Rathdowney State Primary School
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SCHOOL NEWS   No. 19
9th June 2011

A Letter to the Community

Dates to Remember in 2011

**JUNE**
10 - 23 - Book Fair
13 – Public Holiday
15-17 – Junior Camp
20 – District Athletics
21– District Athletics
22 – Parent Teacher Interviews
24 – Last day of Term 2
24 - Walkathon

**JULY**
12 – School Centenary Meeting
11 – Student free day
12 - Term 3 first day back for students

**SEPTEMBER**
16 – Last day of Term 3

**OCTOBER**
03 - Term 4 first day back for students
17 – Student free day

**NOVEMBER**
2-4 - Senior Camp

TUCKSHOP
15th JUNE

HELPERS
Sue Tully, Maxine Platell

CAKES/SLICE
Carla Carpenter

Junior News

The Prep- Year Three students are very excited for camp next week. They are busy finishing off all their school work and preparing for what we will be exploring and encountering whilst on camp. Before we head off on our wonderful journey to Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast, the students will continue learning about different concepts in maths and finishing off their personal letter writing and diary writing.

In maths the preps have been exploring 3D shapes and how they can be manoeuvred. The Year One students have been looking at the mass of the various objects, while the Year Twos have been learning about directions. The Year Three students have been revising what they have learnt this term.

In English the students have been finishing off their personal letter writing and continuing on with their diaries. In art the students are creating bookmarks for the book fair. The finished ones will be going home within the next few days. It would be great if they could bring them back to school next term to use in their library and class reading books.

There is no homework for the students this week and reading will stop tomorrow. As we approach the end of term, we would like to thank you for all your support throughout term 2. We look forward to seeing you all again next term.

Kasey, Karin and Cathy

Name ..............
Please sign & return if you have received Newsletter No. 19
Parent Signature
**Year 4/5 News**

The Year 4’s are becoming very excited about the camp next week. There will be the usual early start, with children catching the bus from the Post Office carpark at 7:00am, on Wednesday morning. We hope to return to the carpark between 5:30pm and 6:00pm on Friday evening.

Next week, Mrs Benstead will be teaching the year 5’s as usual on Wednesday, and the Year 5’s will spend Thursday and Friday working with the Years 6/7’s in their classroom, getting a little taste of what it will be like in the ‘big’ class next year.

Because parent-teacher interviews are also fast approaching, our class is very busy completing the last of their end-of-term tests and class work for assessment.

Our art projects on collage are almost finished, with the students showing some good skills in paper weaving and improvement in cutting. Our art lesson next Tuesday should see these completed.

We are also putting the finishing touches on our book reports this week, and hope to orally present them to the Prep-3’s before the holidays.

It was great to have all student homework books handed in by last Friday. Thank you to all the parents who reminded their children to take it in! Hopefully there will be an equally good return rate this week.

More from our room next time,

*Tina van Bennekom*

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**Year 6/7 News**

This week we have been testing reading and maths, as well as finalising science, design and technology and S.O.S.E. assessment pieces. The class as a whole has been working well to complete these items. With the colder weather, students have been more likely to display cold and flu like symptoms. Boxes of tissues seem to be always running low, so sending some to school with your child would be a good idea.

Our class made the trip to Beaudesert R.S.L. on Wednesday for the presentation of “Australian Spirit” Awards. The class behaved very well and teachers always hear positive comments in regards to this. (See related article)

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**Thought for the Week**

‘We are all born princes, and the civilising process makes us into frogs.’

*Eric Berne*

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**Student Council**

**Friday Healthy Lunches**

*Tomorrow 10th June, Student Council will be selling Pizza (made on a slice of bread), for $2-00 a slice, a cup of Fruit Juice (100%) $1-00, and ice-blocks - Frozen Yoghurt $1-00 or a healthy snack for $2-00.*

Today each student has taken home an order form for the Friday lunches that are on offer for this week. It would be appreciated if you could attach this form to your child’s envelope and money. This will make it much easier for the 6/7 students to collate the orders so that everyone gets their lunch on time.

Thank you for your co-operation,

*Colleen Benstead (Yr 6/7 Teacher)*
DATE CLAIMER – THURSDAY 23 JUNE 6.00 p.m.

YEAR 4/5 Fashion parade (of Own Design Library Bags)

Two Course Meal provided by Student Council

PREMIERE of Year 6/7 DVD “From The Logan To The Lockyer”

Invitations to parents of children in Years 4-7 will provide further details.

Mandarines for Sale

The Student Council has 1 kg bags of mandarines for sale (approx. 12 – 15 per bag) every Friday until sold out. Students who have already tried them say they are very sweet.

R.S.L. “Australian Spirit” Awards

This Year the Year 6/7 class entered their DVD entitled “From the Logan to the Lockyer” (Videos about themselves) in this competition. We were judged Winners of the Primary school section from school throughout the Scenic Rim schools. Congratulations to the class for their enormous effort to complete this task.

Thank You

The school would like to pass on a special ‘thank you’ to Mrs Taylor, one of our parents and Blaire and Tori, who spent a couple of hours after school a couple of weeks ago, planting some new trees and shrubs in the school gardens.

Thank you for helping our school look great!!

Junior School Camp

15-17 June

Our annual camp to Brisbane with the Prep-Year 4 students is now less than a week away. The students are all very excited about going on camp. However, the school is still waiting on some forms and payments to come in. The due date was yesterday, 8 June. The accommodation venue is waiting for final numbers so that we can organise rooms for the staff, parents and students. **So, if you have not yet sent back camp forms, please send them in this week.** We would like to be able to organise camp groups for each of our accompanying parents and be able to send these home this week also.

The bus will leave from the Post Office car-park on Wednesday morning at 7am and return after camp at between 5:30pm and 6pm on Friday afternoon.

If you have any queries regarding payment or information for camp please contact the school as soon as possible.

Great News

This past week, our school has received terrific results in three different areas.
Firstly, our students were very competitive in the Christmas Creek athletics carnival this year!! Well done to all our students who gave it their all and really did our school proud on the day!! The school scored second in both the aggregate and the average totals, with many of our students placing in the age champion awards.

Rathdowney won the Arthy Relay for the fastest boy and girl of each age group by a huge margin!! Well done, Tori, Ben, Tayla and Zak!! Our school also won the much-coveted ball games trophy (the Christmas Creek version of ‘the ashes’). Hillview school takes much pride in hanging onto this trophy nearly every year, but this year our ball games teams were up to the challenge and we can now admire the trophy for the next 12 months.

Just as an extra little bit of information, the adult ball games team from Tamrookum who won the adult ball games trophy last week was mostly, if not all, made up of past Rathdowney State School students!! Could they have learned their skills on our netball courts all those years ago?

Our second good news story relates to the results of the school’s Teaching and Learning audit which was conducted at the school last Monday. The staff had been very busy preparing for this audit for most of the term and it was a cause for great celebration to realise, that this year, our results were even better than last year (and last year’s results were very high). It was especially great because the criteria had changed since last year and we still rated a substantial improvement in all areas of the school’s operations!!!

It confirms what many of us already know – that this is one of the best little schools in the South-East Region!!

Our third piece of good news this week, is that the Year 6/7 entry into the annual RSL “Australian Spirit Competition” has won the overall primary schools’ award. Many thanks go to Mrs Benstead and Adam, our chaplain, in preparing the entry with the students. Mrs Benstead will be holding a special “premiere” showing of the film the students made, at school, later this term. Another great effort from Rathdowney students!! Great work, everyone!

**District Cross Country**

The District Cross Country was held a few weeks ago at Hills International College, Jimboomba. 10 children from our school represented Christmas Creek at this event. Well done to all the children for their efforts at the carnival as it is always tough to compete at the next level. Special mention is to be made of Mazie Russell’s success. Mazie ran 2nd in the 9yrs Girls event which is a remarkable achievement! Congratulations Mazie!

Maryann Watterson

**Wrap Up of the Christmas Creek Sports Carnival**

I would like to start with congratulating all the children of Rathdowney State School on the way they conducted themselves on the three days of competition. The children displayed great sportsmanship, wonderful manners, true determination, and are a credit to their parents and the school alike. Like previous years, there were a few special things that need to be mentioned. The first of these was Darian at the 200m events- Darian was at the food stall when
he bought the last 2 cupcakes. The boy behind him also wanted a cupcake and was disappointed when Darian had bought the final 2. Darian didn’t hesitate in turning around and giving this boy one of the cupcakes he’d just purchased. What a lovely thing to do. Well done Darian.

Another example of fine sportsmanship came when a mother from another school approached to us to say how lovely Tori and Hope were to her daughter each year at the carnival. She thanked these girls for being so friendly and warm to her daughter when competing in the various events.

An fantastic example of grit and determination was never more evident than when we witnessed Tori’s 800m run. This race would have to go down as one of the most memorable ever, I think. That final sprint to the end was certainly inspirational and a great motivational tool for all the students. These are just a few of the inspiring events I witnessed or was aware of over the course of the carnival. I am sure there were many more great memories that reflected the children’s personal qualities that I missed and would have been equally proud of.

Now to the overall achievements of the children of our school who gained places in their age groups. These children won or placed in some or many of the events to gain points, stemming right back to cross country. The children of our school who did so very well to be in the top three of their age group are:

Jessica Jurd- 2nd- 9yrs Girls
Mazie Russell- 3rd- 9yrs Girls
Darian Daniell- 2nd- 9yrs Boys
Tayla Giles- 1st- 10yrs Girls
Kiara Giles- 2nd- 10yrs Girls
Ben Bullion- 2nd- 10yrs Boys
Cameron Mills- 3rd- 10 yrs Boys
Tori Mackay- 1st- 11yrs Girls
Zak Bullion- 2nd- 12yrs Boys
Mallora Bowie- 2nd- 12yrs Girls

Well done to these children on their fantastic achievement!

The trophies our school won at the carnival included the Arthy Relay and Children’s Ball Game Trophy.

Wahhoooooooooooooooooo!!!
We came second in the total points (only 12 points away away from winning) and second in the average points.
Next year our sights are set on taking home the Christmas Creek Cup for the first time!

Once again well done to everyone-We gave it our best shot and should all be proud of our efforts!

Maryann Watterson
District Athletics

The children who qualified for the District Carnival will receive forms as soon as the information is emailed to me from Flagstone. The carnival is to be held on Monday and Tuesday 20th and 21st of June at Jimboomba Little A’s. If you have any queries don’t hesitate in contacting me. Good luck to all our competitors!

Maryann Watterson

P & C News

The P&C Committee would like to thank those parents that donated their time and goods for the Bikies Morning Tea last Sunday. It was a great effort with half of the school’s parents contributing. Thanks to the following families for giving up their Sunday morning to help set up and make sandwiches, serve and clean up: The Robinsons, Vaynes, Hills, Downes, Bakers, Wrights, and Daniels. The donations from the following families were much appreciated and eaten with great gusto by the bikies – Richards, Carpenters, Reillys, Bensteads, Binsteads, Gerchows, Heises and Griffiths. Also a big thank you goes to the P&C executive committee - Sue, Kaylene, Amy, Sarah and Karyn for all their work and planning to make the day a great success - $1040 was raised for the school. We look forward to next year’s morning tea.

ZUMBA FITNESS

Held each Wednesday night in the school hall
5:30pm - Zumba Toning
6:30pm - Fitness.
All Welcome to attend.
COST:- $10 per class
or $15 for two.
For enquiries ph:- 0400 192 799

Ben, Tayla, Tori and Zak - Arthy Relay winners

Mrs Watterson accepting (or happily stealing) the ball games trophy away from Mr Bolton after 9 years of us winning it last.

Age Champion winners and place getters