Reading as part of homework

One of the key elements of becoming an effective reader is the development of one’s vocabulary - the words we need to know to communicate with each other. In addition to the formal instruction that happens at school, growth of a child’s vocabulary is impacted upon by the frequency he or she is exposed to unknown or new words found in what is read, and the volume of words that are read.

This is why our school’s homework policy includes home reading, including having parents read to their children, even when they are already good readers! Studies indicate that students who read five minutes a week outside of school will read about 21,000 extra words a year. Children who read for ten minutes a day will read 622,000 words a year, and children who read for 15 minutes a day read well over a millions words in a year! This exposure ensures they read or hear new or unknown words they need to learn about, or have explained.

Home reading is a valuable part of your child’s reading development. When you create me for quiet reading, talk with your child about new or unknown words, and read to them, even when they are accomplished readers, you are helping expand their vocabulary.

2015 Prep Enrolments – Your assistance is requested

Next Wednesday afternoon at 5:00pm we will be delivering the second and final information session about Prep in 2015. We have already three classes for next year and our Enrolment Management Plan means a maximum of four classes will be formed next year. If you are in catchment, or have a child with a sibling already at Bald Hills State School, and have not completed a 2015 enrolment form, please contact the school as a matter of urgency. It is important we now have a clear indication of numbers for next year to ensure members of the school community have a place before we welcome new students from out of catchment, or larger than ideal classes are required. Contacting the school will ensure a package is sent home so the enrolment process can commence as soon as possible.

Ekka Week – No assembly

I hope everyone enjoyed the mid-week holiday! We had considered a Friday assembly but with already having a day lost, and with the Bramble Bay Sports Carnival being held on Monday and Tuesday, learning programs have been significantly interrupted for students and teachers. We will return to our weekly assembly next Wednesday.

David Turner
Principal
From the DP

Before school and after school routines for students

There has been a noticeable decrease in the number of students being dropped off to school very early in the morning over the past couple of weeks. Thank you to parents and carers for considering the significant safety concern around having their children at school unsupervised, both from a stranger danger and injury/medical point of view. It is a message that my own child’s school has also recently reminded parents about, as the school as had a stranger approaching students on the school grounds both before and after school hours. The matter was reported to police and person was questioned by police. Stranger danger is an important issue that we all need to be aware of.

Please be aware that the school provides supervision for students from 8:15am (30 minutes prior to the start of the school day). If you need to drop your child to school earlier than 8:15am then we ask that you either remain with your child for supervision purposes or use before school care.

Before school routine — When students arrive from 8:15am they are required to sit quietly under the administration building. Students are not permitted to play on the front playgrounds or on the ovals before school. There is no supervision in these areas before school. When the 8:25am bell rings students are permitted to move into the quad area. Students are able to use the handball courts, basketball court and the quad area. At 8:40am a bell rings to signal for students to move to their classrooms. Classroom learning commences at 8:45am.

Please be aware that teachers mark attendance rolls between 8:45-8:50am. If your child arrives to school after 8:50am they will need to report to the office to get a late slip.

After school routine — The school day concludes at 2:55pm for all students. If you are picking up children from their classrooms in the afternoon, we ask that you wait away from the classroom until the 2:55pm bell goes (e.g. wait under admin, in the quad at the back of the library, etc.). Some students become distracted from the final part of the day’s learning when parents are waiting outside classrooms. Students not being picked up by parents from their classrooms are required to move straight to the pick areas. Students are not permitted to play in the school grounds after school. Students waiting at the Ana St pick-up zone are required to remain inside the school fence in the seating area by the demountables. Please note the top area of Ana St is a no stopping zone (yellow line) and students should not be getting into vehicles at the top gate.

As you would be aware, the pick-up zone is very busy in the afternoon. To ensure a smooth flow of traffic parents/carers need to move down to the end of the pick-up zone when the traffic in front has moved on. If vehicles stop at the beginning or the middle of the pick-up zone, fewer vehicles can access the pick-up area. Thank you to parents and carers who have been moving down to the end of the pick-up zone.

When pulling out of the pick-up zone, please be aware of the through traffic coming down Ana St. There has been a recent near miss with a car pulling out of the pick-up area without giving way to through traffic.

Could I also remind you that there is no parking in the pick-up area during the following times: 7-9am and 2:30-3:30pm as per the zoned signage. Parents/carers who wish to park and collect students can use the car park off Ana St or appropriate on-street parking on Gympie Rd.

Students who have not been picked up by 3:15pm are required to go to the office. A bell rings to signal to students that they need to move to the office. The office will then contact parents/carers. If you are unable to collect your child by 3:15pm, again we encourage you to contact Camp Australia to enquire about after school care.

Libby Bond
Deputy Principal

Positive Behaviour Support Program

Be a Learner

Learner Lenny says:
Have all your equipment ready to start the day.

Chappy News

LAST BBQ/DISCO FOR THE YEAR – Fri 12 Sept!!

CHANGE FOR CHAPLAINCY MONEY BOXES....

Thank you so much for the money boxes that have been returned already. A few have come back without names so please let us know if that is your child so we can get their McDonald Certificates to them.

KRAVE KIDS SEPTEMBER HOLIDAY CLUB

See flyer — spaces fill fast so book in ASAP

A fabulous, fun filled couple of days!
Contact me for more details—I will be helping out!

10 WAYS TO PROMOTE GOOD MENTAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING IN KIDS

Model Good Mental Health Habits
Make Sure They Get Enough Sleep
Encourage Kids To Exercise
Give Them Creative Outlets
Provide a Space Of Their Own
Talk About Their Troubles
Help Them To Relax
Have Two Routines—Weekday and Weekend
Foster Volunteering and Helpfulness
Bring Fun and Playfulness Into Their Lives

Read more on this topic by Michael Grose
- parentingideasclub.com.au

Chappy Kylie

Last Chance 2015 Prep Information Evening

Wednesday 20 August 2014
5pm—6pm in the Prep Rooms

Flyers home this week
Kids Krave Club Holiday Program

See flyer — spaces fill fast so book in ASAP
A fabulous, fun filled couple of days!
Contact me for more details—I will be helping out!

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Chappy Kylie
The next general meeting is Wednesday 20 August in the school library at 7pm. All welcome.

FORESTRY— there is a working bee in the school forestry on Sunday 31 August starting at 2pm. BYO afternoon tea afterwards.

If you can help out, please contact Louise Brennan or Jinty Bird on 3261-1554

BOOKFAIR is on from 21 August. If anyone could help out, please see Sharon Blake in the library.

BOOKCLUB money and orders should be back in now. Next issue out this week.

Have a great week.

Tanya May
President

Tuckshop News

Don’t forget our FRIDAY EKKA SPECIAL on 15 August. All children should have received a flyer. Money and orders are due back to the Tuckshop by Thursday 14 August.

Thanks Kylie and Mel

ROSTER

MON 18 August - Mel M
TUES 19 August - Lembe L
WED 20 August - Tanya Mc, Kay
THURS 21 August - Donna V, Helen M, Cherrise M
FRI 22 August - Alice S, Sue G, Leanne H, Liz H

Uniform Shop News

Open hours: Wednesday 8am-10am and Friday 2:15pm-3:15pm

Forestry News

On Friday a large group of year 3s attended Lunchtime Forestry. These year 3s had been studying a unit on bats and were keen to see some bat boxes installed in the Forestry. The boxes that were hung in the Forestry were made from old plant pots and heissan. These boxes will hopefully attract insect eating bats. These tiny little bats range in size from 4cm to 6cm. They are fantastic at eating large numbers of insects including mosquitoes and fruit flies and they navigate their way through echo-location. You can see these tiny bats flying at dusk and also hear their echo-location call which is a metallic tick tick sound. Australia is home to several species of micro bats which are hollow dependent. Students who attended were reminded never to touch a bat as they carry a disease that can be harmful.

There will be a working bee in the Forestry at 2pm on Sunday 31 August.

Important Dates

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<td>Wednesday 20 August</td>
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