



# Walloon State School



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21<sup>st</sup> February, 2018

## From The Principal's Desk

It was fabulous to see so many folks at last week's **P&C Meeting**. With the Executive handing over their positions this year, I was encouraged and felt positive that the P&C will continue the considerable momentum that they have established in the past few years. It was also great to have some robust conversations about school programs and to start making plans for the coming year.

However, with this handover comes the need for people to take on the roles that these folks have performed in recent times. **We are in desperate need of people to coordinate and plan the Easter Bingo function**. If you can give some time to enable it to go ahead, please contact Jo, Kerri or I ASAP.

Our **school focus areas** for this year are well in evidence and over the last week I have seen many examples of these areas in action, including:

- **Reading** – 3A were working on vocabulary – prefixes and suffixes. 4/5A were doing exceptional independent reading, with all students engrossed in the books that they were reading. A few students curled up with a good book before school.
- **Writing** – 5/6A shared the sizzling starts in their writing with the classmates. 2A were working on sounds in words.
- **Community Partnerships** – the Coles Sports for Schools program has well and truly kicked off, with a box for the token in the office. Our school will also be hosting a meeting of 25 principals next week as we discuss our performance plans for this year.

Our school-wide **attendance** rate currently stands at 95.4%. Whilst this is above the State and school targets, there has been a gradual reduction over the last few weeks. The attendance rates for each grade follows:

Prep – 96.3%	Grade 1 – 93.8%
Grade 2 – 92.8%	Grade 3 – 96.6%
Grade 4 – 97.5%	Grade 5 – 94.8%

Grade 6 – 95.5%

School – 95.4%

Please ensure that your child is at school on every day possible.

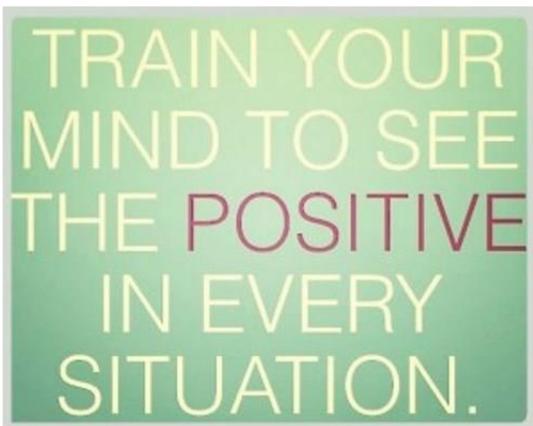
*Before school arrangements -it is our expectation that all students from Grades 1 - 6 are in the area near the hall and the adjacent outdoor areas. This way, we can provide supervision of these students. The current exceptions for this are the Prep students, who go to their classrooms and students who are in the company of their parents. The junior playground is out of bounds before school, as not staff are rostered on for supervision. This enables a clear policy that doesn't confuse students, as in the past parents have taken their child onto the playground and other students join in. I feel that there is time enough for our students to use their playgrounds during the breaks.*

*I understand that for younger students, this creates some tension, as they wish to use the senior playground. This playground is designed for older students, hence why we discourage younger student from using it.*

Over the last few weeks I have spoken about having a **proactive approach**. I have been sharing the work of Michael Mogill, whose mantra is “Be proactive in your own becoming”. He has broken his thinking down into eight key points. The next two of these follow:

1. Be consistent – ultimately, success is not about getting everything right. It is about being consistent. Are you consistently and persistently taking steps every day to steadily move toward your goal? Do you stop making progress or do you continue on when you encounter a seemingly insurmountable problem? Be consistent in what you do. Even though the steps may seem small at the time, doing the right things day in and day out will move you further down the path to success.
2. Find the right people – surrounding yourself with driven, effective people is a proven way to help you succeed. Proximity can be an excellent motivator. You get to choose between driven people and people who will drag you down. You cannot have both and expect to succeed. You cannot spend time with lazy people all day and also achieve your daily goals. Lazy people are like quicksand. They bog you down slowly without you knowing it, until you wake up one day and realize you are consumed by laziness.

I hope that you find yourself consistently surrounded by motivating people this week.



**Greg Noble**

**Principal**

### When is it OK to yell at children?

Maybe...when they are far away and you want them to hear you?

Research tells us that yelling is a terrible way to make an environment more productive and happier. It is highly authoritarian.

Yelling undermines any attempts at getting relationships between people right!

Recently I read *"Yelling and shouting are reactive responses to challenging situations, and while we yell and shout, we are ignoring the needs of our children, and failing to see them as real people with feelings that can be hurt through harsh words. Yelling does not teach a good way to act, either.*

*In fact, yelling is a poor teaching strategy. When our children are yelled at, they get scared, or they start thinking of how they can escape."*- Dr Justin Coulson

Developing relationships with students is an important mantra at Walloon. Gone are the days where the teacher stands at the front of the class and yells all day!

At **Walloon State School**, developing respectful relationships is how we develop positive, considerate and powerful learning environments.

Our **EXCELLENCE DOCUMENT** states that **EXCELLENT CLASSROOM TONE** entails:

- Each student works at their level.
- Teachers use PBL in Classroom Behaviour Management.
- Teachers greet students and parents.
- Teachers and school staff model respect, courtesy, manners and honesty.
- Appropriate language and classroom behaviour is explicitly taught.
- Low noise levels are maintained at all times.
- Cultural diversity is reflected in lessons and classroom practice.
- Students respond immediately to the teacher's directions and requests.

That's just how we roll!

Have a great week!

**Mr Ruthven**

**Head of Curriculum**

## Library News

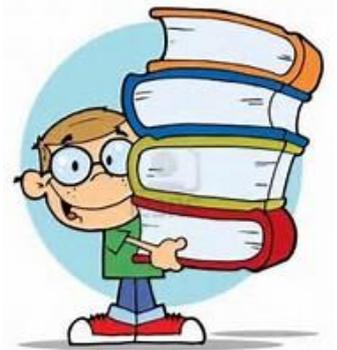
The students are currently allowed to borrow 3 books if they have no outstanding books. This is an incentive to have some long overdue books returned and seems to be working well so far. Next week I will be increasing this to 4 books if students wish to borrow that many books. Please ensure your child has a library bag of some description, particularly in this hot weather when water bottles are in bags. We have had several water damaged books returned to us lately.

Our Scholastic Book Fair will be here next week and will run from Thursday 1st March to Tuesday 13th March. It will be open in the mornings at 8.30am and in the afternoons at 3pm. For every \$10 spent a raffle ticket will go into a draw for a daily prize of a \$10 voucher to spend at the Book Fair. Please support our Book Fair if you are able to as the school receives 30% of sales in books for the library.

Notes will be sent home on Friday for students who have indicated that they would like to participate in the Kids Lit Quiz competition on Monday 19th March at Ipswich Girls Grammar School.

**Julie Langlands**

**Teacher/Librarian**



## P & C News

We had a wonderful show of support and interest for our first P & C meeting last Wednesday night, it was great to see new faces with welcomed input.

**Meal Deal Day - Thursday, 22nd March first break-** Menu TBA - Helpers needed!

**Easter Bingo -** Due to the changeover of the P & C Committee in March we are asking if anyone is interested in organising bingo in first or second term. This is a great opportunity to raise funds for the school and help connect the wider community to us. If you would like more information please contact either Kerri - 0438644994 or myself Jo - 0415433621.

**AGM - 14th March, 2018**

All positions are declared open and nominations/voting will occur on the night.

We are looking for a President/Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and ideally a fundraising co-ordinator. If you would like any information on any of these positions please contact me or visit the P & C Queensland website which is very helpful.



**Thank you**

**P & C Committee**

## Chaplain News

Did you enjoy or celebrate Valentine's Day? I know you might be thinking, I don't celebrate that or I didn't receive flowers or chocolates. I would like to challenge you to show someone else 'love' today, and each day for the rest of February. This is not necessarily the lovefest that we see on the tv or internet, it can be as simple as showing kindness to another person. Children are often much better at this than adults, so maybe watch how a child shows love to a friend or pet. So lets see how many people we can 'love' by simply smiling as we pass by, pushing a trolley to the bay at the shops or telling someone if they have dropped something as they walk by.

Share the love, it doesn't have to cost money.

### THOUGHT-STOPPING AND OTHER GREAT COPING STRATEGIES

(taken from parentingideas.com.au)

BY **AMELIA WILLIAMS**

Some friends dropped by with their kids recently.

They were like rung out rags.

Mr. 9 year old narrowly lost both a basketball grand final on Saturday morning and a big cricket game on the Sunday morning.

Miss 4 year old narrated the two games for us. And like most kids of this age with few social filters, she gave us far too much information. She said, "Joe\* cried when the basketball team lost. He was sad. And mummy was sad too!"

Yep, parents and kids felt a bit flat.

But their parents had the perfect antidote – **adaptive distancing**.

They were spending that afternoon walking and fishing at a nearby beach. Okay they didn't know they were engaging in some adaptive distancing. They were just doing what came naturally, which is great.

**Adaptive distance** is a strategy that parents can use to help kids handle stress, disappointment or get relief from worry overload. It's otherwise known as **taking kids' minds off their worries and disappointments**. My mum used to do it with me a lot, but she didn't know she was using adaptive distancing. She would've called it **common sense**.

Here are five ways to use adaptive distancing with kids:

**Thought-stopping**: Help kids being overwhelmed by parking their thoughts or worries for a while. "That's enough of those thoughts for now. Think about it after lunch, but leave them for now."

**Mental distraction**: Get them reading, running, writing or roaming. Anything they can do to distract themselves is positive.

**Move away from a situation**: Physically removing themselves from a situation temporarily relieves stress and worry. A break from the study room, a walk outside or a visit to shops gives kids the change-up they need.

**Go to their special place**: I used to retreat to my bedroom to escape the stresses of the day. My son had a cubby in a tree out the front of our house. One of my daughters had a diary she'd retreat to. Help kids find their special place or thing where they can take solace and draw strength.

**Remind them that things will get better:** “This too shall pass” is a powerful lesson to learn at any age. Sometimes kids will simply wallow in their disappointment, which only makes them feel bad. At some stage they need to get passed their disappointment rather than continually revisit the past.

Okay, losing a sports final or two is small beans in the overall scheme of things.

But it is in handling the small ups and downs of every day life that kids develop their inner resources that will equip them to manage and come through the larger hardships, frustrations and difficulties that will inevitably come their way.

Joe\* – named changed to protect the innocent!!!

**TO LOVE YOURSELF IS TO UNDERSTAND YOU DON'T NEED TO BE PERFECT TO BE GOOD.**

Keep Smiling,

**Chappy (aka Mrs Hewett)**

**Rebecca Hewett**

**School Chaplain**

[rebecca.hewett@chappy.org.au](mailto:rebecca.hewett@chappy.org.au)

**Walloon State School-Tuesday & Friday**

**5461 8333**

**HAST (The Healthy Active School Travel) EVENT**

The Healthy Active School Travel (HAST) Event will be held on ***Friday 2nd March 2018.***

**School Photos**

**13<sup>th</sup> March, 2018**

**Coles Sports For Schools**

## **BRING IN YOUR COLES VOUCHERS!!**

Our school is participating in the Coles Sports for School initiative. For every \$10 spent at Coles, customers will receive one Sports for Schools voucher. Every voucher received by our school will go towards our tally which will enable us to order sports equipment for all students to enjoy.



Please collect vouchers at Coles until 3rd April, 2018 and bring them into the school office.

## Swimming

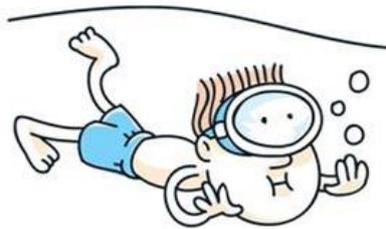
All students in Years 1 to 6 will be swimming every Wednesday in Term 1, starting in Week 1. Invoices will be coming home shortly and payment can be made at the school office or via BPoint, direct debit or credit card over the phone. Please make all payments by 1pm each day.

Your child will need to come to school with a swimming bag containing their togs, towel, swim shirt and thongs (thongs to be worn from school to the pool only). Swim shirts are compulsory and must be worn each week. Students will travel by bus to and from the Leichhardt Pool where they will have their swimming lessons with myself and Mrs Trudy Martin.

***Swimming is part of our school curriculum and any absence from swimming must be due to a medical condition and will need to be accompanied by a note from a parent or guardian.***

**Melita MacKay**

**PE Teacher**



## General Notices

### District Sports Trials

## HOCKEY

When: Wednesday, 28th March, 2018

Time: 3:15pm

Where: Ipswich Hockey, Briggs Road, Raceview

Who: 10-12 years boys and girls

***If you wish to attend these trials you must have your nomination in to the school office by **Wednesday, 7th March, 2018** to be eligible.*** You will also need:

- Signed Principal Approval Form (from the school office)
- Completed and signed Parental Consent, Contact and Medical Details Form
- Mouthguard permission form
- **Students are required to bring to WRDSS trials:** Hockey stick, shin pads, mouthguard (**NO MOUTHGUARD NO TRIAL**), appropriate footwear, water bottle, hat and sunscreen and other protective equipment. Remove jewellery.

## RUGBY LEAGUE

When: Thursday, 22nd March, 2018

Where: Norths Tigers, North Ipswich

When: 12:30 to 3:30pm (approximately)

Who: 10-12 Year Boys

**If you wish to attend these trials you must have your nomination in to the school office by *Friday, 9th March, 2018* to be eligible.** You will also need:

- Signed Principal Approval Form (from the school office)
- Completed and signed Parental Consent, Contact and Medical Details Form
- Mouthguard permission form
- bring appropriate footwear, water bottle, hat and sunscreen and other protective equipment.  
**MOUTHGUARD MUST BE WORN FOR THIS TRIAL.**

## AFL

When: Tuesday, 13th March, 2018

Time: 12:30pm to 3:30pm (approximately)

Where: Atlantic Drive, Springfield

Who: 10-12 Boys

**If you wish to attend these trials you must have your nomination in to the school office by *Friday, 9th March, 2018* to be eligible.** You will also need:

- Signed Principal Approval Form (from the school office)
- Completed and signed Parental Consent, Contact and Medical Details Form
- Mouthguard permission form
- bring appropriate footwear, water bottle, hat and sunscreen and other protective equipment.  
**MOUTHGUARD MUST BE WORN FOR THIS TRIAL.**

## **Fassifern Netball Zone Trial**

When: Thursday, 1st March, 2018

Where: Peak Crossing State School

Time: 3:45pm to 5:15pm

Who: 10 - 12 Years Girls

**Students are required to bring** appropriate footwear, school uniform, water bottle, hat/visor and sunscreen. No hard zips/buckles/headbands. Remove jewellery. Short fingernails required.

**Students will need to present the following forms to the Convenor prior to the commencement of the zone trial, otherwise they WILL NOT be permitted to compete:**

- Signed Principal Approval Form
- Completed and signed Parental Consent, Contact and Medical Details Form

Forms can be obtained from the school office.

### **IMPORTANT!!!! PARKING SAFETY ISSUE!**

Please note that the Staff Car Park is for authorised vehicles only and is **not to be used for any drop off and pick up purposes**. This is for safety reasons and must be adhered to at all times of the day. The Staff Car Park is situated alongside the hall.

**When dropping off students, please use the bottom car park adjacent to the senior playground.**

### **UNIFORM SHOP**

Uniform shop opens each Monday afternoon from 2.30pm to 3.15pm.

Please see price list below.

**Kerri Jendra**

**Uniform Shop Convenor**

## ABSENTEE LINE 54618360

Mornings in our school office can get extremely busy at times and for this reason we would appreciate the use of the student absence line when you are notifying the school of any absences. So, if your child is absent for any reason, please phone the absentee line with your child's name, roll class, reason for absence and expected duration of absence.

***ABSENTEE LINE:***

***5461 8360***

### School Website

Newsletters and other relevant information about our school can be found on our school website. Go to [www.walloonss.eq.edu.au](http://www.walloonss.eq.edu.au) to view upcoming events, news, newsletters and to download enrolment forms etc.

### Upcoming Events

01 - 14/03/2018

Book Fair

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02/03/2018

HAST (Healthy Active School Travel) EVENT

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06 - 09/03/2018

Year 5 Moreton Island Camp

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13/03/2018

School Photos

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**14/03/2018**

**P & C AGM**

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19/03/2018

KidzLitQuiz

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22/03/2018

Meal Deal Day

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28/03/2018

Swimming Carnival

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30/03/2018

Good Friday

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02/04/2018

Easter Monday

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17/04/2018

Term 2 begins

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