



# NEWSLETTER

**Term 1 Week 3**  
**11 February 2021**

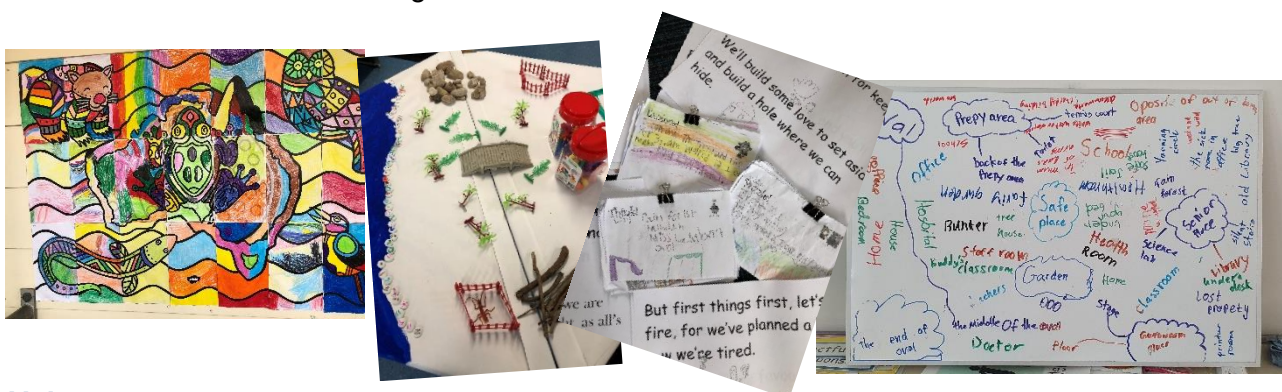
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*"Honest Endeavour"*

## From the Principal...

Thank you to the Parents and Carers who were able to attend the Parent Information sessions. I trust that the information provided was useful to you and that you were able to connect with the teachers and other parents in the class. Each term, teachers will upload a newsletter for the class to the school website. This newsletter will give you an overview of the units being taught, important dates and upcoming excursions or incursions. To access the newsletter, go to the school website: click on the Calendar and News tab and you will find the newsletters. If you are unable to access these, please contact the office.

Teachers spent time during the first two weeks of school establishing routines, rules and setting up for success. Every class explored the idea: *Runcorn is a great community or Building community*. This was a provocation for an inquiry unit. **A culture of thinking is one of the three school priorities this year.** To promote a culture of thinking, engaging students through inquiry, curiosity and the love of learning is very important. Inquiry goes deep into learning. It supports the development of skills, techniques and strategies which expand our capacity to do useful things. It cultivates curiosity, perseverance and thoughtfulness. This is our goal at Runcorn. Here are artefacts from student's learnings.



## **Volunteers**

We need volunteers! Thank you to all who completed the P&C's *Just One Thing* form that was distributed at the Parent Information Session. If you did not receive one please see the class teachers.

Volunteers are essential to the work in classrooms and schools. Please consider supporting our school. All volunteers must sign in at the office and complete the mandatory training. We will be running two sessions:

Monday 15 February 8.45am in the Library and Monday 15 February 5.30pm in the Library

To register your attendance, please log on to

<https://www.schoolinterviews.com.au/code?code=76ynu> event code **ywzys**.

## **Watches at school**

Many students wear watches to school and that is okay. However, in this day and age, what is worn on the wrist is not only a watch but a camera, phone, gaming device. At this school, phones are not permitted and students leave their phones in their bags or hand them in at the office. Therefore, if your child is wearing a multi-function, smart watch, all applications must be turned off and only telling the time can be used. Taking photos on these devices or communicating during school time is in breach of the Student Code of Conduct.

### A few things to consider:

- ✦ Pay close attention to the parking signs on the neighbouring streets.
- ✦ The staff car park is for **staff only**. It should not be used for parking or for dropping off or picking up students.
- ✦ All Volunteers must have completed the Code of Conduct and Student Protection training for 2021 and must sign in at the office.
- ✦ Volunteers who are not parents of students at this school must have a Blue Card.
- ✦ Social distancing and good hygiene practices are considered at all times.
- ✦ If you or your child is unwell, please stay home.
- ✦ Students must wear school uniform and this include black shoes and white socks.
- ✦ Join your P&C or nominate for School Council.

Our long-standing PE teacher, **Mrs Anna Woods**, has received her transfer to the Gold Coast. Anna has contributed much more than simply PE to the life of Runcorn and will be greatly missed. However, being closer to home will bring a much-needed balance to her day. **Mrs Leah Sutherland** will be the temporary contract stepping into the role from Week 5.

Michelle D'Netto

### From the Deputy Principal...

#### **Cybersafety and Reputation Management**

Students in Years 4 – 6 participated in an Education Queensland Cybersafety and Reputation Management session in Week 3. They were encouraged to discuss their learnings with Parents / Carers at home about the legal age for social media apps, cyberbullying, privacy settings, passwords and digital footprint. Below are links families might find useful:

- <https://www.qld.gov.au/cybersafety>
- <https://www.esafety.gov.au/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/QEDCybersafetyAdvice/>

### **You Can Do It (YCDI) 2021 Term 1 Focus – You Can Do It Ready Set and Getting Along**

Roberta Matlock

### From the Teaching & Learning Coach...

Reading is one of our priorities here at Runcorn in 2021. In classrooms we will be talking about how we can improve our reading using feedback and reading goals.

#### **Motivation to read at home**

As the school routine settles and the shine of the new year is fading so can the motivation for reading at home. Be it for homework, research or enjoyment getting kids to read at home can at times be a challenge. Below are some tips to help reignite the joy of reading at home.

- **Check the books they are reading.** Children sometimes choose books that are high interest but way beyond their current reading ability. This can lead to disengagement and lack of motivation.
- **Set aside some read aloud time.** This is a great opportunity for you and your child to share a book that may be above their reading abilities but holds a high interest in subject matter. This goes for older children too – no one is every too old for a read aloud.

- **Variety.** Give your child a variety of reading material to choose from. Just because you enjoyed a particular book or series doesn't always mean your child will have the same positive experience. Try comics, joke books, cookbooks, how-to books, magazines or information books to spice things up a little. Try your local library as a no-commitment way to try different genres of books.
- **Try** – don't buy! Speaking of public libraries, there is a never-ending range of different reading materials to explore for free. Borrow some of your favourites or try something new. There are fantastic resources and free activities (including Family STEM Night, Maker Space, Book Clubs for kids just to name a few) available from local council libraries and even the Queensland State Library.
  - ◆ Visit <https://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/whats-on-and-events/search?type=1> for Brisbane City Council library events
  - ◆ Visit <https://www.slq.qld.gov.au/first5forever/books> for a range on online picture books (including separate audio, PDF and video files to access) from the State Library
  - ◆ Visit <https://loganlibraries.org/whats-on/on-demand/> for Logan City Council Library events
- **Prioritise time.** With busy schedules it is hard to find time to read in between soccer, piano lessons and swimming. Allow your child the time where they can read free from pressure.

Rachel La Sala



## 2021 Term Dates

Term	DATES
1	27 January to 1 April
2	19 April to 25 June
3	12 July to 17 September
4	5 October to 10 December

## Dates of Significance

DAY	DATE	EVENT
Mon	15 Feb	P&C Meeting, 6:30pm
Tues	16 Feb	Year 1 Excursion – Daisy Hill Koala Sanctuary
Fri	19 Feb	National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence
Wed	24 Feb	National Young Leaders' Day
Mon	1 Mar	Religious Instruction Lessons commence
<b>Wed</b>	<b>3 Mar</b>	<b>Payment Closing Date – Yr 5 Excursion</b>
Fri	5 Mar	Cross Country (Years 4 – 6)
<b>Fri</b>	<b>5 Mar</b>	<b>Payment Closing Date- Yr 4 Excursion</b>
Wed	10 Mar	Year 5 Excursion - Museum
Fri	12 Mar	Year 4 Excursion – Moreton Bay Environmental Education Centre
Fri	12 Mar	Sports Gala Day 1 (Year 5 & 6 only)
Mon	15 Mar	P&C Meeting, 6:30pm
Tues	23 Mar	Three Way Reporting
Thurs	1 April	Last Day of Term 1

## **From the Admin Team...**

### **Cashless School**

The school now a cashless school. Our preferred methods of payment are BPoint and Direct Transfer.

### **Beginning of Year Forms**

Your child would have received Beginning of Year Forms which were sent home. This package contains:-

- Change of Details Form
- Student Medical Details Form
- SRS Participation Agreement Form (see below)
- State School Consent Form
- IT Web Consent Form.

Please complete these forms in black or blue ink and return to your child's Class Teacher by **Friday, 12 February 2021**.

### **Student Resource Scheme (SRS) 2021**

Thank you to those parents that have completed and returned the forms. If you participate in this scheme, your students will receive resources provided by the school and they will have access to these for the school year. If you do not wish to participate in this scheme, forms still need to be signed and returned and parents will need to provide the necessary items.

## **School Council**

Runcorn State School has a School Council that consists of both staff and parent representatives. The school council plays a role in:

- ✓ monitoring the school's strategic direction and advising about strategic matters
- ✓ approving school plans and policies of a strategic nature, and
- ✓ monitoring the implementation of the plans, policies and other documents mentioned above

Council's members are also able to put forward agenda items to discuss at meetings.

My time as School Council Chair will be coming to an end after our next meeting. As a result, the School Council is asking for expressions of interest for a new parent representative. Meetings usually occur once per term and are currently on a Thursday afternoon beginning at 3:15pm.

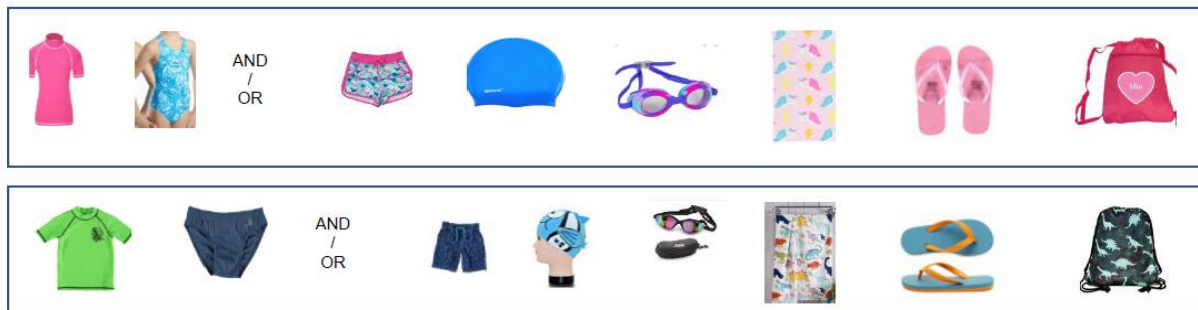
If you are interested in filling the vacant School Council position, please email Michelle D'Netto at [principal@runcornss.eq.edu.au](mailto:principal@runcornss.eq.edu.au)

***Renee Hopkins***  
***School Council Chair***



## PE and Interschool Sport News

Welcome to 2021. Students in Years 1 - 6 will start swimming lessons at our pool in Week 4. Permission slips are required to be returned now and will cover both Term 1 and Term 4. It is an Education Queensland policy that all students wear a swimming cap, No Cap, No Swim. Students are required to wear a sunsafe short or long sleeve shirt.



These will cover a Gross Motor programme and fun games and activities. Because activities include rolling, crawling and scrambling, shorts or a skirt will make these activities easier.

### Interschool Sport / Gala Day

Nominations are now open for students in Year 5 and 6 to nominate for basketball, soccer and possibly Rugby. Please discuss this with your child as once they nominate and commit, any changes or withdrawals causes accounting difficulties. The approximate cost is \$35 - \$38 per student for three gala day events. Dates in Semester 1 are:-

- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March
- Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May
- Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May is a back up only.

Students not participating in these offsite gala sport activities participate in sport activities at school and there is no cost for this. Further information about gala days, please refer to Chris Garcia ([cqarc19@eq.edu.au](mailto:cqarc19@eq.edu.au)).

### Term 1 Cross Country

- Cross Country, Week 6, Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March (Years 3-6)
- District Cross Country Trials, 31<sup>st</sup> March

If you have any further questions, the PE programme, please email Mrs Wood on [awyat26@eq.edu.au](mailto:awyat26@eq.edu.au).

### Personal News

On a personal note, I will be finishing at Runcorn State School on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February. I have been offered a transfer to the Gold Coast. This will reduce commuting as I travel to Brisbane from the Gold Coast everyday. Accepting this transfer has been one of the most difficult decisions of my life because I love working at this incredible school, where students, family and staff have become like a second family to me. I have so many wonderful memories of teaching at Runcorn, that I will never forget and I'd just like to say a huge THANK YOU to all the students, families and staff that I have worked with over the years, for accepting me as me and who have welcomed me so warmly into this incredible little school we all share. I will miss you all dearly. I'm not very good with goodbyes so for now I'll just say: 'See you round!' 😊 😊

I trust you will welcome my replacement, Mrs Leah Sutherland. Thanking you for your assistance.

**Mrs Wood**

**PE Teacher**

## Music Matters

### Senior Choir

Senior Choir has kicked off this week. If any students from Year 4-6 would like to join please return your form to Ms Hopper. To comply with the Chief Health Officer COVID Safe School Events requirements we are rehearsing in 2 groups on a fortnightly roster with rehearsals being held in the Music room on Wednesday mornings 8.00-8:45am. Students have been informed of which group they are in and the timetable is as follows:

Term 1 Senior Choir Roster Wednesday 8am	
Group A	Group B
Week 3 10 Feb	
	Week 4 17 Feb
Week 5 24 Feb	
	Week 6 3 March
Week 7 10 March	
	Week 8 17 March
Week 9 24 March	
	Week 10 31 March

*Marief Hopper - Music Teacher*  
[mxhop2@eq.edu.au](mailto:mxhop2@eq.edu.au)

### From the Strings Teacher

The String Students have had a great start to Term 1. It was pleasing to see everyone rested, happy and ready to move forward. Thank you String Community for being prepared!

#### Lessons

String lessons will be held every Tuesday. The timetable is in every Student's Classroom and a copy is in the Music room. Please check the timetable each week and come with your group. Lessons will be held in the Science Room. **To be organised for lessons you will need to bring** your instrument, bow, music, **black folder**, rosin, shoulder rest and/or rock stop.

#### Senior String Rehearsals

Senior String Rehearsals began, this week. All String students who were in Senior Strings in 2020 are required to attend.

Rehearsals start at **7.40 am every Tuesday** morning in the Instrumental Music Room. Students need to come 10 minutes earlier so that you can follow the COVID procedures and get their instruments tuned. String Students will need to bring their instrument, equipment and **black folder** to **each rehearsal**.

## Practice

This week, Year 4 to 6 Students wrote what they need to practise on their Practice Schedules. Students need to practise a minimum of 100 minutes per week and record how long they have practised on their Practice Schedule. To help the String Students to be consistent and organised, Parents or Carers need to sign off on the week's work. Thank you everyone for following and completing these Practice Schedules.

## Year 3 Strings

Year 3 Beginning String Students should have received their Instruments that they are loaning from School this week. As well as the instrument, bow and case, Students will need these resources:

### Violin and Viola

- 🎵 A **black folder** with plastic sleeves
- 🎵 *Essential Elements for Strings Book 1*– for Violin or Viola
- 🎵 Violin/Viola Rosin and
- 🎵 a Shoulder rest (This will need to purchase after Students get their instruments as Violins/Violas are all individually different in size)

At home Students will need:

- 🎵 a Music Stand to put their music books on.

### Cello

- 🎵 a **black folder** with plastic sleeves
- 🎵 *Essential Elements for Strings Book 1* – for Cello
- 🎵 Rock Stop
- 🎵 Rosin for Cello

At home Students will need

- 🎵 a Music Stand to put their music books on and
- 🎵 a chair or a piano stool that Students can sit on (Student's feet need to touch the floor).

Thank you everyone for a great start to 2021! Until next time, enjoy playing your instruments.

**Andrew Biedermann**

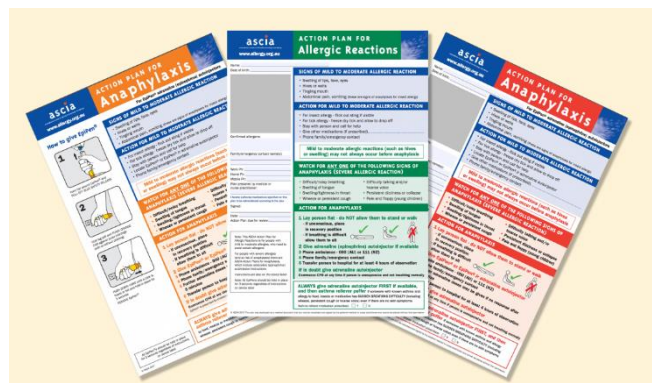
[abied1@eq.edu.au](mailto:abied1@eq.edu.au)

## Safely Administering Medication at School

If your child requires to receive medication at school, it can only be administered by school staff if it is prescribed by a medical practitioner, in the original container and has a pharmacy label with the child's details. If the medication is more complex with more specific requirements, then the school would require a letter from the medical practitioner.

For children that receive routine medication or have emergency health plans in place, these requirements would need to be reviewed annually or as required.

Please notify the school in writing if changes to dosages are needed or when medication is no longer required to be taken (accompanied by a letter from the medical practitioner).



### Over the Counter Medications

The Department recognises that all medications, including over-the-counter (OTC) medications, e.g. paracetamol or alternative medicines, may be drugs or poisons and may cause side effects. As such, schools are required to receive *medical authorisation* from a prescribing health practitioner (e.g. doctor, dentist, optometrist, but **not** a pharmacist) to administer **any** medication to students, including those bought *over-the-counter*.

Whilst parents may administer OTC medications to their child without medical authorisation, they are aware of the child's complete medical history, and are able to provide ongoing, direct supervision for the course of the child's illness. Due to these circumstances, a parent is also more likely to recognise if their child is having adverse effects and requires immediate medical attention.

The student's prescribing health practitioner also has the knowledge of the child's medical history to determine the appropriate OTC medication to administer and is therefore able to determine dosage and provide advice regarding potential side effects or interactions with other medications. For these reasons, OTC medications will only be administered to students at school if medical authorisation has been received.

### Administration Office

### P&C News...

#### Meeting

Our first meeting of the year is **Monday 15 February 2020** at 6:30pm in the school library. We would love to see you there!!

**Our AGM is on Monday 15 March at 6:30pm.** This is the meeting where all executive positions will be vacated and nominations and voting will be done for this year. If you are keen to get on board and make a difference to our school, please think about nominating and taking up a position. Some positions only require a few hours of work per month, while others are a little more involved. Many of our executive have been in their positions for a number of years and would be happy to discuss what's involved if you would like further information. If you have experience in running a small business or accounting please give some consideration into taking up the role of Treasurer, if this Treasurer role is not filled we will not have a functioning P&C. For further information on this, or any, roles please email [rsspcpresident@outlook.com](mailto:rsspcpresident@outlook.com)

#### Tuckshop

Our Tuckshop relies on the generosity of volunteers to make it a success, and to offer students and staff an extensive menu 5 days a week. To help make the load lighter for our Convenor, we need as many helpers as we can get – mums, dads, and grandparents. This year we have lost some of our dedicated Tuckshop Volunteers due to their children moving on to high school. Volunteering in the Tuckshop on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis is a great opportunity to participate in the school community and meet other parents. If you can spare as little as 30 minutes after school drop-off, or a couple of hours from 9am-11am, please contact Jodie at [tuckshop@runcornss.eq.edu.au](mailto:tuckshop@runcornss.eq.edu.au) or via the Runcorn P&C Facebook Page. We have a variety of jobs available.

8:30 – 9:00  
Labelling bags

9:00 – 10:30  
Making food

11:15 – 11:30  
Washing dishes

Baking....  
Any time that  
suits you



### Flexi Schools

The preference is for the Tuckshop to continue to provide **online orders only**. Students may purchase ice blocks, ice creams and other frozen treats only at first breaks. We strongly encourage you to order afternoon tea online, as afternoon tea over the counter sales are dependent on having volunteers to serve. Ice blocks can continue to be ordered online and picked up by your child from the tuckshop. Please refer to flexi schools for more information.

### Cupcakes

Don't forget the Tuckshop still offers cupcakes or ice blocks for any special celebration. These can be ordered on Flexi schools and **must** be ordered at least 3 days in advance. Please see the birthday option in the flexi schools app. No over the phone or over the counter orders can be taken.

### Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop will reopen by appointment only. Please use the QR Code below to book your appointment. We will continue with the online ordering via email [rssuniform@outlook.com](mailto:rssuniform@outlook.com) and we will deliver your order to your child's classroom as soon as we can.



If you have any old uniforms that you would like to donate please send them in with your child and let us know via email ([rssuniform@outlook.com](mailto:rssuniform@outlook.com)) and we will collect from their classroom.

We currently have for sale the old style dress & skort at dramatically reduced prices. For a limited time only, the old style dress will be on sale for the incredible price of \$10, and the skort for \$5. We have limited stock in all sizes so be sure to get in quick to avoid disappointment! Orders can be made via email: [rssuniform@outlook.com](mailto:rssuniform@outlook.com). These uniforms can be worn until the end of the 2021 school year.

### Facebook

Don't forget to like us on Facebook *Runcorn State School P&C Association* to stay up to date on everything!!

**Debbie Linford, President,  
Parents & Citizens Association,  
Runcorn State School, E: [rsspcpresident@outlook.com](mailto:rsspcpresident@outlook.com)**



## Student Banking...

School Banking Day is every **Monday**. If Monday is a Public Holiday, then banking will occur on **Tuesday**. If you would like to become a School Banking Coordinator Volunteer, please contact the office.

## Community News...

PCYC Outside School Hours Care

**PREP ENROLMENTS**

Don't wait for school to start, Enrol Now!

Providing fun, safe & healthy care for your child

- Great play and recreational experiences
- Prep children escorted to and from class
- Supporting children to enhance self esteem and independence
- Prep children can attend Outside School Hours Care from January Vacation Care to support their school readiness

Visit the service or find out more  
P - 0423 551 335  
E - [runcornsac@pcyc.org.au](mailto:runcornsac@pcyc.org.au)  
[pcyc.org.au](http://pcyc.org.au)

PCYC QUEENSLAND



## Could \$500 help you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and we'll match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for school costs.

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| laptops & tablets  | lessons & activities |
| uniforms & shoes   | books & supplies     |
| sports fees & gear | camps & excursions   |

To join Saver Plus, you must have a Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, be at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner), and have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself.



**Contact**  
Dave Smit  
your local Saver Plus  
Coordinator  
**Phone**  
0417 436 183  
**Email**  
[David.Smit@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:David.Smit@thesmithfamily.com.au)  
**Web**  
[www.saverplus.org.au](http://www.saverplus.org.au)



Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St. Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to [www.ds.gov.au](http://www.ds.gov.au) for more information.

# TOPCHESS

## SCHOOL LESSONS

**Coaching days & time:** Tuesday afternoons (3:05 – 3:50pm).  
**Venue:** Classroom C6 – Runcorn State School.  
**Dates:** 2021, Term 1 – February 9 to March 30.  
**Price:** \$100 per student (8 week Topchess Program).  
**Notes:** Suitable for Prep to Grade 6. Book in any time and only pay for the remaining weeks. All members will be sent the Topchess Covid 19 Safe Plan and are reminded of the requirements during class.



☎ 0425 313 282  
✉ [alexstahnke@topchess.com.au](mailto:alexstahnke@topchess.com.au)  
🌐 [www.topchess.com.au](http://www.topchess.com.au)

## Job Vacancy

**Looking for something extra to do?  
Want to earn some extra money in the process?  
Have you ever thought about becoming a School Crossing Supervisor?  
Transport and Main Roads want to hear from you!  
Expressions of Interest currently being taken for future vacancies in Runcorn and surrounding areas  
Pay rate \$31.11 per hour**



**Want to learn more?  
Please contact the Road Safety Office  
3347 7867 or email  
[MacgregorRoadSafety@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:MacgregorRoadSafety@tmr.qld.gov.au)**

**Tell your friends! All areas!**

**We are always looking for School Crossing Supervisors to join our team and keep our children safe.**