Welcome students, parents and staff to week 10 of the third term for 2013.

Election Fundraiser
Thank you to all of the families who helped out at the Election Day Fundraiser BBQ and Car Boot Sale. There were lots of community members passing through on the day to vote and the smell of the BBQ at the exit of the polling booth was a temptation too hard to pass up for most of the people. All of the funds raised go to the P&C which in turn goes back into the school to help provide the best possible learning environment for your children.

Bell Survey
At the start of the term there were surveys conducted to establish if the new bell system was to stay in operation. The question asked of the three groups surveyed (Students/Community Members/Staff) was:

Which form of bell is best suited to signify the different periods of the day?

a) Traditional bell 

b) Hip hop music or 

c) Classical Music

The results indicated that the majority were in favour of the current Classical music as the bell.
Communication
As a school we are always trying to improve the way in which we communicate with families and the community. We have many methods including:

- The email distribution list that is derived from the email addresses subscribed to the school newsletter.
- The 3 school notice boards on the corners of the main roads surrounding the school.
- The newsletter.
- The School Calendar.
- The new school website (that replaced the old one two weeks ago) which is now linked to an App called Qschools that you can download to your smart phone. This App delivers important information in real time to your phone.

We now would like to make up a couple of new email distribution list for various groups within the school (i.e. Band, Strings, and Choir). This will enable us to communicate more effectively with parents to allow important messages to come through when needed. If you have received a letter asking for your email address, please return it to the school office ASAP so that you can receive these messages efficiently.

Regional Results
Congratulations to the following students for achieving such outstanding results:-

Aaron Werder:
- 1st 10yrs multi event
- 2nd 10yrs long jump
- 3rd 10yrs discus
- 3rd 10yrs 800m.

Kaitlin Shave:
- 3rd 12yrs long jump
- 1st 12yrs 100m sprint so far...

Adventure Playground
Please be aware that the senior adventure playground is out of bounds for all students after school. The only playground that may be used after school is the junior adventure playground provided that the child in the playground has their parent supervising them at all times.

Children are not permitted to use the playgrounds as a way to pass time whilst they wait for their parents to pick them up in the afternoon. All children waiting for parents to pick them up are to wait at the drop off/pick up zone.

Leave
In term 4 there are a few staff members taking leave.

- **Mr Lachlan Robertson** will be on Long Service Leave for the whole term and is being replaced by **Ms Noriko Roos**. Ms Roos comes highly recommended from both Runcorn State High School and Runcorn Heights State School. We wish Mr Robertson all the best in his travels.
- **Mrs Ursulla Nightingale** our Head of Special Education Services (HOSES) will be taking maternity leave from 22-10-13. At this stage, Mrs Nightingale will be off for 6 months with the possibility of extension. In her absence, she will be replaced with an Acting HOSES. We have currently shortlisted several applicants for her position and will be conducting interviews this week in order to select the most suitable candidate. We wish Mrs Nightingale all the best as she welcomes her third child into our world.
- For the first two weeks of term 4, **Mark Johnstone** will be on Long Service Leave (LSL). During his absence, **Mrs Kaye Dalus** will be the Acting Principal and the Deputy position will be filled by **Ryan Bennett** who is a senior teacher from Calamvale Community College. He is currently enrolled in our cluster aspiring leaders program.

Keep a watch on our school these holidays
Parents and students can help take care of our school by reporting any suspicious after-hours activity to School Watch on 13 17 88. By keeping an eye out we can work together to create a safer school community and help to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in our school.

If you see something suspicious, please don’t intervene. Call the School Watch number and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter.

Regards

*Mark Johnstone*
GALA Day
The second one for this term is on Friday. We wish our teams well and thank the teachers who coach and support them along the way. The sports being played are cricket, touch and netball.

Reading Room
The books have now arrived. The photo does not do them justice - there were actually too many books to fit in it, how exciting is that!!

It was just like Christmas here in the office as we opened the many cartons containing so many lovely books for the reading room. These were purchased with the money raised by you and our P&C. They are now being processed. This is a really big job as there are kits, CDs multiple copies of books as well as the accompanying teacher resources. So if you are able to help with the covering of these, please see Mr Jones or Mrs Shire in the Resource Centre.

Home Reading
It is so important that the students read every day, even if only for a short period of time. Being able to read and comprehend is a life skill that opens many doors.

As parents you can support this process by setting time aside without distractions for your children to read, showing the children that you too like to read by reading yourself, asking questions not only to recount the story but about the characters in the story, the setting, the problem that needed to be solved and how it was solved. You can also read along with or to your children. This can be such a special time for you to enjoy together.

Help your child to ‘decode’ the text by having them re-read parts they don’t understand, looking for smaller words in bigger words and helping them by giving them the initial sound of the word for them to work out for themselves. See your child’s teacher about tips for home reading, they have many that can be shared with you.

Electronic Devices
Please ensure children keep their DS’s and other electronic devices at home. They can be lost, misplaced or damaged whilst on the school premises therefore please keep these electronic devices away from school grounds.

Interviews
Thank you for setting aside the time to speak with your child’s teacher about their learning. I am sure that you found the process a valuable one. Thank you to the teachers who give up time before and after school to make this happen. A well-deserved holiday to you all.

Happy learning,
Kaye Dalus

TERM DATES FOR 2013 SCHOOL YEAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM</th>
<th>START</th>
<th>END</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Monday, 8 July 2013</td>
<td>Friday, 20 September 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Tuesday, 8 October 2013</td>
<td>Friday, 13 December 2013</td>
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PREP ENROLMENTS 2014
We are now accepting enrolment applications for Prep 2014. Prep enrolment eligibility for 2014 is for children born between 1st July 2008 – 30th June 2009. Enrolment forms are available from the Administration Office.

PAYMENT CLOSING DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
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<th>EVENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>12th September</td>
<td>Payment Closing Date - Year 6 Camp to Tallebudgera</td>
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TERM 3 ~ DATES OF SIGNIFICANCE

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<th>DAY</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>13 September</td>
<td>Payment Closing Date – Year 6 Camp to Tallebudgera</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>13 September</td>
<td>P&amp;C Disco</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>16 September</td>
<td>Year 5 Camp Commences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>18 September</td>
<td>Year 5 Camp Finishes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>20 September</td>
<td>Cheerleading – National Schools Final at Boondall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>20 September</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>7 October</td>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>8 October</td>
<td>Term 4 commences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>29 October</td>
<td>Yr 1 Excursion to Wellington Pt Beach (more info to come)</td>
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MUSIC NEWS

Information for the Instrumental Program at Runcorn State School – 2014

Reminder - all students wishing to play an instrument in 2014 ...please hand in the Expression of Interest form.

We have collected the vests and would appreciate help with the washing and ironing. Could anybody who is willing to take some please see Jodie in the Tuckshop to collect.

The Instrumental Program is an Extra-Curricular Activity that is offered to students who demonstrate an aptitude for music. The staffing for this program is funded by the Department of Education Training and the Arts. Runcorn State School assists the program by funding instruments. Places in this program are limited, therefore after students express interest, places are offered according to availability and the student having met with the selection criteria. The overarching purpose of the Instrumental Music Program as set out by the Department of Education Training and the Arts is to “provide children with the opportunity to experience the expressive qualities of music through learning to play a band/orchestral instrument and to participate in performance ensembles such as concert bands and orchestras.” It is our policy that students are eligible for either the strings or the band program, not both. After a formal request to the Principal and under exceptional circumstances such as giftedness, students may be offered a place in both programs. Please note that it is not the intention of the program to have students switch from strings to bands in Year 5. Students in Year 3 and 4 in 2014 are eligible for violin, cello or double bass. Students in Year 5 and 6 in 2014 are eligible for clarinet, flute, saxophone, percussion, french horn, trumpet, trombone.

Information regarding the Selection Process

Step 1 – Students complete an “Expression of Interest Form” attached.
Step 2 – The student's classroom music participation and ability, along with the class teachers’ assessment of academic ability, homework and independent learning skills are recorded and passed onto the instrumental teachers.
Step 3 - Instrumental staff assess which instruments might be suitable for the candidates.
Step 4 – A written offer is made in November 2013.

The Commitment

- Sign up for the minimum of one year.
- Students have a half hour lesson per week.
- Students in band/ensemble participate in a weekly rehearsal before school.
- Students practice at home.
- Be available for competitions and concerts – approximately two a year, sometimes after school hours.
- Purchase set performance uniform from the uniform shop, new or second-hand.
- Provide black socks and black shoes.
- Pay $5 Vest and Bow Tie hire.
- Pay Instrumental Levy – Children on school instruments pay $85 for the year, students providing their own instruments pay $55 for the year. This levy covers the maintenance of school instruments, the cost of folders and the purchase of music, which for band and ensemble pieces is approximately $200 a piece.
- The Levy will be billed in 2014 and will need to be paid in full by Easter for children to remain in the program.

Generally speaking instruments are on loan for a one year period only. Larger instruments are on loan for the student's duration at Runcorn State School. If you have any further questions please leave your name and contact details with the office for Mrs. Mechielsen and I will return the call as soon as possible. Expression of Interest forms are available from the office.

Students in Year 7 with no younger brothers and sisters

Any black pants, white shirts or black shoes that you are willing to donate to the school ??? These would be gratefully received. Please place in bag and bring to the Music room.

Happy Playing, Rita Mechielsen
Senior Choir will be taking the rest of the Thursday mornings off this term and we will commence again in Term 4, the first Thursday back to start High School Musical songs.

INCURSIONS/EXCURSIONS AND CAMP PAYMENTS

To avoid the disappointment of your child not being able to attend Year level excursions, payments MUST be made by the cut-off date stated in the excursion letter. This is due to the new Education Queensland financing system. Payments can be made by cash/cheque/efpos or direct deposit into the school's bank account (BSB 064-162/Account No. 00090035). 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.

YR 2 EXCURSION TO TOOHEY FOREST

On Tuesday the 10th of September 2013 2B and 2P went to Toohey Forest and the lady who was taking our class was Teresa, taking 2B was Sean. The principal's name was Darren. We went pond dipping and while we were at the pond we learnt about different plants. When we were at the pond we got to use nets to catch different water creatures. Some groups caught very interesting water animals. One group caught a water strider. After we did pond dipping we tipped our samples into a tray then looked at which different water creatures that we had caught. There were lots of fresh water shrimps in the water.

While we were at the pond we saw a water dragon. We saw two ducks at the pond. One group caught a fish. On the way back we went through the university so we could go across the stepping stones. The stepping stones are there because if there is a flood you could still get across the water. The stepping stones were like giant stones but flat. We filled in our sheets about how healthy the pond actually was. At the pond all the groups had one big net and one small black net. When we finished our work sheets we got to pat some live animals. WE HAD A LOT OF FUN!

By Amy Sheehan and Lucy Schooth

When we got back to the Education centre we went down stairs to stamp life cycles and put them up to dry there were three different colours and those three different colours were black, orange and green. After that we went upstairs to look at the animals and feel them. Kazuha and Kirsty got to hold a stick insect - it was a female.

We got to touch a python and it was the biggest python in Brisbane and it had a blue tongue. We got to touch a blue tongue lizard and it scared Kazuha. We got to look at a pink tongue lizard it lived in a little log that folds over. We saw a bearded dragon and we got to touch it and it was bumpy. Then Sean came around and gave us some gel to wash our hands and then we lined up and said good-bye and then we went to the bus then hopped on the bus and went back to school and we had so much fun on the playground at school.

By Troy Ross and Alex Trevilyan 2P
LOST - YEAR 7 CAMP JUMPER

A Year 7 Camp Jumper has been left on the oval. If you happen to find it, can you please hand it in to the office.

TEACHER AIDE DAY

Last Friday, we celebrated Teacher Aide Day to acknowledge the work our Teacher Aides do for our school, staff and students. Teacher aides are an invaluable resource who make innovative and valuable contributions to our school. We celebrated Teacher Aide Day with a special morning tea with a celebratory cake and a small gift to thank them for the wonderful work that they do. Congratulations to Helen Stevens, Danielle Bailey, Wendy Schloss, Leanne Howes, Margaret Reyne, Dianne Howard, Lisa Weir, Shirley Manricks, June Butler, Sandy Schuler and Tia Hague.

CALLING FOR SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISORS

Road Safety Officer, Christine Goh, is looking for new School Crossing Supervisors. If you are interested, please contact Christine on (07) 3347 7867 or alternatively 0417 703 168 between the hours of 9.30am and 1.30pm school days only. Parents and Caregivers, please be aware that it is illegal to park in the two-minute zones around the school. Cars cannot be left in these areas even though there are people sitting in them.

LOST PROPERTY

Don't forget to check through the bins throughout the year for any lost property items that your children may have misplaced. Any leftover items will be donated to charity at the end of each term. A large pencil case, mobile phone, single earring, single earring, child's spectacles and three toy cars have been handed in to the office. If you or your child have misplaced theirs, please contact the school office.

THIS FORTNIGHT’S HEALTH INFO – HEAD LICE

Head lice have been around for many thousands of years. Anyone can get head lice and given the chance head lice move from head to head without discrimination. Head lice are small, wingless, blood sucking insects. Their colour varies from whitish-brown to reddish-brown. People get head lice from direct hair to hair contact with another person who has head lice. Head lice do not have wings or jumping legs so they cannot fly or jump from head to head. They can only crawl. If lice or eggs are found, the child's hair should be treated. Head lice eggs are small (size of a pinhead) and oval. A live egg will 'pop' when squashed between fingernails. Lice can crawl and hide. The easiest and most effective way to find them is to follow these steps:-

- Comb any type of hair conditioner on to dry, brushed (detangled) hair. This stuns the lice and makes it difficult for them to grip the hair or crawl around.
- Comb sections of the hair with a fine tooth, head lice comb.
- Wipe the conditioner from the comb onto a paper towel or tissue.
- Look on the tissue and on the comb for lice and eggs.
- Repeat the combing for every part of the head at least 4-5 times.

Treating Head Lice

Concentrate on the head - there is no evidence to suggest that you need to clean the house or classroom. No treatment kills all of the eggs so treatment must involve two applications seven days apart. If you are using lotions, apply the product to dry hair. There is no need to treat the whole family, unless they also have head lice. Only the pillowcase requires specific laundering; either wash it in hot water (at least 60 degrees centigrade) or dry it using a clothes dryer on the hot or warm setting. There is no product available that prevents head lice. Using the conditioner and comb method once a week will help you detect any head lice early and minimise the problem. Tying back long hair can help prevent the spread of head lice. Combs with long, rounded stainless steel teeth positioned very close together have been shown to be the most effective, however any head lice comb can be used.

LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY - OCTOBER 7, 2013

Don't forget that Monday, October 7th, is Labour Day public holiday. School will recommence for Term 4 on Tuesday, 8th October.
P&C Meeting
The next meeting for the P&C for 2013 will be held on Friday, 18th October at 1.30pm. All parents welcome.

Election Day BBQ & Car Boot Sale
Many thanks goes to the helpers for Saturday’s Election BBQ and Cake Stall. Saturday was a busy day for most families with sporting and family commitments, so we appreciate you giving up your valuable time to help out. Thank you also goes to P&L Fresh Meats at Oxley for your assistance with the BBQ.

It was a successful day raising over $1,200, which will go towards our continued commitment to upgrade learning resources for the school.

P&C Disco - Friday, 13th September
The Disco is on this Friday night. This is a great evening for the kids and a chance for parents to catch up. Volunteers will be needed for serving. Only half an hour of your time is needed and as they say, “Many hands make light work.” We look forward to seeing you there.

"Disco Special"

The Humble Touch Skin and Beauty Salon have a special running until Friday night at the disco - $30 Hydrating Facial (50% of sales goes to the school).

Please leave your name, contact details and money with Jodie at the Tuckshop or you can pay at the disco. The Humble Touch will contact you to arrange an appointment.

The Humble Touch Skin & Beauty, 19 Snowberry Street, Sunnybank Hills, 0415 118 311
(Mon - Sat 9am - 6pm, Sunday by appointment only)

$1 Ice Creams for Lilli Chang
Thank you to all students and teachers for supporting the ice cream fundraising for Lilli Chang to go to the upcoming National Touch Football Competition in Darwin in October.

Sandra Weatherall
P & C President
0413109957

Tuckshop
Prep Tuckshop News
Prep Students can now order Tuckshop Monday to Friday. Preps can also order from the regular Tuckshop Menu.

Volunteers Urgently Required! The Tuckshop is in need of volunteer help on Thursday mornings between 9-11am. Even if you can only spare 1/2 an hour, your help would be very much appreciated.

Birthday Cupcakes
Birthday Cupcakes are available from the tuckshop for your child’s class in a variety of colours and themes. Cupcakes are $1 each. To order cupcakes for your child’s birthday, please contact Jodie in the Tuckshop. Please provide at least 48 hours’ notice.

Jodie Newton
Tuckshop Convenor

UNIFORM SHOP

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

Hijabs are now available from the Uniform Shop in school colours - $7.50 each

Library Bags are now in stock in a full range of colours

Jodie Thompson
Uniform Shop Convenor
**School Banking**

You could win an iPad mini! One Brisbane West Area School will win a CommBank Marquee and one Brisbane West Area Student will win an iPad mini! The School with the highest percentage of active students making at least one school banking deposit in Term 3 will win a marquee. Every student who completes a minimum of one school banking deposit in Term 3 will be in the running to win a cool iPad mini or a Dollarmite Backpack! Make sure you deposit at school at least once in Term 3 and you will be automatically entered. Good Luck!

Things to know before you can: **Competition opens 08/07/13 and closes 27/09/13.** Competition is open to all queensland School Banking Schools. The Promoter is Commonwealth Bank of Australia ABN 48 123 124. Full terms and conditions available in Branch.

Lisa Weir  
Banking Coordinator

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**FREE - How to Encourage Your Child's Reading**

Education starts at home and parents and families are their children's first teachers. With this in mind, the free Parent Ready Readers training program provides parents and carers of children in Prep to Year 3 with some key strategies to use at home to support their child's reading and to develop a love of books prior to developing their reading abilities. The training runs for approximately 90 minutes and consists of four modules:

- What is literacy?  
- Understanding the reading process  
- Stages of reading  
- Listening to your child read and reading to your child.

Participants receive a Parent Ready Readers booklet with training notes, reading activities and additional resources, which will help to build a lifelong love of reading.

**Last Session time for 2013**

**Wednesday 16 October 2013  9.30 – 11.00am  Warrigal Road State School – Eight Mile Plains**

Come along and find out how you can help your child enjoy reading! Children are welcome to attend with their Parents/Caregivers. To reserve a place please email sharlene.emanuel@dete.qld.gov.au