23 October 2014

Principal’s Column

P&C Donation

Many thanks to our P&C who at the last meeting donated $8000 to our school. This is money that has been raised this year with raffles, the Mother’s Day stall, the disco, the opening of the Indoor Sports Centre and other fund raising efforts. This is a great achievement given the very small number of parents involved in fund raising.

We are using the money to build a sand pit for the Year 1, 2 and 3 play area and we hope this will be constructed soon.

If you would like to get involved in fund raising for your child’s education please come along to a P&C Meeting or answer the calls for help which often appear through Parent Link or on our Facebook page. Elaine (in the office) is our Parent Liaison Officer and she can also help direct you regarding this.

Student Free Day

Last Monday was a Student Free Day. All staff were involved in professional development. Teachers participated in a workshop on catering for high ability learners in their classrooms and our non-teaching staff spent the day in a team building workshop. Student Free Days are rare these days so staff valued the time spent together learning.

Enrolments for 2015

If you have children to enrol for Prep next year we urge you to submit your enrolment forms as soon as possible. The Prep Induction Program is in full swing and we don’t want anyone to miss out on the playgroups, interviews and information sessions. The Prep Induction Program concludes at the end of November.

Some great Apps for Learning

Chatter matters – Get DETE’s new SPEAK oral language app

Oral language skills are important for a child’s literacy and overall academic achievement. Children with a language impairment are six times more likely to have a reading problem than children without. It therefore makes sense to be proactive in the early years of a child’s life and DETE’s new SPEAK app helps this happen.

The SPEAK (Speaking Promotes Education And Knowledge) oral language app has been developed by the Department of Education, Training and Employment as a joint initiative with Queensland Health and Redland City Council to help develop children’s speaking and listening ability. SPEAK provides lots of fun, free activities, ideas and information for parents, carers and educators to support and nurture oral language development in children from 0-6 years of age.

The information and activities were developed by the department with the help of speech pathologists, educators and health professionals. The SPEAK app is available for free download from the iTunes store and Google Play.

Additional information is available from the DETE apps website.

Out & About app

Give your child a flying start in literacy by helping them practise their sight words with this bright and fun app when you’re out and about. Out & About has been developed by the Department of Education, Training and Employment and is aimed at Prep to Year 2 students to help them master the first 100 sight words to which they are typically introduced. Out & About has been designed for parents to give to young children to fill their time in a fun and educational way. The words in this kit are grouped into ten word sets. Students select a word set and say the word that appears. If they cannot remember the word, they can touch the word on the screen, listen to it and then swipe to the next word on the list. Once they have mastered all the words, they can move on to the next set. In no time, your youngster will be ready to zoom through entry-level books. This app also contains additional games and ideas for parents to help their children recognise sight words.

There are also eight ideas and activities to help your children recognize the sight words.

Out & About for iOS and Android is available for free download from the iTunes store and Google Play.
Student Resource Scheme 2015

Our Student Resource Scheme will continue unchanged for a third year for 2015. The Scheme will remain at $100 per child for the year and includes all extra items purchased by teachers for use in classrooms and extra curricular activities such as Art Lessons. Students whose payments are up to date also attend three visiting performances during the year. Visiting performances to schools cost up to $10.00 per child.

As with previous years we will be emailing the information home very soon so that families can begin payments if they wish and also plan their end of year budgets. There is always so much to pay for at the end and the beginning of each school year.

Great Results Guarantee

We have had some preliminary notification that our Great Results Guarantee funding will continue in 2015. This year, this funding has been used to purchase half day Teacher Aides for all classes in Years 1 and 2. This has in turn freed up other Teacher Aide time for other year levels. Teachers have used this extra assistance to support children in their learning in English and Maths and we have seen some very promising results.

In 2015 the Queensland Government is investing $183 million in Great Results Guarantee funding for state schools. Here at Peregian Springs, our estimated 2015 allocation is $269 000 to continue the great work we started this year to improve our student’s performance. More information can be found at - www.education.qld.gov.au/resultsguarantee

Knowing we have this funding again means we will be able to continue these great programs for at least another year. Our Guarantee will again be published on our website.

Head Lice

We have a lot of head lice around at the moment. Let’s make Friday 24 October ‘Head Lice Check Day’. If everyone in the school does it that day and uses the weekend to be rid of the infestation we will see a lot less of it recurring across classrooms.

From experience (my daughter has hair longer and thicker than mine), I can tell you that the best prevention is cheap white conditioner spread all over the hair every hair wash day and a nit comb combed through. This suffocates any stray head lice lurking about and removes them before they breed. You may find my blog post, ‘Miss... there’s critters in my hair’, on this topic entertaining!


SafeST Report

SafeST is a local council scheme used to help improve road safety close to schools. Our SafeST Committee is made up of local police, Council officers, personnel from Education Queensland’s Central Office, a P&C Rep, interested parents, Sandy Cathcart (as our DP) and me. We meet 2-3 times a year to discuss road safety and infrastructure projects that will help the safety of our students out on the roads surrounding the school.

At our last meeting we were able to secure the bike safety program for another year and we have also been nominated to receive a safety program from RACQ late next year. The Minutes of the SafeST Meetings are available to parents on request.

Members at our last meeting also commented on how behaviour in our car park has improved over the year. The Police and the Council congratulated our parents on their courteous and patient behaviour both in the car park and out on the surrounding roads – thank you!

Japanese School Trip for 2014 and 2015

Our first school excursion to Japan is set to happen in just a few weeks. On 7 November a small group of Year 6 students and I will be heading to Tokyo for a week of school, homestays and fun, including a day at Disneyland Tokyo. The students have been preparing for this all year by practicing their language skills, preparing a scrapbook for their Japanese family, and gathering the travel items they need for a week in another country. It is very exciting!

We will be going again next year and will be holding a meeting for interested parents and students late in November. The school we are visiting – Sagami Women’s University Elementary School are also planning to visit us in July or August next year. It’s very exciting to be making these international connections and the benefits for children in terms of developing their maturity and intercultural competence is enormous.

QParents Pilot

The QParents website and mobile application will enable parents to communicate with their school online. QParents will give parents and legal guardians of Queensland state school students access to information about their child’s education, in one place, using one login. This new online channel has the potential to help parents save time by enabling them to access information about their school-age children via a secure, online portal. Parents will be able to log in to QParents via their computer or mobile device, to access a range of student information about their child.

Queensland schools will potentially also receive benefits from using QParents as a communication channel through anticipated time (and costs) by reducing red tape and documentation, paper printing, mail outs, etc. Utilising the functionality of QParents fully has the potential to provide benefits for school principals, teachers and wider school staff working in primary and high schools across Queensland.

Parents will have ease of access to a clear snapshot of information regarding their child’s:

- attendance details
- behaviour
- enrolment
- report cards
- timetables
- invoices
- payment details.
QParents is available 24 hours a day, from a computer, iPhone (App) or tablet (web browser). The QParents web address is https://qparents.qld.edu.au

We have volunteered to pilot this program in our school and expect that it will deliver great benefits for our parents.

**Partnership with Star Real Estate**

Jodie Curran has already listed property which has come from referrals from our school community. Remember to mention our school if you or a friend is selling through Star so that our school can benefit from the $1000 donation when the property sells!

The donations will fund the building of adventure play equipment for our senior students.

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**End of Year Preparations**

Please keep an eye on the Dates for your Diary section below as we start to ramp up the preparations for 2015. There are many things for parents to remember and do in Term 4 and we try to send as many reminders as we can.

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:

- Thursday 30 October – P&C Disco
- Friday 31 October – Day for Daniel.
- Friday 31 October – World Teacher’s Day
- Tuesday 4 November – Nude Food Day for Term 4
- Friday 14 November – Book Fair starts
- Friday 21 November – last day to order uniforms for January 2015 delivery
- Tuesday 25 November – 5.30pm Parent Information Session for parents of Preps starting school in 2015
- Thursday 27 November – 6.00pm P&C Meeting
- Thursday 4 December – Year 6 and 7 Graduation Ceremony and Awards Night
- Friday 5 December – Years 4-7 Swimming Carnival (some Year 3 students also attend this event)
- Monday 8 December – Year 7 Reports distributed
- Wednesday 10 December – End of Year Reports are distributed
- Thursday 9 December – Class Party Day
- Friday 12 December – Last day of Term 4 – clean up and moving day
- Friday 19 December – Last day to order Book Lists from Office Max and pay only $8.95 for delivery

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• Friday 12 December – Last day to make SRS payments – $100
• Friday 19 December – Last day to order Book Lists from Office Max and pay only $8.95 for delivery

Download the QSchools App and get these updates and more to your smartphone or tablet. See http://data.qld.gov.au/about/app/qschools-app.html for more details.

**Deputy Principal’s Column**

**Sandy Cathcart**

Our school is currently hosting 11 Sunshine Coast University students who have decided to dedicate their lives to teaching young primary school children. During the past two weeks their respective mentor teachers and myself have been offering support and advice about how to be a successful teacher. This alone raises the major question as to what makes a successful teacher. One of my favourite quotes that applies to all the teachers at our school is ‘A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination and instil a love of learning’ (Brad Henry).

We wish all our enthusiastic graduates success with their studies and careers.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish all our dedicated teachers a happy World Teacher’s Day on Friday 31 October.

**Student Leaders Nominations**

All students in Year 5 have been invited to apply to become a student leader for 2015. You might like to check with your child to see if they have thought about applying for one of these positions and if they have started to complete their application. These applications close at 9.00 a.m. Friday 24 October and the shortlisted students will be notified on Friday 31 October.

The speeches will be held Thursday 6 November 9.00 a.m.–10.00 a.m. in the ISC. All students in Year 4, 5, 6 and 7 will be invited to vote. The students will be scored on the written presentation, speech, student vote and interview. If your student is more interested in becoming a Sport’s Leader then these forms will be handed out on Friday 14 November.

**Beach Safety Skills**

All students in Prep to Year 5 will have the opportunity to attend a session about Surf Safety on Thursday 30 October in the ISC. Fully qualified Surf Lifesavers will visit the school to do a 45 minute presentation.

**Lock Down Practice**

On Tuesday the school had a practice Lock Down. These practices are mandated by the Government to ensure that schools can quickly notify and house all staff and students safely undercover if there is an emergency such as bad weather, an intruder in the school grounds or perhaps a dangerous animal. Upon the sound of the siren on Tuesday, all students and staff quickly sheltered in the closest classrooms and waited for the office to give the all-clear. Teachers had briefed their classes about the procedure of sitting under the
We have already begun to look to 2015, and have been excited to welcome incoming Preps to some playgroup sessions over the past 3 weeks. The sessions, (that will run through till week 8), invite the new enrolments and their parents to spend a session getting a feel for what it will be like to join our highly popular and fabulous Prep program that is run at Peregian Springs. Students engage in hands on and play based learning opportunities with one of our Early Years Educators each Wednesday morning, and our newest little learners thrive with the opportunity to transition into the school setting, as well as beginning to meet and form friendships with other little faces that will fill their classroom in the coming year.

As we have continued to grow, so too have we developed the schools relationships with our feeder kindergartens in order to ease and enhance the transition of the newest learners. This has worked with wonderful success in the past, with our school very proud to welcome very settled and supported students who have benefited greatly from the processes that have been put in place well and truly before day one even begins.

**Head of School – Acting**

![Clair Allan](image)

During Term 4 our school undertakes our annual Cyber Audit that is run with students in Year 5, 6 and 7 classes. This gives us an opportunity to analyse our students online behaviours and inform us on key areas that need to be taught and addressed with our students as they progress into 2015.

An excellent site exists that was created by ACMA (Australian Communications and Media Organisation). This site has an extensive range of information, activities and advice for parents, children and schools on how to keep children Cybersafe. It can be accessed on http://www.cybersmart.gov.au.

It is important with social media growing everyday that parents and schools work together to educate children on taking control of their own safety online and what to do if they feel threatened or concerned. If students are concerned they can report on http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/report.aspx

Also ACMA has a site that provides ‘Golden Rules’ that our students should follow to ensure they are safe. These can be accessed through www.cybersmart.gov.au/cyberquoll

**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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**Day For Daniel**

All staff, students and parents are encouraged to wear something red on Friday 31 October to raise awareness of child safety. Parents can access information from the website. http://www.dayfordaniel.com.au/

**Excursions**

There are many parents who pay for excursions using the on-line payment system. However, it is very important that you also complete any Permission or Medical forms for any excursions. Please send these to school with your child and just write on the form that you have paid on-line.

No student is allowed to attend an excursion unless they have not only paid but also have completed the forms.

**Head of School – Student Support**

David Foxover
Catering For All Learners

Transition to High School

At the end of this year we will have a large group of students leaving primary school, as both year 6 and year 7 students will begin high school in 2015.

Transition to high school can be a time of uncertainty for many children and it is important to help them feel comfortable about these changes. Friendships, your child’s interests and learning needs could be considered when choosing a high school.

SEP staff have been working with families and individual students to develop positive transition processes with our local high schools. We have acknowledged that children will have questions about high school, and have helped them develop questions that they would like to ask. We have, wherever possible, visited key personnel at high schools, discussed individual student’s diverse learning needs and planned transition visits to high schools.

These processes are important for all students…

We have attached some information from KidsMatter that you might like to read through to help you address questions or concerns that your child has about their transition to high school:


Sports news

Lapathon Update

Thank you to all of the students, family and friends of Perigean Springs who supported our Lapathon this year. The final figures aren’t in at the moment but we are looking at a profit of over $9500. All prizes have been ordered and if you don’t have them already you should within the next few days.

A special mention to Reese Sherriff from 2P who was the highest fundraiser, raising $300. For her efforts Reese picked up a digital camera and case. Congratulations Reese and thank you.

Noosa Triathlon

With a little over a week until the second largest triathlon in the world takes place right in our backyard students of Perigean Springs have an awesome opportunity to get involved. Saturday 1 November is the Superkids Triathlon. This event is open to all children aged 7-13 Years. Being a local you get a discount when you register online. There is a special tab for Sunshine Coast Schools. Click on that link, enter your email address and discount code to get a 50% DISCOUNT. The discount code is our postcode (4573). That brings your entry fee down to $17.50. Bargain.

I will be holding two sessions on a Friday morning starting on 24/10 at 8 a.m. on the oval to help our students who are participating in the Noosa Triathlon. These sessions will include transition practice and a few tips and helpful hints to completing your first triathlon. Please bring your goggles, bike, helmet, runners and anything else you think you might need.

Representative News

Congratulations to Stephanie Welsh who picked up a silver medal in the 12 years girls 4 x 100m relay final at the recent Queensland Primary Schools State Track and Field Championships. Steph has been hampered by injury for the past few years. Unfortunately her injury flared up again at the Championships. Selflessly Steph pulled out of her individual 200m to concentrate on the relay. Looks like it was a good decision. Well Done Steph.

OzTag

Qld Oztag are inviting students to join one of the biggest sporting events held each year in QLD – The Queensland Oztag Junior State Cup. The 2015 event will be held from 30 January 2015 on the Sunshine Coast and feature over 2300 players from over 250 schools throughout Queensland.

The event attracts many players from Weipa to the Tweed with varying degrees of ability and across a wide range of age groups for both males and females. Although this is a representative event, the focus is on player and spectator
enjoyment both on and off the field. Rides and attractions are available for kids as well as the Kawana pool and skate park next door to the venue.

Local venues are still seeking players to help fill their teams to come away for The Junior State Cup in 2015. You can also go into the players pool to be picked up by other teams across Qld requiring players.

- For more details email Richard at richy@oztag.com or call 0403 002 851

A comprehensive parent workbook is part of the program.

We will meet for **4 x 2 hour sessions** at the school. This term we thought we would offer an **evening program** from 6:00-8:00pm for those parents who can’t make it during the day.

**Dates:** Tuesdays – 11, 18, 25 November, 2 December  
**Time:** 6:00 – 8:00 pm  
**Venue:** Peregian Springs State School staff room  
(Admin Building)  
**Cost:** Free  
**To register:** please contact the school on 5351 2222 or email us at admin@peregianspringss.eq.edu.au

or

Click the link:  

This program is highly recommended for all parents.

‘The whole program is brilliant. I truly hope all parents get to participate and I thank you for bringing it to us.’

‘Thanks so much Gerard, it has given me some real tools that I could use straight away, that are making a big difference for me and the whole family.’

**Nude Food Day**

**Tuesday 4 November**

**Nude Food** is simply food that is not wrapped in foil, plastic or commercial packaging. The best type of nude food consists mainly of fresh food, so that it is healthy and nutritious PLUS environmentally friendly. Promoting Nude Food empowers students to make conscious choices about what they eat, and encourages them to think about their impact on the environment (and their health). You might be amazed with how enthused your child can become on this...
Resource Centre News

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:

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.)

Maree Johnson
Teacher-Librarian

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.

Thanks

Sonia Sheridan
Uniform Convenor

P&C News

Disco! Get your Halloween costumes ready!

Halloween Disco

Thursday Oct 30 in the ISC
Fancy Dress!!
Soft sole shoes please
$5 Entry, Drop off and collect at ISC doors.
Children will be supervised within ISC until pick-up.
Sausage sizzle and drinks available for purchase.

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.

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 24 October. Around the World!

Greek.

Vegetarian options available

Morning Tea $3.50
   Small sausage roll OR pie and Fresh Fruit Salad
Lunch $5.00
   Lamb Kofta with Greek side salad and pita bread.
   Choice of 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

Scholastic Book Club Issue 7

The October Book Club brochures will have come home in school bags this week. There are some great gift ideas and the $2 Red Label books are on the front page of each brochure. Look out for these titles: The Twelve Cats of Christmas $2, The Invasion of the Potty Snatches $2, It’s Halloween, you Fraidy Mouse $2 and I Survived the Sinking of the Titanic $2.

Please place your orders in the P&c Green Lock Box at the office by Monday October 27. We accept cash payments for orders $10 or less and credit card or a cheque payments for all orders over $10.

Thank you for your Support

Book Club Coordinator.

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

Student Celebrations

Mei Mei Tan and Alfie Shacklock have been invited to participate in the Australian Ballet Interstate program after being noticed by the director of the ballet school a couple of months ago in Brisbane. As Australia’s national centre for elite vocational classical dance and the school of The Australian Ballet, this is an awesome achievement by these students. Well Done!

Anouk Yehoshua sat her preliminary AMEB singing exams at Matthew Flinders 2 weeks ago and she has just heard that she passed with Honours. A fabulous result Anouk.

Ariella Yehoshua sat her violin AMEB exams last weekend and we expect her results in 2 weeks time. Good luck Ariella!

The 2014 Old Schools Karate Championships were held on Sunday 19 October at St Patricks Catholic college in Gympie. Jake Storton gained a Bronze in Boys 9 & 10Yrs Kumite. Congratulations Jake!

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!

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.

Talent Smörgåsbord

Providing a “smörgåsbord of options” from which to select to fulfill their needs and appetites was John Feldhusen’s concept for nurturing children’s talent. I expect we have all attended a smörgåsbord; selecting from the array of dishes; taking small samplings of many different food in order to ‘taste test’ the food on offer. To identify children’s natural strengths and interests, it is useful to initially provide them with a range of small ‘tastes’ from different areas, just like a smörgåsbord.

The first step is to provide exposure to short, interesting activities and extracurricular activities; opportunities to visit museums, the Science Centre, art galleries; attendance at orchestra, ballet, dance and theatre productions; nature walks, hiking and camping; visits to libraries, attendance at children’s holiday workshops; brief exposure to a range of sporting activities as spectators and participants. All these activities and many more provide opportunities to find out about a child’s relative strengths, natural abilities, interests and affinities. Some children manage this process well, while others want to overfill their plate and have difficulty limiting the number of activities they are engaged in.

Nancy Cook, Carol Wittig and Donald Treffinger, refer to this first stage of discovering and building strengths as being the basis for developing a child’s potential into productivity. They outline the importance of then allowing a child to stimulate their curiosity, explore further, engage in learning and verify their interests through organized activities. Parents, who look for opportunities that might appeal to a child and encourage the child to select activities that have personal interest, will find that children look forward to their involvement and will be more engaged in learning during these activities.

Children need opportunities to develop sustained commitment in a selection of areas in order to build skills and develop competence in areas of talent. This is the stage where a child comes to understand that it takes time to build competence and expertise in any area. Children may feel frustrated that they do not play a trumpet like James Morrison after three lessons; however children, parents and teachers learn to recognize emerging skills that develop over time, with practice. During this time, the child’s level of involvement, enthusiasm, energy, commitment and confidence should be growing as they have increased exposure and encounter challenges.

Children thrive on challenges that are appropriately matched to their skills. Many programs and extracurricular activities, such as those that involve sport and music, provide this optimum match of challenge and skills by placing a child in groups that are based upon a child’s level of ability. When children are allowed to progress through the various levels and teams in accordance with their growing competence and skills, children are energized by the challenge and perform enthusiastically.

When a child develops intrinsic motivation, has a high level of involvement and participates with intense fervor, they become talented, passionate and productive. This area of talent may provide an opportunity to develop lifelong involvement and enjoyment. A first taste tempts interest; further helpings build engagement and skills; an enduring appetite develops passion and expertise. A sample taste from a smörgåsbord of options can become an enduring feast for life. Bon appétit!

© Michele Juratowitch
michele@clearingskies.com.au

Chair Drive!

Please help by participating in our chair drive. We’d like every family to purchase just one chair! Each locally produced chair will be branded with a plaque stating the family name. Deposit your $120 into our school bank account or make your donation to the school office.

© Michele Juratowitch
michele@clearingskies.com.au

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

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The first step is to provide exposure to short, interesting activities and extracurricular activities; opportunities to visit museums, the Science Centre, art galleries; attendance at orchestra, ballet, dance and theatre productions; nature walks, hiking and camping; visits to libraries, attendance at children’s holiday workshops; brief exposure to a range of sporting activities as spectators and participants. All these activities and many more provide opportunities to find out about a child’s relative strengths, natural abilities, interests and affinities. Some children manage this process well, while others want to overfill their plate and have difficulty limiting the number of activities they are engaged in.

Nancy Cook, Carol Wittig and Donald Treffinger, refer to this first stage of discovering and building strengths as being the basis for developing a child’s potential into productivity. They outline the importance of then allowing a child to stimulate their curiosity, explore further, engage in learning and verify their interests through organized activities. Parents, who look for opportunities that might appeal to a child and encourage the child to select activities that have personal interest, will find that children look forward to their involvement and will be more engaged in learning during these activities.

Children need opportunities to develop sustained commitment in a selection of areas in order to build skills and develop competence in areas of talent. This is the stage where a child comes to understand that it takes time to build competence and expertise in any area. Children may feel frustrated that they do not play a trumpet like James Morrison after three lessons; however children, parents and teachers learn to recognize emerging skills that develop over time, with practice. During this time, the child’s level of involvement, enthusiasm, energy, commitment and confidence should be growing as they have increased exposure and encounter challenges.

Children thrive on challenges that are appropriately matched to their skills. Many programs and extracurricular activities, such as those that involve sport and music, provide this optimum match of challenge and skills by placing a child in groups that are based upon a child’s level of ability. When children are allowed to progress through the various levels and teams in accordance with their growing competence and skills, children are energized by the challenge and perform enthusiastically.

When a child develops intrinsic motivation, has a high level of involvement and participates with intense fervor, they become talented, passionate and productive. This area of talent may provide an opportunity to develop lifelong involvement and enjoyment. A first taste tempts interest; further helpings build engagement and skills; an enduring appetite develops passion and expertise. A sample taste from a smörgåsbord of options can become an enduring feast for life. Bon appétit!

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Chair Drive!

Please help by participating in our chair drive. We’d like every family to purchase just one chair! Each locally produced chair will be branded with a plaque stating the family name. Deposit your $120 into our school bank account or make your donation to the school office.

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AllU is seeking host families for a group of Japanese students visiting the Peregian area from the 29th December to the 4th January. Families will be paid a stipend of $30 per student per night for hosting. Students will attend English Communication Sessions daily from 9am to 3pm. If you are able to assist with hosting or would like more information please contact Tracey on 0418 433 517 or email tedurham67@gmail.com