Words of the Week

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that your learn, the more places you’ll go.” Dr Seuss

Principal’s Message

It is hard to believe that we are already over half way through the term. These last two weeks have flown by.

Students have participated in the Australia’s biggest school initiative, Music: Count Us In. In 2015, more than 550,000 students from over 2,100 schools participated nationwide. Music: Count Us In brings teachers, parents, students and the music industry together in celebration of music and music education. 2016 is the 10th anniversary! All schools are encouraged to get involved. Music: Count Us In exists to advocate for improved access to music education for all students across Australia.

This fortnight our Tackle6 program saw our upper class working with Jamie again. Our second tackle was on leadership and the third tackle was on literacy. Students participated in activities to promote learning in these areas while also tackling teamwork, respect and attendance.

This week also saw a change in our playground times and areas. We are trialling a new system to reduce instances in the playground. We have separated our cohorts into smaller groupings and have added another area for them to play. I am aware that this reduces the opportunity for the children to play with others outside their cohort but we are trying to be proactive and not reactive. After two weeks we will be discussing the pros and cons of this timetable and make a decision from there. I am happy to say, that there haven’t been any issues during play times, reported to me for the past week.

We have now began work on our Quadrennial School Review. This happens every four years before we begin work on our 2017-2020 Strategic Plan. In the review process we need to make recommendations on what will be addressed over the coming four years. We are wanting to maintain our momentum/ success with student Reading and Writing improvement as well as maintaining our behaviour and expectation standards. We would also like to place more emphasis on our Parent and Community Engagement. If you would like to see the school focus on other areas, please feel free to send an email detailing your thoughts so we can table them for discussion.

We are moving into a very busy time of the year. Have a wonderful fortnight.

Yours in education,

Venetta Jones
Principal
Virtue of the Week

Truth

What is Truthfulness?

Truthfulness is being honest in your words and actions. You don’t tell lies, even to protect yourself from getting into trouble. You don’t listen to gossip and prejudice. You see with your own eyes and make up your own mind about what is true. Being true to yourself means being who and what you are without exaggerating to impress others or trying to look like something you are not. It is being yourself, your true self.

EXPLICIT IMPROVEMENT AGENDA

As you are aware, this year our school is focusing on improving our Reading, Attendance and Writing (RAW). Each student has undertaken a writing task which has been assessed. After this assessment, class teachers spoke with each individual child showing them how well they wrote. They also showed them where and what they could do to improve. These discussion have now provided students with their individual Writing Learning Goals.

Some examples of these goals are:

- Marnie is working on improving her paragraph writing. She is going to ensure each paragraph has one new idea with all the sentences grouped around that idea,
- Riley is working on improving the sentence structure within his paragraphs. He is going to ensure he has a topic sentence, sentences to support his topic sentence and then a concluding sentence.
- Alexis is working on improving her use of persuasive devices. She needs to ensure she uses high modality words like I believe, certain, must, will to persuade her audience.
- Alex is working on improving his vocabulary. He needs to ensure he uses more technical words related to his topic. He will begin to include words like, furthermore, ultimate, outrageous, solution etc.

PREP 2017

If you know of any preppies that are starting next year could you let them know about our wonderful school or let us know so we can make contact with them. Together we can build our school!

ASSEMBLY

Assemblies occur fortnightly on a Friday morning at 9am. All parents and carers are welcome to attend.

The dates are as follows:

Week 6: 11/11/16
Week 8: 25/11/16
Reminders & Upcoming Events

Thank-you to those parents who have volunteered their time so generously in helping in the classrooms this fortnight. We appreciate your generosity.

Same Day Absence Notification

If your child/ren is away please call or text this number at any time and your message (either voice or text) will be received and recorded. This mobile number is monitored between 8.30am and 3.30pm Monday to Friday.

If your child is away without a suitable explanation we will send a text asking you to reply with your child’s name, the date and the reason he/she is away. If a reason is not given in the reply, the absence will be marked as unexplained. If we do not receive a reply will attempt to call you.

REMEMBER EVERY DAY COUNTS!!

ATTENDANCE THIS FORTNIGHT

Attendance this fortnight is at 94.8%. We have improved substantially from last fortnight. I am very pleased to see that we have beaten our weekly target of 92% Well done to everyone for putting in the effort to come to school.

The best attending year levels this fortnight are Year 1, 2 and 4. All of these students have attended school for 100% of the last fortnight! Well done!!

AWARDS / CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Our term Redback Awards and Christmas celebration will be on Wednesday 7th December, beginning at 5.30pm under the covered area. P&C will be running a BBQ on the night to raise money for the school. Please note this date in your diaries to come and celebrate with us!

YEAR 6 GRADUATION DINNER

The year 6 Graduation Dinner will be on 30th November at the Alton Downs Polocrosse Club. Our celebration night will begin at 5.30pm. Dress for our special night will be smart casual and students are not expected to purchase formal items for the night. More details will be sent home with invitations in the near future.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION FUN DAY

The Year 6 fun day will be held on Thursday 1st December. I am keeping it under wraps as to what the students will be participating in. More details on our secret day will be sent home at a later date.

P & C News

P & C News

At the meeting last night, Mrs Heather Laver stood up to take on the President position until our AGM next year. Thank you for giving your time to us Heather.

P&C meetings will be in the RTC Meeting Room, the second Tuesday of every month. The dates are as follows:

Term 4

Week 10- 6th December at 6pm

All are welcome!
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<td>BULLS, BEER &amp; BEATS</td>
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**Policy Reminder**

**FOOT WEAR**—The school uniform is accepted as normal attire for students. Students are expected to wear suitable footwear at all times. Acceptable footwear includes socks, joggers or sneakers. 

**HATS**—Students must all wear.