Welcome

We are coming up to the mid-way point of Term 3 very quickly. All students and teachers are working extremely hard and producing some amazing work. The number of students receiving awards for consistent effort as well as displaying the You Can Do It keys to success is exceptional. Well done to all our award winners.

Thank you to Mrs Mechielsen and the Junior and Senior Choirs who wowed us with their talents on Parade. The Junior and Senior Choirs placed third and second respectively at the recent Beenleigh Eistedfodd. We certainly have some star performers at Runcorn State School. The Assistant Regional Director, Mike Kelly, visited last week to discuss student progress so far this year. He was very impressed with our reading program and the gains students have made throughout the year. He was that impressed that he has asked to share what our teachers and students are doing in classrooms with other schools. We are extremely fortunate at Runcorn to have such dedicated and hardworking teachers and students, who are eager to engage with learning.

Reading

Keep your eyes on the newsletter for upcoming parent reading workshops to be held here at school. These are a great way for parents to complement the strategies we are using as part of our Runcorn Reading Program. This program is paying dividends and we are seeing positive results from Term 1 – Term 2 across all year levels.
Buddies on Blankets with Books
This great event occurs every Friday morning before school and encourages students to read as a social event. I would like to encourage parents to be a part of this program. Reading is a wonderful family activity. Our younger students particularly have given positive feedback about being able to share books with their buddies and friends.

You Can Do It
It is very pleasing to see the large number of students receiving You Can Do It tickets both in the classroom and playground. House Captains are busy filling the You Can Do It wall with pictures of their house mates engaging positively with the You Can Do It strategies around the school. Thank you to all our families who are assisting with reinforcing these strategies. Across the school we have seen an increase in positive behaviours and a decrease in detention room activity. A great result.

Pick Up Zone
A reminder to parents there is a supervised pick up zone which is monitored by staff every afternoon. Students are not to wait in unsupervised areas or play in adventure playgrounds unsupervised while they wait to be picked up. I would also like to remind parents that school finishes at 3pm and students need to be picked up in timely manner. If you are running late, please contact the office on (07) 3323 8777 and let them know.

Junior Athletics Carnival
Thanks to Mrs Wood and all the supporters of the Junior Athletics Carnival. This was a fantastic day out for students and parents. Congratulations to all the students for their great efforts. Thanks to the P&C, staff and student helpers for making the day run smoothly.

District Athletics Carnival
Congratulations to all the students who competed at the District Athletics Carnival on Wednesday, 30 July and Friday, 1 August last week. Runcorn fielded a fantastic team and all athletes competed to the best of their ability with some outstanding personal bests and overall results. The following students made it through to the Met West Regional trials:

- Aaron Werder  800m 1st, 200m 3rd, Long Jump 3rd and Multi Event 1st
- Jieye Mauai    Shot Put  1st
- Fletcher Day   800m 3rd

EKKA Public Holiday for Brisbane Schools
Parents and families are reminded that Wednesday, 13 August is the EKKA Show holiday. Our school will be closed on this day.

Term 3 Staffing
This week we say farewell to Mrs Evalina McNeil in 3M as she goes on maternity leave pending the birth of her baby. On behalf of the staff and families I wish all the very best and thank her for her wonderful work.

Ms Emily White who is currently in a student support role role will take over 3M as of next week. Ms White has worked extensively with this class throughout the year and is very much looking forward to her new role.

Welcome back to Ms Ananda Duffy who will take up a part time student support role. Ms Duffy has previously worked in student services and as a classroom teacher at Runcorn.

Tuckshop Volunteers required urgently
Tuckshop volunteers are urgently required on all days of the week. The tuckshop needs volunteers to be able to operate five days a week. If we can’t get volunteers we may need to reduce the number of days the tuckshop operates. If you can spare even an hour to help out please contact Jodie Newton Tuckshop Convenor on (07) 3323 8732.

School Council and P&C
A reminder School Council nominations are open and close at the end of the week. An email was sent home to parents recently outlining the School Council’s role and the process for being involved. If you would like to nominate but did not get a form, please contact the office.

The next P&C will be held on Monday, 11 August 9am in the P&C room. All new and existing members are welcome to attend.

Regards

Greg Gosling
FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Stationery is essential for every child, every lesson, every day.... It is important that all students are provided with the stationery essential to complete teaching and learning tasks. Can you please respond to requests by your child’s teacher for additional or replacement stationery that needs to be purchased and sent to school. Thank you.

FROM THE RESOURCE CENTRE

In conjunction with our Book Week Dress Up Day on Monday, 11 August, the brand new musical for Book Week 2014 and its theme “World’s Apart” features a selection of the 2014 Children’s Book Council Shortlisted books and explores how, in an ever changing world, books remain a consistent way to connect with others and celebrates the fact that a good story is timeless. There will be two performances, Prep to Year 3 at 12.10pm and Years 4 -7 at 2.00pm. Both of these performances will be held at the school in Girrawheen Place and will run for approximately 1 hour. At a cost of $6.00 this represents extremely good value for money. A permission note was sent home on Friday of week 2. Please note that payment will not be accepted after Wednesday 6 August 2014.

Book Week is from 16 – 22 August. The theme for this year is ‘Connect to Reading’! All of the shortlisted books are on display in the library. Classes are reading through the books and will choose their favourites. Feel free to come in and browse through this year’s collection. There are many ways we can ‘connect to reading’ with our children. Come and visit the resource centre for ideas!!

MUSIC NEWS

Exciting News for the Instrumental Program

The new government policy has included children being eligible for band when they are enrolled in Year 4 and Year 5. This is an incentive that strengthens bands as the Year 7’s depart for high school.

From our music coordinator......

“For primary schools, band programs (woodwind, brass and percussion) will now commence from Year 4. Strings will continue to start at Year 3. Primary schools currently recruiting for 2015 should plan to include beginners in both Year 4 and Year 5 2015.”

Information for the Instrumental Programme at Runcorn State School – 2015

The Instrumental Programme is an Extra- Curricular Activity that is offered to students who demonstrate an aptitude for music. The staffing for this programme is funded by the Department of Education Training and the Arts. Runcorn State School assists the programme by funding instruments. Places in this programme are limited, therefore after students express interest, places are offered according to availability and the student having met with the selection criteria.
The overarching purpose of the Instrumental Music Programme as set out by the Department of Education Training and the Arts Instrumental Programme is to “provide children with the opportunity to experience the expressive qualities of music through learning to play a band/orchestral instrument and to participate in performance ensembles such as concert bands and orchestras.”

It is our policy that students are eligible for either the strings or the band programme, not both. After a formal request to the Principal and under exceptional circumstances such as giftedness, students may be offered a place in both programmes. Please note that it is not the intention of the programme to have students switch from strings to band in Year 5.

Students in Year 3 and 4 in 2015 are eligible for violin, cello or double bass. Students in Year 4, 5 and 6 in 2015 are eligible for clarinet, flute, saxophone, percussion, french horn, trumpet, trombone.

Information regarding the Selection Process

Step 1 – Students fill in an “Expression of Interest Form” due Thursday, August 28th, 2014. For a copy of this form, please collect one from the office.

Step 2 – The student’s classroom music participation and ability, along with the Class Teachers assessment of academic ability, homework and independent learning skills are recorded and passed onto the Instrumental Teachers.

Step 3 - Instrumental staff assess which instruments might be suitable for the candidates.

Step 4 – A written offer is made in Term 4, 2015.

The Commitment

- Sign up for the minimum of one year.
- Students have a half hour lesson per week.
- Students in band/ensemble participate in a weekly rehearsal before school.
- Students should practice at home.
- Be available for competitions and concerts – approximately two a year, sometimes after school hours.
- Purchase set performance uniform from the uniform shop, new or second-hand.
- Provide black socks and black shoes.
- Pay $5 Vest and Bow Tie hire.
- Pay Instrumental Levy – Children on school instruments pay $ 85 for the year, students providing their own instruments pay $ 55 for the year. This levy covers the maintenance of school instruments, the cost of folders and the purchase of music, which for band and ensemble pieces is approximately $ 200 a piece.
- The Levy will be billed in 2014 and will need to be paid in full by February 2015.
- Generally speaking instruments are on loan for a one year period only. Larger instruments are on loan for the student’s duration at Runcorn State School.

If you have any further questions please leave your name and contact details with the office for Mrs. Mechielsen and I will return the call as soon as possible.

Happy Playing,
Rita Mechielsen

Choral and Instrumental Evening
Wednesday August 27, 2014 – Sunnybank State High School
Children required by 6.15 pm for a 7 pm start

The Year 4’s will have just returned from a camp so we have rearranged the items in order for our Year 4’s students to sing and play Strings first up and then be taken home if need be. We have always requested all students stay till the end of the concert, but this is an exceptional situation.

Band, Strings, Senior and Junior Choir

All groups, with the exception of Year 3 and 4 Strings are to wear Performance Uniform.

Dear Parents and Students,

We are delighted to inform you of our annual Choral and Instrumental Evening at which every musical group at our school participates. It is a marvellous evening and will conclude at 8.30 pm.

We request that everyone (exemption for Year 4 students who have just returned from a camp) stays for the entire concert, which we will push through without an interval. It is concert etiquette to remain for all the performance groups, otherwise the last groups have no audience.

The adult seating will be on chairs with students sitting in groups on the floor at the front. This will assist us with the least possible disruption caused by people moving around between items. We request that families make special arrangements to be in attendance for this evening.
If there are circumstances preventing attendance, please write a note to the respective teacher before the evening. For a copy of the invitation, please collect one from the office or download from our website.

Yours sincerely
Rita Mechielsen – Choirs, Ms Jessica Long–Strings, Mr Craig Millar – Band

SCHOOL PHOTOS - 3RD & 4TH SEPTEMBER

Don't forget, school photos will take place on the 3rd and 4th September 2014. More information including envelopes will be sent home soon.

FROM MRS ANNA WOOD - PE TEACHER

This semester our school will be attending 3 Sports Gala Days for Years 5-7 students. The information below outlines sports, venues and dates of the carnivals.

Day 1 – Friday 22nd August
Day 2 – Friday 12th September
Day 3 – Friday the 17th October

The number of games and scheduled times will vary throughout the day depending on the draw. Teams attending will travel by bus and leave school at 8:15am and return by 3:00pm, with the exception of students participating in bowling who will travel by private transport. Sports will be at the following venues:

- Touch Football – Boys: Runcorn High School
- Touch Football – Girls: Runcorn High School
- Netball – Girls: MacGregor Netball Association. Cnr McCullough Granadilla Street, Macgregor
- Boys Cricket – Kianawah Park, Wynnum Rd Tingalpa
- Bowling** – AMF Bowling Macgregor. Coach Mrs Bryzak

Students unable to attend will be participating in Intra School Sport activities.

Should the day be cancelled due to wet weather, back up days have been scheduled for the Friday after eg. 29th August, 19th September and 24th October.

Permission notes have gone out this week and must be returned with FULL payment by Friday the 15th of August. Late payments/permission notes may result in your child not being able to participate.

**Bowling students will receive a separate note and will pay their fees at the venue each Gala Day. Please contact Mrs Bryzak if you are able to provide transport as without parent transport, bowling will not be able to go ahead.

Please contact Mrs Wood if you have any questions.

Happy Sporting!!
Mrs Anna Wood, PE Teacher

SCIENCE EXPO IS COMING

DATE - 20TH August (9am - 11am)
WHERE: Throughout the school
WHO: Students who love to share some exciting activities with you

Learn about lifecycles from Year 2, explore the planet with the Year 3’s, and get messy with the Year 4’s as they change things mysteriously. And if that is not enough, learn about natural disasters, how light works and how chickens are made! We hope you can join us for a morning of exciting science. Parents are welcome to attend.

FROM THE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

To avoid the disappointment of your child not being able to attend year level activities, payments MUST be made by the cut-off date stated. PAYMENTS WILL NO LONGER BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE CUT-OFF DATE. THIS WILL BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO. This is due to the new Education Queensland financing system.
Thank you to those parents who utilise our direct deposit payment system as this method is quick and easy to identify and allocate payments to students. This is our preferred method of payment. If you wish to use this method, our school's bank account details are as follows:- BSB 064-162 / Account No. 00090035. The school also accepts cash/cheque/efpos. Please ensure permission forms are completed and submitted to the class teacher when paying by EFT. If you have any concerns or difficulties with these payments, please do not hesitate to contact the front office to discuss payment arrangements in advance of cut-off date. Invoices will no longer be sent home, please regard the excursion letter as your invoice for payment.

Invoices will no longer be sent home, please regard the excursion letter as your invoice for payment.

Instrumental Levies are also now due. Parents are also reminded to complete, sign and return Student Media Consent forms. Copies are also available from the office.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

TERM DATES FOR 2014 SCHOOL YEAR

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<th>TERM</th>
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<tr>
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<td>14 July 2014</td>
<td>19 September 2014</td>
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<td>7 October 2014</td>
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TERM 3 – DATES OF SIGNIFICANCE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8th August</td>
<td>Buddies with Books</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Book Week Favourite Dress Up Day</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>11th August</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting, 9am, Staffroom (All welcome)</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>15th August</td>
<td>Payment Closing Date – Yr 4 Camp – Final Payment Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
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<td>Payment Closing Date – Sports Gala Days</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
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<td>Buddies with Books</td>
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<td>Book Week Activities</td>
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<td>Sports Gala Day 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>22nd August</td>
<td>Buddies with Books</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>25th August</td>
<td>Yr 4 Camp Commences</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>27th August</td>
<td>Yr 4 Camp Finishes</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>28th August</td>
<td>Payment Closing Date – Yr 2 Excursion to Toohey Forest</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>Music – 2015 Expression of interest forms due</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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<td>Prep Information – Afternoon Play</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>29th August</td>
<td>Sports Gala Day (Back Up Only)</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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<td>Buddies with Books</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>School Photos</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>12th September</td>
<td>Sports Gala Day 2</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>12th September</td>
<td>Buddies with Books</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>12th September</td>
<td>Three Way Reporting Finishes</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>19th September</td>
<td>Sports Gala Day (Back Up Only)</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>19th September</td>
<td>Buddies with Books</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>19th September</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 3</td>
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PREP 2015 FOR STUDENTS BORN BETWEEN 1 JULY 2009 - 30 JUNE 2010

Prep enrolments for 2015 are now open and places are filling quickly. If you or your friends have a son or daughter born between 1 July 2009 and 30 June 2010, they are eligible to attend Prep in 2015. If you are interested contact Lyn, Ruth or Leanne in the office on (07) 3323 8777.

LOST PROPERTY

Don't forget to check through the bin throughout the year for any items that your children may have misplaced. This bin is located underneath the teachers’ staffroom. Any leftover items will be donated to charity at the end of each term.
P&C News
The date for the next meeting is **Monday, 11th August, 9am**. All parents including Prep parents are welcome to attend. We look forward to meeting you.

Runcorn FunFest
We are looking for a parent to run our 2015 FunFest (fete). Alongside with our P&C and our last years' fete coordinator who has done a fantastic job putting all the manuals together to make it easy for the new coordinator to take over. This event is held every second year and we need to start getting it up and running very soon.
If you love working as part of a team, have a creative flair and would like to be a part of this fantastic event please express your interest to our p&c email address - p&c@runcornss.eq.edu.au or **phone/text Samara on 0423 653 816.**

Fathers Day Stall
Father’s Day stall is fast approaching, if you would like to help please text your details to 0423 653 816. We are looking for parents to help sell, wrap and bag gifts. Keep an eye out for a flyer about times and dates for the stall.

Tuckshop
**Junior Sports Day Volunteers**
Thanks to all the parents who kindly volunteered their time in the Tuckshop and the Coffee & Cake Stall. Thank you also to those who generously donated baked goods.

**Bag Decorating Competition**
Congratulations to the following students who did a fabulous job decorating their tuckshop bags in their team colours.

PB Shain McChutcheon, PB Kiera Bently, 1SM Rory Wenzelmaier, 2P Shana Griffiths

**New Volunteers**
Many thanks to these parents who volunteered in the tuckshop last week:

**Monday-** Nicole Noe, Akhil, Etsu

**Tuesday –** Akhil Sehgal, Michelle Price, Samara Frye

**Wednesday –** Doug Panic, Kathryn Allendorf, Marilyn Seib

**Thursday –** Etsuko Doncaster, Nicole Noe

**Friday –** Angeline Martin, Kathryn Allendorf, Alida Julien, Samara Frye

Jodie Newton
Tuckshop Convenor

Uniform Shop
**Uniform Shop hours are Monday / Wednesday / Friday**
8.30am – 9.00am

Does your child need a new school bag? Did you know that the Spartan school bags available in our Uniform Shop are provided with a LIFETIME WARRANTY? They are designed for comfort and built to last. In fact, they are designed to last a student's school lifetime. The lifetime warranty covers manufacturing defects in material and workmanship.

**What great value these school bags are at only $45!** Remember to support your P & C Uniform shop!

Cold mornings are upon us and winter uniforms are in stock. Track suit pants, jumpers and jackets are available in all sizes.

Cathryn Marshall
Uniform Shop Convenor

School Banking
**Thursday is School Banking Day**

Lisa Weir
Banking Coordinator
Family Transitions Triple P Free Parenting Workshop

(for divorced or separated parents)

Presented by: Professor Matt Sanders, Professor of Clinical Psychology and the Director of the Parenting and Family Support Centre at the University of Queensland.

Is this you?

You are a parent who has been separated from your partner less than two years. You have at least one child aged between two and twelve years.

What is the Family Transitions Triple P workshop?

The Family Transitions Triple P workshop is a family intervention designed for parents who are experiencing personal distress from separation or divorce, which is impacting on, or complicating, the task of parenting.

What happens at the Family Transitions Triple P workshop?

The Family Transitions workshop is a half-day (4 hour) presentation. It targets concerns, such as how improve your personal coping skills, reduce conflict between parents, improve family relationships, and best support your child during this time. At the seminar you’ll be given a tip sheet to take home to remind you of the great ideas you’ve heard. You’ll be able to start positive parenting straight away, to get back on track with your child – or be ready for what’s ahead.

This Triple P program is being tested in trials through universities and other organizations around the world. As a parent, you may be eligible to join, and get free positive parenting support through a trial near you. To access current trials open to parents please search:

https://exp.psy.uq.edu.au/family-transitions