FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers

Let’s Hear from You.
Tonight is our second P&C Parent Rep meeting for the year. We hope that each class is represented to provide us with feedback and input into school decision making. Please make sure you pass on your ideas and contributions to your class parent rep. Each year we get feedback in our school opinion survey from parents saying that they would like more input into school decision making. This forum is one way for parents to do that. I will be using these forums as part of our Quadreniel School review and to create a plan for what is important to us for the next few years.

The P&C meetings held each month are another way for parents to get involved in the decision making process. Next week at the P&C meeting we will be making a decision on how to proceed in relation to the engagement of a Student Welfare Officer/ Chaplain. We have provided several consultation opportunities for parents over the last few months. Consultation closes midnight tonight.

As part of our SWPBS (School Wide Positive Behaviour Support) we will also be looking to develop branding for our school and will be encouraging students and community members to enter our competition. See insert in newsletter. This weekend we will also have a P&C Working Bee. A lot of hard work has already gone into organising this to make sure we make the most of our helpers on the day. Many hands make light work and I am confident we will have a large group of dedicated parents making the school a better place for our students.

Premier’s Reading Challenge
Just a reminder to keep going with the Premier’s Reading Challenge. On the weekend I read another book for the challenge, bringing my total to six. I read Andy Griffiths ‘The 26 Story Treehouse’ which I can highly recommend. How many books are you up to?

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE
12th Skate Night Albany Creek Skate Away
12:14 Northside Honours Music Camp (Strings)
15th P&C working bee
17th P&C meeting 7:30pm
20th Winter Music Concert in Hall 4:00 – 8:00pm
21st Last day of Term 2

JULY
8th First day of Term 3
10th Year 3 excursion
12th Footsteps Dance program commences
15th P&C Meeting 7:30pm
20th EP Fun Day 2 – 8pm
24th Parent Information session on plans for EPSS 7pm
29th 2013 Prep Enrolment evening 6:30pm
30th 2013 Prep Enrolment morning 9:00am

AUGUST
19th Confucius Day for our Yr 6 and 7’s

TAKE A STAND TOGETHER
Bullying. No way!

NEWSLETTER NO.18
JUNE 12 2013
As you would be aware, reading is the most important skill we teach our students. In fact it is one of the few skills we continue to improve on as we get older. It is a skill we refine and develop long after we have left school. The main reason behind this is that reading is a skill that we use every day. With this in mind you can see why we are always encouraging students to read or share a book at home every night, even on the weekends. Students who don’t read on a regular basis, obviously get a lot less experience and practice and as a consequence find it increasingly more difficult as they start working with harder texts. Reading as little as 10 minutes a night gives your child an extra 60 hours of practice each year.

Below are some tips for reading at home.

- Make it a positive and successful experience. You can help out with some of the really tricky words. Don’t make them struggle through the text on their own. If the text is too hard, parents can read the text for them and swap it over for a different book the next day back at school.
- Young children can read body language and non-verbal cues very well. They know when you are really paying attention or are not interested. Five minutes of quality time is far better than 20 minutes of reading while you cook dinner or drive the car. Make sure you give lots of praise and give reassurance “You are the best reader I have heard today.” “I really liked the way you went back and re-read that sentence to make sure it made sense.”
- If your child gets stuck, if your head is scratching, remind them. They know when you are really reading the material. If you need to change to an easier text.
- Draw their attention to important textual and picture clues. “I wonder why that word is written in bold.” You do not have to read the whole text. Remember to leave time for discussion and to make a connection to the book.

Regards

Brad Clark
Principal

P&C NEWS

WORKING BEE

Thanks to all of you who have emailed saying they’ll attend the working bee this Saturday 15 June – there’s still room for plenty more helpers though! Please email us on pandc@everparkss.eq.edu.au to let us know you’re coming. There’s plenty to do to brighten up the school and we’ll have the BBQ running to make sure everyone has plenty of energy! The Working Bee will kick off at 0900, continuing through lunch into early afternoon, meeting in the big Shed. Please come along for whatever time you are able to spare over that period. If you have gardening tools, shovels and wheelbarrows, please bring them along too.

P&C MEETING

The next P&C Meeting will be held on Monday the 17th at 7:30pm at the school library. Please come along to find out what’s happening at the school. Topics for discussion this meeting include the Student Support Officer, more feedback on the EPSHS potential closure and news about the Family Fun Day (20th July). Hope to see you there!

Amy List
EPSS P&G President
pandcprezident@everparkss.eq.edu.au

LOTE NEWS

This week in Chinese lessons, the students were learning Chinese characters through few short clips in a fun and interesting way. As the results of these videos, students will have a deeper understanding of the origin of Chinese characters.

LOTE Teacher
Alex Chen

SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT (SWPBS)

We are at a crucial time of our implementation of the SWPBS process and our new Responsible Behaviour Plan. Our aim is to embed our new school rules within the EPSS community, and around our school. We need to have a common 'branding' that the community can identify with. We are offering all students, families and members of the EPSSS community an opportunity to help us create a MASCOT for our school. It must exemplify our 3 School Rules: Be Respectful, Be Safe and Be an Active Learner; as well as our 5 core values: Responsibility, Respect, Caring, Cooperating and Achieving. You can create the mascot using an animal that starts with ‘E’ or ‘P’ or by designing a unique and individual character and giving it an ‘E’ or ‘P’ name. The competition will be open til Monday Week 2 of Term 3. Please complete your design on the template provided in this week's newsletter or on a blank A4 page and return to the box in the school office.

CLASS NEWS

Pre C – We have been continuing their work on naming 3D shapes. A highlight last week was to use our measuring skills to make Banana Choc Chip Muffins. The whole class agreed that they were great cooks.

Students are concentrating on writing their names correctly, starting with a capital letter and using the correct pencil grip

Student of the Week: Isadora H.

Pre R – This week we are investigating measurement. We weight objects at comparing mass and determining how much something weighs. In science, we are looking at the 3 Little Pigs and the materials used in their houses. In English, we are continuing to practice our reading and writing, using a variety of strategies.

Student of the Week - Chrissy P.

1B, 1C & 1S – This week the students are presenting their chosen poem to the class. They will be using a star speaker by using a strong, clear voice with fluency and expression. As a culminating activity to our health unit on “fire safety” the Arana Hills Fire Fighters will be visiting the Year 1’s to talk about fire safety and show the children their fire fighting equipment. For 1B, please bring in an old pair of socks for handwriting. Students of the Week – Duan M from 1S, Ella G from 1C and Sarah M from 1B.

3K – We’ve had a busy week with Miss K away. Everyone is working hard and we want to give a big ‘shout out’ to our class members Mariska, Grace, Gwen and Jacinta who all competed successfully at the cheerleading championships on Friday night. Great work girls!

A friendly reminder, our Year 3 excursion payments must be made before the end of this term. Next Tuesday the 18th June, 3K will participate in a FREE RACQ Road Safety program. Next Thursday, 20 June, Miss K will be performing in the hall with Mrs Crook and her choir/instrumental group from 6:30pm. It’s free and everyone is welcome!

Student of the Week: Brooklyn S.

3/4P – This week we are finalising work on our literary recounts in English, creating a citizenship mural in SOSE and moving onto new concepts in Maths (fractions in Year 3). The Year 4’s will not participate in straight year level Science this week or next week. This will resume in Semester 2. The focus on reading this week is on inference (implied meaning). If you get the chance to have a flick through the book your child is reading at home, have a go at asking them a few implied comprehension questions and discuss their answers. Remember to keep signing off on books your child has read for the reading challenge. We have already had one student complete the challenge!

4L & 4P – We hope that you had a lovely long weekend, by the children’s accounts they seem to have appreciated the extra day off. In the last couple of weeks of this term we are continuing to understand traditional stories and we have moved onto investigating stories from the Aboriginal Dreamtime. We are also getting pretty excited about Gold Card Day which is next Friday, the last day of term. Students of the Week - 4P is Jacoba V and 4L is Kohlen H.

4/5I - In English we will look at Traditional Stories in Year 4 and Fantasy Novels in Year 5. For Maths this week we will be looking at Fractions, 2D Shapes and Maps in Year 4 and Factors
FOOTSTEPS DANCE PROGRAM

Once again we will be having the Footsteps Dance program on Fridays, beginning the first Friday of Term 3, 12 July. It will run for 10 weeks at a total cost of $22.50 per student. As this program is part of the curriculum all students are expected to attend.

LIBRARY NEWS

Have you got a favourite book you would like to swap? Our school will be holding The Great Book Swap on Friday the 12th July to help raise funds and address literacy in remote indigenous communities. Students, teachers, parents and other school community members bring along one of your favourite books so you can swap it for someone else’s. It should be a book that you have really enjoyed but can bear to part with. You can also make a gold donation and all the money raised is donated to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. 
http://www.indigenousliteracyfoundation.org.au/ Don’t forget to keep reading for the Premiers Reading Challenge. 10 weeks to go!

MUSIC NEWS

The big news right now is our Winter Concert on Thursday 20 June, starting at 6.30 pm. Performing students need to arrive by 5.45 for warm up and tuning up. Please make sure you are practising your songs or pieces at home - talk to your teacher if there are any sections you are not sure of. Once students have paid the hire fee for the music shirt, please come to the music room on Mondays and Thursdays before school to collect your shirt.

JUNIOR CHOIR - CHANGE OF REHEARSAL NEXT WEEK

Junior Choir will rehearse on Thursday 26 June at 8.00 am, instead of Friday 21 June. There will be no rehearsal on the last day of school. 

Bernadette Crook
Classroom Music Teacher.

CHEERLEADING

E.P.S.S - EP Cheer Squad is the best! Well done to the girls for a great effort on Friday night! We took out the Top Energy Award for our division. The girls performed fantastically, receiving excellent comments for showing great rhythm, good spacing across the floor, a good variety in our routine and wonderful jumps. They remembered to perform and show confidence throughout the entire routine. Congratulations girls, this is recognition for all of your hard work at training.

I would also like to thank all of our families for supporting us at this event (and sitting in traffic on a Friday night). It is much appreciated!

See you Thursday for practice
Miss R.

ACTS COUNCIL

“Jollybops Factory”

Term 3, 11 July

Families will be invoiced in Term 3 for a payment of $6.00 for the above Arts Council performance which must be made by Tuesday 9 July for your child to participate. No late payments will be accepted.