16/13
17 October 2013
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
TERM 4 2013

Thursday 17 October
Planet Rhythm Performances

Friday 18 October
Book Club Orders Due

Monday 21 October
Novelty Choir - Eisteddfod

Tuesday 22 October
Prep Choir - Eisteddfod
Grade 1 Choir - Eisteddfod.
P&C Christmas Fair Meeting
School Book Pack forms handed out

Thursday 24 October
Grade 3 Choir - Eisteddfod
Grade 3 Folk Group - Eisteddfod

Friday 25 October
Grade 2 Choir - Eisteddfod
Free Dress - Day for Daniel

Thursday 31 October
Post Eisteddfod Concert 1:30pm

Wednesday 6 November
P&C Meeting 6:30pm

Saturday 9 November
VPSS Christmas Fair 5-9pm

Congratulations to our Recorder Ensemble and Strings & Recorder Small Ensemble - both groups achieved 1st Place at the Eisteddfod.

Congratulations to our Concert Band and String Ensemble as well, as they achieved 3rd place.

Gotcha card total for the fortnight: 204
New total for the year so far: 5146
Welcome back to the final term of the 2013 school year. The September holidays were a very welcome break for everyone after a longer than usual 11 week Term 3 that was packed with learning, fun and many challenges. A very warm welcome is extended to the new families who have chosen to continue their children’s education here at Victoria Park State School. I often receive emails from families moving to Mackay and wanting to enrol their children into the school. Many of these families have had our school recommended to them from other families both current and past. This term Ms Julia Spratt has joined our team of teachers. Julia replaces Mrs Kate Duffy who has started her own business enterprise. On behalf of the Victoria Park State School community I extend our best wishes to Kate for the future and thank her for her professionalism and commitment to the students of our school over the past 4 years. Mrs Deborah Hodgson is the new face and voice on the phone in our front office this term. Congratulations to Mrs Sandra Grant who has been appointed permanently to the position of Principal of Andergrove State School for the beginning of 2014. Mrs Grant will continue as acting Principal at Andergrove for the remainder of 2013.

NAPLAN Student Reports have been delivered to the school. Individual students in Years 3, 5 and 7 will receive their reports this week. The 2013 NAPLAN summary report released last week, shows that Queensland students have posted some of their best results in this year’s tests. Year 5 students are the first full cohort who attended Prep year (back in 2008) they have exceeded the results achieved in reading, spelling, grammar and punctuation and numeracy by past Year 5 groups. Since testing began in 2008, Queensland is the most improved state with significant gains made in 9 of 20 areas over this time. Queensland has ranked 4th in a number of areas in this year’s tests but there are other areas where we must do better. Over the upcoming weeks our staff will analyse their student’s results in greater detail to build on and improve student and overall school performance.

Classes for 2014 Accompanying this newsletter is our annual questionnaire seeking parent and carer feedback regarding your plans for your child’s education in 2014. This information assists the school in planning staffing requirements for the beginning of the 2014 school year. Teachers, in consultation with the Administration and Student Support team members, will begin developing classes for 2014. Classes are developed based on a mix of gender, academic achievement, behavior issues, student support requirements and most importantly, student friendship groups. There is no guarantee that students will be placed in any particular class, with any particular child or group of children or with any particular teacher.

Teacher transfers for 2014 were released at the conclusion of Term 3. Teachers transferring into Victoria Park for the beginning of 2014 are Mr Matthew Edwards (Sarina SS) and Ms Sally-Anne Willcox-Smith (Norfolk Village SS). Teachers transferring from Victoria Park SS are Mrs Glenys Black and Mr William Sutton. Further staffing changes may occur between now and the beginning of the 2014 school year.

Swimming began last week for all year levels. It is expected that all students will be participating in swimming lessons and activities. Swimming is a component of the HPE syllabus and as a consequence, all students are required to participate. Mackay people have access to a number of public and private pools along with many people enjoying the beach, the rivers and creeks for a refreshing swim. Being a competent swimmer will enable students to not only be safer in the water but will also enable them to more fully engage in many social and sporting past times. I would encourage parents to ensure that children have the required clothing, towels, sunscreen etc. each day their child has a swimming lesson.

Overdue Accounts Could the parents of Year 7 students please make sure that your account is paid, in full, by 15 November 2013 as we have a number of students with outstanding laptop fees. Statements will be sent home with your children this week.

Shoe Box Donations THANK YOU to everyone who has been sending in their shoe boxes. The deadline for the shoe boxes is Friday 18 October. If you need any empty shoe boxes, we have some spare ones at school. Remember to fill the shoe boxes with something to wear, something to love, something special, something for school, something to play with and or something for personal hygiene. All items must be new. Shoe boxes can be packed for either a girl or boy and various age groups(2-4, 5-9 & 10-14). Thank you again for helping to make a difference in a child's life. Michelle Woodworth Chaplin.

MUSIC
STUDENT OF THE WEEK
Prep D: Brody - For being a sight word super star and learning all the words in all ten sight word lists.
Prep D: Cody - For being a sight word super star and learning all the words in all ten sight word lists.

1C: Angus - For being a brilliant learner this term and working to the very best of your ability. Keep it up, Angus!!
1C: Dahreyese - Your behaviour has blown me out of the water!! I hope you continue to show everyone how awesome you are!
1D: Nikki - For starting the term with a positive approach to your school work.
1D: Noah - For working efficiently and completing set tasks within the allocated time to a neat standard. Keep it up, Noah!

2A: Asafa - For being a helpful classmate.
2A: Bruno - For working hard in class.
2A: Georgia - For achieving her best spelling mark this year.
2C: Kye - For being a speedy worker on his first day back.
2C: Jack - For being a responsible student.

3A: Chance - For an excellent effort when conducting his ‘Water Cooler’ experiment.
3A: Amber - For being a kind and thoughtful member of the class.
3A: Olivia - For creative thinking during Science investigations.
3A: Seth - For a fantastic attitude towards learning.
3B: Savannah - For her hard work with Mrs Boys in Maths!
3B: Kalani - For always being ready to learn!

4B: Damein - For being a techno wizard for me!
4/5: Chloe - For always doing her best work in class.
4/5: Harry - For striving to achieve in all subjects.

5A: Kain - For displaying great leadership and sportsmanship at the Steve Jackson Rugby League Carnival.
5A: Bree - For always displaying the attributes of a four star learner.
5B: Dayne - For a positive attitude to learning on A+ Day.
5B: Ilami - For displaying great leadership and sportsmanship at the Steve Jackson Rugby League Carnival.
5C: Alex - A super effort to complete his narrative on time.
5C: Joe - Awesome effort with his flag construction.
5/6: Ethan - For having a fantastic first week at Victoria Park.

6A: Joshua - For being an excellent learner and doing his best to complete his Technology assessment.
6A: Mary - For an outstanding effort to complete all assessment tasks by the due date.
6/7: Hunter - For great results in Science and Technology.

7A: Skye - Always prepared and ready to learn.

This fortnight’s Gotcha Lucky Tuckshop Vouchers go to:
Prep C: Hayley - Being a helpful cleaner.
Prep D: Connor - Fantastic! Amazing! Wonderful! For learning all ten sight word lists.
Prep D: Connor - Wow! Fantastic writing.
1D: Hamish - So impressed with your work in spelling 100.
1D: Sam - Oh My Gosh! Your maths brain is magical. A real numbers man.
2A: Codi - Beautiful handwriting.
2A: Porschia - Beautiful handwriting.
3A: Zac - Always listening to instructions.
3B: Corey - Being safe, Being respectful, Being responsible, Being a learner.
4C: Noah - Winning behaviour competition.
4C: Elise - Fantastic maths work.
5A: Adam - Achieving excellent results re. PAT R testing.
5A: Alice - For always doing a fabulous job with homework.
5/6: Jaz - Helping other classmates.
6A: Mary - Excellent effort in class.
7B: Samantha - Fantastic effort with weekly spelling.
7C: Olivia - Assisting another student positively with their English activity. Well Done!

MUSIC
Eisteddfod
Congratulations to our Recorder Ensemble as they placed 1st and Concert Band placed 3rd.

Music Uniforms and Costumes.
All music uniforms and costumes need to be hand washed, ironed and returned to Mrs Milles by the end of week 4. Can you please return instrumental uniforms on a hanger covered by a plastic bag with your child’s name written clearly on the front. Choir uniforms need to be folded in a plastic bag with your child’s name clearly written on the front of bag. Novelty costumes are needed for the Post Eisteddfod Concert so can be returned after that.

Post Eisteddfod Concert
There will be a showcase of all group performances from the Eisteddfod on Thursday October 31 at 1.30pm in the hall. This concert is for all children at Victoria Park and any interested parents to watch. There are over 300 children representing our school in this year’s Eisteddfod and they can’t wait to share their wonderful performances with our school community.

Instrumental Recruiting
The Music department is currently working towards recruiting for the Strings and Woodwind, Brass and Percussion programs for 2014. There will be parent meetings in Week 5 to explain how these programs
work and the expectations for interested families. These meetings are a compulsory part of the selection process for the Instrumental programs. Please mark the dates in your diary now if your child is interested.

The Woodwind, Brass and Percussion Program will be recruiting from this year’s Grade 3 classes and will be held on Tuesday November 5 at 8.30am.

The Strings Program will be recruiting from this year’s Grade 2 classes and the meeting will be held on Friday November 8 at 2pm.

Christmas Fair

Our Recorders, Concert Band, String Ensemble and a Grade 1, 2 and 3 Christmas Choir will be performing at the fair on Saturday November 9. Information will be sent home after the Eisteddfod.