12 March 2015

Principal’s Column

New Parent Meet and Greet

Many thanks to parents who came to our ‘Meet and Greet’ last week. It was lovely to see you all and great to observe new connections being formed in our school community.

Our programs are working!

I had the pleasure of receiving an email from a parent a couple of weeks ago reporting that our explicit stand on harassment and bullying and the teaching that occurs around bystander behaviour and problem solving is working.

The email reported ‘My son was bullied on the bus by some boys from our school. My daughter and another girl also from our school stood up for him by asking the boys to stop and then reporting it to the bus driver. Your message on bullying is getting through. My son described it as the boys emptied his bucket and then the girls refilled it. The girls did a great job not being bystanders. It isn’t ok that the boys did this and I was shocked to hear what they had said. When I said the message was getting through. I was referring to my son understanding the bucket concept and the girls watching out for him and speaking up. I am so thankful for this being taught at our school.’

Now, we just need children to stop themselves before creating mean moments and harassing others in the first place!

This is probably an opportune time to remind parents and our community about the difference between bullying and isolated incidents. Bullying is when the following sorts of things happen again and again to someone who finds it hard to stop them from happening:

- Being ignored, left out on purpose or not allowed to join in
- Being hit, kicked or pushed around
- Lies or nasty stories are told about them to make other kids not like them
- Being made afraid of getting hurt
- Being made fun of and teased in a mean and hurtful way

When teasing is done in a friendly and playful way, we don’t call it bullying. And while fighting is wrong - it is not bullying when two students who are AS STRONG AS each other get into a fight.

We often ask children if what they are experiencing is bullying (ongoing and every day from the same person or group of children) or a mean moment. Giving children the language with which to describe the things happening to them is important for empowering them and helping them stand up to those people they will meet who will want to belittle them and put them down.

Hats, School Bags and Litter

Our school runs at its best when children pay attention to small routines that make a big difference. Over the last couple of weeks we have been emphasising the wearing of hats every time children leave the classroom, keeping school bags tidy on bag racks and picking up litter whenever you walk past any. When things small things are let go our school looks a little untidy and other poor choices of behaviour creep in. We might then start to look like we don’t care.

We ask parents to help their children comply with these requests by ensuring they have a hat every day and by encouraging them to take care of their own belongings and keep things clean and tidy. Small things like this make a big difference across the whole school.

Students are expected to take a hat with them every time they leave the classroom. Parents are asked to ensure their child can identify their hat by having it named clearly or identifiable by coloured patches and ribbons.
QParents

We are proud to be one the first schools in Queensland to offer QParents, as part of a pilot program in the first half of 2015.

The QParents web and mobile application provides a more convenient, easier way for parents and legal guardians of Queensland state school students to interact with their child’s school. Parents will have secure, online access to their child’s student information, anytime, anywhere, through a smartphone, tablet or computer.

QParents allows parents to connect instantly with their child’s school to access and manage their child’s student information, including:

- Attendance and absence details, as well as the ability to notify the school of an absence?
- Academic report cards?
- Viewing unpaid invoice details, payment history, and making payments online?
- Viewing and updating personal student details, including medical conditions and address?
- Enrolment details?

QParents will assist both staff and parents in sharing and responding to information in an efficient and effective way. It won’t replace the traditional ways you communicate with our school, but it will provide another way to communicate with us.

The benefits of QParents

- Convenience and time savings for parents?
- Parents can view or update their child’s details without having to contact the school
- Secure 24/7 online access
- Available anytime, anywhere — access QParents on your phone or tablet or computer
- Improves accountability between parents and schools by providing parents with timely access to their child’s information online.
- Allows parents to engage more deeply in their child’s schooling
- Improved administration efficiencies for schools
- Allows schools to streamline their administrative processes and cut down on printing

We will be turning on this service one year level at a time starting with Prep. More information will be coming to your inboxes soon.

Orbit Dome

On 18 March we will have our new piece of playground installed. This has been funded by our annual lapathon in 2014. Everyone is really excited to see this get built. This piece of equipment will be for Years 4 to 6. We will definitely have to roster access.

EarthSmart Leaders

Congratulations to our EarthSmart Leaders (Alice Ayton, Amber Sheridan, Kai Hale, Miah Wilson, Jayde French, Ziah Harvey, Lily Borwick, Indigo Bradshaw, Eve Christopher, Anouk Yehoshua, Jaime Stanley) who were awarded their leadership badges last Friday. I was very impressed with their speeches a few weeks ago and even more impressed to see that our young people are already involved in such worthwhile causes related to the environment. These students will be running projects throughout the year as well as attending and presenting at the Kids In Action Conference later in the year. They will possibly be our busiest leaders! I know that teachers, Kathleen Gordon and Andrea Hall, are excited about the activities this year and their efforts to ensure our school is eco friendly are greatly valued.
Peregian Bake Off

How wonderful to see so many parents, grandparents and students bringing in baked goods yesterday for our Bake Off. Huge thanks to parent volunteer, Margaret Stattman, and her team of parent helpers for this initiative which really captured the school community spirit and encouraged so much participation from our families. Students were immensely proud to present their cakes and explain how they had made them.

The two judges had a tough job. After much consideration, debate and tasting congratulations go to the following students:

- **Winner of Bake Off 2015 – Lucy Herring 5K – Best decorated and tasting Cake**
- **Highly Commended- Poppy & Wilkie Humphrys 1D & Prep H – Pumpkin Scones**
- **Highly Commended- Sean Fisher 6S – Melting Moments**
- **Highly Commended- Alice Ayton 6/5W – Raspberry Slice**
- **Highly Commended- Kooper Airey-Bamback 5K – Choc Brownies**
- **Highly Commended- Cam Smith Prep AR – Minion Cupcakes**
- **Highly Commended- Lachlan & Oliver Hunt – Prep G & 3B – Gluten Free Choc Cake**
- **Highly Commended – Alana & Shanaya Edwards- 4C &3J**

$ 860 was raised by selling the cakes at breaktime to staff and students.

**Champion Swimmers**

Well done to our students who represented Noosa District at the Regional Trials last week. We had a big group selected from the District Trials earlier in the term – Amali Roberts, Jemima Bainbridge, Jessica Huxley, Zoe Butcher and Emma Lumsden. All girls swam personal best times with Amali qualifying for State Championships in the 50m butterfly.

**Relief Staff**

From time to time staff need to take time away from school either for personal reasons or because they are engaged in professional development. Parents can be reassured that we work as closely as we can with our relief staff to ensure educational programs continue without disruption.

When a class teacher is going to be away for 5 days or more parents are notified by a letter from the office. The letter usually indicates the relief teacher’s name and contact details. Class teachers usually leave a plan for relief staff to follow and include notes about their class. We are fortunate to have some high quality teachers in our relief pool who know our school well and in many cases also know the children in each class.

**Staff News**

Simon and Aimee Thomas had a baby boy last Sunday. Aimee and the baby are doing well and Simon has reported himself as being ‘smitten’!

Taylor Soden (Teacher Aide) also had a baby boy this week. Rachael Campbell (Teacher Aide) also leaves us this week as her baby is due soon.

Until next fortnight …

Gwen
Deputy Principal’s Column

Clean up Australia

On Friday 27 February our school participated in the 2015 Clean up Australia Day. All classes in our school cleaned their assigned areas and it was great to see students, teachers and parents taking pride in our beautiful school. Well done all involved.

REAP Food Rescue

Our Project compassion focus for Term One is assisting the REAP OzHarvest Food Rescue Community on the Sunshine Coast. This organisation rescues excess fresh, prepared and canned food and delivers it to others in need via existing charities.

We are encouraging each student to bring a can of healthy food to our Friday parade in Week 9 (27 March). This could include; peas, carrots, pasta, soup or any type of healthy canned food. Students will be advised to check expiry dates to ensure it can be used. Members of the organisation will attend parade on this day to collect what we kindly donate.

Regards
Dave Foxover
Deputy Principal

Head Of School – Curriculum

Learning for today and for tomorrow

Our mLearning program runs across our school from Prep – Year 6 and involves all of our students using iPads and MacBooks in most aspects of their learning. Our mantra is to always be for staff and students to choose the right tool for the right job, and sometimes that is just paper and pencil! What a great insight, and one that we should all keep in mind next time we lose a file or something goes wrong on our computers.

One of the best pieces of software on all Macs is Time Machine. This software, when turned on, automatically backs up everything on the Mac. All you need to do is plug in an external hard drive, find Time Machine in System Preferences and turn it on. Every time the external hard drive is plugged in, Time Machine will make hourly backups of the changes you’ve made. We’ve all lost files from time to time and some of us are unfortunate to have lost everything when the computer’s hard drive failed. Using Time Machine on your Mac is one of the easiest ways to backup your files, even the kids can do it.

Rose Marszalek

Head Of School – Student Support

National Day against Bullying and Violence

Our school has registered to be part of the 2015 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence, being held nationwide on Friday 20 March.

The National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence (National Day of Action) is Australia’s key anti-bullying event for schools. It’s a day where school communities across Australia ‘take a stand together’ against bullying and violence.

Peregian Springs State School is dedicated to creating supportive school environments, free from bullying, harassment and violence. By working together we are sending a clear
message to young people that bullying and violence, in or outside of school, are not okay at any time.

We have a number of programs and initiatives in place to counter bullying. These include our Social and Emotional Bounce back Curriculum, Rock and Water Program and Cyber safety Programs. Our school is proactive in teaching skills that assist our students in dealing with cases of bullying and giving them strategies to utilise in these situations.

There is a fantastic government website that has practical resources and information to help schools, parents and students counter bullying, harassment and violence. It is the Bully No way website. There are free apps to download in the Student’s section of www.bullyingnoway.gov.au

Michael Slocombe

Head Of School – Diverse Learners

A whole school approach to support student learning through inclusive practices

What’s been happening in classrooms?

‘How you can help your friend with Autism?’

‘It’s sort of like comparing a PlayStation to an Xbox’ says Donna Adams (our region’s advisory specialist). ‘They do the same things just a bit differently’. Donna’s working with our younger students and showed a great video ‘When Carl Met George’. The link to watch this together with your child is YouTube - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nsmjwHW40ps

Supporting students with reading difficulties.

Graphic organisers are great for students who need to ‘picture’ the word. Two amazing iPad apps that the school are trialling are Kidspiration and Explain Everything. These are great at visually organising the concepts, ideas, processes or key parts. Perhaps you could get your child to graphically organise their bedrooms!

Regards

Anne Slattery

Technology is leading the way in 3T

Technology is leading the way in 3T, where students have begun using their iPads.

Students have been working both independently and collaboratively on a range of activities, accessing a range of educational apps and researching on the Internet.

As well as using Reading and Spelling apps during Literacy groups, and a variety of Maths apps during Maths rotations, our class has been researching special cultural events and creating informational presentations about them.

These photos show 3T creating presentations on the Chinese New Year using the ‘Explain Everything’ app that allows users to add text, images, drawings and audio.

Students were then able to share their work with others by air-playing their iPad screen onto our class Interactive Whiteboard.

Simon Thomas
Classroom teacher 3T

Performing Arts

Our Senior Singers are looking for a sponsor to fund their shirts for performances. If anyone is able to help us out with funding please contact Mrs Hobson in the Performing Arts Department.
**Sofia Hobson**  
**Performing Arts**

**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?

Melanie Timbs will present *Supporting Early Reading*, a workshop for parents. During the workshop she will share strategies to 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 Parent Workshop

**Who:**

Melanie Timbs (Learning Support Teacher)

**When:**

Thursday 29 March  
6.30 – 7.30 p.m.

**Where:**

Learning Enhancement Centre

To book click the link to our online booking service


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**Representative News**

**ANZ Hotshot Tennis Program**

It’s not too late to register your child for the ANZ Hotshots Tennis Program.

All students in Years 3 & 4 are currently participating in the MLC Hot Shots Tennis Program. This is a fantastic program from Tennis Australia where we have been given over $1500 worth of tennis equipment in the past few years. All Prep-6 students at our school can register with the Hot Shots Tennis Program via http://hotshots.tennis.com.au/ Simply click on the register tab and search for our school and fill in your details. It is that easy. When you register your child will get a FREE T-Shirt and our school will receive a $2 rebate to purchase more tennis equipment for our school. A win win situation. The more students who register the greater the rebate, which is used to buy additional tennis equipment for our school.

**Regional Swimming**

Thursday 5 March saw five of our best swimmers in our school represent Noosa District at the Regional Swimming Trials. The only thing hotter than the Caboolture weather was the quality of the swimming. All five of our girls had fantastic days smashing out some great swims and a few PB’s. Zoe Butcher, Jessica Huxley and Emma Lumsden all had awesome days swimming well and breaking a few PB’s along the way. Jemima Bainbridge came within 0.19 of a second of the State Qualifying for the 10 years girls 50m Freestyle. Not bad for a young lady who isn’t a squad swimmer. Raw talent. Well Done Jemima. Amali Roberts continued her good form into 2015 qualifying for the 11 Years girls 50m Butterfly. Amali is off to the State Titles as apart of the Sunshine Coast Regional Swim Team to Chandler on 23-25 March. Awesome work, Amali.

**STOP THE PRESS….BREAKING NEWS!**

Coolum Cricket Under 12B won their Grand Final last week against Maroochydore Blue!!

Zane Pederson who was Captain of the team and Luke Bright who bowled brilliantly are both from 5/6W.

The team all played great and they won by 17 runs.

It was a nail bitting finish.

Well done to the boys.

**Upcoming District Trials**

- Rugby League 11 and 12 Years 16-17 March
- Basketball Boys and Girls 18 March
- Football Boys and Girls 18 March
- Touch Boys and Girls 14 May
- Cross Country 18 May
Yours in sport  
Cameron Hutchins

Uniform Shop

The table below shows all out of stock items and when they are likely to be back in stock.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Uniform</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Available</th>
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<tr>
<td>Polo</td>
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<td>4 March</td>
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The shop is open at the following times:

- Wednesday 2.00 – 3.30 p.m.
- Friday 8.30 – 9.30 a.m.

For all available uniform, orders can be made using

For all available uniform, orders can be made using

https://www.flexischools.com.au/ and I will email you when the order is ready for collection.

Thanks

Sonia Sheridan
Administration Officer

Partnership with Star Real Estate

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.

P&C News

19 March St Patrick’s Day disco

Reminder that children need to be supervised by parents, welcome to bring siblings

- Prep - Year 2 Time 4-5.30 p.m.
- Year 3 - Year 6 Time 6-7.30 p.m.
- $5 entry
- Sausage sizzle and drinks for sale
- Volunteers still required even if only 1 hour. Contact Elaine on ewill300@eq.edu.au

Easter Raffle

$1 per ticket

We will be sending a book of 10 tickets home per family to sell to neighbours, friends and family.

Total cost $10

Drawn last day of Term 1

1st prize $150 Easter basket
2nd prize $60 Bright Star Kids voucher
3rd prize $30 voucher

Do you own a business and are you willing to donate services or % off vouchers for raffles?

Example: Cafe - % off food voucher, 2 hours free cleaning voucher

Thanks! We will promote your business for you.

Aluminum Cans

You will notice there will be some new bins around the school soon. This will be for any aluminum cans you would like to bring in to recycle. P&C will get $1 for every kilo. If you have a business and would like a bin please email pandc@peregiansspringsss.eq.edu.au

Don’t forget our next P&C Meeting will be on 26 March followed by our AGM.

Please consider being part of the Committee, President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Representative or become part of the Fundraising Sub-Committee.

Together we can make a difference!

Ongoing ways to help our School

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.

Book Covers

Needing Book Covers for the new school year, try these ones; EZ Covers are environmentally friendly, recyclable, reusable and only $1.20 each regardless of the size, plus the school receives 10c for every cover purchased.

http://www.ezcover.net.au/school_rebate.htm

Tuckshop

*If there are any parents/grandparents or other wonderful bakers out there that would love to donate some homebaking to us- please do- we always love someone else’s cooking and the students appreciate the homebaking also.

Please note that we are Egg/Nut free..

*We do Birthday Icy Poles for those parents that would like to purchase a packet for their child’s classroom….Please come to the Tuckshop and see us..

Thank you all for your support so far.

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*

**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.

**Student Resource Scheme**

These funds cover costs associated with art, cooking and other 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. 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.

**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!

**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.