4 September 2014

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

HOW IS YOUR CHILD TRACKING?

Parent/Teacher Interviews will take place at the end of Term Three in week 10. This decision has been made to allow parents and teachers to have a review of progress and be able to report on both good and not so good elements of school learning in 2014. It is our aim to report on a range of positives and, if required, some areas of concern or areas for improvement during the remaining part of the year.

You will soon receive a letter of invitation from your child’s teacher detailing available times for interview. Please choose three options and a mutual time will be confirmed to discuss your child’s progress.

Please remember these interviews should be an opportunity to discuss a whole range of positives about learning and not just about the improvement agenda required. So make the time to demonstrate to your child that you are extremely interested in their learning outputs by fostering that three way link between the child, the school and the home for successes to be recognised.

Report cards will, as usual, be available at the end of semester two.

School Magazine - Rewind

The students are busy promoting the competition for the cover design of the annual school magazine Rewind publication.

The rewind

COVER Competition

is here!

Rewind, Rewind, Rewind is here, be the winner this year.

This is a student only competition. We are waiting for your unique designs to fill the front, back and inside covers of Rewind.

This is your chance to become one of four 2014 designers!

Your entry will need:

- A 1.5 cm blank border
- Ormeau State School (name)
- Ormeau emblem (on school border)
- School motto (Helping Each Other To Do Our Best)
- Reward heading must stand out
- 2014 (the year) and Ormeau Values (the theme)
- Colourful and neatly presented (check for spelling errors)
- Decorated with artistic drawings related to the theme
- Student name and year level printed on the back page

Your entries will need to be handed in to Mrs Swain or Mrs Coplick by Friday Week 9 (12th of September).

Kind regards
Heather Andrew

FROM THE DEPUTIES’ DESK

We are fast approaching the end of Term 3 and we still have so many exciting events to come. In week 8 of this term we have our Interschool Sport beginning. Students have been training hard and no matter what the results I am sure we will be immensely proud of our students.

Even though winter is starting to fade doesn’t mean the students can wear the jumpers of their choosing. Just a timely reminder that we are a uniform school and students must be wearing correct school uniforms at all times.

We are on a mission here at Ormeau S.S to improve every child’s reading. One way you can help is to read to your children on a daily basis at home. We came across this little reading blurb in our studies please take the time to read below:
Our attendance rates here at Ormeau State School have steadily been improving this term which is fantastic to see! The more our students are at school the more we are able to teach them those vital skills they need to succeed in society. Below is an information sheet about attendance. It provides a variety of information about why school is important to how to get your child to school if you are having trouble (a common problem).

Regular school attendance
Information for parents and carers

Did you know? Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance at school is associated, on average, with higher student achievement.

Why is regular attendance at school important?
Regular school attendance will impact on your child’s learning ability. Students who are absent from school have a higher chance of falling behind their classmates. Absence from school for even one day out of the term can make a child fall behind by a few years.

Let’s make sure our students arrive at school on time and every day!

If you cannot get your child to school on time or for a day or more, you must inform the school and give a reason. Any student who is excused from school for five or more days needs a doctor’s note.

What you need to do:

- Inform the school if your child is absent
- Give a reason why your child is absent
- Provide a note from your doctor if your child is sick or unwell

If you have a recurring medical condition, you can receive a bulk supply of notes.

If you have difficulty getting your child to school, you may be eligible for School Attendance Support.

Crazy Hair Day

On the last Friday of this term, 19th September, we will be hosting a “Crazy Hair Day” for the students. On this day students will be allowed to colour their hair or style their hair however they would like. However, there will still be a few rules to follow:

- Crazy Hair styles must NOT be permanent (For Example – Tracks)
- All styling must be done at home, we do not want coloured spray done on the buses on the way to school or brought to school

On the day there will also be sausages and snow cones for sale to students. There is also a gold coin donation.

All money raised will be donated to the Leukaemia Foundation and to one of our teachers here at Ormeau who is currently having their own battle with Leukaemia.

It should be a wonderful day for all involved.

We have had a fantastic term thus far and we look forward to continuing to work and help our students achieve for the remainder of the year.

Kind regards and happy reading,
Brendan Creighton and Jane Tuckett
Deputy Principals
Ormeau State School

PREP NEWS

Hello Parents and Guardians,

Phew! This has been a very busy term, with the pirate show, book week and by the time you have read this we will have also been on our excursion to Numinbah Valley Environmental Centre. The students are all very excited about the excursion, where we will be extending on our science knowledge by learning all about living things through hands on learning. The students will be going on a forest walk, sensory trail and exploring creature features.

Just to make things a little more manic, don’t forget Science Day is coming up in week 10. Please pay the $6 fee as soon as possible.

Last week was Book Week. It was nice to see everyone getting into the spirit of celebrating books and reading. There was a great vibe around the school as lower school dressed up as different characters, shared their favourite stories and their love of books. The students all looked absolutely fabulous dressed up as their favourite characters. We enjoyed a morning of activities as the students rotated around to experience different book week activities in each prep class.

As we are moving into the end of term 3, it is lovely to look back and reflect on how far the students have come since the beginning of the year. It seems like only last week we were in the first week of school getting to know each other and now the students are confident individuals with a curious attitude toward lifelong learning. I look forward to seeing their growing success in term 4.
Just a quick reminder soon the weather will be warming up. Please ensure your child has a drink bottle, hat and has applied sun screen before coming to school.

Warm regards,
Katie Phillips, Jan Laws, Mitch Campbell and Jonathan Thorburn

2F, 2G, 2I, 2J AND 2LT

The weeks are just zooming by and it will be the end of term before we know it. We have been busy bees in year 2, starting a new unit on Information Reports in English. At the end of the term students will be asked to write a report on the particular animal they have been studying.

In Mathematics, we have begun our new unit which focusses on money and reading calendars for information. We will be revising the months and seasons of the year as well.

We have experienced some enjoyable events in the past couple of weeks. Book Week was definitely a highlight with Phil Kettle, a popular children’s author, visiting Ormeau State School and sharing his passion for writing with the students. It was awesome to see so many students dressing up as their favourite book character for our Book Week celebration. The literature rotations were lots of fun and the teachers admired the huge selection of costumes. Cat in the Hat, Elsa from Frozen and good ol’ Harry Potter were popular choices. The Lap-a-thon was a great success with the students doing a fantastic job we were very proud of them!

Until next time,
Shandell Gammon, Bec Johnston, Cynthia Thorpe, Andrea Lepherd, Shandy Iurato and Jonathon Frazer

4B, 4K, 4H AND 4T

We are over halfway through Term Three and working hard to excel in a variety of areas. Speaking of excelling, did you catch our excellent presentation about excellence on Senior Parade in week five? If not, here a few happy snaps of our lucky students from each class who got to present.

We have finished writing our recounts for English and have started our next unit about Quest Stories. Our focus for this unit is the novel “Rowan of Rin” by Emily Rodda. We will be reading through the novel, answering questions and completing activities to help gauge an understanding of the language features Emily Rodda has used. Students will then use this knowledge to write a written response about the book.

In Mathematics, we have covered money and financial mathematics, extended our knowledge of place value, experimented with symmetry, flips, slides and turns, consolidated knowledge about fractions and completed activities on all the various aspects of measurement.

Our units for Science, Geography and Art are very interrelated. All have a strong environmental theme with Science covering the properties of materials and how certain processed materials affect our environment, Geography is looking at sustainable and unsustainable practices and how we can make better environmental choices and Art is using recycled materials to create a wearable art creation. Students are really enjoying these topics, especially the creation of their wearable masterpieces.

To finish off with, we would like to thank Mrs. Langes for organising children’s author Phil Kettle to come and talk to some year levels about his writing and how students can be more engaged in reading and writing. Year Four was one of the lucky year levels and all students enjoyed this presentation. Here is a photo taken at this fantastic learning experience.

Regards,
Suzzi Bray, Katie Brown, Michael Howlett and Cassandra Tones

6B, 6G, 6N AND 6S

The last couple of weeks have been rich with opportunities to get involved in Science and the school community. With the end of term 3 drawing ever closer, students are making the most of their last year in primary school by attending activities, entering into competitions and participating in school community fund raising.

The Lap-A-Thon proved to be a popular activity for the Year 6 students. Students were highly competitive and more than a few students pushed themselves to add just one more lap in the hopes of outpacing their peers. With the added encouragement of Mrs Bailey and Mr Grubb out-distancing them around the track, the students were able to raise a respectable amount of funding from the event. Well done!

Still in the sport theme, Gala days have once more become a feature in Friday school activities. The team selections have been finalised and training is well underway. The teams are ready for competition and looking forward to the chance to prove their mettle against all comers. Please bear in mind that there is a small cost incurred for students involved in the teams for transport each Friday.

One activity that has served as a reminder of the fast approach of high school was the visit to Ormeau Woods. Year 6 and 7 students travelled to the high school to spend a day seeing what high school will be like. The students put their best foot forward and gained valuable insight into some of the exciting opportunities that will await them next year. This can be a scary time for students moving into high school, so having a talk
about the trip and any concerns that your child might have about the changeover may help to remind them about what is exciting about moving into high school next year.

As the Parent and Teacher interviews fast approach, it is important to arrange a date and time as soon as possible. This is an excellent chance to discuss how your child is improving in the classroom and address any questions about the change into high school next year. Times can fill up fast, so make sure you book a convenient date as soon as possible.

In the near future, science will take centre stage with a visit from Dr Joe set to inspire high levels of enthusiasm from the students. Additionally, classes are engaging in a range of science activities designed to draw students and their families into a new appreciation for the subject. A big thank you goes out to parents who are planning to participate in the event, either in the preparation or visiting the class. Science is an important area of study for students heading into high school and it’s wonderful to see students so enthusiastic.

The cold and flu season has hit hard recently and a number of students are now working to catch up on missed work. A few simple steps can help prevent your child sharing in the cold season. It’s worth having a discussion with your child about the importance of hand washing and using a tissue when coughing or sneezing. If your child is presenting with flu-like symptoms such as fever, dry cough, muscle and joint pain, tiredness, extreme exhaustion, headache, sore throat and stuffy nose then they need to stay at home. A few simple habits can make a world of difference when it comes to staying healthy.

The Year 6 Crew
Suzanne Bailey, Shane Grubb, Kimberley Strachan and Nikki Swain

BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers,

Prep children are at an age when they start to show independence and have a reputation for being fussy eaters. Have no fear - good nutrition at this age is still achievable. It takes a little bit of food and nutrition knowledge and, of course, lots of patience!

You’ve probably heard before that breaking the overnight fast (i.e. eating breakfast) is important. Eating breakfast is like refuelling the car before a long trip – without the fuel, you won’t go very far. As well as the fuel that breakfast provides, it gives essential vitamins and minerals. Children who skip breakfast often struggle to make up these missed nutrients later in the day.

Breakfast Improves Academic Achievement and Behaviour

Eating a nutritious breakfast helps students achieve the classroom goals that you’ve set for them. National studies consistently confirm that breakfast helps kids concentrate, think, behave and learn. Eating breakfast:

- Improves children’s classroom performance, including better test scores and grades
- Increases children’s ability to focus and concentrate on school work
- Decreases behaviour problems, tardiness and visits to the school nurse
- Increases attendance rates

The nutritional needs of preschoolers

The nutritional needs of preschoolers can be met by offering foods from all the food groups.

What are appropriate foods?

According to The Australian Guide to Healthy Eating preschoolers need:

- 3 to 6 serves of fruit and vegetables – no more than 200mL fruit juice.
- 4 to 8 slices of bread or equivalent serves (about a cup) of breakfast cereal, rice, pasta or noodles.
- The equivalent of 500mL to 600mL reduced fat milk, which can include yogurt, cheese, calcium fortified soy beverage.
- 1 small serve of meat, chicken, fish, egg or legumes such as baked beans, lentils, chickpeas.

The amount of food a prep child chooses to eat will vary according to their size and activity levels. It has been observed that, some children, even after having breakfast, come to school and eat their lunch prior to school starting. Therefore, it is extremely important that the foods offered for breakfast are substantial foods (low GI foods that give longer lasting energy) and that belong to the core food groups (outlined below).

What food to send to School

Choose foods from the core food groups such as: breads or cereal based foods like sandwiches, pita bread with a filling rolled up, pasta or rice based salad, sushi rolls, crackers with a spread, pikelets or fruit-based muffins. Include a dairy food for lunch or morning tea (e.g. a cheese sandwich, yogurt, custard, cold milk with MILO). Note - these items require refrigeration. Firm fresh fruits, as well as dried or canned fruits, are easy to send for morning tea or lunch. Choose easy-to-eat vegetables such as cherry tomatoes, cucumber sticks, celery, capsicum. Small cans of baked beans, spaghetti are quick, easy and nutritious (but don’t forget to pack a spoon).


If you would like some recipes or some advice with packing lunch boxes please just contact me on my mobile or email below. ALSO PLEASE KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR NUDE FOOD DAY – COMING SOON!!

Kind regards

Carol Moores
Behaviour Support Teacher
GERMAN NEWS

An exciting day was held at the Brisbane German Club on Saturday, August 23, as the 9th annual Tipp Kick (table soccer game) Meisterschaft was held. The event attracted 20 teams from South East Queensland and four teams represented Ormeau at the event. The boys demonstrated excellent values of good sportsmanship and fair play. Congratulations to Gabriel and Brock who finished in the Top 8.

Acknowledged on parade

Congratulations to Dezi Cutter and Kirah James-Mason who both achieved a certificate in the International Education Perfect Science Competition. Dezi achieved a Bronze certificate and Kirah achieved a Credit certificate. And it was very challenging!

Frau Hay

HEAD OF CURRICULUM NEWS

Celebrating Science Day - Wednesday 17 September

Our bi-annual Celebrating Science Day will be held on Wednesday 17 September. Classes from Prep to Year 7 will partake in organised activities both inside and outside their classrooms.

All parents, carers, grandparents, family and friends are invited to attend and observe our young scientists in action.

Refer to the flyer below for more information. Times for classroom activities will be advertised to you by each class teacher.

New Curriculum for 2015 – Civics and Citizenship

Next year classes in years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will undertake lessons in Civics and Citizenship.
The Australian Curriculum: Civics and Citizenship states: “Civics and Citizenship is essential in enabling students to become active and informed citizens who participate in and sustain Australia’s democracy. Through the study of Civics and Citizenship, students investigate political and legal systems, and explore the nature of citizenship, diversity and identity in contemporary society.

The Curriculum is organised under two interrelated strands, “Civics and Citizenship Knowledge” and “Understanding, and Civics and Citizenship Skills”.

The knowledge component is arranged in individual year levels, while skills are developed over a 2-year band.

The following link is to the Australian Curriculum: Civics and Citizenship scope and sequence document. It provides more thorough information on the actual content and skills that will be taught.

http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/Australian%20Curriculum.pdf?Type=0&s=CNC&e=ScopeAndSequence

UNSW Assessment Competition - Spelling

Congratulations are extended to the following students who achieved outstanding results in the recent UNSW Spelling Assessment:

Distinctions:

- Year 3: Karnae N – 3L (top 2% in Australia)
- Year 5: Alexandra W – 5L (top 7% in Australia)
- Year 7: Holly S - 7C (top 4% in Australia)

Credits:

- Year 3: Rylan B – 3L (top 21% in Australia)
- Year 5: Callum B – 5F (top 35% in Australia)
  Marco M – 5F (top 18% in Australia)
- Year 7: Joshua M - 7C (top 36% in Australia)

Merits:

- Year 3: Alexander S – 3C (top 42% in Australia)
- Year 4: Nicola M – 4B (top 42% in Australia)
  Lana P – 4K (top 42% in Australia)
- Year 6: Tatiana D – 6B (top 45% in Australia)

The following students also participated and received certificates for their efforts:

- Year 3: Sarah M, Madison H
- Year 5: Joshua W, Hayley F
- Year 6: Jodie M, Madison L, Jemima A

Well done everyone!

Mathematics results will arrive early in Term 4.

If you have any queries, please contact me at jmcco40@eq.edu.au.

Kind regards
Julie McCombe

SCIENCE NEWS

A note from Mrs Hines-Smith

Year 5 classes have been investigation changes in states of matter, in particular liquids into solids and back again. Students have engaged in some great conversation and investigations about water vapour, evaporation and condensation, which has led to the realisation that there’s a simple scientific reason why the bathroom mirror gets foggy!

Magnets have been a great attraction during investigations about invisible forces for the Year 4 students. Next term, students will design their own game called “Minute to Win it”. Games require the inclusion of a variety of forces to either overcome or apply. No doubt the end results will be spectacular.

Understanding properties of solids and liquids, has continued to inspire the Year 3 students. Scientific explanations can now be given as to why the chocolate in the pocket melted! Having students use themselves as physical models to move like molecules, has greatly assisted comprehension of why a solid is a solid and a liquid is a liquid.

Science day will be celebrated on September 17th. Unfortunately I will be unable to attend due to a position I have taken at Nerang State School until the end of term, as Acting Deputy Principal. I hope you enjoy the variety of science presentations on the day and look forward to your feedback.

Cheers
Leanne Hines-Smith

SPECIAL EDUCATION NEWS

As we have mentioned previously, in week 9, the garden club will be holding another pancake stall to help raise money for the gardening program and equipment. We would really appreciate a donation of one of the following items to help make the morning a success:

- Self-raising flour
- Long life milk
- Maple syrup
- Chocolate syrup
- Paper plates

The garden is thriving under the patient care of Jodi Post and some dedicated garden club members, and the cooking club was lucky enough to make some delicious carrot cake with fresh carrots directly from the garden the other week. The smell of them cooking was very tempting to all those around. Also created over the last few weeks – zucchini slice with fresh vegetables and herbs, and beetroot chocolate cake – all using fresh ingredients from the garden.
On other news, the art club has been creating some amazing artworks with Mrs Murray, including dream catchers, string art, collages, and 3D pop up art. The students have been really enjoying showing their creative talents! The games club has been enjoying playing ‘old time’ games such as uno, monopoly, and hungry hippos. Playing these games really helps the students build their fine motor skills, social skills, problem solving skills and patience.

As usual, if you have any concerns about your child, please contact your case manager on the school number.

Kind Regards,
Sarah Alcock, Sarah Lopes, Peter Giles, Mark Sycz, and Jen Neale

ADMINISTRATION REMINDERS

Lost Property
Lost Property is located outside of the administration building, could you please remind your child/children to check for any lost items. We have a large number of school jumpers which have not been named. Please ensure all drink bottles, lunch boxes, hats and jumpers are clearly labelled with your child’s name and class.

Vivid Dance – Hip Hop
We would like to inform you that due to work commitments the Hip Hop Dance program for Ormeau State School on Tuesday afternoons will not continue Term 4. Hopefully this will be offered again in 2015. If you need any further information please contact Eric on 0481 165 933

Centrepay - the easy way to pay your bills
Ormeau State School is now able to accept Centrepay payments directly with your approval.

There is a form you can collect from the administration office that you take to Centrelink nominating an amount to come directly to the school each week/fortnight. You as the parent or caregiver can choose where these payments come from eg: (Family tax benefit, Newstart Allowance, Pension or Parental paid leave). This payment will go as a credit onto your child’s payment screen and can be used for any activities throughout the years of your child whilst attending Ormeau State School. This is a no hassle and convenient way for payments to be received from Centrelink on your behalf.

Parents can also nominate a target amount so that once the target is reached Centrelink will cease payments automatically or you can choose for payments to come consistently to cover all costs throughout the year.

If you need to know anything further please don’t hesitate to contact the administration team.

Family Contributions
Many thanks if you have already paid your 2014 Family Contribution. Your name automatically goes in the draw for the mini iPad. If you have not paid your Family Contribution for 2014 please do so as soon as possible to be eligible for the next draw.

We really appreciate your Family Contribution as this is a much needed part of our funding to allow all students to visit the Life Education Van each year. This contribution is also used to purchase new IT equipment to ensure we are current and up to date within the school environment.

Kind regards
Administration Team

COMMUNITY NEWS

Animal Welfare League Qld
Animal antics school holiday’s activities program. Book early for the next school holidays!

Surf Life Saving Queensland
Little lifesavers holiday program at Tallebudgera Creek Gold Coast
For more information see attached flyer.

Ormeau Cricket Club
Sign up now! Don’t miss out!
2014-2015 Season starts October
Junior and Senior fixtures in 2cricket
Age appropriate skill development and match formats in an inclusive family environment.
For more information and sign on details visit our website ormeaucricket.com.au

Surfers Paradise Kids week
Presented by Zagame’s Paradise Resort Gold Coast
Surfers Paradise has this September school holidays sorted, with Kids Week! A FREE family friendly event in Surfers Paradise celebrating all things kids!

Now running as a week-long event, Kids Week will be loaded with fun activities for all ages with plenty to see and do, including balloon twisting, cupcake decorating, character appearances and loads more! It’s truly a top-to-bottom takeover of the coastal precinct just for the kids! You’ll find all the music and entertainment on stage down by the beach, and all the hands-on stuff taking place along the Foreshore.
Throughout the weekend, the main stage will be the place to be with live performances by Peppa Pig, special Paradise Resort and Currumbin Wildlife shows, and even a chance to meet...
Barbie and Peppa Pig! Mark it in your diary now, this will be a weekend the kids won’t want to miss.

Don’t let the fun stop there, we have more School Holiday fun planned throughout the weekdays of the event with special themed activity days including a Lego day, craft day, animal day, music day, and superheroes & fairy tales day!

So pack up the kids, get into Surfers Paradise, and take part in the children’s event of the year, Kids Week in Surfers Paradise.

See attached flyer.