Monday 7 March 2016 (06/2016)

Date Claimers
- Wednesday 16 – Friday 18 March – Year 5 Camp
- Saturday 19 March – Election Day BBQ, 7:30am – 3:00pm
- Monday 21 March – P&C Meeting, Staffroom, 3:15pm
- Thursday 24 March – Last day of Term
- Monday 11 April – Term 2 begins

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Student of the Week Awards and Reading Awards
These awards will be distributed at next week’s parade

Great Opportunity - Three Way Reporting
Class teachers will be meeting with the parents/carers of all students in our Three Way Reporting meetings. This is an excellent opportunity for parents/carers, students and class teachers to meet and then work together to review current progress, strengths and weaknesses as well as agreeing on strategies to support improvement.

As well as outlining your son/daughter’s progress in curriculum areas such as English, maths, science, history and geography, your child’s class teacher will also specifically focus on how your son/daughter’s attendance, reading and numeracy is progressing.

Please make the time to meet with your child’s teacher to work together and plan for your child’s success this year.

While these meetings are happening during this week and next, please be mindful that teachers may not be available at certain times in the morning and afternoons.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)
Last week two of our teachers, Debbie Anderson (Yr 6A) and Nicole Harvey (Yr 2B) attended an initial Coach’s Training to support Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) at Walkervale. Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) is a research and data based approach to teaching students expected behaviours and positively acknowledging students when they display desired behaviours. In simple terms, we teach students how to do maths and how to read. PBL recognises the need to identify areas where student behaviour does not meet our expectations as a school community, and then teaching students the desired expectations and behaviours.

As well as representatives from the teaching staff and teacher aides, our PBL Team will also have representation from our parents/carers and families (Charise Sell- P&C President), our Indigenous parents/carers and families (Dorothy Brown), our School Guidance Counsellor (Brad Condon) and IMPACT Psychologist (Narelle Read).

The PBL team will be completing training on Thursday 17 March in preparation for the team to start progressing the implementation of PBL at Walkervale State School. This is the next stage in implementing our new and revised behaviour management procedures that were developed during 2015.

Locked Bicycles Not Taken
Take the time to check that your son/daughter has a working lock and chain for their bicycle and that they use it each and every day. While we have had bicycles ‘taken’ from our bicycle racks they were not locked securely. Last week we even had a ‘taken’ bicycle returned!

Please check your child locks their bicycle to the bicycle racks each and every day!

Yr 4-6 Playground Equipment
Mr Young and Mrs Lloyd will speak to Yr 4-6 students this week regarding the appropriate ways to play and use their new playground equipment.

There have been some issues occurring on this playground equipment and we want to work with students to ensure that they understand what is the appropriate way to use and play on this equipment and what is not appropriate.

Students who show that they cannot play safely and respectfully with others will lose the opportunity to use this equipment for a period of time.

Out of School Hours Care
We will receive advice this week regarding any tenders that may have been received regarding the Walkervale State School Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) Service. For many years the YMCA has provided this highly valued service to our school.

Following their decision to cease as providers, the school has been working to secure the services of a new provider. Parents/carers will be advised as soon as confirmation of a new service provider is provided. It is also hoped that Vacation Care for the Easter vacation may be offered commencing Easter Tuesday if/when a new provider is confirmed.

Wide Bay North Chess Tournament at Walkervale
Jason, Nickolas, Cyle and Henery from Walkervale Team 1, and Jayden, Mitchell, Ashton, and Lachlan from Walkervale Team 2 represented Walkervale proudly in the first round of the Wide Bay North School Chess Championships held last Thursday at Walkervale State School.
The children competed well all day and never gave up, with each player earning points for their team. Congratulations Walkervale!

Special mention goes to Jason who won an individual Merit ribbon for winning 5 out of 8 games. A fantastic day was had by all.

Chess Club lessons with Mr Menham and Mr Bond continue every Wednesday at 1st Break in the Innovation Centre.

The Walkervale chess group after a great day of chess.

**NAPLAN 2016 (10-12 May 2016)**

The National Assessment Program-Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing will occur over these 3 days in week 5, Term Two (Tuesday 10, Wednesday 11 and Thursday 12 May 2016). Students in years 3 and 5 complete the tests over these 3 days.

Students who are absent for one or more tests have an opportunity to ‘catch up’ on Friday 13 May. The data gained from these tests helps us to monitor the progress of our students and at a school level identify areas of strength or in need of additional focus in relation to literacy and numeracy.

Parents/carers may withdraw their son/daughter from the testing program if they have concerns about the testing program. Some students with specific disabilities may be exempted from the testing program or may be withdrawn by their parent/carer.

Please see your child’s class teacher, Ms Veronica Walker (Head of Inclusion) or the Principal/Deputy Principal if you would like further information regarding NAPLAN.

**SMS notices**

Walkervale State School will be trialling SMS messaging to parents.

We now have the ability to send messages to our whole school community, selected classes or individual parents.

Messages could be to notify parents that the school will be having an emergency evacuation drill or lockdown drill this week, reminder of an event that is happening at the school or to verify the time that students will return from an excursion.

We will also be texting parents to notify them of unexplained student absences, parents will have the ability to reply to the text giving the reason their child is away.

If you have a mobile phone, please ensure that the school has your correct number.

**Vote here! - Local Government Election Polling Booth**

Walkervale State School Hall is a Polling Booth for the Local Government Election being held on Saturday 19 March.

The P&C will also be holding a Sausage Sizzle from 7:30am - 3:00pm.

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**No Parking Permitted on school grounds**

Parents and carers are reminded that there is no parking permitted on school grounds.

This is an important safety issue. During periods of rain and storms, it is understandable that parents/carers want to park as close as possible when collecting their children...but this is also a time of increased hazard/danger as cars enter/leave our school grounds during a period of reduced visibility while there are also parents/carers and students walking to leave our grounds.

There are many free parking spots available at 3:05pm in the afternoon, especially in New Street and Crawford Street.

Thank you for parking outside of our school grounds to help ensure the safety of all of our students.

**No Smoking**

Parents/carers and community members are reminded that NO SMOKING is permitted:

- within our school buildings or grounds,
- within 5 metres of a school entrance.

For more information, go to www.health.qld.gov.au/public-health/topics/atod/tobacco-laws/schools/default.asp

**Word of the Week**

**pursue**

**Definition**

- To follow or chase something.
- To carry on or continue to do something.
- To strive to achieve something.

**Sentence**

- So she could pursue her dream or being a ballet dancer, Sally practised every day.
- James worked hard at school and was so proud when he was accepted at university and could pursue his goal of becoming a doctor.

**Synonyms**

- want, aspire, strive, struggle, try

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**Year 5 Camp**

Thank you to those parents who have paid camp fees recently. **Final Camp payments will be due Friday 11 March.**

If you are experiencing financial difficulty, please see Mrs Boon in the office by Tuesday 8 March to organise a payment plan.
Religious Instruction Classes
Religious Instruction classes have commenced for Years 1-6, except Year 3, which will commence after the Easter holidays. Payment envelopes have been sent home with the eldest child participating in Religious Instruction. Fees are set at $5.00 per child or $10.00 per family. If paying by cheque, please make it payable to Bundaberg Religious Instruction Co-operative. Please return payment envelopes to the office.

Coding lessons in the Library
Software and technology are everywhere- in our computers, in our pockets, in our cars, and used in banking, communications, entertainment, transportation and science. But we are giving some students the opportunity to learn how to actually create technology – games, apps, and programs. Mrs Booth (Teacher Librarian) commenced this term lessons on computer coding to year 4’s and year 6’s.

What is coding?
Coding is a fun, creative, engaging platform for learning basic coding and computer science. Children are learning with a mix of online activities creating and coding their own games. This format helps nurture creativity, problem solving, collaboration and logic through interactive, self-paced tutorials. Maths and literacy skills are learnt in a game based environment through the students ‘hour of code’ each week.

Is my student’s privacy protected?
Whilst we are working online, participation in these lessons does not require sharing of ANY personal information of a child. A virtual classroom is set up by Mrs Booth where children have a user name and password supplied by Mrs Booth. Within this coding classroom environment only the students and Mrs Booth are able to have access. It enables Mrs Booth to keep track of student's coding skills, who is on what level, and what lessons they are up to of their coding. Students can only progress to another coding lesson within the virtual classroom when they have completed the lesson prior. Students may log in at home, before school and at lunch breaks to continue their projects.

Are the students interested?
All students being taught are totally engaged with coding. It has exceeded Mrs Booth’s expectations. Lessons are scaffolded and every child can succeed in creating, and all work at their own pace within their virtual classroom. It has been very rewarding to date to see students assisting each other, using debugging strategies together, planning together, and getting so excited to be moving onto another lesson after completing one that has challenged their thinking. It is also very rewarding to have students want to work in their ‘coding classroom’ at home, before school, and at lunchbreaks. It is an absolute pleasure to be teaching students skills which will help them be well-rounded citizens in the 21st century in primary school.

Mrs Booth, Teacher/Librarian

★ CLUB MOVE is an extra-curricular performance group, conducted by Mrs Emily Atkinson and Miss Kate Cook that any child, boy or girl, in year 3, 4, 5 or 6 is welcome to join.

★ CLUB MOVE is primarily a dance group, where we work on co-ordination, beat, rhythm and specific dance styles.

★ Our aim is to build confidence and self-esteem in every CLUB MOVE member to enable them to perform on stage. Your child does not need to have any dance experience to join.

★ CLUB MOVE is for all children who love music and movement and who want to be a part of a special group of performers.

★ Over the past few weeks we have introduced students in Years 3 -6 to the idea of CLUB MOVE and started learning some basic dance moves. A note was handed out during rehearsals on Monday 15 February. This note should have been returned on Friday (4 March) if your child is interested in joining Club Move for this year. If you have not returned the note yet, please ensure it is given to Mrs Atkinson or Miss Cook by Wednesday this week.

Year 6 Senior Shirts
Invoices for the Year 6 Senior Shirt was sent home previously. Payment and note indicating the shirt size required, need to be returned the school office by Wednesday 9 March. The sooner we get this in, the sooner we can order the shirts. If you have difficulty paying the $30.75, please see Mrs Boon, our BSM, by Tuesday 8 March to make alternative arrangements.

Tuckshop News
Please delete Milo Poppers from your menu as these cannot be supplied. Chocolate milk will be given instead. Don’t forget that iceblocks are only available at second break, and are not available to prep students.

Our helper for Wednesday 9th March is Dorothy Christensen.
Thursday 10th March – Sheree Bethell.
Friday 11th March - Karen Balcombe and Tash Sherratt.

Thanks, Michelle Eyre (Convenor)

STUDENT ABSENCE LINE
4155 5660
24HRS DAY / 7 DAYS WEEK

WEBSITE: www.walkervaless.eq.edu.au
EMAIL: absence@walkervaless.eq.edu.au
SCHOOL PHONE: 07 4155 5666

IF YOU’RE NOT RECEIVING OUR NEWSLETTER, DON’T WORRY, IT’S ON OUR WEBSITE: https://walkervaless.eq.edu.au
OR let the office know your email address so we can send it there.
Our own local hockey club, Raiders Hockey Club are looking for more Junior & Senior Players to play fixtures in Bundaberg each weekend from March to September. All players welcome – old & new!

Raiders Hockey Club has:
- Cheap, subsidised fees
- Competitive teams
- Players from our local areas of Gin Gin, Bundaberg, Mt. Perry, Wallaville & surrounding areas
- Accredited Coaches
- Regular trainings & fitness
- New junior players receive a free stick, shin pads & ball to keep & uniforms supplied

RAIDERS AIM is to provide fun, social but competitive hockey at a reasonable cost.

Enquiries: Please phone Latoya Larsen (President) 0437 576 178
Tarina Gordon (Secretary) 0438 576 283
ELECTION DAY BBQ

SATURDAY 19TH MARCH 2016

HELD HALL SIDE OF TUCKSHOP AND IN TUCKSHOP

7:30AM TO 3PM

BACON AND EGG SANDWICH
SAUSAGE SANDWICH
SOFT DRINKS
WATER
LOLLIES
CHIPS

Come along and enjoy some refreshments while you wait to vote. All money raised going to Walkervale SS P&C for the benefit of all our students.

Are you able to help?

To make the BBQ successful, The P&C is asking for volunteers on the day. If you are able to lend an hour of your time, please fill in the form below and return to the office and one of the officers of the P&C will be in contact.

Name: __________________________ Phone Number: __________________________

Please Circle when available

7am – 8am (Set up) 8am-9am 9am-10am 10am -11am
11am – 12pm 12pm – 1pm 1pm – 2pm 2pm – 3pm and clean up

Thank you for your support.