Principal’s Note

It is great to be back with all of our students rested and ready for a very busy Term’s work. It is hard to believe that we will be starting Week Three this Monday 8th February. A big welcome to all of our new students: Noah, Lexie, Stephanie, Asialee, Kyanna and Dominique.

The students have enjoyed getting to know each other. They have also found with the increasing numbers that there are many more games to be played at lunch breaks. It is lovely to hear the laughter during the breaks as the older students look after the Preps.

This year there will be two awards each week.

1. Student of the Week
2. Homework Award

Criteria for Student of the Week
This child followed instructions and tried to the best of his/her ability in all areas of the school week.

Criteria for Homework Award
The child has read Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday night. Parent/Guardian verified this by signing the Homework Book. Spelling homework is completed and returned for marking.

What are the benefits of Show and Tell
1. Children are given the opportunity to speak in front of others.
2. Each child gets to be the centre of attention.
3. Children share things from home with their teacher and friends.
4. Children choose items that are meaningful for them to talk about.
5. Children learn to respect each other’s turn to talk.
6. Children practise the skill of listening to and answering simple questions.
7. Children practise the skill of asking simple questions.

Roster for Show and Tell

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<th>Week 2</th>
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<tr>
<td>Student of the Week</td>
<td>Kyanna</td>
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<td>Homework Award</td>
<td>Asialee</td>
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Library: Monday

Reading Volunteers Wanted
On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday reading time is at 1:30. Friday (due to swimming) at 10:30. If you have thirty minutes, please join us. Parents and grandparents do not require a Blue Card but other members of the public do. If you want to join us and need a Blue Card please see Rhonda and she will help you arrange one.

Jenny Hughes
Results of Small Schools’ Swimming Carnival in Barcaldine at the end of last year

1st Windorah State School
2nd Stonehenge State School

I was very proud of all of our students. They tried their best. Congratulations to Koby, Kitty and Lily, also to our Preps who actively participated in the swimming lessons conducted by Mrs Bambling (Muttuburra SS) and Mrs Volker (Jundah SS) while the older children were competing. The students behaved beautifully during the three days we were away. Thank you Miss Charlotte for accompanying us.

Swimming Monday 15th February
I applied for and received two Sporting Schools Grants at the end of last year.
$1 800 for Swimming - Term 1
$1 800 for Tennis - Term 2.
Carolyn Taylor (Swimming Coach, Quilpie Pool) will be conducting lessons for our students at the Jundah Pool on Monday 15th February. Unfortunately, Carolyn is only able to come to us on a Monday so we will not be having two consecutive days of her instruction. I will attempt to have a second day later in the Term. A letter will go home this week with the details of the day.

Swimming Friday Afternoon
We will continue with Friday afternoon swimming this year. Miss Jenny has her Bronze Medallion. This is great news for the schools as we no longer have to ask the Council to pay to have a Bronze medallion holder to be present. Thank you to Bob O’Brien for arranging this for us while we waited for Miss Jenny to receive her certification.

If any parents wish to drive over and join us in the pool on a Friday afternoon you will be most welcome. Constable Leisea Richardson, our Adopt-A-Cop, has kindly offered to drive the bus for us most Fridays. If she is not present I will drive the bus, though I was reliably informed that if I drive the bus it takes for ever to get there! Thanks for that, Lily and Kitty.

Week 6 Individual Meets with the teachers
These meeting will occur after school either on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday afternoons. You are welcome at any time to come and discuss your child’s progress but I thought that I would formalise the times this year. This means that we can identify successes and potential problems early and ensure that each student is working to full potential.

Dance
Dance is a component of The Visual Arts Curriculum. Miss Jenny is working with the students on Wednesday afternoon (even weeks). At present they are exploring Hip Hop routines.
Miss Mawn (Isisford SS) has arranged that a Dance Company, Footsteps, come to Ilfracombe Hall on the 21st and 22nd March to work with the students in the Small Schools Cluster. I have indicated that Windorah SS would like to participate and we will contribute towards the costs. I have attached their flyer to this Newsletter. A letter will go home later in the term with more details.

Thank you to the Windorah Information Centre for selling the School’s Eggs. We received a cheque for $196 at the end of the last year. This money goes into the student Project Club and will be used to partly fund the school camp later in the year. The eggs are now on sale at the Centre again.

Thank you to Ross and Wendy for looking after the school hens over the Christmas break.

Attendance
Why is regular attendance at school important?

Regular school attendance will mean that your child has a better chance in life. Your child will achieve better when they go to school all day, every school day.
• they learn better
• they make friends
• they are happier
• they have a brighter future.

Why must I send my child to school?

Under Queensland law, you must make sure your child of school age is enrolled and attends school all day, every school day unless they have an acceptable reason. Illness, doing work experience or competing in a school sporting event are acceptable reasons for being absent from school.
Avoid keeping your child away from school for:
• birthdays, shopping, visiting family and friends, if they sleep in, looking after other children, minor check ups or care such as haircuts.
Routine medical or other health appointments should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays.

Are you having problems getting your child to school for some of these reasons?

• won’t get out of bed in the morning
• won’t go to bed at night
• can’t find their uniform, books, school bag ...
• slow to eat breakfast
• haven’t done their homework
• watching TV
• have a test or presentation to do, have an assignment to hand in
• it’s their birthday.

If so, a set routine can help

• have a set time to go to bed
• have a set time to get out of bed
• have uniform and school bag ready the night before
• have a set time for starting and finishing breakfast
• set a time for daily homework activities
• speak about school positively
• be firm, send your child to school every school day including their birthday and the last day of term!

The Census 2016 team is now hiring. Apply now to become a 2016 Census Area Supervisor. August 9 is Census night and the Australian Bureau of Statistics is looking for motivated and community minded Area Supervisors in our Western Qld area.


Why not make a difference in your community and help shape its future? Applications Close 21st February.

Karen Tully PH. 0428 712 970

Our School Week

Regards

Jenny Boyne and Jenny Hughes