



Subscribe to Online Newsletter! <http://ormeauss.schoolzineneletters.com/subscribe>

6 March 2014

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

P and C ASSOCIATION 2014

A new P&C Executive has been elected into office for 2014.

Positions are:

President - David Sing

Vice President - Claire Broughton

Secretary - Sharon Baird

Treasurer - Yvette Lesina

Events Coordinators - Laurie Fry, Helen Clancy

Keeping kids safe in a cyber world

Social media sites have taken cyber bullying and harassment to a new level. Here's how to keep your kids safe when online.

Cyber bullying is one of the biggest, safety issues facing young people today. Bullying and harassment online is now commonplace. For instance, over a third of teenage girls have been sexually harassed via the Internet.

The emergence of social media sites has seen cyber bullying go to a new level. Messages and images can now spread like wild fire reaching a huge potential audience in the time it takes to upload an image or shoot off a text message.

Once, the family home offered young people an escape from schoolyard bullies. Now the cyber world is so invasive that their bedrooms offer no guarantees of safety any more.

The cyber world is enticing. Young people always wanted to escape from their parent's world. In the past they hung out in shopping centres and pool halls. Parents tried their best to keep an eye on where their children were and what they were doing.

The online world is now the shopping mall of the 21st Century. Parents have the same responsibility to help kids stay in the online world as they do in the real world. 'Stranger danger' and accompanying safe behaviours are just as relevant in the online world as they are in the real world.

Parents should use the same offline preventative strategies to maximise their children's online safety as they've always used. These strategies include: teaching children about the right way to behave online; don't let them spend all night in the cyber world; and ask questions about what they are doing and where they go when they're online.

Parents need to remind kids that things in the online world can spin out of control very quickly. A written message or an image can be circulated electronically so rapidly that the scope and scale of cyber bullying can be greater than any other form of bullying.

The following seven key messages form the basis of an online safety strategy for kids. They should be taught to kids so they become second nature, just as the messages about stranger danger were absorbed by an earlier generation.

1. **Respect others.** Make kids aware that what they send can offend. Discuss with kids the types of messages and images that can cause harm to others when sent. Teenagers often walk a fine line with what they do and say to each other offline, yet it's relatively harmless. The same type of behaviour online however can be a different story.
2. **Think before you send.** Remind kids cyberspace is a very public and permanent forum. A text message or image sent to just one person can be passed to a potentially unlimited number. Once they are sent they're almost impossible to erase and take back.
3. **Treat online passwords like your house key.** Teach kids to keep passwords guarded at all times. Young people can be incredibly trusting of each other, which is to be encouraged. However there are some things, such as online passwords that they don't share, not with their best friend.
4. **Block Bullies.** Teach kids to block bullying messages. They can filter out messages and addresses online. Similarly, they can block text messages from bullies as well.
5. **Don't reply to harassment.** Bullies can retain proof of your response, which can further be spread around. Besides responding to bullying behaviour often simply encourages the bully to continue.
6. **Save the evidence.** If kids are bullied they should keep the picture and offending messages. These can be used as proof if the bullies are brought to justice.
7. **Tell someone.** The insidious part of bullying is that kids on the receiving end often don't seek help, as they think there's something wrong with them. Talk with kids about going to a trusted adult, when they feel their rights or safety have been violated. They should with your help report online bullying to the appropriate service provider.

Sticking the proverbial head in the sand regarding kids' use of communications technology is no longer an option for parents. Savvy parents need to learn as much as they can about children's and young people's online lives so they can respond to situations appropriately.

Kind regards

Heather Andrew

FROM THE DEPUTIES' DESK

Our Out-of-School Expectations

It is that time of the year when we have a range of reports from the community and students about the behaviour of students outside of school. There are unfortunately a small number of students who think it is okay to do what they like on the bus. A number of these students have received planning rooms and some have been removed from the bus for a short period of time. Our main reports come from Veolia 8 and 3095 and I have spoken to a number of the ring leaders and other students about ongoing behaviour.

At Ormeau State School we have high expectations of behaviour and that extends to travel to and from the school. We support the bus companies 100% if they feel a student cannot travel on the bus for a short period of time. The behaviour that they are being removed from the bus for is unsafe and will cause injury to themselves and other students. The behaviour also extends to a complete lack of respect for adults and other students and will not be tolerated. We are often in communication with the bus companies and discuss behaviours regularly. Bus captains will start soon and will help in the reporting of students and reminding students of behaviour of Ormeau students in public.

Another issue that is of concern is the STOP DROP and GO area. Let's review that process:

STOP – Stop in the drop off or pick up zone but do not get out of car.

DROP – students get out of the car onto the footpath and go in the gate to school. The reverse is the case in the afternoon when they quickly get into their car.

GO – leave as quickly and as safely as possible.

Please do not park in this zone and please do not get out of your car as it slows down the whole process and is leading to a number of heated exchanges between parents. It is not a great example to students and it makes a normal situation into what is often described as a stressful situation.

Another reminder also that the staff car park is not a drop off zone for students and is only used by staff and for deliveries of equipment and stock to the school. On occasion we have a special consideration for a student who has an injury significant enough to make it difficult for them to walk from the car park.

Regards and happy reading

Your Deputies Jane Tuckett and Stephen Rowe.

1B, 1C, 1G AND 1P

Dear Parents and Guardians,

What a wonderful start to the year for the Year One students. They have all settled into their new classrooms with ease and have been working very hard. This term the Year One students are learning about the past in history and living things in Science. They are also learning about characters and their emotions in English and have been practising doing talks in front of the class.

Most children have gotten off to a good start with homework and are handing in their homework completed each Friday. Please keep encouraging your child to complete these activities each week. We are focusing on reading strategies and comprehension a lot this year and would appreciate your assistance in encouraging the students to read as often as possible.

Mental munchies are continuing this year. During class time, the students are given some time to eat a healthy snack. This may include some chopped up vegetables or fruit. Please keep in mind that this does not include fruit bars or tubs, only fresh fruit or vegetables please!

Thank you to all the parents who came along to 'Meet the Teacher' night. If you were unable to attend, we look forward to speaking with you over the term!

Regards,

Michele Pikunic, Natalie Casala, Bernie Chisholm, Fiona Galletly

3C, 3FM, 3J, 3L AND 3M

Hello Families!

The Year 3 cohort has been extremely busy over the past 4 weeks settling in as 'Year 3's'. The children have started preparing for the NAPLAN tests which will take place in May this year. We're sure you have all heard about the Persuasive Writing task, as this has been the genre that we have been focussing on.

We have been lucky enough to be receiving extra in class support towards NAPLAN preparation. During this term Barbara Martin, the school's Learning Support Teacher has been coming into our classrooms to help the children with writing. Jenny Taylor our Numeracy Coach, has been developing the children's numeracy and problem solving skills in Mathematics during one forty-five minute session each week also.

Year 3 is the year of independence and responsibility. We appreciate that all of you have done a great job of settling your child into school this year but we feel it's time for the children to start developing more independence, responsibility and initiative. We are therefore encouraging families and friends to drop off and go. This allows the children to socialise and play with peers before school starts. We would also like to see more children independently gather their drink bottle, mental munchies and anything else they may need for the day before lining up. Let's work together to get the children more independent.

A friendly reminder that school begins at 8.50am each day. Please ensure your child is here and lined up no later than this time. If your child arrives at 9am each day they are missing almost an hour of learning a week which will surely add up over the year. If your child arrives at school before 8.30am, please send them to the undercover area where they will be supervised by staff.

Other reminders:

-banking each Monday

-homework MUST be returned each Friday, fully completed

-please read with your child daily and encourage them to use the reading strategies taught in class. Check they understand what they're reading and praise their efforts. Reading should be fun rather than a chore! See us if you need any ideas.

-library books need to come back each week (days vary depending on which day your child's class borrows)

-your child needs a water bottle and a school hat daily

-daily mental munchies of fresh fruit or vegetables are encouraged

We thank you for your ongoing support.

Regards,

Laura McGhee, Jamie Miller, Natasha Mudri, Olivia Furner, Louise McMillan and Casey Cameron

5C, 5F, 5L, 5Q AND 5S

Dear Parents, Grandparents and Carers,

Welcome back to Year 5. We trust that you have settled into the 'back-to-school' routines and are enjoying a busy school term.

We are delighted to announce the addition of our new teacher Mr Trent Long and wish him well with his new class 5L. As you know, the smaller classes will be of great benefit to your child's learning and progress throughout the year.

Our preparation for the Naplan testing is well underway and we are lucky to have a lot of help from our learning support teachers.

Gala Day training is underway and we wish all Year 5 students well in their teams. All students will be informed of more details in the coming weeks. Children must remember they are representing Ormeau State School and we trust that all students are prepared in their training and behaviour.

A final reminder that it is essential your child has their school hat as we have a strict 'no hat no play' policy.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the Parent/Teacher interviews in the coming weeks.

From all in Year 5

Mr Brendan Creighton, Ms Rhiannon Saunders, Ms Deanna Forrester, Mr Trent Long and Ms Fiona Quinn

7C AND 7W

We are happy to report that camp was a huge success. Once again, Ormeau held true to its reputation with the children behaving well and responding in true Ormeau style to the opportunities that they were provided with. It was wonderful to see the children challenge themselves throughout the camp – for some children these personal challenges were giant feats of courage and determination and for others it was all about helping each other to do our best.



Our school captains and house captains have now been finalised and we would like to express how wonderfully proud we are of ALL the children who ran for the school captain and house captain positions. You are ALL winners – winners for having a go, winners for the great sportsmanship that was demonstrated and winners for supporting each other throughout the process. This is what makes Ormeau such a great school!

We still have a number of leadership positions to be filled over the next few weeks and we would like to thank the parents and care givers for supporting your children. It's a long process that really requires the children to 'step-up' to the plate and we understand that at times this can take its toll. So, from us, thank-you for encouraging and supporting your children.

The Senior Shirts are now underway. It is anticipated that the children will have their shirts by early Term 2. There is a \$5 deposit per shirt and orders MUST be finalised by Monday 10th March. No late orders will be accepted, so please keep the cut-off date in mind.

Please remember that we have an open door policy in our class rooms and love to see you. If however, you require a lengthy talk we kindly ask you to ring/organise an appointment so that we are able to give you our full attention.

Until next time,

Rebecca Coplick and the Old Fella

BANKING NEWS

Some of you will notice that you received a little note in your bank book this week informing you of your **Token** tally. Due to the changes in our School banking system the Computer is now keeping a count of your tokens. If you do not agree with the total number of tokens written on your note, please send in all your tokens with a note to us and we will communicate with the Commonwealth bank and have it amended. (Remembering that you could only roll over a maximum of **9** tokens from 2013)

Thank you for your understanding while these changes are taking place.

Regards,

Banking Ladies

GERMAN NEWS

This week the celebrations for Karneval in Germany are in full swing – am Rosenmontag the streets were full of costumed paraders riding floats and across the weekend there were many costumed balls held – also locally at the Gold Coast German Club. Hence why Frau Hay has been dressed a little unusually (more so than usual!!)



At the Gold Coast



As Princess



Unjumble

The students have been discussing various traditions of celebrations and enjoyed participating in some recent birthday celebrations – it involves a chair, trustworthy friends and a song ‘Hoch soll sie/er leben’ – similar to our ‘Long shall she/he live’ but our version means ‘high!’



‘Hoch soll ihr leben!’ - Hang on!

Ormeau Alaaf!

Frau Hay

From the iCentre

Scholastic Book Fair

Our first Book Fair for the year will be in Week 7 this term.....March 10 – 17. We like to hold our Book Fairs in Terms 1 and 4 as a great opportunity for you to put books away for your children for Birthdays, Easter and Christmas. Thank you to all the parents who have volunteered to help – we have had an awesome response. The books will be on sale each day

from 8:30am Tuesday, March 11 til 9:00am Monday March 17. We look forward to seeing you at the Fair.

Happy Reading

Linda Langes and Maree Bawden

PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS

District Representatives

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected in Beenleigh District representative teams:

Swimming - Holly M, Emma M, Ben N and Heath R

Rugby League - Joshua M, Brody A, Flynn W, JT M, Brock S and Dorian B

Tennis - Luke V, Taylah H

Cross Country

Our school cross country will be held on Wednesday 2 April. More information will follow. Students may like to start doing a bit of running to get ready for this event

P AND C NEWS

Disco

Do you like to party? Get ready for the Big Top Disco Friday 7 March. Dress up if you wish - circus theme. Don't forget this is an event for Ormeau State School students only.

Tuckshop

No bread in the house? Place an order any day of the week at the Tuckshop. Fresh made sandwiches, rolls, wraps and hot food available every day. Order online at www.flexischools.com.au

Uniform Shop

Lost a hat? You can order every day of the week, or purchase via the Tuckshop. Online orders will be delivered to your child's class at morning tea.

Volunteering

Would you like to help out? We are always wanting helpers in many places throughout the school. The classrooms, the tuckshop, the uniform shop, behind the scene at one of our P&C events, or even come along to our P&C meetings to have a say.

Special news

We are having a theme week coming up in week 8 (March 17th to 21st March) so keep an eye out for the flyer to come home next week.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION

Win a iPad

Pay your family Voluntary Contribution by the end of Term One and you will be in the running to win an IPAD. Anyone can win – this yearly fee of \$70 per family for our family contribution is payable over the full year but by paying it before April gives you

a chance to win. Our payment window is open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings or pay via the internet for your convenience.

COMMUNITY NEWS

JUNIOR NRL

Your local Junior Rugby League Club the Ormeau Shearers are looking for boys and girls aged 5 – 17 to come and play this year. Junior Rugby League is a FUN and SAFE way to play the game with modified rules to make the game more enjoyable and the Safeplay Code to ensure everyone's safety on the field. The Ormeau Shearers are particularly looking for players in the U/12 age group. If you are interested please contact the Club President John Coulter – 0413 309 905

COOMERA HOCKEY CLUB

COOMERA HOCKEY CLUB invites any interested players to come down to a training session to see if they are interested in playing the season. Training for Under 10 and Under 12 teams is at the Gold Coast Hockey Centre, Labrador from 5.30 - 6.15 on Thursdays. Contact the club at info@coomerahockey.com if interested or for more information.