



# 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



## Under 8's Day

Thank you to our Wonderful Emergency Services, BushKIDS and Agnes Water Foodworks for assisting our school with our Under 8's Day. It was wonderful to see so many younger siblings and friends join our school for the morning.



## Calendar of Events

Date	Event
Thurs 1 June	Bundaberg Show Holiday
Wed 7 June	Interschool Debating
Mon 12 June	UNSW Writing
Wed 14 June	UNSW Spelling
Thurs 15 June	Pyjama Day
Fri 16 June	Jump Rope for Heart
Wed 21 June	Athletics Carnival
Thurs 22 June	Athletics Carnival
Fri 23 June	Behaviour Celebration Day
Fri 23 June	Semester One Report Cards
Sat 24 June - Sun 9 July	Winter Break
Mon 10 July	School resumes Term 2
Wed 12 July	Yr 6 Secondary School Information Session at AWSS
24-28 July	Visiting Scientist Program
Thurs 3 Aug	Kindy Buddy Program & Student Leadership Development Program commences
Thurs 3 Aug	Year 6 STEM Day - Rosedale
Mon 7 Aug	Interschool Chess
Thurs 17 Aug	Buddy Program
Mon 21 Aug	Photos - Tentative
Mon 21 Aug	Prep 2018 Information Session 6:00pm
Fri 25 Aug	Book Week Parade
Wed 30 Aug	Tetra-Olympiad Science & Technology
Thurs 31 Aug	Kindy Transition Day
Thurs 31 Aug	School Performance Tours - Swag of Tales.
28 - 1 Sept	Parent Teacher Meetings
Fri 1 Sept	Colour Fun Run
Thurs 14 Sept	Buddy Program
Fri 15 Sept	Behaviour Celebration Day

### **FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

We are heading into a couple of busy weeks in our school with end of semester reporting, training for staff, PJ Day, Jump Rope for Heart, Debating competition, UNSW competitions, Athletics Carnival and our Behaviour Celebration Day. It is important that students are in attendance every day to ensure that students are not missing information and that assessment can be finalised for reporting.

During Term Two and Term Four, our school provides parents a formal report summarising student performance over the semester. In making our judgements of student performance, we refer to the Achievement Standards from the Australian Curriculum for each year level. Student performance is measured against these standards, not against other students. From this semester, we will report on all Learning Areas, using only the Australian Curriculum. We will also report on Indonesian from Prep to Year 6 for the first time.

For some Learning Areas such as Humanities, The Arts, Languages and HPE, students work towards an achievement standard over a two or three year window. In some of these Learning Areas there are also different subjects studied that contribute towards the overall achievement of the Learning Area. In Humanities, all students study History and Geography, from Year 3 students engage in Civics and Citizenship and from Year 5 will commence studying Economics. These subjects may not be taught or assessed each semester depending on the context of learning occurring, however a result for humanities will be provided every six months. In The Arts, students will engage in 5 subjects over a 2 year period. In Semester One, students will study and receive a report for Music and Visual Arts. In Semester Two, students will study Drama and alternate each year between Media Arts and Dance.

A comment will accompany each result for each subject. From this comment, parents will receive an overview of the achievement level, exceeding the standard, working at the standard or requiring support to achieve the standard. The comment will also provide an overview of information for parents about the learning that has been occurring throughout the semester.

The date of publishing report cards has been pushed back to the last day of this term, with the oldest in the family receiving the report cards for their family in a sealed envelope. Parents may also request a digital copy of the report card after the release of the hard copy.

During Term 3, further opportunities for parents to meet with their child's class teacher will be available during Week 8.

### **Emergency Drills**

Each term our school rehearses emergency drills for evacuation and lock down. Next week we will be undertaking a Lock-Down Drill on Thursday 8 June. If you are volunteering in the school on Thursday, please ensure you are familiar with the emergency procedures that are available at the sign-in book.

### **Athletics Carnival**

Our 2017 Athletics Carnival will be held on Wednesday 21 June and Thursday 22 June. This two day event is for all students from Prep to Year 6. Students in all year levels will participate in full or modified field events of shot-put, discus and long jump. Most age groups will also participate in High Jump. All students will be involved in at least one sprint, relay and ball game over the two days. With older age groups competing in the 800m and 200m events.

We are seeking parent helpers with the tuckshop for the two days, as well as assistants with the field events. If you are able to assist with either, please let Helen in the office know.

### **Jump Rope for Heart**

Our school is participating in the Heart Foundation Jump Rope for Heart program and we would love your support!

Heart Foundation Jump Rope for Heart is an exciting and non-competitive program which encourages children to become more active through skipping, learning new skills and raising vital funds for heart research and community health programs.

Skipping is an excellent way for children to keep fit and healthy. Over the next few weeks, your child(ren) will be learning a range of fun skipping

skills and new tricks with their classes and during lunch breaks. We will emphasise the importance of regular physical activity and the importance of healthy eating for a healthy lifestyle.

Jump Rope for Heart is also a great way to encourage children to get involved in our community and support Australia's leading heart health charity, the Heart Foundation. The Jump Rope team provides us with lots of resources and support to implement the program and in return we ask that students help by seeking sponsorship for their involvement.

#### **How to register your child:**

**Visit: [www.jumprope.org.au](http://www.jumprope.org.au) go to the Kids tab and click on REGISTER**

A secure fundraising page will be created as soon as you register, and then you are encouraged to share this link with as many people as possible. This is an easy, safe way for your child to monitor their progress, receive bonus prizes and even receive sponsorship from family and friends who are further afield.

At the end of the program, on Friday 16 June 2017 we will be holding a Jump Off. This is an event to celebrate the conclusion of the Jump Rope program and it's a great opportunity for you to witness how much fun skipping can be—come along and pick up a rope!

When your child(ren) has/have finished fundraising online let your teacher know and for your own reference you may like to print out a copy of the donations received online.

Thank you for joining us in the fight against heart disease and we look forward to getting the whole school jumping!

#### **Student Council News**

**There is a change in date for our Pyjama day. This will now be held on Thursday 15 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. Students are to come with suitable shoes for outdoor play.

#### **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 available on our school website. 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 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 on a Friday.

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

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

Our whole school approach to implementing research based programs continues across so many areas of learning. This approach is now in its third year and we are certainly seeing the benefits. Students can move seamlessly between year levels without having to re-learn how a teacher may implement spelling or homework for example. They just pick up where they left off the previous year. We keep track of their progress on our data wall and we can identify how they are learning. The spelling program that all children use is called Words Their Way. Words Their Way is a teacher-directed, student-centred approach to vocabulary growth and spelling development whereby students engage in a variety of sound, pattern and meaning activities, sorting pictures and words. It caters for differentiated learning in the classroom, rather than a one-size fits all solution. (Pearson) Gone are the days of a standard spelling list each week for every student, regardless of spelling ability. In any one classroom you will have four or five words lists being taught in a variety of learning styles – examining words, manipulating words, comparing, categorising and talking about their spelling patterns. Every child is studying a spelling pattern and list of words – and progressing at their own pace. Our dedicated staff each have a class set of resources and a kit. Be sure to stop by your child's classroom if you ever want to see this in action – yet another fantastic way that our children learn and grow.



#### **Chess Success**

Last Friday I accompanied our four fantastic Chess Teams to the second North Coast Region Chess tournament for the year in Bundaberg. I could not have been more proud of

these students who played seven gruelling games of chess each. They displayed tenacity in the face of potential loss, resilience in the face of bigger and better opponents, and absolute sportsmanship win, lose or draw. So often we saw the parallels between the challenges and triumphs we face in a game of chess and how we handle these things in our life. At times an opponent may behave in a way that is unfair or even disrespectful – but we get to choose how we respond to that. We could put our hands in our head and cry, we could give up, or we could argue and let the anger put us off our game.

Our Agnes Water students set the example beautifully – when faced with a challenging or argumentative opponent they were assertive and resilient. They asked for help and stood their ground with a smile – and always shook the hands of their opponent at the end, not matter how they played their game. They accepted loss with grace and were open to learn – even after twenty minutes of playing, and then losing, they still wanted to learn from others about how they could have improved. Their behaviour was noticed and complimented on by another Bundaberg teacher.



Our chess culture is growing stronger every term with some classrooms setting up chess boards as a fast finisher activity. We are so grateful to Jerry, our chess coach, who gives up his lunch breaks to teach us, for always keeping us excited about chess. Special thanks to the parents of these amazing learners for supporting them (and not letting them win!) in your chess games at home.

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

This week I would like to celebrate the fantastic efforts of Mrs Karen Hartley, one of our lovely 5/6 teachers. Students in Mrs Hartley's classroom all start their day with fitness and meditation, a wonderful daily habit that ensures they are all calm

and ready for learning. Every year the lucky students in Mrs Hartley's class have their talents on display at the local Art Competition and our school is proud to have such a dedicated teacher who always sees the best in every single child she teaches. Thanks Mrs Hartley, 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.

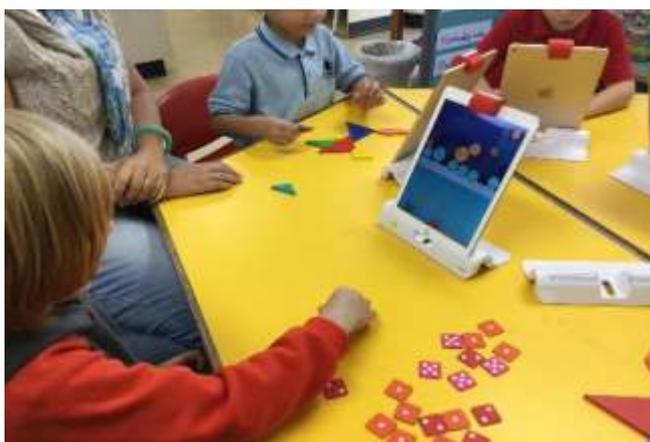
Yours in Learning,  
Mrs Leigh Tankey

### **Master Teacher News**



Over the past couple of weeks Prep and Year 1 have been busy engaging with Osmo. Osmo is an educational game system that

allows the user to learn using the iPad, opening it up to hands-on play. Agnes Water State School has invested in a range of educational Osmo games that can be used by students to reinforce literacy, maths and even coding skills taught in the classroom.



The students have thoroughly enjoyed using Osmo and will continue to engage with it at different times throughout the year. It is exciting to see our students engage with technology with such enthusiasm. One student even commented "this is too much fun to be learning!"

The use of Osmo will be expanded to other classes across the remainder of the year.

If you would like further information about Osmo visit [playosmo.com](http://playosmo.com).



Nyree Buchanan  
Master Teacher

# 2017 school calendar Queensland state schools



DECEMBER 2016	JANUARY 2017	FEBRUARY	MARCH
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY
S M T W T F S 30 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 30 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
DECEMBER	JANUARY 2018		
S M T W T F S 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		

Advancing  
education

Schools of  
the future



For more information  
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