THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR - IT WAS A HUGE SUCCESS

18/13
14 November 2013

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
TERM 4 2013

Friday 15 November
Free Dress Day
Gold Coin Donation for
Red Cross - Philippines Aid

Monday 18 November
Yr4 South’s Suburban Bowls Club
3:30pm to 5:00pm

Monday 9 December
Prep Orientation Session
9:30am to 10:30pm
Yr 7 High School Visit
Moving Up Day

Wednesday 11 December
P&C Meeting 6:30pm

Thursday 12 December
Awards Ceremony
Yr 7 Graduation Reward Day

Friday 13 December
Break Up Day Activities

Gotcha card total for the fortnight: 260
New total for the year so far: 5542
PRINCIPAL’S NEWS

Our thoughts and prayers are with the many Filipino families of our school community whose families and relatives have been impacted by last weekend’s huge typhoon which caused so much loss of life and destruction. The vision on the evening television news brings home the hardship currently being faced by the people of the Philippines. Rebuilding the towns and cities where so many homes, buildings and infrastructure have been destroyed, will take many years and have long term impacts on the country and the lives of the people. We can all empathise with the current situation in the Philippines through our experiences with recent floods, cyclones and bushfires that have devastated communities in our country.

Term 4

Term 4 continues to be a busy time at Victoria Park State School, with teachers focusing on an in-depth analysis of the recently released 2013 NAPLAN results for Years 3, 5 and 7. Our Year 5 and 7 students have made significant gains in 4 of the 5 strands of the tests over the past 2 years compared to the growth by that of the nation. Our Year 3 students did not fare as well when compared to the results of the nation. Your child will have no doubt spoken to you about completing the tests again. It has been nearly six months since the tests were conducted. Resitting the tests enables class teachers to compare the growth in student learning and to identify areas where further instruction is needed for this term and into 2014.

Year 2, 4 and 6 students also sat the tests to provide teachers with an opportunity to gauge those areas where further instruction is needed for this term and into 2014.

In classrooms

Throughout 2013 the teachers at Victoria Park State School have had a strong focus on Explicit Instruction and quality teaching. Our teachers are working with students to assist them to improve their literacy and numeracy skills. As we head toward the end of the school year, parents can assist their child’s continued progress by ensuring that children remain focused and are at school every day, up to and including the last day of the school year, Friday 13 December.

Making every day count

As we near the end of the school year, it’s important to remember that all students are required to attend school every day until the end of term which is 13 December 2013. Not only is attendance at school a legal requirement, but being at school helps students to achieve more and builds social and emotional skills, such as, communication, teamwork and resilience. For more information visit: http://education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts

Christmas Fair

Saturday’s Christmas Fair was again a wonderful community event, bringing our families, school staff and community members together for a night of fun and entertainment. Congratulations to our hardworking P&C members and the many volunteers who have spent many months planning the Fair. The Christmas Fair is the major fundraiser for the P&C with all funds raised being used to support the learning and the school life of the children of the school.

More readers reading more books in this year’s Premier’s Reading Challenge

This year 84 000 Queensland state and non-state Prep to Year 7 students successfully completed the 8th Premier’s Reading Challenge – up from 82 000 participants last year. During the challenge, participating students read more than 1.7 million books — 100 000 more books than last year. This is a great outcome as reading, apart from being an enjoyable activity in its own right, is important for improving student literacy and learning outcomes.

286 Victoria Park students participated in this year’s Premier’s Reading Challenge. Reading provides children with word knowledge (improving their bank of vocabulary and when to use it), world knowledge (learning about people, countries) and general knowledge (general information and facts e.g. history, science, geography). Books take us to places we have never been to and give us experiences we have never been involved in through the craft of the author and our imaginations.

Congratulations to all our students who participated and to the parents who encouraged and read with their child.

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This fortnight’s Gotcha Lucky Tuckshop Vouchers go to:

Prep A: Matthew - Great silent reading.
Prep A: Ella - For learning all of her list 2 sight words.
Prep B: Ebony - For beautiful carpet manners.
Prep B: Taya - For beautiful carpet manners.
Prep B: Jaccoa - For packing up straight away.
Prep C: Kayla - Great Attendance.
Prep C: Kyra - Great Attendance.
Prep C: Phoebe - Moving up to level 7 in reading.
Prep D: Connor - For super sentence writing.
Prep D: Keeley - Good manners at Eisteddfod.
Prep D: Keenan - Excellent Behaviour.
1B: Mischa - Being a super helper.
1D: Matt - Working well in Hero writing.
1D: Lani - Being prepared for Library.
2C: Keelan - Trying hard to do the right thing.
3B: Tess - 4 Star Learner.
4A: Jamie - Great recorder playing.
4A: Ricardo - Sustained effort to complete work.
4A: Isabella - Sustained effort to complete work.
4C: Zoe - Great Attendance.
4C: Nafiza - Winning behaviour competition.
5A: Eve - Concert Band 3rd place at Eisteddfod.

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Prep D: Keenan - For being a sight word superstar and learning all ten sight word lists.
Prep D: Cameron - For always displaying outstanding behaviour.

1A: Lachlan - Always a four star learner!!
1A: Andrew - Amazing improvement in handwriting!
1A: Max - Having a red hot crack at writing independently.
1B: Kaylani - Being an outstanding student in all areas of school life.
1B: Jesse - Being the quiet achiever in maths and receiving pleasing results.
1C: Ava - Thank you for always coming in with a beautiful smile on your face and being ready for the day!
1C: Manni - You have been showing how responsible you are with your learning, Manni. What a fabulous job you have been doing.
1C: Kort - You are such a little legend, Kort. I love how you are such a responsible learner everyday.
1C: Alex - I am amazed at how your reading has improved, Alex. I hope you keep working hard to do your best.
1D: Kianna - For consistently being a four star learner!
1D: Lochlan - Making an outstanding improvement in Science!
1D: Sam - For blowing my mind when completing addition sums that require trading!
1D: Christa - For blowing my mind when completing addition sums that require trading!
1D: Zara - For blowing my mind when completing addition sums that require trading!

2A: Ashlee - For being a responsible and reliable student who is always a pleasure to have in the classroom.
2A: Zara - For always displaying beautiful manners, being respectful towards others and having a positive attitude towards school.
2C: Robbie - For his wonderful work ethic.
2C: Lily - For her divergent thinking skills.
2C: Jack - For being quick with his Mental Maths Strategies.
2C: Jack - Great effort with his narrative writing.
2C: Taramoana - For trying hard with her narrative writing.
2/3: Zach - For significant improvement in his Pat M test score.
2/3: Jai - For working well and achieving good results in Maths.
2/3: Ella - For an excellent persuasive text about her hero – DAD!
2/3: Vaughn - For an excellent persuasive text about his hero - DIHO!

StUDENT OF THE WEEK

3B: Shaheen - For being enthusiastic and ready to learn.
3B: Taylor - For excellent results in all areas.
3C: Gracie - For being an enthusiastic learner.
3C: Dustin - An excellent improvement in his attitude towards his learning.

4A: Myena - For a fine effort in writing a first draft for an advertisement.
4A: Colby - For being the A4 Rapid Fire Addition Fact Champion.
4B: Tayla - Great listening and learning.
4C: Tyler - For being very 'statistical'.
4C: Nafiza - For getting 9 out of 9 in her language features test.

5A: Joe - For showing great initiative in Flag design and construction.
5B: Ben - Showing enthusiasm and initiative towards learning.
5B: Halle - Being enthusiastic and willing to learn.
5C: Jasper - For his awesome effort and commitment to completing assessment work on time.
5C: Austin - Great ideas for solving maths problems.
5C: Kara - For tackling challenges head on and winning!
5C: Grace - For improved effort in meeting assessment deadlines.
5/6: James - For huge improvements with his reading and comprehension.

6A: Jireh - For her excellent application to her work.
6A: Hunter - For working hard to improve in all subjects.
6A: Mitchell - For being a fantastic four star student.
6A: Mikayla - For her outstanding application and enthusiasm.
6/7: Emily - For always being friendly and helpful.

7A: Amber - Always being prepared and ready to learn.
7A: Blessa - Fantastic work on her Vietnam War assignment.
7B: Cody - For his awesome effort and commitment to completing work on time.
7B: Tahlia - For always being an enthusiastic and engaged learner.
7C: Mariska - For consistently being focused, engaged and striving to do her best.
7C: Mitchell - For consistently being focused, engaged and striving to do his best.
7C: Taylor - For consistently being a focused and engaged learner.
Year 7 Sporting Academy Students
Here are the days and times for the Sporting Academy students that go to Mackay State High School.
- Soccer Students - Mondays: 12:05pm to 1:20pm
- Netball Students - Mondays: 1:45pm to 3:00pm
- R/League Students - Thursdays: 1:45pm to 3:00pm.

South’s Suburban Bowls Club
Victoria Park State School Year 4 Students are invited to visit South’s Suburban Bowls Club, corner Wardrop and Field Streets Mackay. To try bowls on the undercover carpet bowling green. On Monday 18 November 2013 at 3:30pm to 5:00pm all bowls will be provided. Parents or teachers are requested to attend with the students. Please contact Gary Putland on 49572569 for more information.

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

Prep for 2014
It’s that time of the year again when we are accepting Prep Enrolments for 2014. If you have a child of Prep age for 2014, can you please contact the office so arrangements can be made for an enrolment package to be collected or sent out to you.

Outstanding Accounts
If you have any outstanding accounts can you please settle them ASAP, so that the office can finalise their finances for the year.

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Christmas Choir:
Children from our school are now preparing to sing in the Christmas Choir at South’s Leagues Club on December 4.

Instrumental Music:
Lessons, String Ensemble and Concert Band finishing Week 8 children with school instruments need to return them in this week.

Uniforms:
There are still Instrumental Uniforms, Choir Uniforms and Novelty Costumes to be returned please return them NOW.

LIBRARY

2013 Premier’s Reading Challenge
All Qld students were invited by the Premier, Mr Campbell Newman, to read 15 or more books from May to September this year. 286 of our students successfully met the challenge and, in acknowledgement, have received a certificate this week, namely:
- Year 7: Brittany Pattemore; Jada Threadgate; Marnie Bugeja;
- Year 6: Alec Scott;
- Year 5: Alyssa Bosma; Brendon Isau; Nathan Platts; Iviegyn Tapayan; Mark Padrigano;
- Year 4: Colby Threadgate; Grace Clarkson; Holly Keates; Noah Gupwell; Julian Jarvis; Destiny Parry;
- Year 3: Sasha Chang Llerena; Erron Cuasay; Nicola Fraser; Amber Hansen; Fluer Higley; Gemma May; Carissa Theodossio; Jerry Yuan;
- All Year 2, Year 1 and Prep students.

Like the Premier, we congratulate these students on their success as well as encourage all students to be regular readers. Developing their literacy skills will not only help them in life but build a better future for Qld.

Thanks, also, to teachers and parents, for your encouragement and support.

End of Year Library News
The end of the year is fast approaching! As always, the Library will be CLOSED to students for the last two weeks of the school year. Students are, therefore, required to return all Library books by Friday 29 November.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Positions Vacant:
Mackay Northern Beaches State High School has 2 permanent positions commencing in 2014:-
- Schools Officer (Grounds & Facilities) – 38hours/week
- School Science Operations Officer – 36.25hrs/week
All details on how to apply for the above positions are available on the school’s website www.macknorthbeachesshs.eq.edu.au or contact the school on 4842 1333.
Applications close COB on Friday 15 November 2013.

Donna Frost | BUSINESS SERVICES MANAGER|
Mackay Northern Beaches SHS | Striving for Excellence
A: PO Box 430, Rural View, Qld 4740 | T: 4842 1333 | F: 4840 2516

Diabetes:
Children With Type 1 Diabetes - Are You Challenged by Your Child’s Diabetes?
Research into parenting children with Type 1 Diabetes.

The University of Queensland is conducting research into parenting children with Type 1 Diabetes. Parenting a child with diabetes presents many challenges (everything from the regular blood glucose monitoring and insulin intake, to more general parenting tasks). The aim of this study is to understand the factors that make the management of childhood diabetes particularly difficult, and to use this information to develop strategies that might assist parents in managing their child’s diabetes.
If you are a parent of a 2 to 10-year-old child with Type 1 Diabetes, we would love to hear from you!

By sharing your experiences (confidentially), you will be making a valuable contribution to the development of much-needed childhood diabetes management strategies for parents.

To complete the online survey, please log on to: https://exp.psy.uq.edu.au/type1diabetes

For further information about the project or to request a survey to be posted to you, please email Aditi Lohan (aditi.lohan@uqconnect.edu.au) or call (07 3365 7689) at the Parenting and Family Support Centre in the School of Psychology at the University of Queensland, St Lucia QLD 4072 (Fax: 07 3365 6724).

Thank you for your time and participation.

Aditi Lohan, Alina Morawska, and Amy Mitchell
UQ Parenting and Family Support Centre