



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

3 April 2014

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Parent/Teacher Interviews have taken place at the end of Term One this year in Weeks 9 and 10. This decision has been made to allow parents and teachers to have early contact 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.

Please 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.

Interviews will again be offered at the end of Term 3, allowing time for end of year catch up, if required.

Report cards will, as usual, be available at the end of semesters one and two.

After School and the Playground

We have reported previously that playground equipment is out-of-bounds after 3.00pm. There are **no** staff members supervising these areas and students have been repeatedly told of the safety issues concerned. Despite signage to indicate our stance of **NO PLAY AFTER SCHOOL** we find an ongoing problem exists and accidents being reported and some bullying issues as well. So... **we are commencing planning rooms for students who will not work with us.** Again, we ask parents to assist the school by not using the area after school. There is plenty of time during the school day to explore the playground under supervision.

Kind regards
Heather Andrew

FROM THE DEPUTIES' DESK

Bus concerns

We have had continuing issues with the buses and changes to drivers which has affected our procedures at Ormeau State School. We are trying to rectify these problems; however, if you have a concern with the particular service it is important that you make contact with the bus company so that they are aware of the problem. This is important as some of the issues happen out in the community and we are unaware of these particular issues.

Responsible Behaviour Plan

Our behaviour management philosophy at Ormeau State School reflects that 'We always do our best'. Our ethos is

based on the values of Opportunity, Responsibility, Manners, Excellence, Acceptance and Unity.

We believe that everybody in our School has the right to:

- be safe and to feel safe
- be treated with respect and fairness
- communicate their feelings and to be listened to
- move safely and calmly around the School
- learn and share in games and activities
- have their say in a problem-solving situation

This document is regularly reviewed and it is important that you read and are familiar with elements of this plan. It can be found on our website at:

<https://ormeauss.eq.edu.au/Supportandresources/Formsanddocuments/Documents/responsible-behaviour-plan-2012.pdf>

Another reminder about the STOP DROP and GO area:

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

We have almost arrived at the end of Term 1 and what a busy term this has been. Parent/teacher interviews have already commenced and we look forward to meeting with you to share and celebrate your child's achievements.

On Thursday 27th March, Year 1 attended an interactive insect workshop at the i-Centre. Students listened to a presentation about insects and learnt about many different types of insects and mini-beasts including the Giant Burrowing Coachroach, Goliath Stick Insect and Spiny Leaf Insect, different types of butterflies, moths, and beetles including the rhino beetle. This workshop was enjoyed by all and enabled the students to ask questions they had about different insects with an entomologist. Students also received some insect eggs to be able to hatch their own insects. We look forward to hearing all about this in the hopefully not too distant future.



Finally, the Year 1 teachers would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the wonderful parents and helpers who volunteer their time in our classrooms. Your support is appreciated.

Kind regards

Bernie Chisholm, Natalie Casala, Fiona Galletly and Michelle Pikunic

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

Curriculum - We are well into learning about Narratives and revising Persuasive texts in preparation for the NAPLAN testing early next Term. History has been a discovery of Celebrations and Commemorations and Geography is looking at Australia and its neighbouring countries. In class Science we are growing seeds and they are finally sprouting!!!! Green fingers everywhere. In Health we are learning about healthy lifestyles and how to best look after ourselves. You will start hearing students talk about Cereal box designs as they start to create their own in Technology, into next term.

Interviews are being conducted over the last two weeks of school. Please contact your child's teacher for a schedule of their times. We encourage you to make a time to speak with your child's teacher about any immediate concerns and talk about how your child is travelling so far.

With one term nearly under our belts, we are expecting Year 3 to organise themselves, behave appropriately and make good

choices in class and in the school grounds. Many students are learning to take on leadership roles and develop self-initiative.

Housekeeping - Please remember a full water bottle and hat for school as these days are becoming hot and increasingly humid. Mental munchies are fantastic brain food to keep our energy up and fuel our bodies with the healthy options. School uniforms are looking great adhering to our school dress code. Behaviour has been a major focus in classrooms. A few students are still needing headphones, glue, scissors and colours etc for school work. Please ask your child what they need in order to help them complete tasks in class successfully.

We hope you have a lovely Easter break and come back all refreshed for Term 2.

Year 3 Teachers

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

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

Dear Parents, Grandparents and Carers,

We are enjoying meeting you in the Parent/ Teacher interviews and appreciate the ongoing support to motivate and inspire your child to always **do their best**.

With the rainy weather last week, the Friday 28th March Gala Day was cancelled. The next Gala Day is Friday 2nd May, Week 2 of Term 2. The students are training well and upholding the Ormeau State School high expectations. We trust their enthusiasm and discipline towards their sporting activity will continue into Term 2.

Cross Country was held on Wednesday 2nd April. The Year 5 students had a great day running and walking the Cross Country course.

Our Naplan testing preparation is well underway with students considering strategies and especially needing to slow down and focus on "what exactly is the question asking?"

Reminding the children the importance of continuing their reading over the 2 weeks Easter holidays will help them stay on track with their reading goals. I have heard there is a great new library in the local area.

We look forward to seeing you and your children refreshed and ready to learn in Term 2.

From all in Year 5

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

7C AND 7W

How true is the saying, "If you blink, you will miss it!"

I feel as though I have just packed up the caravan after the Christmas break and now I am preparing the van for the Easter break. What happened to Term 1?

Despite the "blur", so much has been achieved in Term 1. It was delightful how the students settled into our classroom routines and expectations with relative ease. Their manners and

respectfulness are refreshing. We thank you for your diligence in preparing your children for this momentous and important year. You must be incredibly proud of the manner in which they conduct themselves.

Our class sizes this year are quite large, but we sincerely thank Miss Andrew in offering so much extra classroom support through the dedicated and professional assistance of Mrs Post, Mrs Rowley and Mr Giles. Having such a high-powered team of professionals allows us to cater for the individual learning needs of our students.

You are no doubt aware of our major focus on developing student's reading skills and their understanding of reading. To this end reading rotations have been developed where the focus is on the explicit teaching of reading. Already, reading groups are operational in 7C on a daily basis and the parental assistance is critical for its success. The Old Fella will have his reading groups operational in Term 2. I think he is waiting for clearance from the Nursing home! Please be patient and understanding in his declining years!

Congratulations to all our School and House Captains and Student Councillors. Our school is in very capable hands. Our leaders fit the Ormeau "mould" splendidly. Congratulations also to our Bus Captains and Peer Mediators who are waiting patiently to be presented with their badges of office. They have had to be extremely patient as the process of student leader selection is very thorough and fair. It is such a pleasure to witness the pride they all demonstrate in wearing their badges of office.

A little bit of housekeeping before we finish up. We are hoping for the Senior Shirts to be available at the start of Term 2. It has been a mammoth job this year as we have two sets of Seniors with distinct design variations to distinguish between the two groups. The major similarity is going to be their "WOW" factor. Thanks for your patience once again. A huge extension of gratitude to Mrs Coplick and Mr T who worked incredibly long hours behind the scenes to make the Seniors shirts a reality.

It is time that we release you from our rambling so you may enjoy the holidays with your children. We look forward to a fresh start to Term 2 with renewed vigour. We also look forward to continuing our positive partnerships.

Now some final words of "wisdom" from the Old Fella, "Very little is needed to make a happy life, it is all within us, in our way of thinking."

Kindest regards and happy holidays

Rebecca Coplick and The Old Fella

BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT NEWS

Dear Parents & Carers,

Our school constantly strives to create a caring, respectful, inclusive and supportive school culture. In week 8 the students were immersed in activities to take a stand against bullying and creating a sense of belonging. The upper school children were fortunate enough to listen to the presenter John Coutis. John shared the remarkable story of his life, where against all odds he literally fought for his survival. He is truly an inspiration to

us all. John discussed bullying with the children, reminded us all about the golden rule: 'Do unto others as we wish them to do unto us', and encouraged us to aim for the sky. Regardless of what cards we are being dealt and how we are treated, he highlighted how important it is to always remain true to our values, our morals, our belief system and ourselves. It consolidated the message that we constantly remind students here at Ormeau State School: to focus on your own behaviour and actions and as hard as it is sometimes, to try to not let others' behaviour and attitudes affect us. It was a wonderful highlight to the end of our first term.



First term is always a difficult term for some as it's a new start for many children and their families in one way or another. Whether it is a move to a new country, home, school or even a new class for the year, it all takes adjustment. However, it is also an opportunity to build new relationships, strengthen existing ones and continue to learn about friendships and what they entail. Children don't automatically know how to 'behave' in a friendship, they have to learn, observe, experience and practise the skills to become a good friend. They look to us as adults for guidance, they study us...our behaviour when we are with others, how we treat others and they learn from these observations. It is therefore extremely important that we be the best role models we can, help them understand that building friendships takes time and patience, and being good friends themselves. I have included some information below that might assist in guiding your children and answering some of their questions when it comes to managing friendships.

Importance of children's friendships

At any age, having friends provides support and promotes mental health and wellbeing. Children's friendships are also very important for their social and emotional development. Through friendships children learn how to relate with others. They develop social skills as they teach each other how to be good friends.

Most children want to have friends. Children who have friends are more likely to be self-confident and perform better academically at school than those without friends. When children have difficulty in making friends or in keeping them, it often leads to feeling lonely and unhappy with themselves. Feeling rejected by others may lead to significant distress. Learning positive friendship skills can help children socially so they feel happier and more confident.

Key points for supporting your children's friendship skills

Parents, carers and school staff have important roles to play in helping children develop friendships. They set examples for children to follow through the ways they manage relationships. They can also act as coaches for children, teaching them helpful social skills and talking through friendship issues to help

with solving problems. As they learn how to manage social situations, having opportunities to talk about friendships with parents, carers and school staff helps children feel supported and develops their communication skills.

Provide children with opportunities to play with peers

Children gain experience and learn important social skills from playing with friends. For children who are still learning how to get along, it can be helpful to plan what to do before having a friend over for a play date. This could involve deciding whether to share all of their toys or only some, or encouraging them to think about what games the other child would like to play when they arrive.

Teach positive social skills

Observe your child to work out the negative social behaviours your child uses too often and the positive social behaviours they could use more. Little things like smiles, looking at the person, knowing names and using a confident, friendly voice can make a big difference when making friends. Being able to better control negative emotions and paying attention to the needs and wants of others are also very important. Teach one behaviour or social skill at a time and make sure the child is able to do it before introducing another skill. Show your child what to do. You may act out the situation and even demonstrate what to say. Take turns 'acting' until your child can demonstrate what to do. Don't be too serious. Make it a fun experience.

Be a coach

Coaching is critical for helping children use new skills in real-life situations. Coaching involves prompting, reminding and encouraging (but not nagging!) children to use the skills they have learned. Coach your child to practice positive social skills in everyday situations with family members and friends. Support children's learning by giving positive feedback and praise.

Help children solve friendship conflicts

Talking problems through with a supportive adult helps children to think about what happens, how they feel about it and what to do next. Thinking things through like this helps to build more mature social skills.

For more information go to the following website and feel free to approach your teacher and myself in regards to supporting your child with friendship issues.

<https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/>

School holidays are upon us, I can feel it and I am sure you can too! Yes I know it can be a challenging time for parents - keeping kids busy during holiday periods is every parent's aim. Discover the best school holiday activities and events in your local area, including art and craft sessions, sport clinics, holiday camps and workshops, and special holiday events for kids and families. I have listed a number of wonderful websites both on the Gold Coast and in Brisbane with heaps of ideas. Have a save and wonderful break and I look forward to welcoming you all back in Term 2.

Happy holidays,

Carol Moores
Behaviour Support Teacher

Holiday information below:

Active & Healthy Holiday Program will be out 3 April 2014!

If you are looking for fun and adventure at the Easter school holidays then we have loads of action to get you off the lounge.

Feature activities include:

- Bubble soccer
- Slacklining
- Flying yoga
- Random days of fun
- Zuu chimps
- Inflatable fun and much more.

<http://www.gcparks.com.au/activities.aspx?page=307>

Brisbane City Council – School Holiday activities for kids and teens.

If you're looking for activities for the kids during the April school holidays we offer a range of events, including arts, crafts and fitness activities. Check out what's on at your local library, events in a park near you or other great things happening all over Brisbane.

Find other ideas for school holiday fun in our [April 2014 school holidays in Brisbane](#) feature.

You can also [sign up for the what's on enews](#) and stay up to date with events in Brisbane.

Bookings

Some events require advance bookings. Please click on the title of the event you are interested in and check if a booking is required.

<http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/whats-on/featured/school-holiday-activities-for-kids/index.htm>

FREE THINGS TO DO IN BRISBANE WITH KIDS

Welcome to Brisbane Kids- the Official Guide to Brisbane with Kids. We realise that for most families, going to a Brisbane Zoo everyday or a theme park is not an option and so this page is all about sourcing free activities to do with kids. We are all about helping you to make memories and we want to ensure there are lots of FREE things for you to do in Brisbane on this website so you can begin building memories today. Our website has lots of information about free activities with kids in Brisbane and this is like a guide to show you where and save you time.

SOUTH BRISBANE PLAYGROUNDS

The best parks & playgrounds South Brisbane

We have used the river as the divider- South Brisbane also covers Ipswich and North Brisbane goes as far as Bribie Island. We also partner with **BrisParks** who provide a list of all the smaller parks and playgrounds in Brisbane including reviews. If you want to find a Brisbane Park near you then check out our **Maps of Brisbane Playgrounds** AND if you have multiples,

special needs or just a Brisbane Kid who likes to run then check out our **Fenced Brisbane Playgrounds** List

<http://www.brispark.com.au/#All>

THE HUB OF SOUTHBANK

Within Southbank and along that side of the Brisbane River you will find a host of free things to do with families.

<http://www.brisbanekids.com.au/free-things-to-do-in-brisbane-with-kids/>

Free **School Holiday** Guide - Fun Things To Do With Your Kids

<http://www.kidspot.com.au/SchoolHolidayZone/>

GERMAN NEWS

Frohe Ostern! Schöne Schulferien! The students of German will have no trouble in understanding these heart-felt wishes for a Happy Easter and safe and enjoyable school holidays.

The students have worked very well this term celebrating numerous festivities favoured by the Germans. Next term we will be preparing for a terrific sporting festival – the Fussballweltmeisterschaft – and that will be the puzzling word for the students to discover during the holidays!

The students also have access to the Linguascope website during the holidays and are welcome to explore to revise and discover a range of vocabulary.

Alles Gute bis nächsten Term

Frau Hay

MUSIC NEWS

It is amazing how quickly Term 1 has come and gone.

This Term has certainly been an eventful one.

We began 2014 with a new teacher in our instrumental department Mrs Van Vuuren. Ormeau's Strings, Band and Choral programs kicked off with success with a selection of new and eager beginner students.

Over the past fortnight, the Junior Choir performed 'Possum' on Junior Parade and the Senior Choir will entertain the school with 'Footloose' on this week's full school parade. I have had great response towards Junior and Senior choir this Term with a committed turn out from all students thus far. Students are expected to attend a weekly lunchtime rehearsals if they wish to perform on school parades and outside events.

Four of our elite musical students were selected to attend the South East Region Choral Camp at Mt Tamborine. On the camp, students were given the opportunity to meet, sing and work with a wide variety of students from schools across the region. A number of professional guests were invited to attend the camp specifically to work with all students and provide expert vocal tuition. I was lucky enough to watch the concluding concert on Wednesday night at Windaroo Valley SHS and was blown away by the performance. Congratulations to Gemma J, Isabella C, Nicole R (from year seven) and Kirah J-M (year six). Your performance was absolutely spectacular.

Throughout the year, there are many more opportunities for our instrumental and choral students to perform including the

Beenleigh Eisteddfod, Fanfare, Ormeau Fair and various in-school performances.

Next term, our Ormeau Band Captains and Strings Captains will be announced for the year.

Wishing you a safe and happy Easter break

Naomi Kircher
Classroom Music Teacher

P AND C NEWS

What a great start to the Year. Term 1 went by so fast.

Events

The P&C started with a very successful Circus Disco and planning is underway for the next event. If you'd like to get involved email pandc@ormeauss.eq.edu.au

Entertainment Books

You would have received a flyer over the last week regarding the sale of Entertainment Books. These books are a great way to save money when out on the town or even just with your weekly supermarket shopping! By purchasing your book through the Ormeau State School P&C you will be contributing to our fundraising goals for the school. Entertainment Books will be coming home with your child early Term 2 so have a flick through and either send payment in for the book, pay online, or return the book to the Office if it is not for you. Thank you for your support.

Voluntary Contribution

Thank you to all early birds who paid their contributions Term 1. Good luck in the iPad draw. The winner will be announced on the first full school parade in Term 2.

Tuckshop

The Tuckshop "Space Week" and other themed days have been a great hit with students and we look forward to future theme days.

Term 2 Tuckshop Menu will be sent home first day of school Term 2. If you would like to be one of the first to see what's new it will also be available to view online from Monday 7th April. Go to www.flexischools.com.au

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop will continue to be open Monday 8am-10am and Wednesday 8am-10am. Should the Uniform Shop be unattended on these days please visit the Tuckshop.

Please note: To ensure a smooth service for your orders placed online, or via order forms or front office – the student will be called by staff and asked to personally collect to ensure your child receives his/her order.

General

The next P&C meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 22nd April at 6:30pm (due to school holidays).

Have a happy and safe Easter Holiday break.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Siba Soccer

Siba soccer is coming to Ormeau State School in Term 2 for another after school program.

Starts: Tuesday 29th April 2014
Duration: 8 Week program (Every Tuesday)
Time: 3.15pm – 4.15pm
Ages: 5 – 12 years old
Cost: \$99.00
Venue: Main School Field, Ormeau State School

Ormeau Woods State High School

2015 Enrolment information evening Wednesday May 7th
5:30-7pm