04/14
20 March 2014

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TERM 1 2014
March 21st
Harmony Day AND FREE PLAY
9am SCHOOL LEADERS
INDUCTION IN HALL
Day for Daniel No cost
Wear RED

March 24th
Next Monday
SUBWAY DAY

March 25th and 26th
School Photo Days
Money due to office ASAP
NO PAYMENTS
accepted after 24th March

March 27th
School Disco—Come in Fluoro!

April 1st
Swimming Carnival
9-11am Year 1-Year 4
12-2pm Year 5-year 7
2:30pm presentations in hall
All parents welcome

April 1st
9:30am Rats of Tobruk Ceremony
at Queens Park memorial

EVERY MONDAY AT 2:15 pm
WHOLE SCHOOL PARADE IN
THE HALL

April 23rd
P AND C meeting
5:30pm in library.

Chappy News
Hi everyone,

Term 1 is going so quickly. It has been great to be back here every Thursday and Friday. At 8am both mornings we have breakfast club, near the tuckshop. I have some wonderful volunteers, Mrs Waterson and Mrs Whittaker who join me each week. Breakfast club is free and everyone is welcome. I would like to thank Bakers Delight (Canelands) for donating the bread, Woolworth’s Canelands for donating the milk and condiments and Red Cross for donating the cereal. If anyone has some extra fruit to spare, we would love it at breakfast club. Please send in Thursday and Friday - it would help if the fruit was already cut up.

It has been lovely getting to know a lot of the new Prep students; I try to spend some time in each classroom every week. It was great meeting some families at the recent Welcome BBQ.

Next term I am starting Fun Friends and Friends for Life Programs. These programs are helpful in building emotional resilience for students from Prep to Yr. 7. I will also be running the Real Me Program for some Year 6 & 7 girls; this was very successful last year and is designed to build self-worth. There will be more information coming out next term.

Please feel free to contact me at the school on either Thursday or Friday. I am here to offer Pastoral care to the school community and would love to be of assistance.

Chappy Michelle

Gotcha card total for the fortnight: 303

New total for the year so far: 1157
FREE PLAY THIS FRIDAY 21ST - WELL DONE
When things go wrong at school

Victoria Park SS subscribes to Michael Grose’s Parenting Ideas website. On the website are a number of articles and blogs full of information and advice for parents and educators. I have included the blog below which contains some great advice for when things go wrong at school.

Michael’s website is http://www.parentingideas.com.au/Home

Every parent wants the best for their children and that includes having great experiences at school. Despite best teaching practice, things do go wrong at school. Most kids experience learning difficulties from time to time. Conflict and peer rejection are a normal part of school-life. The developmental nature of childhood means that there will always be some turbulence, particularly around key transition ages, such as the start of adolescence.

During these times young people frequently experience a dip in their learning as well as significant relationship difficulties. Kids will often come home from school with grievances and call on their parents for assistance. Your approach as a parent when your child has difficulty at school makes a huge difference to their resilience and their future relationships with teachers and peers. Anecdotal evidence suggests that there’s been a significant increase in aggressive incidents at schools involving parents reacting to their children’s grievances. This not only presents a danger to teachers and their future relationships with students, but harms the all-important teacher-parent relationship.

Here’s a six point checklist to help you stay focused and be effective when your child experiences difficulty at school.

1. Stay calm and rational

It’s natural as a parent to protect, or defend your children, particularly when you think that they’ve come in for some unfair or poor treatment. But acting when you are full of emotion is not always smart. Rather than getting on the phone straight away to organise a meeting at school, take your time to think through how you might assist your child.

2. Get all the facts

Once you’ve calmed down, then get the facts about the situation. Kids are faulty observers and often only see one side of a story when there’s a problem with a teacher or a fellow student. They sometimes can’t see that perhaps they may have contributed inadvertently to a dispute at school, or perhaps said something that may have upset a teacher. It’s the job of parents to help kids process what happens in an incident, so that all the facts emerge and understand their place in any problem. Ask good questions to help the full story emerge.

3. Assess whether to go to school or not

Kids, like adults, like to vent and will benefit from having told their side of a story to a trusted source. Often problems can be dealt with at home, simply by talking through an issue and giving kids some common sense tips to help them cope.

If your child has a recurring problem that he can’t solve himself, or you think adult intervention maybe needed to sort out a relationship issue with a teacher or peer, then consider meeting with your child’s teacher or year level coordinator.

4. Go through the right channels

Approach the school calmly, going through the school office, or directly to your child’s teacher if that is the usual protocol. If you have already established a relationship with the teacher concerned, then it’s often easier to approach them directly.

5. Look for solutions rather than blame

Parent-teacher meetings usually get nowhere when either party blames the other. State the problem as you see it and view your child’s teacher as an ally, not a foe. “I’m really worried about Jeremy. He’s been acting strangely lately and I need some help” is the type of approach that will elicit a helpful response. Talk about your concerns and keep the discussion focused firmly on what’s best for your child. Listen to your teacher’s viewpoint, valuing a different perspective.

6. Stay in touch

Be realistic with your expectations, remembering that some problems can’t be solved to your satisfaction, nor will they be resolved straight away. Be prepared to work alongside your child’s teacher over the long-term, which means you need to keep communicating with each other.

Parenting is easy when things are going well, but testing when your children struggle or experience difficulty. Stepping back and taking a long-term, reflective view is often the best approach when your child experiences difficulty at school.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

1A Griffin—Fantastic reading with wonderful expression!
Cameron—Always being a superstar learner!

1B Zoe—For being a superstar learner EVERY day!
Maioha—For his amazing improvement in reading.

1C Keith—So impressed with the improvement in your spelling and the neatness of your writing.
Jahmal—Love your maths explanations!

1/2 Georgia—For showing all your Buccaneer buddies that you are a five-star learner.
Kieran—Your efforts have been improving greatly.
Killer Kilby is so impressed keep it up!

2A Zed—For showing a great improvement in spelling.
Anthony—For displaying considerable effort in completing homework!

2B Manni—Improved sentence writing.
Taryn—Improved sentence writing.

2C Kaylani—For high achievement in all areas of the Curriculum.
Etienne—For great improvement with writing tasks.

3A Sora—For 100% effort in all school activities.
Jack—For working hard to complete all class activities.

Nicole—For thoughtful spelling attempts.
Sam—For being a thoughtful friend.

3B Comayne—For giving everything his best at all times!
Bruno—For being such an enthusiastic writer.

3C Danika—Always being a hardworking 4 star learner.
Nina—Always being a hardworking 4 star learner.
Brodie—For showing a pleasing improvement in story writing.
Daniel—For working hard to be a learner.

3/4 Mark—Demonstrating his vast knowledge of time.
Amelia—Writing amazingly imaginative narratives.
4A Sam-Nicole—Always demonstrating that she is a 4-star learner.
Maddie—For her cheerful and positive attitude in class.
4C Tirth—For settling into a new school and class with ease.
Tiffany—For mastering her number facts and being the buzz champion.
5A Terima—Always being an attentive, polite and hardworking student.
5B Jerome—For always having an enthusiastic attitude towards his learning. A great role model!
Jessica—For always giving 100%
5C Lawrence—For being a 100% learner!!
Tamika—For being a 100% learner!!
Nafiza—For an awesome improvement with reading tasks.
6A Ruth—For always being a hardworking and polite class member.
Alyssa—Always being a 4 star learner!
6B Tyreece—Putting effort into all his tasks.
6/7A Rachel—For working hard in maths to gain great results
Naomi—For excellent descriptive writing in Narrative work.
6/7B Adam—For endeavouring to write great Sensational Sentences.
Jade—For excellent descriptive writing in Narrative work.
7A Always being an attentive, positive and hardworking student!
Noah—Excellent work on his ancient artefact assignment!

MARCH 24TH SUBWAY DAY—to be prepared register NOW @Flexischools. You will need to be on this app to take part and order Subs’! Keep up to date by checking SKOOLBAG app frequently. Call Michelle on 0438576784 for more information.

SCHOOL BANKING EVERY THURSDAY
If you wish to take advantage of the Commonwealth Bank school banking program, it’s as easy as registering at any Commonwealth Bank branch. Your child will receive a passbook and you may deposit into this account at Victoria Park State School EVERY Thursday. We appreciate Tracey Bourke for taking this on as our volunteer for 2014.

This fortnight’s Gotcha Lucky Tuckshop Vouchers:
Congratulations to ALL winners! Enjoy your $2.00 FREE tuckshop and keep up the great work! Well done.
Ella—3C  Adrian—2B
Kalel—5A  Elise—5C
Nathan—6A  Paris—6/7A
Taliah -2A  Noah—3/4
Jaccoa—1C  Kevin—1C
Danielle—Prep B  Tamia—Prep C
Destinee—7A  Leian—7A

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS
We currently have a short supply of larger sizes. If you are willing to donate your old uniforms please take to tuckshop to hand in. Thank you for taking the time.

FROM THE OFFICE
• If you have paid an amount for laptop fees by direct debit on the 11th March please contact the office with proof of payment as we currently have no name to receipt this transaction to.
• All calls for children are taking up administration time. PLEASE arrange afternoon pick ups with your children PRIOR TO SCHOOL.
• When MAKING PAYMENTS for school, please place the payment in an envelope and CLEARLY MARK the appropriate students’ NAME, CLASS and PURPOSE of PAYMENT. There is a money slot at front office for you to use. If paying by DIRECT DEPOSIT PLEASE use students’ name and class as reference.

CONTACT DETAILS— URGENT!!
Reminder to parents to keep the school office up to date with changes to address and phone contact numbers.
Thank you. PLEASE RETURN ENCLOSED CHANGE OF DETAILS FORM ONLY IF YOUR DETAILS HAVE CHANGED. This is required prior to end of term.

Mark Daniel
‘Your Partner for Success In Real Estate’

Email: mark.daniel@harcourts.com.au
Web: www.markdanielharcourts.com.au

Harcourts
P and C News

TUCKSHOP NEWS The new menu for 2014 has been sent home (on pink paper). If you have sent in the help wanted at tuckshop form and have not heard from us please call 49516337 and speak to Sue or Natalie.

STUDENTS ARE NOT (UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES) TO PURCHASE chips and ice blocks at second break. Students must go at 8:30am and pre-purchase a ticket from the Tuckshop to take back at second break.

MARCH SPECIAL—fresh fruit salad $2—available for breakfast, snack and lunches. HOT fried rice $3.50.

FLEXISCHOOLS ONLINE ORDERING system. Please go to www.flexischools.com.au and type in Victoria Park SS to see a demonstration and register yourself to start ordering. If you have any questions please contact Flexischools on 1300 361 769. There is also a FREE app to download from iTunes or Google Play. If you are a smart phone user it is very easy.

DISCO FOOD AVAILABLE from 5pm. Parents for the second session are welcome to come early to purchase food. Thank you to those parents for sending back their helper forms. We are still needing 8 helpers for the first session and 10 for the second session for this event to go ahead. Please text Michelle on 0438576784 URGENTLY if you are able to help out. All helpers are welcome even just for one hour. There will be a special surprise on the night shhhhhhh. Theme for the nights is “Fluorescent”. Glow products will be available to purchase.

-STEAK OR CHICKEN BURGERS $6
-SAUSAGE ON BREAD $2
-HOT CHIPS $3
-SPAGETTI BOLOGNAISE $4
-CHICKEN AND RICE $3
-ALL DRINKS $2

Dear Laga’aia

Victoria Park State School is the place you should see. The kids love to dance to “My Ukulele”. We hope you could visit on a “Beautiful day”. We would sing as we listen to the song “Float away”. “Funky the Monkey” is a track with some spark, So please come and share it with the Preps at Vic Park!

The Preps would be thrilled with a visit from Jay And here is exactly what they had to say:

“Jay should come and visit because he hasn’t seen our school before”
“I think he should come and sing a song”
“I’ve seen him on my TV”
“He needs to come and see us sitting quietly with our hands in our laps”
“He has to see us dancing”
“I want to dress up because I love Jay”
“Jay should sing on our stage”

Authors: PREP/1 AND S. WILLCOX
WINNER OF A SPECIAL VISIT ON FRIDAY 14/3/14

KITCHEN GARDEN UPDATE
The garden came alive on the weekend with a huge input from families, community members and some of our students. The children’s painting skills were amazing!! The first plants have now been planted and the most important factor in this program is the joy gardening brings to students’ faces. We can’t believe that they are even enjoying cleaning out the re-cycle bins. Parents are now meeting in the garden every Wednesday at 2pm until 3pm on a weekly basis. We look forward to many more new faces each week!

We are collecting
-1.25L empty soft drink bottles
-washed milk bottles
-ice cream containers (any size)
-empty egg cartons
-packets of vegetable seeds and seedlings

BUILD A SCARECROW—VICTORIA PARK YEAR 2-7 STUDENTS!
Build your scarecrow and bring it in on FRIDAY 4th March to win great prizes - scariest scarecrow, best scarecrow name and best use of recycled materials.

Easter Bonnet Parade for Prep and Year 1 on March 4th
Prizes will be awarded on the day for best Bonnet and most imaginative creation!!

Authors: PREP/1 AND S. WILLCOX
WINNER OF A SPECIAL VISIT ON FRIDAY 14/3/14

Hector’ from DBCT came to parade last Monday to hear our resident author Emma Pattemore read her newly published book to our school community. Well done Emma and thank you ‘Hector’. 
Each fortnight some of our class teachers offer Insights and Updates on what is happening in their class. This fortnight we hear from: 
Ms Arnold—Year 3B

"3B has been busily learning how to touch type using a program called TypeQuick. Our fastest typist is Ciara and so far, Mia is the most accurate. We have been using the Jump and Split strategies when adding and subtracting and are getting faster and faster with our number facts. We’ve been writing Sizzling Starts, Tightening the Tension in our paragraphs and learning to write dialogue. We love to play our word sort card games and try to get our work finished quickly so that we have time for a Funny One from Mrs Arnold’s special folder."

Miss French—Year 6

Students are in the process of writing amazing creative short stories which will be presented to buddy classes (Prep and Ones) by the end of Term. The start is very exciting... We look forward to reading your amazing tales as they are written to completion!!

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Did you know your child’s best learning time is the start of the school day? That’s when every minute counts the most!! School starts at 8:50am.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>He/ She is only missing just....</th>
<th>That equals....</th>
<th>Which is.....</th>
<th>and over 13 years of schooling that’s....</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 minutes per day</td>
<td>50 minutes per week</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 weeks per year</td>
<td><strong>Nearly Half a year</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 minutes per day</td>
<td>1 hour 40 mins per week</td>
<td>Over 2.5 Weeks per year</td>
<td><strong>Nearly 1 year</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half an hour per day</td>
<td>Half a day per week</td>
<td>4 Weeks per Year</td>
<td><strong>Nearly 1 and a Half years</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour per day</td>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>8 eeks per year</td>
<td><strong>Over 2 and a Half years</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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WHITSUNDAY VOICES YOUTH LITERATURE FESTIVAL 2014

DATE CLAIMER: 16-19 JULY Don’t miss this year’s line-up of Australia’s most respected children’s and young adult authors and presenters during the four day celebration of reading, writing and imagination. As well as the student session days, another key date to lock in is THURSDAY 17 JULY, 4pm to 6pm, for the highly anticipated Parents’ and Educators’ Forum. The Forum is a must for teachers, librarians and parents looking for unique ways to engage and challenge students in the areas of reading and writing.

GO BLUE FOR AUTISM THIS APRIL. GO BLUE FOR AUTISM MORNING TEA APRIL 1ST at PORTERS HARDWARE COFFEE SHOP FROM 9.30AM COME DRESSED IN BLUE - HOPEFULLY CONSUME SOME BLUE ICED CUPCAKES. PORTERS HARDWARE WILL SUPPORT US IN THIS EVENT THROUGHOUT THEIR STORE IN THE LEAD UP TO AND ON THE DAY. PLEASE SPREAD THE NEWS AND SHOW YOUR SUPPORT. ALL MONEY RAISED GOES TO AUTISM QUEENSLAND GO BLUE FOR AUTISM. See the Skool bag App for all details.

Aussie helpers Appeal have a collection bucket in the office. For more than 11 years the people of Australia have supported Aussie Helpers in helping to keep “The Dream Alive” in rural regions. Without your wonderful support we could not achieve our objectives as we receive no government funding, so please donate what you can. www.aussihelpers.org.au

SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN Mackay Gymnastics 9:30am-11am Cost $16.50 per child call 49420032 to book.
Mon 7th April; Wed 9th April, Mon 14th April, Wed 16th April

Join Mackay City Central Scout Group!
ADDRESS: cnr Hume & Lagoon St. West Mackay
Contact Group Leader: 0424 696764 or a4.sbktm@hotmail.com

Dear teachers and students, AgForce invites school students in years 1 - 6 to participate in the 2014 Groovy Gumboot Competition! The competition is an opportunity to spread the Every Family Needs A Farmer message and a great way for students to express their ideas and thoughts about agriculture and its importance in their lives through art. While AgForce has previously asked students to decorate a gumboot to represent what agriculture and rural Queensland means to them, this year we are using a template of a gumboot where they can create a work of art using any design elements they like.

HARMONY DAY 2014: Celebrate at CQ TAFE Theatrette Building Friday 21st March 9:30am–12 noon. Guest speaker Mehwish Arshed from Pakistan—a qualified teacher.

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