FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome
Welcome parents/carers and staff to week 6 of term 4. Congratulations to all the students who received awards on parade this week. It is great to see students demonstrating the You Can Do It Keys to success and working to the best of their ability in all classrooms. Congratulations also to Prep H for a wonderful dance demonstrating the importance of being healthy and moving our bodies. You looked fantastic!

Class Request Forms
If you have any concerns with your child’s placement in 2015, please complete the request that was emailed last week and is also now available at the office. It is not appropriate to request a particular teacher however you may have appropriate educational information that will assist us with the placement of your child. Please don’t assume that we will remember information from previous years. Requests must be lodged by Thursday, 13th November. Requests received after this date will not be considered as class lists are being prepared mid-November.

Students Returning 2015
Each year, schools need to predict the number of students who will start the school year in each year level so that classes can be organised accordingly. A form has gone home to all families asking if any children will not be returning. We are asking all families to complete and return the form or email admin@runcornss.eq.edu.au if you have a child in a class from Prep – Year 5 this year WHO WILL NOT be returning to the school in 2015. This will enable our Admin team to more accurately predict our class numbers for 2015. Please phone the Office on (07) 3323 8777 if you have any queries.
Prep Orientation
Thanks to everyone who supported the Prep Orientation this week. This was a huge success and our new Preps had a fantastic morning familiarising themselves with the Runcorn State School Prep environment.

There is still a very small number of places available but these are filling quickly. If you have family or friends who have Prep-aged children 2015 and want to come to Runcorn, they need to contact the school office immediately to organise a placement.

Camp
I had the pleasure of attending the Year 5 Camp at Tallebudgera on Tuesday and Wednesday. This is a fantastic camp with a multitude of fun learning activities for students. New skills, water sports and team building activities were just some of the great learnings that was taking place.

Student Attendance
Our attendance rates at school have slowed this semester and dropped below our 94% target to sit at 93%. It is important that as families we make every effort to ensure our children’s success by giving them the opportunity to access learning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>He/She is only missing just...</th>
<th>That equals...</th>
<th>Which is...</th>
<th>&amp; over 13 yrs of schooling that’s...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 mins per day</td>
<td>50 mins per wk</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 wks per yr</td>
<td>Nearly ½ year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 mins per day</td>
<td>1 hr 40 mins per wk</td>
<td>Over 2.5 wks per yr</td>
<td>Nearly 1 yr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half hr per day</td>
<td>Half a day per wk</td>
<td>4 wks per yr</td>
<td>Nearly 1½ yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hr per day</td>
<td>1 day per wk</td>
<td>8 wks per yr</td>
<td>Over 2½ yrs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you to all families who ensure that their children turn up on time every day and make sure that attendance is regular. Below is a graph that sums up the importance of every minute of every day in your child’s school life. Runcorn State School is dedicated to trying to make a difference for every child, every lesson, every day. In order for the school to be able to effectively achieve this, we need to ensure regular attendance and being on time. Please ensure you are sending your child to school everyday for the remainder of the school year. As you can see, it is easy for students to miss crucial concepts that are scaffolded upon in their learning.

Disco
Thanks to the P&C and helpers who hosted the final Disco for 2014. “Celebrities” was the theme and there was a great turn out of celebrities and their parents. Thanks to everyone who supported and came along and enjoyed a great family night out.

P&C
The final P&C Meeting for 2014 will be held on Monday, 24 November, 9 am in the P&C room. Have a great week.

Regards
Greg Gosling

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Free Family Planning Queensland Family Education Sessions
The Runcorn State School P & C have generously provided funding for Family Education Sessions for students in Years 5, Year 6 and Year 7 and their Parents / Carers. These sessions are facilitated to help families communicate openly and positively about sexuality together. Each session runs for 1.5 hours and will focus on Preparing for Puberty and Reproduction and are tailored to meet the developmental needs of the students in the session. Key concepts in the sessions also include body ownership and personal safety skills. Families need only attend one session. Each session can only accommodate 30 family groups and are only available for students in Year 5 and above. Notices with RSVP have been sent home with students.

When: Tuesday 18 November or Wednesday 19 November
Where: Runcorn State School Science Room
Time: 6.30pm - 8.00pm
What: PowerPoint Presentation; interactive discussion; DVD; Q and A session; worksheets

Regards
Roberta Matlock
Acting Deputy Principal
Junior Swim Carnival - Friday 21st November 9am-11am
This carnival will be about participation and having some fun. It would be great if students could come to school with their swim wear under their uniform on this day please. However, please ensure your child has underwear packed in their swimming bag. Students will also need a swimming cap, goggles, a towel, school hat, sunscreen, water bottle and some fruit. Parents and spectators are encouraged to attend. Seating will be provided under shade tents on the opposite side to the grandstand. Children will need to sit in their house groups in the grandstand.

Senior Swim Carnival – Friday 28th November 9am-1:30pm
This carnival will be about participation and competing. The results of this carnival will determine who will be attending the District Swimming Carnival at the beginning of 2015. All students are expected to participate. It would be great if students could come to school with their swim wear under their uniform on this day please. However, please ensure your child has underwear packed in their swimming bag. Students will also need a swimming cap, goggles, a towel, school hat, sunscreen, water bottle and some fruit.

The tuck shop will be running some specials on these days and the P & C Association will be selling cold drinks, sandwiches and baked goods.

YEAR 3 SLEEP OVER - 27TH NOVEMBER 2014
As part of our personal development program and to assist students to be ready for Year 4 camp, Year 3 students are invited to a sleepover at school on Thursday night, 27th November 2014. Children will be sleeping in separate girl and boy areas on the floor. They will be supervised by Mrs Bayle, Miss White, Ms Matlock and Mr Panic during the night.

We would appreciate some parent helpers to assist with the preparation and serving of dinner and breakfast. The cost of the camp is $8.00. A special Campers Meal Deal is available through tuckshop for Friday with the cost to be advised in the next few weeks. Please download the attached forms, complete and return with payment to your Year 3 teacher as soon as possible. Final day for payment for the Yr 3 Sleep Over is Friday, 21st November 2014. For a copy of the Yr 3 Sleep Over permission form, please download from our website or alternatively pick a copy up from the office, complete and return back to your Year 3 teacher as soon as possible.

MUSIC MATTERS
At Runcorn we value and recognise the importance and many benefits of a thorough music education program. We are very proud of the achievements of our music ensembles and each year we honour our leaving students with a Music Medal Ceremony. This year’s ceremony will be held on Monday, 24th November at 2.30pm. Parents, relatives and friends are very welcome to attend.

Special congratulations to our budding musicians who have received offers to study an instrument next year. Congratulations also to those students who have committed to continuing on with their instrument in 2015. We look forward to an exciting year of learning, making music and having fun together!

Speaking of fun, it is that time of year where we celebrate our achievements as an ensemble. Parents and friends are welcome. Please bring a plate of food to share.

Band Breakup Concert and Party – Wednesday 19th November 1:50pm – 3.00pm in Girrawheen Place

Strings Breakup Concert and Party – Tuesday 25th November, 10.30am – 11.30am in the Music Ensemble Room

End of Year Concert--Wed 3rd December (6:30-8:30pm) – Sunnybank High School Hall - Rehearsals have begun on some amazing items. Don’t forget to invite family and friends to this fantastic community event. Details of costumes for each year level will be coming soon!

Mrs Margaret Buddle
Classroom Music Teacher

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.
FROM THE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

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/eftpos. 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.

TERM DATES FOR 2014 SCHOOL YEAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM</th>
<th>START</th>
<th>END</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>7 October 2014</td>
<td>12 December 2014</td>
</tr>
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</table>

TERM 4 – DATES OF SIGNIFICANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>13th November</td>
<td>Prep Orientation Day (9.00am-11.00am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>14th November</td>
<td>Q20 Public Holiday (School Closed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues-Thurs</td>
<td>18th-20th November</td>
<td>Yr 5, 6 &amp; 7 Family Puberty Information Sessions (6.30pm-8.00pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>19th November</td>
<td>Band Breakup Concert and Party (1:50pm – 3:00pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>20th November</td>
<td>P&amp;C FunFest Free Dress Day (Gold Coin Donation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>21st November</td>
<td>Junior Swim Carnival (9.00am-11.00am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>21st November</td>
<td>Payment Closing Date – Yr 3 Sleep Over</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>24th November</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting, 9am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>24th November</td>
<td>Music Medal Ceremony, 2.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>25th November</td>
<td>Strings Breakup Concert and Party (10:30am – 11:30am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>27th November</td>
<td>Yr 3 Sleep Over</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>28th November</td>
<td>Senior Swim Carnival (9.00am-2.30pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>2nd December</td>
<td>Lunch at Japanese Restaurant (more information to come)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>3rd December</td>
<td>Lunch at Japanese Restaurant (more information to come)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>3rd December</td>
<td>End of Year Concert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>5th December</td>
<td>Senior Excursion to Wet ‘n’ Wild</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>10th December</td>
<td>Senior Graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>12th December</td>
<td>LAST DAY OF TERM 4</td>
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PAYMENT CLOSING DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>INCURSION/EXCURSION</th>
<th>PAYMENT CLOSING DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Year 3 Sleep Over</td>
<td>21st November</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LOST PROPERTY

Two gold crosses and a mobile phone have been handed in. If it belongs to your child, please collect it from the office. **Please remember to check through the lost property bin throughout the year for any items that your children may have misplaced. Any leftover items will be donated to charity at the end of each term.** This bin is located near the bin cage under the teachers’ staffroom.

P&C NEWS

The date for the next P&C Meeting is **24th November, 9am.** All parents, including Prep parents, are welcome to attend. We look forward to meeting you.

The P&C is on Facebook!!

The P&C now has our own Facebook page called Runcorn P&C and Events. Like us to stay up to date with P&C news and information on upcoming events such as discos, stalls, fundraising, and the 2014 FUNFEST! Our goal is to get 100 likes by the end of next week. Can we do it? Once you Like our page, please always Like and Share our posts to help improve our reach.

Don’t forget your 5c!

5c collection jars are in each classroom to collect your 5c pieces to help raise money for the 2015 FunFest. Don’t let your loose change weigh your wallet down… the class that collects the most 5c pieces by the end of the year wins a pool party!!!

Tuckshop

A new menu for Semester 2 is available, please download a copy from the website or pick one up from the office.
Cupcakes

Cupcakes are still available for your special celebration. Contact Miss Jodie for more information.

Slush Puppies

Slush Puppies have arrived at the Tuckshop just in time for summer! Slush Puppies are made from a frozen pear & apple juice base, and come in a choice of 4 flavours! Two of the flavouring options (Tropical & Sour Apple), contain only natural colouring & flavours. Available to all students at both breaks for $2 each.

Jodie Newton
Tuckshop Convenor

End of Year Concert - Hamper Raffles

Thank you to all the lovely donations we have had so far for the End of Year Hamper. Please remember to check the use by date and make sure that it will be still safe to eat a few weeks after the raffle date (3/12/14). Also we would like to thank the anonymous donation of $100 to go towards the Family Prize Voucher. Your generosity is much appreciated. Tickets for the hampers are available on Monday mornings in Girraween place.

Uniform Shop

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

The Uniform Shop will be open extra hours for your convenience

21, 22 and 27 January 2015 (9am – 11am)

for any last minute items before the new school year

Why not pre-order uniforms to eliminate the stress. Pick up an order form from the office.

Cathryn Marshall
Uniform Shop Convenor

School Banking

Thursday is School Banking Day

Davina Edwards
Banking Coordinator
“Smile Vanuatu” are now accepting toothbrushes for their visit in 2015. This time, our very own Mrs Lyn Newman from Administration is also going along and would like to take lots of toothbrushes with her. If you would like to donate, please drop off your toothbrushes at the office.

LEGO CLUB IS COMING!

Runicorn is starting its very own lunchtime Lego Club! We are after some kind donations from the school community to help make this a reality. So if you have any old lego lying around that you want to get rid of, we will gladly accept:

- Base plates (including road plates and a variety of colours)
- Minifigures (make sure these are old and not rare collector’s items)
- Old Lego Club Aus Magazines
- And of course Lego bricks and pieces.

All donations can be dropped to the office for collection by Mrs Bayle. Thanks from Runicorn’s future Master Builders!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Runcorn State School

*General Information and Curriculum Information Evenings (Yr 7 and 8 dates below)*

**Orientation Day for New Students**
Year 6 and 7 students who have enrolled will attend an orientation day in Term 4 2014. This gives each student the opportunity to experience a day at high school before they begin in 2015. Your child will be introduced to a range of subjects offered at our school and they will meet a variety of specialist teachers from across the curriculum. They will also begin to become familiar with the school layout. Students are to arrive at the Sports Hall and bring a water bottle, hat and food for the day. The canteen will also be available to purchase food.

Year 7 Orientation Day: Monday 24 November, 2014 (8:45am – 3:00pm)
Year 8 Orientation Day: Monday 1 December, 2014 (8:45am – 3:00pm)

**Enrolment Interviews**
Tuesday 2 December, Wednesday 3 December, Thursday 4 December & Friday 5 December, 2014
Interviews will be conducted for each student for approximately 30 minutes. This is where our teaching team begins to build partnerships with parents about our educational program. If students have particular learning issues they can be discussed and teachers also take time to answer any questions you may still have. This is also where we sign some of the important agreement forms for the school so it is important for both students and parents to attend.

**First Day of School for Year 7 and 8 Students**
Tuesday 27 January, 2015 (8:45am – 2:50pm)
Year 7 and 8 students arrive promptly at 8:45am to meet in the Sports Hall. Students will need their lunch, drink, hat, notepad and writing equipment. Our “Blue Eagle Buddies” from the senior student leadership team will join the students for the day. On the first day students will be issued with a diary and an individual timetable.

Downs Syndrome Association of Queensland

When: Saturday, 22nd November
Where: Sunnybank State High School, Boorman Street (Off Mains Road)
Time: 4:00pm – 6:00pm  Come along for a rollicking good time!!
BBQ from 4pm, Jumping Castles, Concert begins at 5:45pm