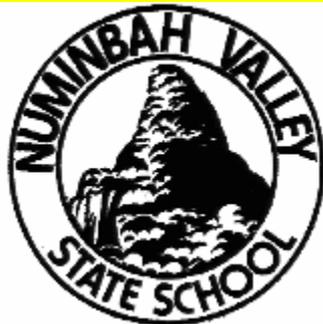


Week Beginning

20/08/18



Numinbah Valley State  
School

# Numinbah Valley State School NEWSLETTER

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Hello Everyone

Week six? Where did those previous five weeks disappear to? Sometimes I make the same statement replacing weeks with years and yes, time appears to march on whether you're with it or not and I can assure you, it doesn't improve with age.

A big congratulations to Rachel, Ash and the Hardy family on the birth their little girl Luna. I'm not sure what the future plans are but having a girl is a very positive outcome, especially considering the ratio of boys to girls at our school. I want to also congratulate Sam and Steve on tying the knot and taking the marriage vows. Wonderful memories and great to have the whole family together to share the experience on such a very special occasion. On an equally pleasant note, I want to welcome Chanel, our new student and her family to our school community. She has settled in very well after what really was a seamless transition from a much bigger school. Great to have you as part of our small school with a personal touch.

The weather remains dry and drastic where water tanks are concerned and little relief in sight. This week I have twice been caught behind a water delivery truck and I'm assuming we will see it more frequently as the dry spell continues.

### Staffing

You may have noticed a new staff member, Kristy Parker working with us on Tuesday each week. Kristy has taken over from Tracey Unwin who took sick leave before the end of term two. Kristy has taken on the Numinbah challenge and is doing a great job teaching history and social sciences and forming a great relationship with our students. Nicky Maguire, while currently helping out on Tuesdays and Fridays will be helping out each Wednesday morning to allow Mrs Yaun to spend more time in the office. In addition to Monday and Tuesday, Cath Cargnoni will be spending Fridays with us immersing herself in curriculum development and the school's curriculum framework.

### School Opinion Surveys

All parents have been provided with login details to complete the online school opinion survey. This survey is conducted each year to elicit parent, student and staff satisfaction around the operation of their child's school. While I understand parents always being on the go and busy with day to day life and all it entails, we have to the 24th of August to complete these surveys but to date only 4 families have completed them. As I say each year this is an opportunity for you to have your say and complete the survey according to where you believe we can improve. I can assure you it is read not only by me but also by the department.

### IN THIS EDITION

- Principal's Report
- P&C News
- Quote of the week

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### August

- 24 P&C Meeting
- 24 School Opinion Survey Due
- 28 Deliver Scarecrow to GC Show
- 31 Gold Coast Show Holiday

#### September

- 1 Doing it for the drought
- 14 Springbrook Observatory
- 17 Small Schools Raw Challenge Family Day
- 19-21 School Camp
- 21 End Term3

### FORMS / MONEY DUE

- ASAP 2017 School Camp Fees
- 24/8 2018 school camp forms
- 4/9 Springbrook Observatory Permission Form
- 7/9 Raw Challenge Permission Form / Money

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT CONTINUED

### **Camp - 19/20/21 September – Lake Moogerah**

As mentioned in a previous newsletter we work hard at endeavouring to keep costs for parents down to an absolute minimum. Essentially this is achieved through collaboration between the school and the P&C committee. Each year the fundraising makes available additional monies from which our P&C can draw on to support the various school activities and make them more affordable and accessible for all our students' families.

Organising the camp from beginning to end starts the previous year at the booking stage which is usually followed by arranging the bus if it is necessary for that particular year. We have already booked our Lake Ainsworth camp for 2019 and looking to perhaps investigate Moreton Island for 2020. The majority of camps will cost anywhere between \$200 and \$260 per student and generally, but not guaranteed, that will include night activities. The previous years have been no different but we have managed to keep the cost to our families down to \$60 per student. Providing this opportunity for our students to share in an experience that develops and supports social interaction, physical challenges, personal organisation, planning, independence, confidence building and resilience is certainly worth every cent of the \$260. For some parents the thought of having a very quiet 'childless' house for two nights just before school holidays commence may also be good value at \$260. We will be advising parents in the not too distant future the cost per student for this year's camp and if you haven't started putting a few dollars away you may want to start the process to lighten the load later on.

### **Raw Challenge – Monday 17th September**

The soccer / netball carnival conducted at Mallawa Drive each year will be replaced this year with a raw challenge family day at the facility here in Numinbah Valley. We are emphasising the family component of the day hoping that parents and family members can attend and make it a real memorable occasion. You may wish to bring a picnic lunch while there will be a food and coffee van onsite for your convenience. It will be \$10 for students while parents will only pay \$20.00 to challenge themselves on the course but will need to sign waivers as is normal procedure for all those who participate in the Raw Challenge. Mick Spittle will be setting up a course for the younger students and I'm sure they'll revel in it. Mick will also provide us with risk assessments for the day. This will be a great way to start the last week of term and a great catch up for parents as students depart for camp on the Wednesday of that week.

### **Naplan Online**

While not fully implemented it appears that Naplan will soon be totally online in the next two years. I have nominated our school for training and readiness activities to implement the online process for our students. The benefits of the online format include: tailored test design, a nine day test window and a school and student summary report. The tailored test design uses questions answered to direct the student to either more challenging group of questions, or dependent on their individual responses less challenging. The nine day test window provides an opportunity for schools to be more flexible around when they conduct the test reducing the stress and limited timelines that impact on both schools and more importantly students and ultimately parents. I will certainly keep families posted as I become aware of developments in future.

### **Classroom**

Our seniors are presently finishing off English units requiring students to produce a retell of a familiar narrative, the Lorax. This retell is presented through the perspective of another character in the story. Your children have produced some very imaginative and creative pieces of text from the short and sweet to the significantly long and detailed. While a word count is provided, the skill of including or omitting necessary and superfluous information is certainly developing. Students put significant effort into choosing which character's story they felt comfortable telling. Some actually chose the Lorax himself, others the Swomee Swans, the Humming Fish and those more confident even chose the Oncler's family. Students have given me permission to attach student samples to the email with this newsletter. Mathematics assessments have explored student knowledge around: prime, composite, square and triangular numbers, decimals, percentages, discounts and relative problem solving for our year sixes; fractions and their equivalents and problem solving for year four and the year threes have looked at odd and even numbers, number patterns and sentences and explained the connection between subtraction and addition. One of the next year three assessments revolves around telling the time and reading timetables. If your child struggles with telling the time try highlighting strategies you use when telling the time and assist your child to become more proficient and confident with this concept.

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT CONTINUED

### Homework/Reading/Oral presentations

Student submission and completion of homework to date has, for several students been somewhat of a challenge. Essentially, the submission has been good however the actual completion has been an issue. On the other hand, there have been students who've scored well and received a light week as a reward by scoring four or above two weeks consecutively. They, as a reward, are given Dojos as well as weekly points toward the term's homework award. When I open a homework book on a Friday afternoon to assess a student's work I only assess those completed. So how do those students receive a four or a five?

Firstly, they have completed each worksheet in a tidy and presentable manner; written out spelling words neatly and correctly each night; composed and written neatly two sentences each night (x8 weekly); written out one set of number facts each night (2 by xn facts and 2 by ÷n facts weekly) in a neat, presentable and organised manner. The homework set is neither onerous nor a major impost on a child's time. Making homework more palatable has always been struggle for schools and more importantly parents.

Homework generally reinforces skills and concepts learned in class and will prepare students for class tasks and topics. Students learn to work independently and develop self-discipline. Homework encourages students to take initiative and responsibility for completing a task and allows parents to have an active role in their child's education while helping them evaluate their child's progress. In addition, homework activities relate what is learned in school to children's lives outside of school and helps to connect school learning to the real world.

Each student is different and actually starting homework can be a hurdle. Spending twenty minutes on the written work each night and fifteen to twenty minutes reading might be a fair time allocation for some children where others would find that akin to pulling teeth? Some students to their credit do their reading at home and their written work in the classroom in the morning. The classroom is open early, warm, quiet and available to those who feel there may not be sufficient time, space or inclination at home.

Fortnightly oral presentations continue to highlight the developing skills and encouraging progress of students who allocate time to research, prepare, practice and present their talks to their peers. These talks place a student in a position where they become an expert on a particular topic and learn almost vicariously about a place, person or concept as they go through the process preparing their presentation. They develop confidence around public speaking, they learn to research a topic and evaluate, extract and synthesize the important information as they modulate their voice, monitor pronunciation and juggle palm cards. There are many adults who struggle with public speaking. If we can, by giving our students an early opportunity to allay fears of presenting orally we'll have done their education trajectory no harm.

#### Quote of the week!

**TREAT  
OTHERS**  
the way  
you  
want to be  
**TREATED.**



Have a productive and friendly week  
Cheers  
Warren & Danni

### P&C NEWS

#### *Raw Challenge*

*Our next fundraiser is the Raw Challenge on the 27th & 28th October. Please put these dates in your calendar. If at least one adult from every family could spare a day during that weekend it would be greatly appreciated.*

*Our next P&C meeting Friday 24th August at 3.15pm. If you have any agenda items please see Jess Slingsby. All welcome!*

