr.det.qld.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx. The policies and procedures that deal specifically with Curriculum Risk Management for physical education and sport can be found at http://education.qld.gov.au/curriculum/carmg/sport.html.

Over the years there have been very very few problems we have not been able to work through when people have taken the time to ring or come in and see us. Our doors are open – just ring and make an appointment. Even when we are busy we make time to call back. The office staff can direct you to the most appropriate person to speak with.

We are looking forward to a final week full of fun to end the term and to get back to the most important job of educating our children.

Lapathon Day

This was a gorgeous day – both weatherwise and funwise. It was great to see all our kids running around and having fun. The funds raised with the Lapathon event will be put towards fitness/play equipment suitable for our senior students to use. Please drop the forms and money into the office as soon as possible.

Kids in Action

Congratulations to all of the students who attended the Kids in Action conference last week. They were fantastic ambassadors for our school. Read more about it in Kathleen Gordon’s article.

Swimming and Surf Skills

Over the years our swimming and surf skills program has developed into a strong and coordinated approach to ensuring our students can swim well and stay safe in water. In Term 4 Preps and Years 4 and 5 will have their eight swimming lessons with the Diamond Swim School; and Years 6 and 7 will be participating in Surf Skills at Noosa Main Beach. These lessons start in the first week of Term 4 with Surf Skills on the first day. Payment for both activities is due before the end of term.

Book Week Assembly

What a fantastic morning this was! If you were there you would have seen Pete (Year 6 teacher) send six picture books out into the world to be shared around and tracked with their own
Japanese Speaking Competition

What a great day this was – fifteen of our students represented our school at the Japanese Speaking Contest at the University of the Sunshine Coast on Sunday 31 August. I was so proud of all their efforts. Congratulations To Whom It May Concern:

Year 4 Amalie Roberts GOLD, Liberty Wallace Highly commended
Year 5 Emma Lumsden, Jessica Butt, Alice Ayton Highly Commended
Year 6 Phoebe Groom Highly commended
Year 7 Jen Ogbourne Highly commended
Junior Open Tyler Mohr GOLD

Mr Huxley was so excited he emailed me from Chicago!

mLearning Program – Bring Your Own Device

We are offering an information session for parents of Year 4 students who would like to know more about our one to one laptop program in Year 5 on Tuesday 16 September at 5.00pm. This 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 through Schoolzine – http://peregiansss.schoolzineneedletters.com/bookings.htm. Our website also has a lot of information including Frequently Asked Questions – https://peregiansspringss.eq.edu.au/ Curriculum/Subjectsandprograms/Pages/mLearning.aspx

Parents who are unable to attend this meeting are welcome to make an appointment to see either Rose Marszalek, Dave Foxover or myself.

Due to unexpected staff shortages this week the meeting planned for Friday 12 September has been postponed to Friday 10 October at 9.15 a.m. (after Assembly).

School Support Staff Week

I think most people in our school know our teachers but the work of our School Support staff can sometimes go unnoticed. Our office staff, cleaners, teacher aides and school's office are so integral to helping us provide an efficient and caring service to all families. Last week was School Support Staff Week when we officially recognised these staff members and thanked them for the fabulous job they do.

Parenting Magazine

Here is a link to the newest issue of Parenting Magazine from Michael Grose - http://www.parentingideas.com.au/Parent_Magazine.html. Our school membership gives all parents access to this link.

Talent Development

Last newsletter I introduced Michelle Juratowitch from Clearing Skies who is working with us on provisions for our high ability learners. Her article in this week's newsletter is about reading. Enjoy!

Official Opening of the Indoor Sports Centre

Please come along on Sunday and enjoy some family fun with the opening of our Indoor Sports Centre. There will be loads to do and the chance to win some great prizes including a bike (kindly donated by Venture Cycles).

Fun and activities start at 11.00 a.m. and concludes about 4.00 p.m. with Darren Percival singing at 3.00 p.m.

Have a great holiday with your children. Stay safe and healthy. Until next term …

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 12 September 9.30 a.m. POSTPONED UNTIL 10 September 2014 mLearning Program Information Session for parent of Year 4 students
Sunday 14 September – Indoor Sports Centre Grand Opening
Lost Property

The amount and state of our lost property in the school is becoming a significant hygiene risk. At the end of each week we have up to a hundred unnamed lunch boxes and drink bottles containing food scraps and liquids as well as a mountain of damp and mouldering clothes. Much of this lost property goes uncollected for a whole term. We have tried ‘lost property parades’ and children do not seem to recognise their own belongings.

In order to minimise health risks, lost property is sorted weekly (rather than once per term).

Named items are returned to the owner. Parents are asked to ensure they have written a child’s whole name and not just initials or a first name.

Non-uniform items are donated to charity.

Uniform items (hats, jumpers and jackets) are washed and kept for emergency clothing or given to the Uniform Shop for second hand supplies.

Blue jumpers are washed and held in the Uniform Shop for a term before being put out for second hand resale. Parents can go to the Uniform Shop in opening times to identify lost clothing.

Lunch boxes and drink bottles are thrown away.

Please help us out with this by naming everything your child brings to school.

Use a coloured patch, ribbon, name in colourful fabric paint on your child’s hat – anything you can think of to make it stand out.

Continuously impress on your child the need to put items they take off into their bags.

Deputy Principal’s Column

Last week I had the opportunity to help supervise eleven of our students who attended the Kids In Action Community Event. I watched and listened in awe as they confidently informed, guided, clarified and then assessed for understanding to see if other students had internalised the plight of the Birdwing Butterfly in our local area. It was so enlightening to have to follow the instructions of a ten year old who politely asked me to help organise some of the resources in the groups. The skills and manners of these students were impeccable and the Parents and Teachers need to be congratulated on producing such confident, caring and informed children. I was so very proud to be part of the Peregian Springs State School contingent.

Active After School Sports

This term we have been conducting Hockey, Athletics and Cricket and I have heard that next term the students will have the opportunity to join Kester’s Hip Hop group. This is always an exciting activity but we need help to keep the AASC going. We need the support of someone who would like to train as a AASC Co-ordinator and is willing to attend each session Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursday 2.45-4.45 p.m. The Co-ordinator assists the Deputy Principal by providing the afternoon tea, marking the rolls, administering basic First Aid.
and ensuring students are kept safely at school until parents arrive to collect them. Please contact me before the holidays for further information about the position if you are interested.

**After School Care**

The Helping Hands After School Care will be conducting an open afternoon Boot Camp Friday 12 September 3.15 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Due to the Noosa Show and the closure of the Peregian Beach College on Friday, the After School Care will be held at our own school instead. All students who attend our school are invited to join in the fun activities and parents can obtain information about the service that is provided for students before and after school and also Vacation Care. Please ring Brooke 0458013302 to book your child into Friday’s event.

The cost will be from $6.60 per child.

**Spring into Art**

What creative talents our students have! We are so lucky to have our very own teaching artist on staff who is sharing his talents with every child in the school during the last two weeks of term. Mr Joel Hughes has designed a variety of creative tasks for students to produce under his skilled guidance and teaching.

In response to a request about enhancing art skills in our students, the school has been very proactive with providing specialised art lessons over the past twelve months. This year we have been very fortunate to also have Ms Lauren Moody who is an extremely talented young artist in training. Lauren assists a number of teachers and students with art lessons twice a week.

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*3WB Father’s Day assembly.*

I would like to wish you all a very safe and happy holiday and look forward to being with you all in Term 4!

**Sandy Cathcart**

**Head of School – Student Support**

Next week our school will be visited by Michelle Webster, who is the eSmart Schools Program coordinator for The Alannah and Madeline Foundation. She has contacted us for a visit as she wants to acknowledge that Peregian Springs State School is ‘one of the most proactive eSmart registered schools in Queensland’ and discuss the processes that we utilise in our school to promote safety and responsible technology use at our school.

We were awarded eSmart status on 13.09.2013 and we have been continuing to sustain this through 2014. The process for achieving this significant milestone involved our school clearly demonstrating the following criteria:

- Effective school organisation, including established guidelines for effective supervision and use of ICTs, as well as established processes for collecting and storing incident data
- Effective school plans, policies and procedures, with a clear behaviour management plan
- A developed set of values, including clear, respectful cyber behaviour protocols
- Effective teacher practices
- A clear plan for the teaching of cyber-risks and cyber-safe practices
- A variety of methods to provide information to parents on cyberbullying, cybersafety and safe and responsible use of information on communication technology.
As I talked about in our last Newsletter, on Wednesday 4.09.14, our school celebrated Teacher Aide Day with all our teacher aides. It was a great opportunity to acknowledge their efforts in and out of the classroom day in day out. What was even more valuable I’m sure, were the thank you wishes that they received from the students in different classes that they work with.

Regards
Dave Foxover

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. Payments can be made online.

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<th>EVENT</th>
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<td>Music Beginners Camp 13 15 Oct</td>
<td>Monday 8 September</td>
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<td>Surf Skills Yrs 6 and 7 ($145.00)</td>
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<td>Swimming ($80.00)</td>
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Catering For All Learners

Active learning

Lapathon participation

It was fantastic to see our Peregian Springs State School students participating in the Lapathon last Friday. Lots of learning about diversity, tolerance and acceptance happening for all… On the day we saw kids working together to support each other and their teams, cheering and encouraging each other. Before the event, teams worked together to decide on who would be in their team, order of participation, theme or team colour, and lots of discussion about teamwork and trying our best. There were no winners or losers, just lots of smiles all round. Even students who were not confident in their athletic abilities were willing to give it a try! Well done everyone.

Is Everybody Here? Event

More active learning on Tuesday…. A number of our students with disabilities and their families attended an event to celebrate Disability Action Week.

The ‘Is Everybody Here?’ Event was held at Maroochydore Soccer Club/Sports Complex on Tuesday 9 September 2014 Different Sporting clubs provided come’n’try activities including: AFL, Golf, Tennis, Ten Pin Bowling, Soccer, Taekwondo, Basketball, Traditional Games, Rugby League, Drumming, Cricket and Oztag

There were also some fun activities like: animal petting, face painting, jumping castle, butterfly kids puppets and balloon creations!

Celebrating Disability Action Week
Is Everybody Here?

This event has been organised to raise awareness with the emphasis on building pathways for children with disability to access recreation and leisure opportunities in their community and to provide opportunities for clubs and organisations to find ways to include children with disability in healthy activities.

One in five Queenslanders has a disability of some kind, and disability touches the lives of most Queenslanders in some way—through the experiences we have with friends and family, at school, in the workplace and in the community.

Disability Action Week aims to:

- encourage positive attitudes towards people with a disability, and
- promote improved access to the wider community.


'Aerodynamically the bumblebee shouldn't be able to fly, but the bumblebee doesn't know that so it goes on flying anyway' - Mary Kay Ash

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

Rock and Water in Prep H

Prep H has been building their resilience skills by participating in the PSSS’s Water and Rock program. We are enjoying learning the importance of being a resilient individual under Mr Foxover’s guidance. He has adapted the program to suit Early Learners and is trialling it with Prep H, as it is usually introduced in middle school. So far we have mastered the hand actions, the ‘Salute’ and are beginning to verbalise and internalise the skills and language associated with being a strong and resilient person, who can calmly and respectfully solve problems with greater independence.

Great work Prep H. You Rock… and also Water!

History Mystery!

There’s a mystery around the school! Can you solve it? Go to the Resource Centre to have a good look at these objects and place your guesses as to their identity in the box provided.

There is a prize of History Cool Magazine for the first drawn correct guess for each object. One guess for each item per person.

Sports news

Representative News

Congratulations to Ethan Williams who recently played at the Rugby Union State Titles at Sunnybank. Ethan came away with a try and a stellar Man of The Match performance. Not too bad for a prop. Unfortunately there wasn’t a State team selected, as there were not enough regions represented at the titles. Well done Ethan!

District Athletics

Noosa District Athletics Trial saw a new location and a new format for 2014. We had 50 athletes representing Peregian Springs at the trials. Despite some very ordinary weather late
in the afternoon we had a very successful day placing 3rd school over all and getting six athletes selected into the Noosa District Track and Field Team. This is an excellent achievement considering the small cohort in our upper school. All of our students showed great sportsmanship and excellent behavior throughout the day. We also had several comment on just how great they looked supporting their athletic singlets sponsored by Live Life Pharmacy Peregian Springs.

A special congratulations to Jessica Doyle who was awarded 13 years girls Age Champion after winner four of her possible five events. It was great to see Jess back up with an awesome performance after the recent secondary trial.

Stephanie Welsh (100m,200m and Long Jump), Willow McRae, Jessica Butt, Chanelle Astley, Lachlan Astley (High Jump) and Bryn Grigg (Long Jump) will join Jess at a combined Primary and Secondary Track and Field Trial at The Sunshine Coast University on the 9-10 September. Good Luck!

Regional Athletics Trials

This week we had 7 students who competed at the Regional Track and Field Trials at the University of the Sunshine Coast. All athletes had excellent performances up against some tough competition. This was the first combined Primary and Secondary Trial. It was awesome to see so many great athletes at one event.

Special congratulations to Stephanie Welsh who was selected in the Sunshine Coast Regional Team for the 100m, 200m and 12 Years Girls relay. Stephanie ran two PB’s for the day in a very competitive age group. Steph ran 3rd in the 200m final and 4th in the 100m final. Congratulations Steph. We wish Steph all the very best for the State Titles at QSAC in Brisbane on the 14-15 October.

Jessica Doyle also had a fantastic day finishing 3rd in the 13 Years Girls 100m. Jess narrowly missed out on Regional selection by 0.01 of a second in the 100m and 0.14 of a second in the 200m. So very very close. Awesome effort Jess.

Lachlan Astley, Willow McRae, Jessica Butt and Chanelle Astley all jumped very well in their respected high jump events. They all came up against some very talented jumpers. Well done guys. Bryn Grigg tapped out a PB of nearly 4m finishing 5th in the 12 Years Boys Long Jump. Well Done Bryn.

Lapathon

It was fantastic to see so many students and parents supporting our Lapathon last Friday. There were some awesome outfits and even a few parents who got into the spirit of the occasion. It was wonderful to see the whole school and community supporting our event. Please return all sponsorship forms and money ASAP to the office so that we can order your prizes and determine the winning class for the Pizza Party kindly supported by Zachary’s. Remember 100% of the profits from the Lapathon return to our school.

Sporting Honour Board

As part of the opening of the ISC on the 14 September we will also be unveiling our Peregian Springs Sporting Honour Board. This board recognizes the outstanding achievement gained by some of our Athletes who have gained selection into a Sunshine Coast Regional Team. The unveiling of the board will be after the official opening of the ISC at approximately 1pm. We look forward to seeing as many students and families there as possible.

Yours in Sport
Mr Hutchins

Creating a Happier Life with Choice Theory

In the last fortnight, were there times you found yourself choosing behaviours that gave you the freedom to do things you wanted to do (or freedom from doing non-preferred activities)? Those were the times you were actively satisfying your freedom need.

All people have a need for Fun and Enjoyment, the last of our 5 basic needs. Some of us have a higher fun need than others. People often think those high in fun look like the class clown or the perpetual joker - and that is one kind of fun, but there are others. You may also be high in fun if you engage in a lot of relaxing, leisure activities. Some people will enjoy the fun that sports, partying and friends might provide, while others prefer the quiet, relaxing kind of fun, such as walking in the bush, reading a good book or watching a favourite movie. If you spend much of your down time engaging in activities that are fun for you, your fun need is high. In fact, a higher fun need will likely mean you find ways to have fun in practically everything you do and not just in your free time.

Another kind of fun comes from learning. Looking back to any time you learned something immediately useful in your life, I’ll wager you had fun doing it. ‘Fun is the genetic reward for useful learning.’ (Dr William Glasser) Ask any child, ‘What do good teachers do?’ I’ll bet the answer will be something like, ‘They make learning fun.’

What kinds of fun do you like:

- the active kind of fun
- the more passive, relaxing kind of fun
- or the educational kind of fun? Why not all three?

Remember, it is not right or wrong if fun is or is not important to you. What’s most important is understanding what makes you tick. What are the needs that drive your behaviour? Survival, Love and Belonging, Power, Freedom, Fun and Enjoyment.

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Jessica Doyle
Happy people have worked out how to satisfy all 5 of their needs in ways that keep the important people in their life close (while at the same time allowing others to do the same).

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


Gerard

Resource Centre News

The photos (here and on Facebook) show yet again that Book Week Assembly 2014 was a well-supported fun event, one that demonstrates the strong connections between all members of our school community. Thanks to the Book Week Team, Mrs Hobson, Pete Schumacher, Rose Marszalek, Meryl Todd and Jacquie Christie for the hours of time they dedicated to planning the Book Week Assembly.

Thanks to Fancy Nancy 1 & 2, Danae Steer and Isabella Barry (3C), for compering the Character Parades. As usual, Pete outdid himself with the play ‘Connect to Reading’. And what a great cast! Boy, did Isaac love to dance! Thanks to Joel Hughes for presenting his awesome painting (forever on display in the Resource Centre). Thank you to Gwen for taking such great photos and presenting certificates to 32 Reading Stars and to Rose for doing the audio-visuals for the whole morning. Thank you to Simon Thomas and Ellie Christie (5H) for writing and performing ‘The Reading Connection’ song. I can’t get it out of my head!

Finally, thanks to all the parents who helped create the beaming little book characters who paraded through the hall and to other parents and teachers who went to great efforts to dress in costume but remain nameless as you were too well disguised! All eyes were on the evil Queen, the caterpillar, Alice, the blue-haired white rabbit and the ‘Japanese girls’ from the story Kumiko and the Dragon. Not to mention the pirate girl who was fighting Koala Lou! Even though you are not from my book, you are all mad enough to come to my tea party!

Term 4 Changes

For parents of Prep and parents of 1T and 1H - please note the following changes that may affect your son or daughter: -

I’m away on Long Service Leave for the first 4 weeks of Term 4

In my absence, Mr Ben Bleechmore will be taking my library classes on a Wednesday.

Library staff will continue to handle all library issues.

Your child’s library borrowing will change from Monday to Wednesday or in 1H’s case from Wednesday to Monday. Prep 1AR will change to Thursday or Friday. T.B.C. Please help them to remember to return their books on this new library day.

This will only be for the first 4 weeks of term and then revert back to Monday.

Library Staff & Resource Centre Hours

Please welcome Mrs Natalie Taylor and Mrs Helen Logan who will join Mrs Meryl Todd as extra library teacher-aides for the four weeks that I’m away. Natalie will work Mondays and Tuesdays and Helen will work Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

For the first 4 weeks of term the library won’t be open before school, only after school (Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays until 3.30 p.m. and Thursdays and Fridays until 3.15 p.m.)

Premier’s Reading Challenge 2014

The reading period has now finished and all students who submitted their forms to their teachers or directly to the library will receive certificates in November. Congratulations to all students who entered. The youngest student to record her books was Maddison Morrison from 1T who read 60 books between May and September. Well done to Maddison!

Donation of Library Materials

A huge thank you to Cathy Moloney, Senior Librarian, from TAFE East Coast (Nambour Campus) for donating hundreds of dollars worth of steel bookends and brand new pamphlet boxes that TAFE no longer require. Cathy’s granddaughter, Tahlia Lees, is in 4H.

Holiday Borrowing

Yet again students may borrow extra library books for this holiday break. Please also take your children to the Coolum or Noosa libraries to supplement their school library loans.

Graeme Base to Visit Annie’s Books in the School Holidays

Evening event on the Annie’s footpath Thursday September 25 at 6pm

P&C Book Fair Date Claimer (November 14 to 21)

Please contact Barb Hook, Brigid Blair or Mercier Kopinsky if you’d like to help with this annual P&C fundraiser.

Maree Johnson
Teacher-Librarian

‘The more you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you’ll go.’ (Dr Suess)
Kids In Action Conference
4-5 September 2014

When you hear of kids working 12 hours a day, you probably think of the horror stories of Dickensian England and its ‘dark satanic mills’. But just a week ago, eleven students from PSSS rose early and put in a long day of enthusiastic participation at the 2014 Kids in Action Conference - finally arriving home after 8:30pm.

The main venue was the terrific Kawana Community Centre. The organiser was the Sunshine Coast Regional Council. The event was part of the Kids Teaching Kids initiative, which promotes caring for the natural environment, living sustainably and active citizenship. Our students joined almost 300 others from 24 schools around the Sunshine Coast, all learning from each other.

There were notable workshops on minimizing waste, protecting endangered species and effective campaigning. Our delegates facilitated a workshop on protecting the rare Richmond Birdwing Butterfly. They received some very encouraging feedback from students and teachers who participated in their workshop. But it wasn’t all hard work. Late in the day the students were rewarded with a conference dinner at Sea Life, Mooloolaba.

And that was just day one. On day two our delegates went back for more. After an early breakfast, the students travelled to one of several coastal sites. They were met there by experts who led their explorations of indigenous knowledge, green arts and coastal ecosystems including rocky foreshores. On the way home – even after such long days - our students were buzzing with conversation about their great experiences.

Student delegates were: Emma Lumsden, Alice Ayton, Eve Christopher, Mitchell Willis, Kai Hale, Anouk Yehoshua, Miah Wilson, Sophie Davenport, Amber Sheridan, Makaeli Adler and Penny-La

Uniform Shop

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

ISC Grand Opening is this Sunday!

Its going to be a wonderful day with lots to do and see. Come and sit on the grass and watch the kids play.

Darren Percival heads our day of entertainment!

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


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.
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!

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.

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.

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.

Yoda’s Wise Words

Some years ago, I was visiting a school library and noticed a poster on the wall. The poster depicted Yoda, the small, wise creature who taught Luke Skywalker how to direct the force of his power in the movie, ‘Star Wars’. The caption on the poster was: ‘Read … and the force is with you.’ Yoda seemed such an incongruous choice for a poster designed to promote reading as his character is never seen reading a book in any of the Star Wars movies; yet I remember the poster vividly, years later. The link created between the wise, quirky character of Yoda, the act of reading and the power of the ‘force’ is an enduring image.

Reading is a positive force for learning. Those who read acquire great benefits or power. Parents who model reading at home and who read to their children when young, establish an expectation that their offspring will read. Children who are early readers (some of them, self-taught readers) develop an early love of reading along with a sense of autonomy and independence that comes with the ability to read. From the time at which a child begins to read themselves, their choice of reading matter and their frequency of reading means that they begin to direct some of their own learning from an early age.

Some students are voracious readers; powering through numerous books, developing vocabulary, absorbing language patterns, spelling skills and knowledge, as they read. Some students are eclectic in their wide choice of reading material; whereas others focus their reading in a certain direction, reading only a specific genre, author, series, or style of writing. There are many benefits associated with reading. Heightened expressive language and writing skills gained from exposure to good literature; increased vocabulary and improved comprehension all contribute to intelligence scores, to improved academic results and GPAs. Recent research has identified English as the subject that is most highly correlated with tertiary academic results, across all disciplines.

Thinking skills, especially analytical skills, are improved by reading and being exposed to other’s thoughts and ideas. Reading fiction has been shown to increase empathy as many authors describe a character’s feelings in relation to their experiences, thus increasing awareness of others’ perspectives. Memory is strengthened as readers need to remember the names, experiences and personalities of numerous characters in a book, especially when they encounter interruptions and have to return to reading after a break. Factual knowledge is broadened and deepened through reading non-fiction books that provide an array of information that is eagerly learnt, especially when the material is about a topic of personal interest. Reading has the power to simultaneously relax and stimulate; absorb and distract; engage the individual in the moment while transporting them to another realm. It is a special force, with many benefits.

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