From the Principal….

Dear Parents and Caregivers
Thank you to the P&C, volunteers and students for the disco on Friday night. I am sure that all students had a good time. I would also like to thank the staff who gave their time to be part of this school community event. All funds raised from these events support the school and the education of your children. Please support your P&C.

Thank you to parents who have informed the office about their children’s enrolment intentions for 2017. Once again, I would like to remind families who might not be returning to this school, please let us know. We are working towards finalising classes and allocating students to classes. Last day for collecting requests for classes is **Friday, 11 November**.

On Monday 7 November, the School Council completed a four hour governance training. We undertook this training so we can be as effective as possible in leading this school. The School Council is the strategic body of the school referred to as ‘steering body’. The training involved the key roles of the council. In most schools, within the timeframe that councils have, this key role is approving and monitoring the four year strategic plan and budget. We looked at ways of running meetings and preparing for meetings, the legislation and in general, value adding to the school. Thank you to the School Council for attending this training. Our members represent the P&C, parents, staff and community.

On Thursday, 20 Principals and Regional Staff visited the Pre-Prep program. Thank you to **Mrs Schooth** for getting this program off the ground and helping it to grow. It is wonderful to see how this program has helped Pre-Preps gain confidence each week. The children have been exposed to good quality literature, responded to the texts, interacted with each other and with adults and become familiar with the layout of the school. The visitors commented on the very positive and community-centred atmosphere. They were impressed with the engagement of the Pre-Prep children, the contribution of the parents, and the opportunity for parents and health providers to meet. Next year, we will continue with this program, and use the feedback that we have to make it even better.

It was great to see so many of the 2017 Preps visit the school on Friday 4th. The teachers were very happy with the way children fell into ‘school procedures’, engaged in the activities and interacted with the staff. There were minimum tears and this is a good sign for the start of the year. I hope the families found the morning just as useful.

**Michelle D’Netto**
From the Deputy Principal...

Year 5 and Year 6 Students Preparing for Puberty
Parents of students in Year 5 and Year 6 are invited to attend the True Relationships sessions with your children to help families communicate openly and positively about reproduction and puberty matters together. Each session runs for 1.5 hours and will focus on Preparing for Puberty for Year 5 students and Bodies and Reproduction for Year 6 students. These sessions are tailored to meet the developmental needs of the students in each age group. Key concepts in the sessions also include body ownership and personal safety skills. Thank you to the P&C for bearing the cost of the sessions, making them free to Runcorn State School students and their families.

Monday 14 November for Year 6 students - Bodies and Reproduction  3.30pm – 5.00pm

Thursday 17 November for Year 5 students - Preparing for Puberty  3.30pm – 5.00pm

Runcorn State School Science Room

Please RSVP on the notice sent home with students. If you require another notice, please collect from the Office.

Classroom Moves
In preparation for 2017, some classes will be moving to different classrooms from the end of Week 8. The room moves are planned to minimise interruption of student learning. There will only be one classroom move per day so that all available resources can be put into moving that class swiftly and safely.

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.

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. There is currently a competition in place for the first class to achieve a full week of all absences explained by text or phone message.

QSchools App
Keep informed through the Qschools App with Runcorn State School and receive up-to-the-minute updates. The app integrates with the department’s preferred school website platform to allow users to see when news, events and newsletters are posted to the Runcorn State School website. Users can also see other useful information provided by the school such as tuckshop menus, uniform shop information, and other important school information. The app will enable the school community to receive real-time notifications about state-wide emergency alerts as well as school push notifications through the app.

Roberta Matlock

Term Dates for 2016 School Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM</th>
<th>START</th>
<th>END</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>4 October 2016</td>
<td>9 December 2016</td>
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Term Dates for 2017 School Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM</th>
<th>START</th>
<th>END</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>23 January 2017</td>
<td>31 March 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>18 April 2017</td>
<td>23 June 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>10 July 2017</td>
<td>15 September 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>3 October 2017</td>
<td>8 December 2017</td>
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Ready Set Runcorn Prep!

We continue to have a wonderful time during our Ready, Set Runcorn Prep playgroup sessions. Last week the children went on an adventure through the school searching for Gingerbread clues after reading "The Gingerbread Man". Our children are quickly developing a good knowledge of where things are at Runcorn State School!

Our parents are also learning, having participated in an interesting presentation from an Occupational Therapist from Boost Therapy.

This week our program will focus on nutrition. I wonder how many Fruit and Vegetable Superheroes we will see?!

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>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 (9:30am)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>17 Nov</td>
<td>Yr 5 Pre-puberty Family Education (3.30pm – 5.00pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>18 Nov</td>
<td>Junior Swimming Carnival (Yrs 1 &amp; 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>21 Nov</td>
<td>Music Medal Parade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>22 Nov</td>
<td>Strings Break Up Concert (9:30am)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>24 Nov</td>
<td>Yr 3 Sleep Over</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>25 Nov</td>
<td>Senior Swimming Carnival (Yrs 3-6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>30 Nov</td>
<td>End of Year Concert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>2 Dec</td>
<td>Yr 6 Wet’n’Wild</td>
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<tr>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9 Dec</td>
<td>Last Day of School</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Students Enrolling for Prep in 2017 – Activities

- **Get Ready for Prep Morning – Thursday, 19th January (9:30am – 11:00am)**
Swimming
Firstly can I please just say a big Thank You to all the amazing parents that have come down to the pool to help with swimming lessons so far this term. You have been amazing and we do really appreciate it.

The weather has been very kind to us so far and the children keep telling me how much they love swimming…..especially the Preps.

We are still getting quite a few of the younger students coming with earrings to swimming though, so can I please ask parents to make sure they are taking earrings out on swimming days? It does hold the whole process up with us having to do this at the start of the lesson and cuts down on our already short time in the water. We cannot allow earrings in the pool as they can cause injury when stood on and if they happen to find their way into our pool filter system they can cause havoc.

Swimming Carnivals

Junior Carnival (Yrs 1 & 2) is Friday 18th November 9-11am

It would be great if students wore their swimming attire to school under their uniform as we won’t have a lot of time for changing. Please remember to pack your child underwear though as they will be getting changed after. It is also a good idea to pack two towels, a jumper, swim cap, water bottle, and their fruit break inn their swim bag that day if possible.

All students are expected to participate to earn points for their team. The aim for the day is participation and water safe fun.

Senior Carnival (Yrs 3-6) is Friday 25th November from 9am-2pm.

Nominations
Nominations sheets have been up on the notice board opposite the entrance to my office. Students have been asked to nominate for at least 2 events each, however they are allowed to enter 4 events. They choose 50m or 25m distances but cannot do 50m freestyle and then 25m freestyle. They must do one or the other.

For more able or competitive students, they can nominate for the Championship Races which are effectively finals. We will time these students and then the fastest 6 students will swim in the Championship Races on the Carnival Day. Students who have nominated for this but miss out on time, can then do the regular 50m events and gain points for their houses.

Students must swim at our carnival and meet required times to be considered for the Runcorn Swim team to compete at the District Swimming Carnival. This will be for students who are turning 10yrs and over next year.

We would love as many parents and spectators there as possible to cheer on our students and we also require some time keepers for the Senior Carnival.

It would be great if students wore their swimming attire to school under their uniform as we won’t have a lot of time for changing. Please remember to remind your child to pack underwear though as they will be getting changed after. It is also a good idea to pack two towels, a jumper, swim cap, water bottle, their fruit break and afternoon snack in their swim bag that day if possible. The lunch breaks will remain the same.

All students are expected to participate to earn points for their team. The aim for the day is participation and team spirit. If you have any questions or concern please contact me through the school office or by email: awyat26@eq.edu.au

Thanks

Anna Wood
PE Teacher
Runcorn Sporting Schools Splash!!!

Swim Clinics
At Runcorn State School

When: Mondays 14/11, 21/11, 28/11, 5/12
Wednesdays 9/11, 16/11, 23/11, 30/11

Where: Runcorn State School Pool

Time: 3:15PM - 4:30PM

Details: First in, best dressed.
Free swimming clinics for Runcorn SS students for a 4 week block.

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.

Book Club Issue 8
By now you should have received Issue 8 of Book Club, our final issue of the year! Orders are due by the 18th November 2016, via LOOP payment system only. NO CASH ACCEPTED. There are lots of great bargains and deals, so get in quick!

I would just like to thank you all for your continued support for Book Club this year. The best gift any parent can give a child is the love of good books and the joy and benefits of good reading. Children who read at home, or are read to, have a head start on reading success in school. Owning your own books is something special! I hope that you will continue to encourage your child to order books, as each order helps earn free books and teaching materials for our school library. I know of no better way to encourage reading than to allow children to choose the books they want to read.
I look forward to working with Scholastic and Book Club next year to continue bringing award winning new books to the students at Runcorn.

Mrs Bayle  
Book Club Coordinator

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 $13,000 that will be directly used to support our children’s education.

The “Bling” disco was a great success. I had some great feedback from parents and the kids had a ball dancing and wearing their costumes. A big “thank you!” to the many volunteers who helped out. It was a busy event but we raised $1,500 for the school on the night!

This week is the last chance to book a time slot for the 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.

The school is having its annual End of Year Concert at Sunnybank High School on Wednesday 30th November. This is a great night where the kids (and staff!) get to perform for the whole school community. The P&C will be providing food and drinks on the night and volunteers will be greatly appreciated. Please contact Alexis Goldsworthy on 0430 313 308.

The P&C is also collecting items for the Christmas Hamper raffle that will be drawn at the End of Year Concert. Donations can be left in the classrooms and the class with the largest weekly donation will receive ice-block vouchers at the tuck shop. Details on the donations required are included on a flyer that is being sent out this week.

We are having our last P&C meeting for the year on Monday 21st November at 7pm in the school science room. The aim of this meeting is to plan for 2017 fundraising events. If you have any suggestions, 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
Convener
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 student's latest report card and birth certificate. Once the Principal approved your application a letter would have been sent confirming your student's 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.

- **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.