01/14
5 February 2014
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
TERM 1 2014
Swimming has begun!

Welcome back to another exciting year of bookclub
$$due Feb 10 - all monies MUST go to the office before that date

Mon 17 Feb
Open Afternoon tea in Library
2pm followed by Kitchen Garden Meeting
2:30pm

Wed 19 Feb
P and C AGM
6:15pm

Fri 21 Feb 3-6pm
P and C Welcome Day
Includes sausage sizzle
FREE activities
See inside for details

Life Education 17-28th Feb
Cost to students $2.00
P and C subsidised event

Welcome to our new Preps! They have been hard at work.

Gotcha card total for the fortnight: 54
New total for the year so far: 54
**PRINCIPAL’S NEWS**

A very warm welcome is extended to all of our newly enrolled families and to the families of our continuing students. The summer vacation provides a wonderful opportunity to spend time enjoying the company of family and friends. I trust that you all had time to rest, relax and recharge for 2014. I trust that all of our families weathered the rain, wind and king tides with only minimal disruption.

Along with our new families our school community is excited to welcome a number of new staff to the school. Teachers new to the school are Lynda Jordan (Yr.5), Sally Wilcox-Smith (Prep/1), Trinity Brown (Yr. 4/5), Matthew Edwards (Yr. 6), Nicole Carnell (Yr. 4) and Anne Mason (Librarian). Ms Lisa Harbin (Yr.4) and Mrs Kristy Elworthy have returned to Victoria Park after a period of leave.

From Day One -Tuesday 28 January- all of our students and staff were living our Vision of D.I.V.E into Learning - Achieve Your Personal Best. Teachers began the year by explicitly teaching students what was expected from them throughout the year and what students could expect from their class teacher throughout the year. Building routines and establishing consistency provides children with a level of certainty, security and comfort in knowing what their day will bring. It is pleasing to see so many of our students excitedly looking forward to meeting new friends, catching up with old friends and curious about what 2014 has in store for them.

At Victoria Park SS our goal is to provide a “personalised” education for each and every child. This can only be achieved in co-operation with families and with a thorough knowledge of each child. This year in conjunction with the school’s P&C a Meet & Greet afternoon with a welcome BBQ will be conducted on Friday 21 February. I invite you to come in, meet your child’s teacher and begin the relationship that is so important to your child’s education.

To assist parents and teachers to maintain communication the EQ email addresses of our teachers have been published in this newsletter. Email provides another avenue for parents and teachers to maintain contact and to ensure messages are received by both parties.

We will again be informing parents of student absences via mobile phone Short Message Service (SMS) each time their child is away from school. At Victoria Park State School, student attendance and safety is a high priority. We know that students who attend regularly are more likely to be successful and safe at school. To improve our attendance procedures, we will be informing parents and caregivers about any unexplained absences for their child. The school expects parents and caregivers to contact the school in advance if they know their child is to be absent.

**Great Results Guarantee**

With the start of the school year education and schools have been in the media regularly. Our school has received additional funding from the Great Results Guarantee and we need to decide how we can use this money to better support our students and improve their outcomes. We are now working to develop our own Great Results Guarantee with evidence-based strategies and actions to improve literacy and numeracy. Read more about the guarantee at www.education.qld.gov.au/resultsguarantee.

If you have an idea on a way to support our students to learn more or if you would like to take part in the discussion please get in touch with the school or attend the upcoming P&C meeting on Wednesday 19 February.

**Special Needs Snippets.**

Welcome back to 2014. Currently there are 28 students with special needs in our school and are spread across all year levels. Students are all settling in well and are working and communicating well with staff and their friends. SEP staff are working in class to settle and support these students as they learn about their new classes and teachers. Class teachers and SEP staff work together to assist our students. Formal timetabling will commence once SEP staffing has been finalised following the Day 8 Download.

If you have concerns or queries please contact Mrs Jamieson, Ms Jensen or Mrs Lablache.

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**Chinese New Year**

2014 Chinese New Year’s Day was on 31st January 2014, the Year of the Horse. Chinese New Year is an important traditional Chinese holiday celebrated on the first day of the year according to the traditional Chinese calendar. In China, it is also known as the Spring Festival, the literal translation of the modern Chinese name. Chinese New Year’s Eve, (the last day of the month, to the traditional Chinese calendar. Different parts of China have very different traditions when celebrating Chinese New Year. These include fireworks, the New Year’s Eve Dinner, Red Envelope (decorated red envelopes with money that are given out by married couple to children), New year markets and decorations. During these two weeks, from Jan 31st to Feb 15th, year 6 and 7 students will participate in some fun activities that are related to Chinese New Year.

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**STUDENT OF THE WEEK**

1A: Chloe — For fantastic knowledge of being respectful!
1B: Kaleb — For always being a superstar learner in the classroom.
1C: Kevin — For having a great start to the year.
1C: Kaeli I — For having a great start to the year.
2A: Baliee — For being an awesome "Words Their Way" speller.
3A: Sophie — For displaying superb manners and being a fantastic listener!
4/5: Tasma — For her positive efforts and impressive start to the year
6/7A: Ashly — For displaying an excellent standard of bookwork.
6/7B: Darryn — For working well in class and being respectful to his peers.
7A: Mikayla — Being an excellent four star student.
# 2014 Teacher Email Contacts

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
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**SOUTHS JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB**

**SIGN-ON DAY – 2014 SEASON**

Grades - Under 6 to Under 15

**SUNDAY – 9th FEBRUARY 2014**

10:00am to 2:00pm

**SOUTHS LEAGUES CLUB** Milton Street, Mackay

**RE-REGISTERING PLAYERS and NEW PLAYERS WELCOME**

(Please Bring Proof of Age – Birth Cert/Passport etc)

**Registration Fee - $150.00 Per Player (U7 – U16)**

$110.00 Per Player (U6)

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:**

Club Registrar - Kelis Cairns

0427 526 301

Email: southsjrcl@bigpond.com

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>This fortnight’s Gotcha Lucky Tuckshop Vouchers go to:

**Prep:**
- Tamia — classroom superstar
- Ella — great packing away

**Year 1:**
- Danielle — giving her best
- Kayla — Reading so well

**Year 2:**
- Taryn — great helper
- Tia — great listening

**Year 3:**
- Hemi — a 4 star learner
- Libby — amazing classroom help

**Year 4:**
- Fleur — using manners, being caring.
- Lorna — Fabulous work

**Year 5:**
- Jessica — listening to instructions

**Year 6:**
- Nick — Independent working
- Jacob — starting school ON TIME

**Year 7:**
- Leann — Always following instructions
- Jazmyne — 100% effort

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P and C News

WHAT IS A P&C ASSOCIATION??
The P&C is a group of parents and community minded people who give feedback on school policies and activities, they give opinion on resources to be used to enhance student learning and it gives the parents an opportunity to be involved in their children’s education. We would like to invite all parents to attend our first meeting for the year on February 19th.

P&C AGM and meeting will be held on February 19th at 6.15 for introductions and at 6.30pm the meeting will start. It will be held in the library at the school. A normal meeting will follow the AGM and will commence at 7pm.

Every year the P&C are bound by the constitution and ALL positions must become available for any members of the school community to be able to be nominated for the positions within the P&C.

The volunteer positions that you are able to nominate for are as follows:

EXECUTIVE POSITIONS up for election are:
President
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary

Other positions with less time commitment are:
Uniform Shop Co-ordinator
Tuckshop Liaison representative
QCPCA representative
Student Council members
Garden Club Co-ordinator
Banking Co-ordinator

We are looking this year to fill the Fundraising Co-ordinators position. If you are an organised person who loves working with a group of people and running events then we NEED you. This is a important role within the P&C- the foundations we have but we are looking for someone with a little energy and some free time. You may be a parent just looking for something to do and would be excited to work with others. Please contact Michelle on 0438576784 for more information.

OPEN AFTERNOON TEA - If you have never been involved with the P&C before and would like to know a little about what we do than come along for a casual chat.
When: Monday 17th at 2pm
Where: Library
Why: So you can ask questions and meet a couple of the current P&C members (We are all parents wanting the best for our children)
A light afternoon tea will be provided by the P&C. We look forward to meeting you.

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

OPENING HOURS of the uniform shop are:
Monday morning from 8.30 to 9.30 am
Tuesday morning from 8.30 to 9.30 am
Thursday afternoon from 2.30 to 3.00 pm

Friday afternoon from 2.30 to 3.00 pm

TUCKSHOP NEWS

The tuckshop is OPEN. There are two ways to order. Either by brown paper bag before 8.30 in the morning at the tuckshop or by using Flexi-schools app for online tuckshop ordering. Please see information below.

As the P&C are responsible for the running of the tuckshop and the uniform shop we rely on the help of volunteers for both. At this time we are desperately seeking parents to help in the tuckshop. We are flexible if you are only able to do one day a week or month. Please fill out the form attached to this newsletter if you are able to help out.

Thankyou Sue and Natalie (Tuckshop Conveiners)

FLEXISCHOOLS -ONLINE ORDERING system. This is a system set up by the P&C to make it easier for parents to do tuckshop and uniform shop ordering at any time.
Please go to www.flexischools.com.au and type in Victoria Park SS to see a demonstration of how it works and then register yourself to start ordering from home.
If you have any questions please contact flexischools on 1300 361 769 and they are more than happy to assist. There is also a FREE app to download from itunes or google play. If you are a smart phone user that is very easy.

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL
BBQ for 2014

The P&C will be holding an Open family day for the teachers, parents and students of Victoria Park State School on:

February 21st from 3pm -6pm. This will be a fun afternoon organised by the P&C and entry will only be a gold coin donation per person. We will have some fun games, a jumping castle, facepainting, drinks and a sausage sizzle. Come and meet our P&C members, There will be give-aways throughout the afternoon so look out for those.

Where: Outside the Hall on the grass area
When: Friday afternoon February 21st at 3pm – 6pm
Cost: Only a Gold Coin donation per person on Entry –everything else will be provided.
What to bring: A Hat and some insect repellent.

Did you know your child’s best learning time is the start of the school day?

CONTACT DETAILS
Reminder to parents to keep the school office up to date with changes to address and phone contact numbers.
The P&C are funding the Kitchen garden project for the students to get involved in. We are looking for parent volunteers to help out as well. So if gardening is your thing and you would like to be a part of a project that is about to take off at our school. Now is the time to get a bit more productive as we have renowned cook and founder Stephanie Alexander of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation. Stephanie will be visiting our school on Thursday the 20th February from 3-6.30pm (registrations are essential). More information will be given about this information session at the meeting on Monday 17th Feb. We look forward to seeing you there. If you are unable to attend this meeting but would like to be a part of the garden team please contact Michelle on 0438576784.

**EXCITING NEWS**

The Life Education Team and Harold the Giraffe will **be visiting your school from:**

**17th – 28th February, 2014**

Life Education motivates and empowers young people to make smart life choices for a healthy future.

**MODULE:** ‘HAROLD’S SURPRISE’ – PREP

Harold and the class are invited to possum’s party in the park. On the way they become aware of and develop appreciation of their bodies, discuss the importance of healthy food choices and exercise, safety in the environment and identify how people grow and change.

**MODULE:** ‘CLUED UP’ – PREP / YEAR 1

The Children help Harold investigate the disappearance of his friend Cocky. Through being detectives and solving the mystery, they learn about friendship, healthy food choices, safe and unsafe living and cooperation.

**MODULE:** ‘HAROLD’S MYSTERY TOUR’ – YEARS 1 & 2

The class joins Harold and his friends on a mystery tour where they experience an ‘Amazing Body Adventure.’ The children explore appropriate remedies when feeling sick, issues of safety and ways to cope when feeling pressured.

**MODULE:** ‘HAROLD’S HEROES’ – YEARS 2 & 3

The children join Harold’s superhero team to make the world a safer, healthier place for everyone. Throughout the mission they discover the importance of clean air, safe use of medicine and safety in the environment.

**MODULE:** ‘ALL SYSTEMS GO’ – YEARS 3 & 4

Inside a futuristic machine ‘The Venture’, the Captain and his crew take the class on a tour of the human body. Travelling through the blood we explore the functions of various body parts and how magnificent the human body really is. The students discuss issues and engage in activities centered on peer pressure, second hand smoking, safety with medicines, factors that influence the function of body systems.

**MODULE:** ‘HAROLD’S DIARY’ – YEARS 3 & 4

The Children are invited to read Harold’s Diary as he shares stories relating to bullying, feelings, developing coping strategies, safety with medicines and the importance of making healthy food choices.

**MODULE:** ‘bCYBERWISE’ – YEARS 3, 4 & 5

The Children explore ‘netiquette; (Internet etiquette) and Cybersafety issues through roleplay and interactive activities. They explore how to establish positive respectful relationships and to report negative experiences to a responsible adult that they trust.

**MODULE:** ‘MIND YOUR MEDICINE’ – YEARS 4 & 5

The children develop an understanding and gain information on legal drugs, their effects on physical development and their potential for harm. The program encompasses risk-taking, responding to pressure and recognising harmful situations.

**MODULE:** ‘THE BURNING ISSUE’ – YEARS 5 & 6

The class identify ways nicotine adversely influences physical and social development. Students also identify high risk situations and develop strategies to deal with the influences and pressures to smoke.

**MODULE:** ‘THINK TWICE’ – YEARS 6 & 7

Students identify social, personal situations and consequences that may place young people at risk from alcohol. This includes physical development, social interaction, as well as social pressures and influences. Students will discuss, compare and develop strategies to avoid the harmful consequences of alcohol misuse.

**MODULE:** ‘IT’S YOUR CALL’ – YEARS 6 & 7

Students clarify the definition of a drug; explore risks associated with the use of legal drugs and the short and long term consequences of misuse. They examine the decision-making process, and develop strategies for dealing with pressure situations including digital media.

Come and learn what Life Education is all about :)

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**TUCKSHOP HELPERS**

Our Tuckshop endeavours to provide healthy food for our students and at present we are looking for helpers who can spare some time—maybe 1 day a week/1 day a fortnight or even a month.

I am available to help in the Tuckshop for ……day per ………

My preferred days are ………

Name: …………………………………………………

Phone No: ………………………………………

Please return form to the office—your help will be much appreciated.

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**FREE LIFE EDUCATION PARENTS INFORMATION SESSION**

TO BE HELD ON Monday 17th February at 2:00 p.m. — IN THE LIFE EDUCATION VAN

☐ I will be attending ☐ I cannot attend (Please tick the appropriate box)

I GIVE PERMISSION FOR MY CHILD to participate in the Life Education Program at our school.

NAME …………………………………………………………… CLASS ……………………………

Signed …………………………………………………

Your contribution of only $1.00 per student covers your child’s participation in the program, and a student workbook.

SEND THE PERMISSION FORM AND MONEY TO THE OFFICE.