



GEEBUNG STATE SCHOOL

Newsletter

27 February 2014

From the Principal

Welcome to week 5 and the third newsletter for the year. As a general statement we have been very happy with the start of the year as the focus in almost all instances in all rooms has been learning. Yes we have been tight on behaviour and will continue to be as we need children behaving at their best so they can concentrate on learning. ALSO it is important to note that this allows all of the students' class mates to learn! One issue that has improved significantly is student Attendance Rates. In 2013 the average attendance was around 88%. In 2014 we have averaged after four weeks just over 94%. The process for 2014 in regards to managing attendance will be that parents who have students absent and have not notified us will be written to. As will parents whose children are regularly late for school. After two letters I will ask to see you to see if we can solve the problem together. If this does not work out then we will look at the truancy process, which is not my preferred course of action however it is the law and does come with potential fines.

The students' behaviour is also being monitored across the whole school very closely this year. The Behaviour Statistics for 2014 show that in the first 4 and a half weeks there has been 1 in 5 students who have a behaviour incident. This is not surprising at the start of a year, as processes and expectations are being set and the standards we want for 2014 are higher than 2013. Although in all honesty 1 in 5 is not ideal. Again the reason for this close monitoring is to ensure students are focussed on their learning and not disturbing others. The good news about this is that 80% or 8 children out of 10 at least, are doing the right thing every day! Well done to those students.

With the above statistics being monitored carefully teachers are reporting to Matthew and I that Curriculum is very much the focus of what they are spending their time on. This is great news and with our "BLAND" (Behaviour, Literacy, Attendance, Numeracy and Data/Distance Travelled) focus for this year we will see improved results for these children who attend, behave and work hard on their targets and goals.

In the school at the moment staff are working very hard to ensure the Annual Implementation Plan (AIP), Great Results Guarantee and budget document are ready to submit on the 28th of February 2014. When these are complete and signed off these will be available on the website or at the P&C Meetings. These documents set a clear direction for 2014 and focus VERY clearly on improving ALL students results.

The GREAT RESULTS GUARANTEE is a new process for 2014. It is funding targeted at P-2 and is focused on improving students results. The plan at this stage is almost complete and more information will follow in future newsletters.

Active School Travel is a Brisbane City Council initiative that aims to increase physical activity and reduce traffic around schools. There are some really important dates that are coming up for all to remember and be involved in please. Active School Travel Launch Day - this will be special and fun - will be held on March 5th at 2:30pm. The first travel day will be on March 12th. With more information to follow.

Some parents must not be aware there is no right turn (out of turn around circle) until after 3:30pm. Please obey this rule as it makes it safer for all concerned.

The next P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday 11 March 2014 at 7pm. It would great to see you there.

Congratulations to all students who have represented the school at Bramble Bay trials. It is wonderful to see so many children actively involved in sport!

Have you completed the attached form and sent it to school with your E-mail address so that we can send you the link or document for the newsletters in term 2? If not, complete the attached form ASAP please.

Stephen Auer
Principal



CELEBRATE DIVERSITY

ON HARMONY DAY

AT GEEBUNG STATE SCHOOL

WHERE EVERYONE BELONGS

Wednesday 19 March 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

An Assembly followed by fun activities

Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend,

to celebrate with our school community.



School Details

Address	250 Newman Road Geebung	SEU	3623 8706
Telephone	3623 8777	Tuckshop	3265 5959
Fax	3623 8700	After School Care	3865 8971
Student Absentee Line	3623 8760		

Website: <http://geebungss.eq.edu.au> | Email: info@geebungss.eq.edu.au



Deputy Principal

Week 5 and we are all busy. It is great to see the enthusiasm of the students and their focus as I visit classes.

Curriculum Team: Yesterday the Curriculum Team met to finalise the assessment schedule for 2014. This has been an important process as we reflect on 2013 and look to improve our practice for 2014.

Community Conduct: Can I remind parents that we are always “on show.” The manner by which we conduct ourselves is a model to our children and also to visitors to our school. I have heard reports that at times parents may be using inappropriate language when they are talking with each other whilst dropping off or picking up students. This is unacceptable and must cease thank you. We are working hard as a community to go from a Good school to a Great school!

Helping your child: One of the best ways to ensure that you are

contributing to the development of your child is to make sure you have regular communication with your child’s class teacher. Feedback to them what you see at home and they can share their evidence from school. This way you can work together to apply consistent strategies for home and school that will help to reinforce learning.

READING ARMY: At Geebung we are always looking for ways to better help our students improve their knowledge and skills. In particular we are excited about a new opportunity for parents to assist with this. I encourage you to read the section in the newsletter about the Reading Army.

Matthew Meharg
Deputy Principal

TERM 1 2014 - COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5	FEBRUARY 24	FEBRUARY 25	FEBRUARY 26 2:30pm Assembly -Hall	FEBRUARY 27	FEBRUARY 28
6	MARCH 3	MARCH 4 Bramble Bay Netball Trials—Bald Hills SS	MARCH 5 2:30pm Assembly -Hall Bramble Bay Hockey Trials—Boondall SS	MARCH 6 2pm Graffiti Education presentation for Yr6&7	MARCH 7
7	MARCH 10 9am-1pm Middle School Problem Solving Challenge—Wavell State HS	MARCH 11 7:00pm AGM P&C Meeting in Library	MARCH 12 Active School Travel Day 2:30pm Assembly -Hall Bramble Bay Rugby League Trials—Location TBC	MARCH 13	MARCH 14
8	MARCH 17	MARCH 18	MARCH 19 9-11am Harmony Day 2:30pm Assembly -Hall Bramble Bay Soccer Trials—Curlew Park	MARCH 20	MARCH 21
9	MARCH 24 Metro Region Choral Honours Music Camp	MARCH 25 Metro Region Choral Honours Music Camp	MARCH 26 Metro Region Choral Honours Music Camp Year 4 Camp—Mapleton 2:30pm Assembly -Hall	MARCH 27 Year 4 Camp—Mapleton Queensland Art Gallery Excursion	MARCH 28 Year 4 Camp—Mapleton
10	MARCH 31	APRIL 1 Cross Country School Event	APRIL 2 2:30pm Assembly -Hall	APRIL 3	APRIL 4 Term 1 finishes

TERM 2 2014 - COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1	APRIL 21 EASTER MONDAY	APRIL 22 Term 2 begins	APRIL 23 2:30pm Assembly - Hall	APRIL 24	APRIL 25 ANZAC DAY
2	APRIL 28	APRIL 29	APRIL 30 2:30pm Assembly - Hall	MAY 1	MAY 2

HPE News

The HPE award acknowledges exceptional effort and attitude in HPE lessons. This week's award winners were Shania B (3/4B) for trying her very best at swimming, Mitchell M (PB) for being a great listener and always trying his best, Alex W (2A) for showing great improvements at swimming and 3/4A for having the entire class remember their swimmers.

The school cross country has been scheduled for 1st April 2014. Students have begun daily training for this event at school. 9 and 10 year old students will be required to run 2km, while 11, 12 and 13 year old students will run 3km.

Congratulations to all the students who swam at the Bramble Bay swimming Carnival. Chloe H (6A), Kirsten P, Amber N and Patrick W (7A) will now represent Bramble Bay at the Met North Carnival this Wednesday 26th February. I would like to personally thank Debbie Marsh for her outstanding efforts and our fantastic parent helpers' valuable assistance on the day (Julie, Lorna, Virginia and Kerry). Well Done!

Finally, good luck to those students who are proudly representing our school at the Bramble Bay district trials for netball on Thursday 6th March and Rugby League on 13th March.

Business Services Manager

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION

All students will receive a letter regarding Geebung State School's annual Voluntary Contribution fee. Each year we ask parents to pay a Voluntary Contribution fee which assists us in providing resources for our teachers to use with their students e.g. Art and Craft supplies, paper and cardboard, materials for Science experiments etc. This year the fee is \$10 per child per term. This figure has been arrived at in consultation with the support of our P and C Association. While

the payment is voluntary we hope that parents will be able to support the scheme by making payments.

Payments can be made term by term, semester by semester or in full and are accepted in cash, Eftpos credit card or direct deposit to our Bank Account. We thank you in anticipation of your assistance with this contribution.

Michelle Johnson—**Business Services Manager**



A friendly reminder of payments due soon

Payments Due	Date	Amount
Year 4 Mapleton Camp-Final Payment	28 February 2014	\$200.00
Wavell High Problem Solving Challenge	7 March 2014	\$7.50
Year 6&7 Canberra Tour 2 nd payment	14 March 2014	\$350.00
Year 3 Art Gallery Tour	21 March 2014	\$7.00

Uniform Shop

UNIFORM SHOP

The shop hours for term one will be Wednesday's 8.15-9.15am and Friday's 8.15-9.15am.

Eftpos is available on all purchases over \$10.

Second hand items are ever changing and stock is always welcomed. Items may be left at the office, tuck-shop or in the shop during open hours.

Items should be placed in a bag with contact details and clearly marked if they are a donation or to be sold on commission.

Grown out of your uniform or school shoes? Why not sell them in the shop. The shop takes 20% commission from all second hand sales.

Bucket hats and swimming caps are available everyday at the tuck-shop.

LOST PROPERTY

The lost property rack will go out near the art room stairs on Friday's or you can come into the shop of Wednesday's.

Named items are returned to students as soon as convenient via the office.

Fleur Stanford—**Uniform Convenor**

Reading Army – EOI

Geebung State School are calling for Expressions of Interest to join our "Reading Army." We are looking for parents who are prepared to give up a small amount of their time to help our students improve their reading. The Army will work in 5 week blocks with days and times yet to be determined. TRAINING will be provided by the school and is an essential requirement to be part of the Reading Army. The training will go through "What Reading Is" as well as "How to help children to Read." Reading improvement is a 2014 priority for our school and this will be an important resource that can have a positive impact. If you would like to express your interest, please give Mrs Brennan (school office) your name, phone number and email address. We will then be in contact with you with further details so we can start to establish your availability.

From the Music Department

WOW! What a great response to the last newsletter. As a result I have taken on new students in Brass, Woodwind & Percussion. Exciting times here at Geebung State School. I look forward to seeing the new students in lessons very soon. Lessons are well underway for 2014. I am very pleased to say that students are arriving on time and with their required materials. Well done everyone.

A great way to encourage your child to practice is to ask them to demonstrate what they have done in lessons that week. Try asking them lots of questions about the music and their instrument – if they can explain it to you, that will help them to really cement their knowledge.

Finally – I watched this YouTube clip yesterday and wanted to share it with you as it demonstrates the power of music. Alice Herz-Sommer died on the 23rd February, 2014. She was the oldest Holocaust survivor in the world and a fine pianist. Her music was what helped her to survive her horrific ordeal during the war. Her passion and love for music is inspiring and is shared by me. I strive to foster these same feelings in my students...

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8oxO3M6rAPw>

"I think music in itself is healing. It's an explosive expression of humanity. It's something we are all touched by. No matter what culture we're from, everyone loves music." Billy Joel

Yours in music,

Alyson van Gaalen
Instrumental Music Specialist

Hello Everyone!

Just a note to thank you for the way the Geebung State School community has welcomed me. Since my introduction message in the last newsletter I have had a wonderful response with both children and their parents greeting me in the school grounds, parents popping in to Choir rehearsals and parent interest emails. I really appreciate that Music Education be it classroom, choral or instrumental is valued and supported here at Geebung.

Both Senior Choir (Year 4 to Year 7) and Junior Choir (Prep to Year 3) are going well. Junior Choir numbers are increasing every rehearsal and the children's enthusiasm is infectious. We now have a dedicated band of Year 6 and 7 helpers who are assisting with Junior Choir Mondays at second break. As part of their duties they collect members from the eating areas and bring them down to sing and then afterwards return them to their classroom. I have received feedback that some children have missed the collection call so from next week each individual eating area will have a designated helper so the children will learn who to look for and then their names will be called from the roll before they walk down to enjoy the fun.

Remember the Choir program is always keen for new members so come along. Everyone is welcome!

Yours in music,

Julie West
Classroom Music Specialist and Choral Conductor
Jwest269@optusnet.com.au

Chaplain's Corner

Parent Workshop

Our 3rd parent workshop was held last Tuesday 18th Feb 2014. It was a great morning of interaction and fellowship. Some of the topics covered: preparing your children for school, school expectations, reading with your kids. We were also given information on the Saver Plus program offered by The Smith Family.

I would like to thank Suzi Gauci for looking after the children and Andrea from The Lets – Read program for donating some Indigenous books to our school.

Crazy Card Club: My thanks to all who have sent in donations and materials for the crazy card club. We are putting them all to good use. Our numbers seem to vary wildly between 40 students one week and 8 the next. If you are available on a Thursday between 1:15 – 1:45 you are more than welcome to pop in.

After School Activities:

Nigel from YACCA (Youth and Combined Community Action) has awesome **free** activities taking place of an afternoon after school for

anyone aged between 10 – 17 years of age.

Paint in the park is a part of The BCC walls and colours project that works with young people to develop and paint a community mural in the park. For more information on this activity please call or SMS San on 0481 004 066

When: Thursday afternoons – 3 to 5 Starting 30 Jan 14

Where: @ Kids Space - 7th Brigade Park, Cherside

Food will be provided.

Mulbeam Madness is after school activities program, run by Nudgee College, YACCA, Smith Family, PCYC & BCC.

Where: Mulbeam Park cnr Muller & Beams Rd Boondall

When Tuesday afternoons – 3:30 to 4:45 school terms

What: Sports, Games. Music and a **free** sausage sizzle

If you would like to know more about any of the above activities please give me a call on 3623 8777 or email me at chaplain@geebungss.eq.edu.au.

Tuckshop

The 2014 Tuckshop menu is available. A copy will be sent home with this newsletter. Additional copies are also available at the tuckshop or on the school website.

Donations of popping corn, Long Life milk, sugar and flour are always needed at tuckshop.

Treat Day will be on 19 March 2014 to coincide with Harmony Day. Helpers are always needed—please phone or call in and put your name down.

Please do not pay for your tuckshop order with foreign currency. It is not legal tender.

Awards



CONGRATULATIONS
to our Award winners at Assembly



Library Resource Centre News

Book Club

The Book Club order forms will be distributed early next week. Would families wishing to purchase books please put orders and monies in an envelope and place the order in the box at the Administration Office. All orders must be returned to school by 9.00a.m. Wednesday 12 March 2014. Payment can be made online or by phone. If paying by credit card, please follow payment instructions on the student order form and return the completed form to the Administration office. Thank you to the school community for your support towards the Book Club, as our Library benefits from bonus points.

Help Needed to cover Library Books

The Library has a large number of books that need to be covered. If you have a spare hour from 9.00am – 10.00am Monday mornings we would greatly appreciate your assistance. Training will be provided. This is a great opportunity to come along and meet parents from the school as well as making a very worthwhile contribution towards your child's school. For further information please see the Library staff. Many thanks.

Julie Silva
Teacher Librarian

P&C News

We hope everyone is settling into the new school year well. The P&C would like to say a special Thank You to the McGuire family, who have once again made a cash donation to the tuckshop. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

School banking is up and running again this term. There is a new reward system, no longer using the silver or gold tokens. Further information will be supplied as it comes to hand. Banking day will be changing to Tuesday as from next week. So please send next week's banking on Tuesday 4 March 2014.

Our AGM will be held on Tuesday 11 March at 7pm in the library as previously advised. At the AGM, all executive positions will be made vacant, then nominations and voting will take place for a new executive committee at the AGM. If anyone is interested in participating in the P&C this year, below is a brief description of the roles in the executive committee.

P&C President

- shall preside at every meeting of the association in which she/he is present
- shall be a signatory on P&C accounts

- provide leadership (delegate)
- act as representative of the P&C
- ensure communication between P&C, school and community
- be familiar with the rules, operations and meeting procedures of the P&C

P&C Vice-President

- consider this position as the President's understudy
- shall be a signatory on P&C accounts
- Chair those meetings from which the President is absent

P&C Treasurer

- has the overall responsibility for the financial management of the P&C, including all subcommittee accounts.
- shall be a signatory on P&C accounts.

P&C Secretary

- shall be a signatory on the accounts
- will record all proceedings of any meeting of the Association by way of full and accurate minutes
- shall maintain attendance records and a register of members
- shall prepare and present minutes of P&C at each general meeting

P&C Volunteers Register

This year the P&C would like to put together a volunteers' register for parents and friends interested in helping out at our various fundraising events throughout the year. There is no expectation that you will help at all events, just a little of your time will be much appreciated.


Once we have your details, you will receive an email/text message to advise of an upcoming event and the type of assistance needed (eg wrapping mothers day gifts for the stall), and from there you can decide if you are available to help or not.

These events are a great way to get involved in the school community and the students really enjoy seeing Mum, Dad or Nan helping out. You do not need any special skills – just a happy smile!!!

If you are interested please email your contact details to gsspc.admin@bigpond.com or phone the P&C office on 3865 5022 (please leave a message if unattended).

Leanne Hayden – Fundraising Coordinator
Melissa Ashford - Secretary

Notices



On the school courts

Geebung State School Tennis
Begin. Improve. Play.

Everton Tennis & Gear conducts MLC Hot Shots tennis lessons after school on your school's tennis courts.

Tennis Gear is one of Brisbane's largest providers of Hot Shot Tennis coaching programs. We operate three tennis centres and deliver the Tennis Australia MLC Hotshots Tennis program at a select number of schools. Hot Shots is designed specifically for children aged 4 to 12 year old, uses modified courts, balls and equipment to help learn skills quicker, and gain more enjoyment. At Tennis Gear we're committed to providing Brisbane's budding stars of tomorrow with a fun, social and safe environment to learn and enjoy this great game.

If you would like your child to learn tennis, please complete the enrolment form below and either fax or email it to our office. Alternatively you can call our office on 3353 2018 and enrol over the phone if you prefer.

Geebung State School Enrolment Form
Please complete this enrolment form and return to Everton Tennis Centre
65 Russell St Everton Park 4053 fax: 33531723 e: info@tennisgear.com.au

Student Name: _____ Birth Date: ____/____/____ Boy / Girl
Parents Name/s: _____ Mobile: _____
Street Address: _____ Home Ph: _____
Suburb: _____ Postcode: _____ Email: _____

Cost: \$18.50 pw charged fortnightly

Tuition fees are paid fortnightly via Direct Debit from your choice of bank account or credit card. After receiving your statement, we will post or email you a payment authority form, we ask that you complete the form and return it to us as soon as possible. Our Direct Debit system provides a convenient and easy way for parents to pay tennis tuition fees. This system allows you commence lessons at anytime throughout a year; or to cancel your enrolment at any time by providing 14 days written notice. Of course no payments are charged and no lessons are held during your school's regular school holidays, student free days and public holidays.

Please circle preferred day and time:

	Monday	Wednesday
PM	3.05-3.50pm Yr P-7	3.05-3.50pm Yr P-7

3266 1660 | 3353 2018 | 3899 8110
Shaw Park TC Everton Park TC Morningside TC
www.tennisgear.com.au

STRATHPINE COMMUNITY DAY

1 MARCH 2014 10AM

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GYMPIE ROAD**



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Boondall Scouts are looking for you!
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- Scouts**
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Contact our Group Leader
Darren Ranger 0435 172 197
for more information

Does your child consistently refuse to do what you ask?



MANAGEMENT OF YOUNG CHILDREN PROGRAM

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ENOGGERA PARENT EDUCATION CENTRE

Need help to manage your young child?


Troubled By Those Challenging Times?

- Mealtimes, Bedtimes, Talking on the telephone
- Getting ready for school or a family outing?

Would you like assistance putting all the pieces together?



Then you may want to know more about the Management of Young Children Program (MYCP).



The Management of Young Children Program is an Education Queensland initiative that has been helping parents and carers and their children for over twenty years.

The Program is staffed by a variety of professionals all of whom have undergone specialised training.

Who?
Parents and carers of children with challenging behaviours who are aged between 2 1/2 and 7 years of age.

How Much Time?
You and your child will need to attend the Centre 2 times a week for about 8 weeks. Each session lasts up to 45 minutes.

Program Times
Program 1 - Monday and Tuesday 12.30 to 3.00pm
Program 2 - Wednesday and Thursday 12.30 to 3.00pm

Referral
Parents are required to contact the Centre by phone to be placed on the waiting list.

Location
MYCP is conducted at the Enoggera Parent Centre Laurel St. Enoggera.

Cost
All programs are free

Subscribe for our School E-Newsletter

Dear Parents/Guardians

We are changing our method of distributing the school newsletter. Hard copies of the newsletter will no longer be sent home as in previous years. Next term editions will be electronic, coming to you via email and also through our school website each fortnight. This exciting new innovation will allow you to access school news as well as images, providing a more vibrant and dynamic form of communication.

*Gone are the days of digging crumpled bits of newsletter
from the bottom of our children's bags!*

We are hopeful that we can enhance our communication to parents and perhaps reduce the need for paper based communication. Reduction of paper is consistent with our endeavour to model responsible environmental action.

Our school will focus on developing our E-Newsletter to maximise its useability but we will still make available a print copy for those parents/guardians that do not have internet connection or an email address. This is collectible from the school office.

Please complete your email details on the tear-off slip below and forward to the school office, or alternatively you can forward a email to info@geebungss.eq.edu.au.

Kind regards

Stephen Auer
Principal

Subscribe for our School E-Newsletter

Please print clearly and return to the school office

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Email: _____

This email details belong to: (please circle)

(a) parent/guardian

(b) grandparent

Student Name: _____

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 Mail > 960 Gympie Rd, Chermside, QLD 4053
 Email > marchant.ward@ecn.net.au
 Web > www.fionaking.com.au
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