Dear Parents and Caregivers

World Teachers Day
The School Community would like to thank all teachers for their contribution to students. Friday, 28th October is World Teachers Day. Please take this opportunity to thank your teachers.

Congratulations to the Year 5 students for making the camp very successful for everyone. I have had only positive feedback about the student’s participation, behaviour and manners. Ms Matlock spent one day with the students and I was also there for a day.

I enjoyed my day with the students, as I watched them step outside their comfort zone, try new things and encourage each other.

These are the students who will be leaders next year and I think that the school is in good hands. Thank you Ms Reeves and Mrs Anglim for all the preparation put into making the camp an enjoyable experience for all the students.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work of all students and their teachers for their commitment to learning at this school. Over the past three years, the academic results have shown steady upward progression. Our headline indicators show this improvement in all areas. We have also improved the attendance rate of the school. Well done students. The one area, where our results have declined slightly was the school opinion survey. Twenty nine families completed the survey that was open to all parents. 30% of these parents felt that they would like to see the input of parents increase in decision making. Overall, 92% of these parents considered this to be a good school. Students responded very positively with 97% saying that they were treated fairly and 95% liked their school.

If your children are not returning to this school, please complete the form sent two weeks ago or contact the office and let us know. It is very important that we know who is not returning so that we can plan the classes for 2017.
On Thursday 10 November, a group of Regional staff and Principals will be visiting the Ready Set Runcorn Prep program that Mrs Schooth runs. This program will help students transition to Prep in 2017. If you have a child joining Prep next year and have not visited our Ready Set Runcorn Prep program, why don’t you come and see what happens.

Booklists for next year have been distributed. Please ensure that your child/ren have all the necessary resources to start the year. This is very important for students, to be organised and ready.

We ask once again to please respect the road signs and the pick-up zone signs in the front of the school. Families parking incorrectly are endangering our students. The crossing supervisors are here to help students be safe when crossing the road, but incorrectly parked cars are compromising the service.

Michelle D’Netto

From the Deputy Principal…

We Love Our School – Share The Love
Let’s make the Runcorn State School community an even friendlier, open and welcoming place. Please volunteer to be a Buddy Family in 2017 to families new to the school. Please email rmatl2@eq.edu.au to volunteer for this excellent way of meeting new families.

2017 Booklists
There has been a change from the supplier of our Maths Plus Resource which was only confirmed by OUP when SchoolStuff submitted the 2017 order. Accordingly a NEW stationery list will be sent home in the next week. SchoolStuff will contact families directly if anyone has placed an order.

Student Absences
Please remember to call the Student Absence Line on (07) 3323 8777, Press Option 1 or SMS 0427 767 866 (text only) to inform us of your child’s absence from school. Please help us to ensure the safety of all children by letting us know where they are.

Roberta Matlock

Music Matters

Last week the Year Six students attended an operatic workshop run by a professional opera singer. This was a wonderful opportunity for them to learn more about how stories can be told through music. Students were able to apply their narrative writing skills to create their own operas, which they performed for parents and the Year One students. The stories were enjoyed by all and it was obvious the students had fully engaged in the process. Thank you to Opera Queensland and the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation for providing this valuable experience to our students.

Due to such high demand, we are still in the process of reviewing the time allocations for our strings program. Please note that until this is confirmed, we cannot send out offers to new students. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to ensure we can provide the best instrumental program possible.

The annual Remembrance Day Ceremony, be held at 10.30am on Friday, November 11 in Girrawheen Place. All community members are warmly invited to attend. The Junior Choir will be singing in their regular school uniforms. Our band will be performing in their full music uniform.

Our breakup concerts and parties are coming up soon. Please note the dates and times below carefully, particularly the change of date for the band breakup. It will now be held one week earlier, on Wednesday November 16 at 9.30am. All members of the Runcorn Community are invited to attend these breakup concerts, which are held in Girrawheen Place.
Sing Story!  Sing Story!  Sing Story!  Sing Story!

“Sing Story was an exciting workshop for the Grade Six students to explore the operatic environment. Two of the Grade Six classes had a chance to create their own opera and showcase it to the parents and for the Grade Ones to enjoy. Overall Sing Story was a fun experience for the entire Grade Six. I hope they will have the chance to come back next year.”

By Kevin

“Last week in the old library all of the year six students had a professional opera singer come to teach us about opera. Her name was Mrs Dee. This was very exciting for us because we would be the first people at Runcorn State School to be involved in such a program.

Mrs Dee told us that opera is basically a musical but there’s no talking, it’s all song. We also learned that you don’t have to be a singer and an actor to be in the opera industry. You could also be an artist or a dress designer, a dress maker or maybe even a media person in control. She also explained that opera singers don’t need a microphone for their show because they use a special voice technique which allows them to sing extremely loud!

We workshopped some ideas for operas and then put on our creative hats to write a story that we would perform later in the week. 6J wrote their opera about an evil king, his lovely wife and determined daughter. It was called A True King and incorporated 3 chorus songs and some interesting twists in the plot. 6G chose to write about a zoo adventure and wore masks as an effective costume. Wild Sabotage wove a story of how to get along and how being supportive of others is a positive experience.

It was a very enjoyable unique experience and we thank Queensland Opera very much for taking the time to work with us and make opera come alive in the classroom.”

By Melanie

Remembrance Day

Student Council will be selling Poppies/pens/ badges from $1-$2, on Monday 7th, Tuesday 8th, Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th of November. Student Council will come around to each class on these mornings for purchases, they will also be on sale at the Library.

Thank you
Leanne Howes
A02/Teacher Aide

National Bandanna Day & Day for Daniel – 28th October

This Friday the 28th of October Runcorn State School is celebrating Bandanna Day through raising funds for Canteen, an organisation that supports children affected by cancer. The Student Council is selling bandannas for $4 outside the tuckshop area every morning until Friday. Get in quick as last year we sold them all!

Also on Friday the 28th of October, it is Day for Daniel where students can wear red to school to raise awareness in child safety. In class students will be practising the skills Mr and Mrs Morecombe taught us when they visited our school last year. That is to RECOGNISE, REACT, AND REPORT unsafe situations. There is no gold coin collection for this day as it is a day of reflection and awareness.

Student Council
Term Dates for 2016 School Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM</th>
<th>START</th>
<th>END</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>4 October 2016</td>
<td>9 December 2016</td>
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Ready Set Runcorn Prep!

We had a great week last week at Ready, Set, Runcorn Prep, with games and activities based around the book “The Very Cranky Bear” by Nick Bland. Thank you to all those parents and children who participate in, and enjoy, our weekly playgroup which runs from 9-10am each Thursday for children who will be coming to Runcorn State School for Prep in 2017!

This Thursday (27th October) we will be joined by a Speech Language Pathologist and an Occupational Therapist will join in the fun on the 3rd November. While these information sessions are taking place, I will work and play with the children at the other end of the room so that if you have any questions or concerns you can concentrate on what is being presented!

Term 4 – Dates of Significance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>28 Oct</td>
<td>Day for Daniel / Bandanna Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>28 Oct</td>
<td>Sports Gala Day (Back Up Only)</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>29 Oct</td>
<td>P&amp;C Quiz Night</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>1 Nov</td>
<td>Melbourne Cup</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>4 Nov</td>
<td>Prep 2017 Orientation Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>4 Nov</td>
<td>P&amp;C Disco. “Bling”</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>9 Nov</td>
<td>Choir Break Up Concert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>11 Nov</td>
<td>Remembrance Day Ceremony (10.30am)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>12 Nov</td>
<td>P&amp;C Family Portraits Fundraiser</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>14 Nov</td>
<td>Yr 6 Puberty Family Education (3.30pm – 5.00pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>16 Nov</td>
<td>Band Break Up</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>17 Nov</td>
<td>Yr 5 Pre-puberty Family Education (3.30pm – 5.00pm)</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>18 Nov</td>
<td>Junior Swimming Carnival (Yrs 1 &amp; 2)</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>21 Nov</td>
<td>Music Medal Parade</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>22 Nov</td>
<td>Strings Break Up Concert</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>24 Nov</td>
<td>Yr 3 Sleep Over</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>25 Nov</td>
<td>Senior Swimming Carnival (Yrs 3-6)</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>30 Nov</td>
<td>End of Year Concert</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>2 Dec</td>
<td>Yr 6 Wet’n’Wild</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>6 Dec</td>
<td>Volunteer Before School Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>7 Dec</td>
<td>Yr 6 Graduation Ceremony</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8 Dec</td>
<td>Party Day / Free Dress Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9 Dec</td>
<td>Last Day of School</td>
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Students Enrolling for Prep in 2017 – Activities

- Prep 2017 Orientation – Friday 4th November 2016 (9:30am – 11:00am)
From the Administration Office

Payments
When making payments to the school, why not utilise our direct deposit payment system as this method is easy to identify and to allocate payments to students. Also, it is quick and convenient and saves you having to wait in a queue. This is our preferred method of payment. If you wish to use this payment 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 all cash is placed into a sealed envelope and clearly labelled with your child’s name, class and what you are paying for. Also, 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 before the cut-off date.

P&C News
Hi everyone,
I would like to congratulate the school community for their fantastic fundraising efforts so far this year. We have raised more than $11,000 that will be directly used to support our children’s education.

There are some exciting events coming up for the school community. There is a Trivia Night on Saturday 29th October. The theme for the night will be “movies”. Entry fee at the door is $10 and BYO drinks! and snacks. There will be lots of chances to win some of the numerous prizes donated by local businesses so contact Erin Viles (Mob: 0412 636 551, email: erinviles@gmail.com) for more information about booking tables.

There will be a Disco on Friday the 4th of November at Girrawheen Place. The theme is “Bling” so get dressed up and enjoy the great music and food. There will be prizes for the best dressed girl and boy. A flyer will be sent out next week.

The P&C is also running a photography fundraiser in association with Border Studios on Saturday November 12th. For a $25 booking fee you will receive a canvas portrait and the school can keep the full $25! You will also be able to order additional packages on the day. Book online for a sitting with a professional photographer by visiting the website www.BorderStudios.com.au and reserve a time slot at Runcorn State School.

We are having our last P&C meeting for the year on Monday 21st November at 7pm in the school science room. Please come along and make a contribution to the school community or feel free to email me with any comments for the meeting.

Thanks everyone,
Eunan (eunanmac@hotmail.com)

Tuckshop
The Runcorn Refueller has finally gone high-tech! Tuckshop orders can be done online via Flexischools. This improves our Tuckshop service to Runcorn State School families in a number of ways:

- No more forgetting lunch bags
- No more cash issues - not having small change / kids losing change
- Set and forget - option to prebook orders in advance (even able to repeat orders automatically)
- Orders can be placed right up until 9 am on Tuckshop day
- Orders can be cancelled right up until 9 am on Tuckshop day (handy for when your child wakes up sick)

Using the Flexischools cashless payment system will provide a convenient and more efficient ordering and payment system. By paying online, orders are faster and more accurate, giving Parents and Students peace of mind that their order and payment is received accurately at the School.
HOW TO FREE REGISTER - go to www.flexischools.com.au

Step 1: Click the ‘REGISTER NOW’ button
Step 2: Enter your Email Address
Step 3: You will be emailed a link to an online form – follow the link
Step 4: Choose a Name and Password and complete the form
Step 5: Add each of your Student/s name and their year group
Step 6: Top-Up the Account – VISA, MasterCard or Direct Deposit

Once registered, you can start placing orders immediately.

HOW TO ORDER - go to www.flexischools.com.au

Step 1: Enter your Username and Password
Step 2: Add a Student
Step 3: Select School from drop down – Runcorn State School
Step 4: Start an Order by clicking Students Name
Step 5: Select Day and click lunch order
Step 6: Select the Items to add to the Order then select Next
Step 7: Select Place Order
Step 8: Payment Options - If you need to add funds to your account select Continue
Step 9: Do the Top Up - Select, enter details

If you have any questions, please contact Flexischools - their dedicated Help Line (1300 361 769) is Open 7.00am-6.00pm -or- via Email : help@flexischools.com.au

To explain the 25c/order fee:
Runcorn State School now has a partnership with Flexischools which guarantees the following:

- Parents are fully supported by the Flexischools Customer Service Team, who monitor Orders every day. Every parent has piece of mind in knowing they have assistance with every aspect of the online ordering system:
  - Signing up or adding funds
  - Placing an order
  - Order missed in cut-off time
  - Child is sick - need to cancel an order

- Flexischools tracks all Orders by ensuring they are downloaded and labels printed by the Tuckshop. If there are changes to an Order, or School Computer problems, Flexischools will send through all Orders to the Tuckshop via fax or email. No Order will be missed.
- Flexischools Customer Service Team takes the pressure off our Tuckshop Staff, allowing them to get on with preparation of food for everyone.

Volunteers
The Tuckshop is always in need of volunteers to process orders, prepare lunches and serve students at break times. If you can spare an hour or two once or twice a month, please see Jodie in the Tuckshop.

School Banking
School Banking Day is Monday.

Uniform Shop
We need Volunteers to help run the uniform shop on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8.30am to 9.00am for the remainder of this year as well as next year. If you are able to help please see one of the friendly ladies in the Uniform Shop on Monday, Wednesday or Friday. Training will be provided. Without the wonderful work of our Volunteers, the Uniform Shop will be unable to open on a regular basis.

Rebecca McCutcheon
Convenor

Runcorn Swimming Club
Friday nights are club nights. Gates open at 6pm for a 6.30pm start. Bring your friends and family and join in the fun. 25m and 50m events. BBQ and canteen will be open. New members welcome. Get started vouchers can be used for memberships. Let’s build up this school-based club, which has been running since 1982, and put the fun back into fitness.
Community News

Starting Runcorn State High School in 2017?

If that is someone in your house, then Term 4 this year is going to be an exciting one.

Your Enrolment Application should now be completed and returned to us with a copy of the students latest report card and birth certificate. Once the Principal approved your application a letter would have been sent confirming your students enrolment. If you have not yet completed the Enrolment Application you will need to do this immediately.

The Junior Secondary Team are now starting to sort students into classes in preparation for the events ahead.

- **General Information and Curriculum Information Evening Year 7**
  Monday 7 November, 2016 (6:30pm) Performing Arts Block

  Parents will be provided with information on a range of topics including school values, curriculum offerings, homework, uniforms and other general information. Any questions you may have will also be answered. **Students will be advised of their class and you make your appointment for the enrolment interviews at this evening.**

- **Orientation Day for New Students**
  Monday 21 November, 2016 (8:45am – 2:50pm)

  Year 6 students **who have enrolled** will attend an Orientation Day. This gives each student the opportunity to experience a day at high school before they begin in 2017. 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 wearing their Primary School uniform and bring a water bottle, hat and food for the day. The canteen will also be available to purchase food.

- **Enrolment Interviews**
  Monday 28 November, and Tuesday 29 November

  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.