From the Principal....

Dear Parents and Caregivers

During the last two weeks we have been delighted by the music and progress made by our choirs, band and strings ensembles. The growth of the musicians from their early beginnings to now is commendable. Music provides so many people with such joy and the students themselves with discipline. Thank you to the staff, students and parents for supporting the music programs at Runcorn. These programs look healthy for 2017 with numbers growing.

We are in our final preparation for 2017 classes and staffing and hoping to have this completed before the end of the year. Many new enrolments come in January and this changes our staffing profile. Ms Reeves and Mrs Sluggett will be leaving us at the end of the year after many years of commitment and dedication to the school. Ms Reeves has been at this school since 2001 and Mrs Sluggett since 2002. We wish them all the best at their new school on the Gold Coast and Darling Downs. Joining the teaching team will be Mr Adam France and Ms Amber Ryan. I am sure that they will feel very welcome in this community.

Teaching and learning will continue to the end of the school term. If you can avoid taking your children out of school before the holidays, please do so. Assessment is still continuing and we want every child to have the best opportunity by being at school. Students will be bring their Semester 2 attendance letters home this week. Our attendance target was 95% and we are very close to hitting that mark. Please use the SMS text service to inform the school of any absences.

Students must continue to wear full school uniform with the correct footwear and haircuts. See the items in this newsletter with appropriate footwear.

I have been so impressed with the writing that students are generating. The Preps and Year 1s have been coming to the office to share their letter writing and the procedures that they have been writing. It is wonderful to see the pride on their faces when they realise that they are readers and writers. Well done students.

The Year 5 student leader nominees presented their speeches to a panel this week. I would like to congratulate all nine students on their very professional presentation. Their portfolios and their responses to the questions were outstanding.

Michelle D’Netto
From the Deputy Principal…

Classroom Moves
In preparation for 2017, some classes will be moving to different classrooms from this week. 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.

Get Connected Stay Connected with QSchools App
There are so many ways for families to be connected with school activities – through the website, fortnightly newsletter, notices home in school bags and the QSchools App. Download the free QSchools App and receive important school notifications and news feeds. It can be used on any Apple or Android device.

It is particularly important for emergencies in the storm season.

School Uniform
When buying school shoes for your children, please bear in mind that plain black or plain white with no coloured stripes and inserts is the school uniform. Please support the school uniform policy and students to wear this with pride.

Roberta Matlock

Term Dates for 2016 School Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM</th>
<th>START</th>
<th>END</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>4 October 16</td>
<td>9 December 16</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Term Dates for 2017 School Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM</th>
<th>START</th>
<th>END</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>23 January 17</td>
<td>31 March 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>18 April 17</td>
<td>23 June 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>10 July 17</td>
<td>15 September 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>3 October 17</td>
<td>8 December 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From the Prep Rooms – Grandparents Day
The contributions that grandparents make to schools are immeasurable. As you know, many grandparents are highly involved in their grandkids’ schooling. They drop-off and pick-up their grandchildren, they attend school sporting events and performances and many volunteer their time to assist with reading activities or with the Tuckshop. Last Wednesday, the Preps invited their grandparents to celebrate ‘Grandparents Day’ by participating in some fun activities including badge making, shared reading, arts and craft and writing.

At Runcorn, we encourage all children to think about the value of grandparents in their life and enjoyed hearing our students say ‘thank you’ as they spent time with their grandparents on Grandparents Day. Below are some beautiful pictures of our students and their grandparents.

The Prep Team

Ready, Set, Runcorn Prep
We had lots of fun this week exploring ants and insects and reading “The Ant Army”. The Pre-preps also did a great job of singing along and marching to the song, “The Ants Go Marching”. The children are all growing in confidence and we are looking forward to a great start for them all in 2017.

Next week (1st December) will be our final playgroup for the year. It would be wonderful if you joined us for a celebration of all the learning that has happened this year. Please bring a plate to share.

Julie Schooth

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>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><strong>Friday</strong></td>
<td>25 Nov</td>
<td><strong>Payment Cut-Off Date – Yr 6 Excursion to Wet’n’Wild</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>30 Nov</td>
<td>End of Year Concert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>2 Dec</td>
<td>Yr 6 Wet’n’Wild</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>6 Dec</td>
<td>Volunteer Before School Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>7 Dec</td>
<td>Yr 6 Graduation Ceremony</td>
</tr>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>19th Jan</td>
<td>Get Ready for Prep 2017 Morning (9:30am – 11:00am)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students Enrolling for Prep in 2017 – Activities
- Get Ready for Prep Morning – Thursday, 19th January 2017 (9:30am – 11:00am)
Senior Swimming Carnival 2016

Program of Events

**Part 1 – 9.00 – 11am**

**Butterfly** – Girls and Boys - 25m 8yrs, 9yrs, 10yrs, 11yrs and 12yrs

**Butterfly** – Girls and Boys - 50m 8yrs, 9yrs, 10yrs, 11yrs and 12yrs

**Butterfly – Championship Final - 50m**

**Freestyle** – 25m - 8yrs, 9yrs, 10yrs, 11yrs and 12yrs Kickboard race

**Freestyle** – 25m – 8yrs, 10yrs, 11yrs and 12yrs

**Freestyle** – 50 m – 8yrs, 9yrs, 10yrs, 11yrs and 12yrs

**Freestyle – Championship Final - 50m**

**Girls** - 8yrs, 9yrs, 10yrs, 11yrs and 12yrs

**Boys** - 8yrs, 9yrs, 10yrs, 11yrs ,12yrs

**Time Permitting Relays – 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay** – (1 team per House- 2 boys, 2 girls- one person from each age group - 9, 10, 11/12) if time. Can use 8yrs if needed.

11am – Lunch

**Part 2 – 12pm – 1:30pm**

**Backstroke** – 25m – 8yrs, 9yrs, 10yrs, 11yrs and 12yrs Kickboard race

**Backstroke** – 25m - 8yrs, 9yrs, 10yrs, 11yrs and 12yrs

**Backstroke** – 50m - 8yrs, 9yrs, 10yrs, 11yrs and 12yrs

**Backstroke – Championship Final – 50m**

**Girls** - 8yrs, 9yrs, 10yrs, 11yrs and 12yrs

**Boys** - 8yrs, 9yrs, 10yrs, 11yrs ,12yrs

**Breaststroke** – 25m - 8yrs, 9yrs, 10yrs, 11yrs and 12yrs

**Breaststroke** – 50m - 8yrs, 9yrs, 10yrs, 11yrs and 12yrs

**Breaststroke – Championship Final – 50m**

**Girls** - 8yrs, 9yrs, 10yrs, 11yrs and 12yrs

**Boys** - 8yrs, 9yrs, 10yrs, 11yrs ,12yrs

**Relays - 4 x 50m Medley Relay** (1 team per House-2 boys, 2 girls- one person from each age group- 9, 10, 11, 12) if time. Can use 8yrs if needed.

1:30pm Break

1:50pm Presentations in Girrawheen Place
* Children must have a swim cap, a school hat, sunscreen, thongs would also be a good idea, fruit or healthy snack and an extra water bottle for the carnival.

Thanks
Anna Wood
PE Teacher

Music Matters

Music Vests
All choir, band and strings members need to please return their blue music vest to the marked boxes outside Mrs Buddle’s room in clearly named plastic bag.

End of Year Concert
We look forward to our End of Year Concert next Wednesday at Sunnybank High School Hall. Children need to arrive at 6.00pm for a 6.30pm start. We are busy rehearsing for what promises to be a truly evening of celebration. See you there!

Mrs Margaret Buddle

2016 End of Year School Concert - Sunnybank State High School Hall

Wednesday November 30 - 6.00 pm for a 6.30 pm start

- Parents please allow for parking time. It is important that everyone arrives on time, as children need to be gathered outside in set places before moving into the hall.
- A gold coin donation will be collected at the door by the P&C. We seek your support in this, as this concert is a major income source for our school.
- Cans of drinks and light snacks will be available for sale at the back of the hall from 5.30pm and throughout the evening.
- The concert will proceed regardless of the weather.
- We do ask our audience to remain for the entire concert which will conclude between 8.00pm – 8.15 pm.
- Raffle tickets will also be available for the fantastic hampers. Winners will be announced at the end of the concert.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Costumes / What to Wear Suggestions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Christmas / Festive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Red, green or white t-shirts, tinsel, elf hats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Cowboys and Cowgirls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Denim, checked shirts, bandanas, boots, cowboy hats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Junkanoo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bright or fluro colours, feathers, streamers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Mexican</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Red, green and yellow colours, sombreros, ponchos, moustaches, ruffled dresses/skirts, big flowers in hair, beads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Rock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dark pants and green, orange or purple tshirt, Gelled hair and sunglasses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Football</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Football supporters gear, e.g. team jersey, shorts, socks, scarf, beanie, etc (no boots please)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Free dress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Optional dollar sign necklace, School dress code applies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.**

Entrepreneurs of Tomorrow Grant

Earlier this year, the school applied for a $16,000 grant offered by the state government towards a robotics and coding program. We were delighted to find out that we were successful, which started our journey in ‘The Runcorn Pitch’ program or if you would like to call it, a competition!

This program was run with 16 extension students in Years 4, 5 and 6. 25 students were offered a chance to be in the program, but to enter, they had to ‘pitch’ an idea to a selection panel consisting of 3 teachers. Some of the ideas were incredible! From this, 16 students were placed into teams, consisting of strengths in different areas from creativity and design, to coding and robotics, to persuasive essay writing and presenting.

Over the semester, these students participated in a number of incursions run by Dan Cook from Maker Workshop which included lessons in coding on Scratch, the process of designing prototypes, as well as lessons in circuitry. They were also lucky enough to have an excursion to The Cube at QUT and also visit UQ for a robotics session, and be involved in lessons with Mrs McNeill on business and marketing.

As the 16th November, pitching day, was approaching the students began to collaboratively work in their teams to outdo the other. If one team designed a flyer to hand out for marketing, then the other teams wanted to do better! The competition was on! Students had finally pulled together to complete their prototypes to improve our school and the community, persuasive speeches had been written and ready to present.

The 16th was here! Students were excited! Our hosts, Ella and Isabella, began thanking our distinguished guest, Mr Peter Russo, our local MP. Each team presented their prototype in the hope to persuade their audience. Everyone was then given the time to walk around and view how these wonderful machines worked. Now, it came to voting! Everybody was asked to vote on their favourite team.

After counting all the votes, and re-counting, a winner was found!! JAEB Corp came in first place with their robot, Mr Jerald, who is designed to sense rubbish and sweep it into his bin. Second place was The Pitchinators, third place was PDSF Industrial Designs and in fourth place was ABYSS Tech.

Overall, it has been an exciting and incredible opportunity for these students, and it has been wonderful to watch them all grow in this area of work. Well done to all of the teams, they all deserved to win! We look forward to the competition running again next year.

**ICT Coordinator**

Evalina McNeill
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 $13,500** that will be directly used to support our children’s education.

The photography fundraiser was a great success which raised about $400 for the school. Just remember to collect your pictures from the school on Thursday and to finalise your payments.

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 from 5.30 pm on the night and volunteers will be greatly appreciated. **Please contact Alexis Goldsworthy on 0430 313 308 if you can help with BBQ or selling the food.** I’ll take this opportunity to thank all the parents who have donated items for the Christmas Hamper Raffle. We will draw the winning tickets during the concert.

The final P&C meeting for 2016 was on Monday 21st November. The aim of this meeting was to plan for 2017 fundraising events. Please feel free to email me with any suggestions to add into our fundraising activities in 2017. We are always looking for other interesting fundraising opportunities.

As the year draws to a close, I would like to thank the exceptional P&C volunteers who have made 2016 such a successful year. We are extremely grateful for all efforts and I’m proud of what we have achieved together. Hopefully 2017 will continue to be as productive and enjoyable.

Thanks everyone,
Eunan (eunanmac@hotmail.com)

Tuckshop News

As the school year quickly winds down, please be reminded that the Tuckshop will be running stock right down as of this week. In cases where your child’s order cannot be filled due to lack of stock, a similar priced substitute item will be provided.

The Tuckshop will be open for orders and ice-block purchases up until Thursday, 8th December. On this day, a limited supply of stock will be on hand for students not wishing to order their class year levels’ Party Day Meal. Please see Jodie in the Tuckshop prior to Party Day to order for this day.

**The Tuckshop will be closed on Friday 9th December.**

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

Jacaranda Early Learning Centre

ENROLLING NOW

BOOK A TOUR TODAY

A team of highly qualified & caring educators who ensure your children are safe, respected and loved in high quality learning spaces.

A unique and meaningful play-based curriculum inspired by your child’s ideas and skills where educators, together with children, extend and challenge their ‘big questions’.

Our child-led learning environments will strengthen your child’s thinking and learning to ensure an affective transition to school.

Healthy nutritious meals prepared by on-site cooks using fresh, seasonal produce.

A unique family-only online platform to access daily photos and information about your child’s learning and experiences at the centre.

78 Ardargie Street, Sunnybank
Ph: 3216 9899

jacarandasonybank.com.au