FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome
Congratulations to Year 4S for a great Parade highlighting the You Can Do It keys to success. These keys are integral to both learning and behaviour at Runcorn State School. Thank you to all our families who support and reinforce the You can Do It keys to success.

Well done to 3W who explained the significance of Harmony Day in Australia. At Runcorn State School we have 36 different nationalities and cultures who come together to form a vibrant and happy learning community. On Harmony Day we also acknowledge National Day of Action Against Violence and Bullying. Staff and students work very hard at Runcorn to ensure behaviour issues are addressed timely and in accordance with the school Responsible Behaviour Plan. One of the commendations in our recent Discipline Audit highlighted that “students felt safe and are well supported by staff”.

To acknowledge Harmony Day and National Day Against Violence and Bullying, we ask that all students wear a piece of orange clothing on Friday, 20 March. Students competing in the Cross Country Council in Years 3 - 6 will still need to bring their house-coloured sports shirt.
Cross Country
A reminder that the Cross Country Carnival is on Friday 20 March from 9am – 11am for students in Years 3-6. It has been great to see classes familiarising themselves with the course and students practicing for this event. Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

High Expectations for Learning
There is a large amount of research which supports high expectations achieving high results. At Runcorn State School high expectations are set for all students. Supported by learning goals and strategies to achieve these goals, there is an expectation that learners work to the best of their ability and this should be evident in their achievement.

In the upcoming 3 Way Reporting Meetings, students and staff will discuss with you these high expectations, how learning goals are being achieved and how you as parents can support and enhance your child’s learning experiences. Please ensure you book in for your child’s 3 Way Reporting Meeting and acknowledge and celebrate the great results being achieved.

Explicit Improvement Agenda
It is great to see so many families working with us to improve student learning and we are seeing great results. Reading, Writing, Problem Solving and You Can Do It are key agendas for 2015. Please continue your hard work with supporting students by reading with them every day, encouraging your children to complete their homework and use our online support tools such as Mathletics and Reading Eggs and Reading Express.

At Runcorn State School the emphasis will be on providing the best opportunities to achieve the intended curriculum. We will achieve this through:

- Focus on targeted teaching of Reading
- Focus on targeted teaching of Writing
- Focus on targeted teaching of Numeracy and Problem Solving
- Embed the You Can Do It social and emotional support program

School Community Partnerships
One of our many school community partnerships is our Parent Support Workshops. Run by our Master Teacher Rob Scott, the workshop look at easy to implement strategies and support tools to assist students improve their learning and consolidate concepts learnt.

These workshops occur every Thursday afternoon 2.30 – 3.00pm. Over the coming weeks Rob will focus on how parents can support and enhance students reading ability, tools for assisting with homework and how to support writing improvement.

Religious Instruction
Religious instruction will begin on Monday 23 March from 2.00-2.30pm. Students who have returned their notes will work with Religious Instruction staff in the Old library on a fortnightly rotational basis. Students in Years 1-3 will begin on Monday 23 March and students in Years 4-6 will begin on Monday 30 March.

School P&C
Thank you to all the parents and community members who attended the Annual General meeting last week. Congratulations to all the members of the Executive. I look forward to the continued supportive relationship between the P&C, school and the school community, which has been a feature of Runcorn State School for many years. A full list of the P&C Executive will be outlined in the P&C section of the newsletter.

The next P&C meeting will be on Tuesday 5 May 7pm in the staffroom. All parents and community members are invited to attend.

Regards
Greg Gosling

FROM THE MASTER TEACHER

Writing and Numeracy
Wanting to help your child at home but are not sure how? Come to one of our parent information sessions on a Thursday afternoon from 2.30pm- 3pm. Parent Information sessions run on Thursdays from 2:30pm - 3:00pm for parents who would like simple and easy ways of helping their child with literacy and numeracy. These sessions will be of benefit to any parent in the Prep - Yr 6 grades, who would like to assist their child in literacy and numeracy or who have questions relating to these topics. We will meet in the old Admin building (A Block). Please register your name by email admin@runcorns.eq.edu.au or phone on 3323 8777 if you are interested in attending or need more information.

Session Topics and Times
- Writing- Thursday 19/3 2.30pm
- Numeracy- Thursday 26/3 2.30pm
Runcorn SS Yr 3 and 5 Maths Problem Solving Group
We are well into our problem solving activities on a Monday morning from 8am in the Science Room. Students are using the resources from our Runcorn SS Problem Solving Edstudio. All students have access to this resource through the Learning Place. Click on the link below and your child will have access by using their MIS user name and password. http://education.qld.gov.au/learningplace/index.html

Rob Scott
Master Teacher

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/efpos. Please ensure permission forms are completed and submitted to the class teacher when paying by EFT. Our school does not participate in the Centrepay scheme. 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 2015 SCHOOL YEAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM</th>
<th>START</th>
<th>END</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>27 January 2015</td>
<td>2 April 2015</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>20 April 2015</td>
<td>26 June 2015</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>13 July 2015</td>
<td>18 September 2015</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>6 October 2015</td>
<td>11 December 2015</td>
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TERM 1 – DATES OF SIGNIFICANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>19th</td>
<td>Parent Workshop – Writing (2.30pm – 3.00pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>20th</td>
<td>Young Leaders Day at Brisbane Convention Centre</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>20th</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>20th</td>
<td>Harmony Day &amp; National Day Against Violence and Bullying</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>20th</td>
<td>Payment Cut Off Dates for Nexus Arts &amp; Chirpie Chicks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>23rd</td>
<td>Three Way Reporting Commences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>23rd</td>
<td>Prep Egg Hatching Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>23rd</td>
<td>Religious Instruction commences for Years 1 - 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>24th</td>
<td>Lucas Proudfoot Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>26th</td>
<td>Parent Workshop – Numeracy (2.30pm – 3.00pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>26th</td>
<td>Three Way Reporting Finishes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>30th</td>
<td>Religious Instruction Commences for Years 4 - 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Easter Bonnet Parade and Hamper Draw</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Good Friday Public Holiday (School closed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>20th</td>
<td>First Day of Term 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>24th</td>
<td>ANZAC Day Parade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>5th</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting, 7pm, Staffroom</td>
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MUSIC MATTERS

We have had the sad news that our band teacher Mr Craig Millar's mother has passed away. We extend our deep sympathies to Mr Millar at this time and the thoughts and prayers of our community are with him.

Our school is looking forward to the visit of Lucas Proudfoot on Tuesday the 24th of March. Lucas will present Indigenous Australian culture in a dynamic, fun and informative show named Circular Rhythm. Notes have been sent home and need to be returned with the payment of $5 by this Friday the 20th of March.

The Senior Choir has had a lot of fun rehearsing and they are developing a wonderful sound. Their first performance will be at the Anzac Day Ceremony on Friday the 24th of April. Please ensure your child has the appropriate uniform prior to the holidays. If they already have a uniform from previous years, I suggest they try it on to ensure it still fits after their summer growth spurts – especially the pants!

Our annual Easter Bonnet Parade is coming up. It will take place in Girrawheen Place on Wednesday the 1st of April at 2pm. This is for students in Prep, Year One and Year Two.
During Music lessons, we will be learning some fun songs and dances to perform. Children are encouraged to create their own Easter Bonnet at home, and bring it to school to wear at the parade.

Mrs Margaret Buddle
Classroom Music Teacher

FROM THE SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISORS

Traffic signs and lines are in place around schools to provide a safe environment for pedestrians and to maintain safe traffic flow during busy school pick up and set down times. Commonly seen signs around schools include:

No parking

The driver of a vehicle must not stop where a no parking sign applies, unless the driver:

- is dropping off or picking up passengers or goods; and
- does not move the further than 3 metres from the vehicle
- drops off or picks up passengers or goods and drives on within two minutes unless a different time limit is shown

No stopping

A driver must not stop where a no stopping sign or yellow no stopping line applies.

School zone

At many schools a 40 km/h speed limit applies on school days. The standard operating times for most school zones in Queensland are 7am-9am and 2pm-4pm. Please observe the 40km/h speed limit during these hours. The Queensland Police Service frequently enforces speed limits around schools, if you are speeding you may be fined.

Passenger loading zone

Passenger Loading Zones allow you to stop for up to two minutes to pick up or drop off your child. This should be enough time to help your child with luggage and seatbelts. While it is preferable that you do not leave your car, you are permitted to do so to walk a young child into school or to collect your child, however you still need to be mindful of the two-minute limit.

LOST PROPERTY

A man's ring, a ladies' ring, toy, keyring and small purse have been handed in. 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

Last week saw the P&C hold their AGM for 2015. We are pleased to announce that we have a full team.

Samara Frye – President
Sandra Weatherall – Senior Vice President
Nicole Long – Treasurer
Jane Elliot – Assistant Treasurer
Rebecca Simpson – Secretary/Grants and Fete Assistant
Janene Aboody – Correspondence
Glenda Turner – Events Coordinator
Erin Viles – Fundraising Coordinator
Rebecca McCutcheon– Uniform Shop
Jodie Newton – Tuckshop

Subcommittees –
Funfest (Fete) – Elizabeth Douglas
Swim Club – Bruce Kille
Thank you to all who attended the meeting. It was great to see new faces. A big thank you to all our members who will not be returning or taking on a roll with the P&C. Your time and dedication has been wonderful and we wish you all the best. Next P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday 5 May, 7pm in the staffroom all welcome to attend.

Funfest Committee Meeting
All are welcome to attend our first Funfest meeting for 2015. We are meeting at 7pm, Tuesday 31 March at the Sunnybank Hotel (raised seating area in the bistro). All enquiries should be directed to runcornfunfest@gmail.com.

Swim Club AGM
The Swimming Club AGM will be held on Tuesday 31 March at 6.30pm. New and existing members are welcome. Learn to swim and squad training is available. You can contact the Swim Club on 0402141535 or through the school website link.

Runcorn P&C Events is on Facebook
Don’t forget to like us on Facebook.

Easter Egg Guess
Have you guessed the amount of Easter Eggs in the Jar? $1 a Guess or $4 for 5 Guesses. You can go to the Tuckshop to have your Guess or see a helper after Parade on Mondays. The Winner will be announced at the Easter Bonnet Parade on Wednesday the 1st of April.

St Patricks Free Dress Day and Cup Cake Competition
Thank you to everyone who supported the Free Dress day and come dressed in Green to celebrate St Patricks Day. BIG congratulations to Jeremy from 1S who was our lucky winner and found that he had the pink Cup Cake. Miss Jodie and her team made over 150 Green Cup Cakes.

Miss Jodie’s Chinese New Year Colouring in Competition was one by Imogen C.

Thank you to all our entries and for supporting the Chinese New Year meal.

Term 1 Events
We have had some fantastic events this term. We are looking forward to a great Term 2; some events to look forward to are Mother’s Day Stall, Disco No.2 - Theme – Onesie (all in one PJ’s or Animal Suites) Free Dress Day, more of Miss Jodie’s New Meal Deals and much more. If you want to help out at any of these events please email – runcornpc@yahoo.com or text 0423 653 816

Tuckshop
2015 Tuckshop Menu
The 2015 Tuckshop Menu has now been finalised and will be sent home. For a copy of the tuckshop menu, download one from our website, or pick up a copy from the office or tuckshop.

Birthday Cupcakes
Cupcakes are available for your celebration. Please place your order with Miss Jodie at the Tuckshop.

School Banking
School Banking Day is now Monday

Calling for School Banking volunteers - we need your help!
Do you have a few hours to spare on a Monday morning to help with the School Banking? Come and join our enthusiastic team. Full training will be provided. Your role will include collecting the school banking from the class rooms, counting the children’s pocket money, and stamping and signing deposit books.

Your help with the program will greatly benefit students as they develop vital saving skills and also help our school with fundraising. The Commonwealth Bank School Banking program includes an exciting Rewards Program designed to encourage children to get into the habit of making regular savings. Every time students make a deposit at school they receive a Dollarmites token which can be redeemed for a range of exciting reward items in recognition of their regular savings. Students will have lots of fun saving their tokens for these cool gifts.
The Commonwealth Bank provides support to our School Banking Co-ordinators with the running of the program. Please indicate your interest in volunteering for this great program by filling in the required form and returning it to the school office. Forms are available from the school office.

Davina Edwards
Banking Coordinator

SMILE VANUATU

“Smile Vanuatu” are now accepting toothbrushes for their visit later in the year. 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.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Runcorn PCYC – Vacation Care

Runcorn State High School Employs an Industry Liaison Officer

Jason Stewart has worked in Learning and Development for around fourteen years with expertise across different industries and roles. He has in-depth knowledge of both the Federal and State Guidelines that govern the Australian Apprenticeship Incentive Program covering Apprentices and Traineeships including SATs (School Apprenticeships, Traineeships) and other VET programs around the country. Jason has a wide industry experience including participating on National Industry Skills Councils, holding a Business Development role with TAFE Queensland, working as a Regional Manager for an Australian apprenticeship centre, and working as the National Qualifications Coordinator for Transpacific Industries. As an active member in our school community over the last few years, Jason has been working with students in the GenR8 program, which is a skills-to-work program being led by industry and a proud inaugural member of the Runcorn SHS School Council. We look forward to having Jason work with our students this year in gaining school based traineeships and apprenticeships, work experience and in developing our Trade Training Centre student programs.

Charity Fun Run - Sunday 29th March, 9.30am, Calamvale District Park

Exciting community event and opportunity to raise funds for our school!

The Rotary Clubs of Sunnybank Hills & Forest Lake are hosting a Charity Fun Run on Sunday 29 March, 2015 commencing at 9.30am at Calamvale District Park. Registrations can be made on line either individually or as a team. If we register as a team with at least 6 runners (Runcorn State School) the school will receive $5 for each runner. In addition to this, the team with the most runners automatically wins $500. Please note that the event is fully supervised by Rotary.

The fun run commences at Calamvale District Park, Formby Street, Calamvale and takes walkers and runners on bitumen paths through and around the park on a safe, secure and well-marshalled path. Marshals are placed along the route along with water stations. St John’s Ambulance will also be in attendance. Entries are best completed online at www.rotaryfunrun.org. When you register, click on the team icon and use the team name Runcorn State School. Then simply complete the entrant’s name, gender and category (K-Children’s 2km). The cost per child is $10. If you would like further information, please contact Julie Schooth (prep teacher) via email jscho128@eq.edu.au. So come along and have some fun; support our broader community and provide Runcorn State School with the opportunity to win $500!