



# AGNES WATER STATE SCHOOL

P.O. Box 238

1 Donohue Drive, AGNES WATER QLD 4677

Ph: 07 49021333

Email: [the.principal@agnewatess.eq.edu.au](mailto:the.principal@agnewatess.eq.edu.au)

clever • skilled • creative



## Global Schools Through Languages

[Global schools through languages](#) is supporting Queensland state school students to develop a global mindset, enable them to communicate across languages and cultures and open doors to further study and opportunities. Learn more about Advancing Education and the Global schools through languages supporting plan. At Agnes Water State School, we have been embracing the value of learning other languages in Prep to Year 6 since 2015 and in 2017 we report on the learning of Indonesian for all year levels.

## "Children are Playing - Country to Coast"

on

## Under Eight's Day!

**Where:** Agnes Water State School Oval

**When:** Friday 26 May 2017  
9am - 10:45am

**Who:** P-Yr 2 students from Agnes Water State School and children from the community who have not reached school age (birth to 5)

**Please Bring:** Hat, water bottle, morning tea and a parent 😊

Please email Leigh Tankey ([ltank1@eq.edu.au](mailto:ltank1@eq.edu.au)) or call 4902 1333 for more information.



## Calendar of Events

Date	Event
Sat 20 May	1770 Festival - Street March
Mon 22 May	Principal Meeting
Tues 23 May	Principal Meeting
Tues 23 May	UNSW Digital Technologies
Wed 24 May	Principal Meeting
Fri 26 May	Under 8's Day
Fri 26 May	Interschool Chess Tournament
Tues 30 May	UNSW Science
Thurs 1 June	Bundaberg Show Holiday
Wed 7 June	Interschool Debating
Fri 9 June	Pyjama Day
Mon 12 June	UNSW Writing
Wed 14 June	UNSW Spelling
Fri 16 June	Jump Rope for Heart
Tues 20 June	Semester One Report Cards
Wed 21 June	Athletics Carnival
Thurs 22 June	Athletics Carnival
Fri 23 June	Behaviour Celebration Day

Learning to become a global citizen is an important part of the work undertaken in schools. I am proud that our student council want to work towards a better future for everyone. They have committed to fundraising for a fresh water project in Indonesia later this year. This follows the lead of one of our students, Tyler Hennessy and his family's work in providing water purifiers to rural areas of Indonesia.

## **FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

Earlier this fortnight I participated in the final sessions of the Future Leaders program in Brisbane. This has been two years of work focusing on building my capacity to lead this school, contributing to enhanced educational outcomes for your children. During this final symposium, I had the opportunity to meet an amazing leader, Rachael Robertson. Rachael was one of the youngest ever expedition leaders to Antarctica and only the second ever female station leader. While her story was amazing, it was the key message of Respect and No Triangles that she built within her team, that I was really interested in.

These messages, resonated strongly with our four behaviour expectations of I am Safe, I am Responsible, I am Respectful and I am a Learner.

The No Triangles message, while simple, is much harder in reality. It is basically, that if you have a conflict or issue with another person, deal directly with that person and don't bring a third party into it. This intrigued me as both a parent and a principal. How many times do we as adults jump in too early and become heavily invested in the problems of children, not allowing them to develop their problem solving skills? How often do we fret over a problem, that children seem to have resolved while we still contemplate the problem? For the concept of No Triangles to work, we must know how and when to give feedback and also how to take feedback. This is a skill that can be developed in all of us. Before hearing from Rachael, we had already begun looking at the idea of how we build emotional regulation and resiliency in our students and this will be something we will be investing in further over the next six months.

The message of Respect is nothing new to the conversations we have with our students and it was timely that this week, our teachers focussed on I am Respectful within their classes. On parade, I reinforced this message. Being respectful is about looking outwards and thinking about others and the impact that often our small behaviours can have upon them. Things like leaving rubbish on the ground, talking during quiet activities, arriving late into class and not completing set tasks. Students were set the challenge to think about their own choices and

how they impact upon others. This is something that we will continue to review in our school.

During the parade on Friday, it was wonderful to take the time to acknowledge our many students of the Week, Captain Star Fish prize winners and our Students of the Month. This week, I also had the opportunity to acknowledge a fantastic role model in our school, noting another key message from Rachael Robertson, that anyone can lead, it is not just up to those in leadership positions.

The 2018 Commonwealth Games, is not that far away and each school has been asked to nominate a student to possibly carry the relay baton. Our school chose to nominate a student who continuously models our four behaviour expectations not only within the school, but out in the community. We had a list of 19 shortlisted students recommended by staff and a lot more that could have been acknowledged. It was a tough decision, but one name was regularly raised, Mia Poustie.

Mia has been a student of our school since Prep and has continuously demonstrated our school expectations to an outstanding level. She is actively involved in the many extra-curricular opportunities offered in our school and sets the example for all students, being a leader in her own right. We wish Mia good luck in her nomination and hopefully she is selected in the final processes to be able to carry the relay baton.

I am proud to celebrate the achievements of our students, even when they are achievements not at school. Being successful in life is more than just being successful at school. Congratulations to Tex Harris for winning the Primary School Division of the 1770 Art Show for his drawing titled "Tokyo".



## **Teacher Education**

Commencing from the 15 May our school will be joined by three Pre-Service Teachers completing various stages of their university studies. These teachers will work across the school, but will be primarily based in Prep, Year 2/3 and Year 3 classes. We welcome Natalie Cupples, Averil Summers and Pamela Mainey to our school.

## **Student Council News**

Our student council are working on raising funds to subsidise costs for the Year 6 camp. They have already held one successful fundraiser this year and have two more planned for this term and a rather colourful one in Term 3. The student leaders will be selling Icy Cups from our new kitchen on Tuesday's at 1<sup>st</sup> break for 50c, and have a Pyjama Day planned for Friday 9 June. Students are encouraged to come dressed in their pyjamas for the day, however need to bring a gold coin as penalty for being out of uniform.

## **AFL**

Our Boys and Girls AFL teams have been commended for their efforts on the field this year with a fantastic display of sportsmanship and grit in each of their games. Our teams have now been invited to participate in the QS Cup to be held in Childers on the 31 May. Normally this opportunity is only given to the winners from each of the district competitions, however both of our girls and boys teams will have the opportunity to participate in this year's cup with the possibility of representing Wide Bay. Good luck to our teams.

## **General Uniform Information**

It is a reminder that our school has a Code of Dress which outlines the uniform requirements for all students. Our updated Code of Dress was approved by the P&C Association at our April meeting and is attached with this newsletter. The Code of Dress has had some minor changes to include the new bucket hats, sport shirts and change over to the new school shirt for 2018.

I am pleased to see that the majority of students are wearing the correct full school uniform. If your child is not in the correct uniform, a written note must be provided for each day they are out of uniform. Our uniform is designed to be cost affordable with each item being less in costing than most non-uniform items.



The new bucket hats have arrived early and are now available for sale through our Uniform Shop

and 1770 Clothing (Advantage Signs) for \$15 each. These are the only bucket hats permissible at school and can be worn each day. The hats are to be worn with the school logo side outwards while in normal uniform, however can be reversed when wearing their House Uniform.

The new house shirts that were pre-ordered by families are still aimed for arrival by the end of May in readiness for our Athletics Carnival. A small quantity of additional shirts were ordered, with some available at the school and at 1770 Clothing, however our full stock will not be available until later in the school year. Please note the change in the Code of Dress where house shirts are only to be worn on Friday and at sporting events (cross country / athletics).

## **Bundaberg Show Holiday**

While our school operates in the Gladstone Regional Council, it forms part of the Bundaberg schooling area and is aligned with services that are supported from Bundaberg, including bus transportation and our feeder high school of Rosedale. It also aligns with the Agnes Water Childcare who have operated the Bundaberg Show Holiday as a public holiday in the past. Our school investigated the options of moving our show holiday in 2015, however the impacts of this outweighed remaining with the Bundaberg show holiday as the school has done for the last 27 years. Agnes Water State School will be closed on Thursday 1 June for the Bundaberg Show Holiday and will be open during the Gladstone Show Holiday in August.

## **Head of Curriculum News**

### **Professional Development**

In the next few weeks our dedicated staff are participating in a variety of forms of professional development. In week 8 we hold our Twilight session of moderation where staff work together to discuss and align the judgements we make about student work. We justify our decisions based on the evidence the student has produced and ensure it fits with the Achievement Standards for the year level. When we make our judgements against this standard we then work out the feedback that we can give the students to improve. This valuable form of professional conversation is one of the best ways we can reflect on our teaching and assessment.

Staff are also able to keep up to date with their knowledge of the Australian Curriculum through a series of webinars run by the QCAA (Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority) based on the underpinnings of different subject areas. Our knowledge is current we are continually deepening our understanding.

The marvellous Seven Steps to Writing Success team also keep us continually updated with new and innovative ideas for different elements of teaching writing to our students. We unpack these at staff meetings and share our ideas with each other.

### **How do we teach Health at AWSS?**

The programs selected for use to deliver the Health Curriculum within our school have been based on strong underpinning research. These include the Respectful Relationships Educational Program, the Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum, the Life Education Van and our Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) lessons.

The Respectful Relationships education program is for Prep to Year 12. Five hours of instruction have been developed for each year level and it is recommended that sessions be delivered by school-based teachers as part of ongoing social and emotional learning.

Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum  
The Department of Education and Training, in partnership with the Daniel Morcombe Foundation, has developed the Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum for Queensland students. The Curriculum consists of classroom lessons across three phases of learning: Prep-Year 2, Years 3-6 and Years 7-9. It is aligned with the Australian Curriculum: Health and Physical Education (Version 8.1) and is available to all Australian teachers through password-protected websites. It aims to teach children about personal safety and awareness, including cybersafety and phone safety, by focusing on three key safety messages: Recognise, React and Report.

### **Life Education Van**

Life Education delivers a broadly focused health and drug education program. Their program adopts

sequential year-on-year, age-specific approach and addresses a range of issues in response to school or class needs. The Life Ed Program helps children to:

- build their awareness and understanding of the link between the choices they make and their short and longer term consequences
- value their safety and health and that of others
- develop attitudes that can prepare them to make safer and healthier choices and
- identify strategies and build confidence and skills that can help them to deal with peer and community pressure

Teachers also implement daily Mindfulness activities that help students focus and practice self-reflection. These come in a variety of forms from morning meditation, guided yoga and positive affirmations.

### **“Celebrate what you want to see more of.” Tom Peters**

This week I would like to celebrate the fantastic efforts of Miss Kate, our lovely 2/3 teacher. A common feeling amongst parents who have their children in her classes are that she opens up their worlds in such a variety of ways – from her passion for everything that grows, to her strong conservation message that she expertly weaves through the Australian Curriculum. Miss Kate always goes above and beyond – every single thing she does has the very best intentions for our students. Thanks Miss Kate, we appreciate you.

Please share what you see...email me at [ltank1@eg.edu.au](mailto:ltank1@eg.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

# 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](http://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](http://www.education.qld.gov.au)



**Queensland  
Government**