



AGNES WATER STATE SCHOOL

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clever • skilled • creative



Students in the early years have been busy making the most of the shaded play areas around the school... sorry for the shoes full of sand.

Calendar of Events

Date	Event
Mon 20 Feb	P&C Meeting
Mon 20 Feb	Uniform Survey 2 closes 8:00am
Tues 21 Feb	AFL Gala Day Year 5 & 6
Tues 21 Feb	Interschool Chess
Wed 1 – Fri 3 Mar	Principal Conference Brisbane
Fri 3 Mar	Term 1 Student Leader Elections
Mon 6 Mar	Tie Dye Fundraiser
Fri 10 Mar	House Captain Elections
Wed 15 Mar	Academic Competition - Maths
Mon 20 Mar	P&C AGM
Mon 20 – Fri 24 Mar	Parent-Teacher Meetings
Tues 21 Mar	Deadly Australians Reptile Show
Thurs 23 Mar	Last swimming lesson
Fri 24 Mar	Last day for sports Year 4-6
Fri 24 Mar	P&C Disco 5-6:15pm Prep to Year 2 6:15pm – 7:30pm Year 3 – Year 6
Mon 27 Mar	Pass the Poetry Show
Thurs 30 Mar	Cross Country
Fri 31 Mar	Easter Bonnet Parade
Fri 31 Mar	Behaviour Celebration Day

Fine Tuning Strategy

The chess club has a new tool in their preparation for the upcoming inter-school tournament. The rotating mounted board made by our groundsman Jerry is a great way for group instruction on how to execute different strategies for defence and attack. Good luck to our team competing in Bundy on the 21 October.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I am very proud of our new student leadership body and the energy they are pouring into their new roles. This year we have established a student council for the first time, with our student leaders learning how to operate as a council, distribute roles and responsibilities and represent their peers. The student council meets at least twice per term. Students fill roles on several sub committees such as environment, fundraising and represent classes across the school presenting student concerns and initiatives to the Principal for discussion and action. The student council have already been active in coordinating and promoting an upcoming fundraiser to support Tembi Ward's recovery. Tie Dye for Tembi Day will be held on Monday 6 March is for all classes from Prep to Year 6. Students wishing to participate in this fundraiser are asked to bring a White T-Shirt, Pillow Case or strip of material for Tie Dying. The cost of \$10 per student covers all dye's with all remaining funds going to the Ward Family.

As a school we recognise that student leaders bloom at all times of the year. As such each term, students in Year 6 are provided with the opportunity to join our leadership team by becoming a student leader. Our next election of student leaders will occur on Friday 3 March after parade. This will be followed by our House Captain Elections on Friday 10 March.

I look forward to working with our student council over the year and hopefully together we can address their very, very long list of requests for new initiatives and opportunities across the school.

Parent Information Session

Thank you to the many parents who attended the parent information session on Wednesday 8 February. This was one of our largest turn outs for these sessions. During the evening, I shared the new uniform designs which are now on display for parents to peruse on the notice board near the uniform shop. The uniform survey for our bucket hats and sport shirts closes on Monday 20 February at 8:00am. We have had a large proportion of families respond with over 98% of responses supporting the changes. The final survey regarding our new school shirt will be released in the coming week for parent input.

Positive Behaviour for Learning

Our school is a positive behaviour for learning school, which means we target 4 positive acknowledgements of behaviour, for every 1 redirection we undertake. We do this, because the majority of children are exceptionally behaved the majority of the time. It is important that we focus our attention on the majority.

We also include weekly lessons in our class programs about our four behaviour expectations; I am safe, I am responsible, I am respectful and I am a learner. Next week our teachers will focus on I am a learner. In our school, I am a learner is demonstrated by students when they;

- Take pride in their work and achievements.
- Make good choices to help them learn.
- Are active listeners.
- Actively participate in all opportunities.
- Encourage and assist others to do their best.
- Have a go and have a positive attitude.
- Work without disturbing other learners.
- Open themselves to different ideas, activities and ways of learning.
- Are prepared for learning with all equipment.

Parents can help make our school a fantastic place for all learners by discussing and reinforcing these expectations with their children during the week.

Swimming

A very excited group of Year 1 to Year 3 students commenced their swimming program this week. The first lesson reviewed skills of each student to help confirm our group programs for the remainder of the term. Each group will be operating on a different program focusing on the following skills;

- Entries and exits
- Floating and sculling
- Swimming strokes
- Survival and PFD skills
- Breathing and underwater skills
- Water safety knowledge

Some groups will extend into rescue skills.

Swimming caps will be on sale for \$2 from the office for the duration of the program.

AFL Gala

Students from Year 5 and 6 that have nominated will participate in an AFL Gala on Tuesday 21 February in Bundaberg. This Gala Day is a warm up and training session in readiness for the annual competition held in Bundaberg later this term for boys and early Term 2 for girls. Students participating in the AFL gala day are to be at Agnes Water State School at 7:30am for a 7:45am departure. The AFL team will arrive back at school at 2:30pm ready for afternoon buses.

Chess

On Tuesday 21 February, students from our chess club will be competing in their first competition for 2017 in Bundaberg. Students are reminded to be at school between 7:15 and 7:20am to change into their representative shirts. The bus for the competition will leave at 7:30am. Representative shirts must be returned to Mrs Tankey upon arrival back at school at 4:00pm.

Car parking on site

We have moved the staff car parking to the bitumen area and further into the school. This allows for an area to be provided for parents while waiting for progress around permanent parking options. Please see the image at the end of the newsletter.

Please note that parking has been temporarily marked out for front-in parking only. Traffic is one way only, entering the gates and immediately travelling to the left onto the dirt area, then exiting out along the bitumen roadway.

Vehicles exiting the car park are to give way to incoming traffic.

No parking is permitted by parents beyond the pedestrian cross over point or in the staff car parking locations. This also includes access after-hours where parents are in attendance for after school activities.

This area is a parking area only, not a stop, drop and go. This requires that parents park their vehicle and escort their children using the allocated pedestrian area across the school upon drop off. Parents must also collect their children from the classroom at pick up. Students will not be

permitted to enter this area without an adult accompanying them.

The supervised student collection point will remain at the front of the school until permanent infrastructure is in place. An additional temporary staff car park will be added shortly at the double gates near A Block. This will have restricted access times to prevent any entering and existing during pickup and drop off times. This area will not be available to parents.

I would like to thank everyone that has made use of this new parking area and have looked at their drop off and pickup times. This has made a significant difference at the front of the school and drop off and pick up.

Shed for Tender

The sale by tender for the shed has had to be withdrawn. This asset has been requested by another school and will be internally transferred within our department.

P&C Needs your help

Our P&C Association needs your help. We are desperately seeking volunteers to assist our school in executive positions and as general members of our P&C. The P&C Association is a great way for parents to become actively involved in our school. Our P&C meets on the 3rd Monday of each month. In 2017, this will be moved to 3:00pm in our staffroom. The next meeting will be held on Monday 20 February.

Old Tuckshop

We have the commencement date for our old tuckshop refurbishment. Project works in this area will commence from Monday 20 February and should be finalised by mid-March. The refurbishment will include a new outdoor undercover area for class food preparation, new cabinetry, flooring, stainless steel student work benches and a vertical garden. This forms part of our food gardens that are slowly being expanded from the office, behind Prep and towards A Block.

Head of Curriculum News

Australian Curriculum at Agnes Water State School.

Every student is unique, with different needs and interests. Teachers use the curriculum to plan in ways that respond to those needs and interests. The Australian Curriculum is flexible, allowing schools and teachers to personalise student learning. (Excerpt from the Australian Curriculum website) Over the past month our teachers have been busy collaborating and brainstorming different ideas for how they can plan from the Australian Curriculum to create rigorous and meaningful learning experiences for your child. Every lesson builds towards an assessment piece. Over the course of the term your child's teacher will send home various assessment tasks that will outline the context of the learning, what they will be doing and how they will be doing it. At the bottom of every task sheet will be the relevant part of the Achievement Standards that your child will need to demonstrate. This is another way of ensuring we align the teaching and learning with the Australian curriculum and ensuring parents are aware of how their children are being assessed at school.

The Australian Curriculum achievement standards are an important focus for teachers in initial planning and programming of teaching and learning activities. They provide teachers with a statement of learning expected of students at the end of a year or band of years, and assist in developing teaching and learning programs. Teachers also use the achievement standards at the end of a period of teaching, to make on-balance judgments about the quality of learning demonstrated by students – that is, whether the students have achieved below, at or above the standard. To make judgments, teachers draw on assessment data they have collected as evidence during the course of the teaching period.

If an individual student's achievement is below the expected standard, this suggests that the teaching programs and practice should be reviewed to better assist the student in their learning in the future. It also suggests that additional support and teaching that targets the student's specific needs is necessary to ensure that the student does not fall behind.

At Agnes Water State School we are proud of the way our team is implementing the Australian curriculum to fit the context of our school and community. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

Chess Tournament

Another of the many areas of pride in our school is our newly formed Chess Team. This is the third year that Chess Club has been operating in our school and this year it is exciting to see the dedication of our students. Thanks to our super chess coach Jerry, the students have access to a class sized chess board so they can play

in teams and discuss strategy as a whole group. They are learning so much from each other and the discussion about forward thinking and decision making is fantastic. Next Tuesday we will be taking 14 students to compete in the first of the interschool Chess Tournaments for the year. This is the most students we have ever taken to represent our school and it is going to be a learning experience they will remember for a long time.

From the Gardiner Chess Website... 'Chess is one of the mostly widely available games or sports in the world. As **International Chess Master and journalist Malcolm Pein** says "There is no other activity that costs so little to organise and that cuts across so many barriers. Age, sex, race, religion ... they mean nothing in chess. Anyone can enjoy it. Around 500 million people in 167 countries play the game and only football can rival that".

Even from the above quote, we can see one of the biggest benefits if chess....It's accessible! Aside from being highly accessible (and cheap!), the benefits of chess can broadly be broken down into two categories; educational and social.

Educational:

Improved reading and comprehension scores

Improved IQ scores

Improved problem solving ability

Improvement in concentration and focus

Improvement in memory

Improvement in creativity

Improvement in critical thinking

Improvement in logical and sequential thinking

Improvement in analysis of situations

Improved decision making abilities

Social:

Learn about consequences with our action (moves)

Learn to win and lose with good sportsmanship

Improved social interaction skills in a safe environment

Develop many new friendships

Develop team spirit and camaraderie when at tournaments

"Celebrate what you want to see more of." Tom Peters

What wonderful things can you see happening in our school? Once we start looking for the positives in a place it is amazing what we can find. This week we celebrate our lovely year one teacher, Miss Danielle Tooker. Miss Tooker greets her students every single day with a smile and her contagious enthusiasm for the learning in the day ahead. She dedicates herself to creating a stimulating and vibrant classroom rich in environmental print. Students in Miss Tooker's class love learning because she tailors it to their needs and interests. Thanks Miss Tooker!

Please share what you see...email me at ltank1@eq.edu.au so we can all benefit from the dedication of our educators. I look forward to continuing to be a part of this very professional, caring and inspiring team.

Yours in Learning,

Mrs Leigh Tankey

Master Teacher News

During Term 1, I will continue to work with all classes to enhance ICT general capabilities. We want students to learn these basic skills so we can further develop their knowledge, skills and confidence interacting with digital technologies.

So far this year we have been part of safer internet day, which gave us a great platform to talk about our digital footprint and how we can make sure that it doesn't get damaged by making the wrong choices online. We have also learnt about computer hardware – the names of the parts of a computer and even how they fit together.

The Upper Primary students have begun to use their school email accounts and are becoming more confident at sending emails to trusted adults (my inbox is very full!)

Students in lower primary have been practicing logging on to the school network using their own logons and passwords, as they become more proficient in this we will move on other basic computer functions such as using Microsoft Office programs.

The students are really engaging with these lessons and are all quite excited about learning their new skills.

ICT tip of the week: Lots of parents ask me for app suggestions for their children's devices, I always immediately think of any apps made by developers called "Shiny Things". They make really great interactive apps for all ages that help students with all areas of maths. Some of the apps are free and others have a small purchase price or in-app purchases. Look up "Shiny Things" in your app store or check out their website <http://www.getshinythings.com> if you want more information.



Quick Math



Quick Math+



Quick Fractions



Quick Clocks



Quick Math Jr

AGNES WATER/1770 LITTLE ATHLETICS

INVITE YOU TO OUR SIGN ON DAY

SATURDAY MARCH 4TH

9AM – 11AM

DISCOVERY COAST SPORT & REC GROUNDS

165 ANDERSON WAY

\$40 TINY TOTS

\$80 U/6 – U/17

CASH OR EFTPOS ONLY – PLEASE BRING BIRTH CERTIFICATE

FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE AVAILABLE

ENQUIRIES – PLEASE CALL MELANIE COOPER 0408 808 179

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child support

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Visit the Mobile Service Centre to find out about Australian Government payments and services for rural families, older Australians, students, job seekers, people with disability, carers, farmers and self-employed people.

Staff can provide you with information and support. On this trip, the Australian Taxation Office will be available to assist with advice and information about tax and superannuation.

In front of the Community Centre, Springs Road

AGNES WATER

Wednesday, 8 March 2017

9 am to 4 pm

For more information, go to humanservices.gov.au and search for Mobile Service Centre or call 132 316.



Australian Government
Department of Human Services

humanservices.gov.au

Mrs Nyree Buchanan
Master Teacher

2017 school calendar Queensland state schools



DECEMBER 2016	JANUARY 2017	FEBRUARY	MARCH
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on coding and robotics, visit
www.advancingeducation.qld.gov.au

- School terms
- State school holidays
- Public holidays
- Staff professional development/ student free day

There are 194 school days in 2017.
Semester 1 2018 commences for teachers on January 18
and for students on January 22.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

Staff professional development days for teachers are January 19, 20, April 3, 4, 5, and October 16. Schools are able to decide when their flexible days will be held, as long as they are in the school holidays or out-of-school hours.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Public holidays are set by the Industrial Relations Minister. Public holidays for a local show are not shown due to diversity of dates across the state.

FINAL DATES FOR STUDENT ATTENDANCE

November 17 is the final date for Year 12 attendance for receipt of a Senior Statement. November 24 is the final date for student attendance in years 10 and 11.

Some schools in regional, rural and remote areas will close for the Summer holidays on December 1.

The information in this calendar was correct at the time of publication (September 2016) but may be subject to change.

For more information and the latest version of this calendar, visit
www.education.qld.gov.au



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Government**