



# AGNES WATER STATE SCHOOL

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clever • skilled • creative

## CPR AWARENESS

Year 4, 5 and 6 students learn the basic skills required of Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation.



## Making the most of the wet weather

Our Preps and Year 1 students have been making the most of the wet weather using the surface water to make amazing channels and water courses in the sand.



## Calendar of Events

Date	Event
Tues 2 Aug	UNSW English Competition
Tues 2 Aug	Ned Show 1:45pm
Wed 3 Aug	Schools Tree Day Year 3/4
Thurs 4 Aug	District Athletics
Thurs 4 Aug	Secondary School Readiness – CQU Day
Fri 5 Aug	District Athletics
Fri 5 Aug	Dinosaur Science 9:30am
Thurs 11 Aug	QSO Visit
Mon 15 Aug	P&C Meeting 4:00pm
Mon 15 Aug	Buy-a-Bale Fundraiser
Tues 16 Aug	UNSW Mathematics Competition
Thurs 18 Aug	Kindy Buddy Program Commences
Fri 19 Aug	Interschool Soccer Carnival
Thurs 25 Aug	Assistant Regional Director Visit
Thurs 25 Aug	Book Fair
Fri 26 Aug	Book Week Dress UP
Fri 26 Aug	Lock-up the Principal Fundraiser
Mon 29 Aug – Fri 2 Sept	Parent Teacher Meetings
Wed 31 Aug	Principal Meeting
Thurs 1 Sept	School Photos
Thurs 1 Sept	Kindy Buddy Program
Fri 2 Sept	School Photos
Fri 2 Sept	Principal Meeting
Mon 5 Sept	Prep 2017 – Parent Information Session
Tues 6 Sept	Twilight PD Session – Teachers
Wed 7 Sept	Prep Transition Day
Fri 9 Sept	Disco
Mon 12 Sept	Interschool Debating Day 2
Thurs 15 Sept	Kindy Buddy Program
Fri 16 Sept	Behaviour Celebration Day
<b>Saturday 17 September – Sunday 2 October: September School Holidays</b>	
Mon 3 Oct	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
Tues 4 Oct	Term 4 Commences
Mon 10 – Fri 14 Oct	Year 6 Camp
Sat 15 Oct	Trivia Night – Tentative
Mon 17 Oct	Student Free Day
Wed 7 Dec	2016 Awards Night & Concert
Thurs 8 Dec	Report Cards Behaviour Celebration Day
Fri 9 Dec	Last Day of School



### **FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

This week our classes have focused on the school expectation of I am Safe. This school rule is not only about behaviours that keep us individually safe, but the way that interact with others to keep everyone safe. One of the key messages that we discuss within this rule is how we react to others when they make us upset or angry and the importance of keeping our hands and feet to ourselves. Often with children, physical behaviours occur as a result of a game that has ended up getting too rough. Physical behaviours in these situations are very normal and age appropriate, but not something that we want to see from our students. In these situations it is an opportunity to work with students in identifying and roleplaying others ways to solve conflict. When the behaviours extend beyond a simple escalation of play behaviours, we look at these as a major behaviour with matching consequences. Helping students to problem solve conflicts is something that requires a unified front from home and school, with a key message that physical behaviours, such as hitting and kicking to resolve a problem or take out our anger are never okay.

Over the semester we will deepen this message with students through the Respectful Relationships program which forms part of our Health and Physical Education Learning Area.

To further support student development in our school, we have engaged the services of Beth Waghorn one day a week as an interim chaplain. Beth has previously supported our school in running peer support programs and social development as part of chaplaincy and it is great to see her returning to our school. Beth will commence with us as of week 5.

One of the key beliefs I hold as a Principal is “whatever it takes” to enable student academic success. This has been reflected in the diverse range of student support programs and extra-curricular activities that have been implemented over the last 18 months. One program, has been our partnership with Royal Far West for the delivery of specialist support for speech and occupational therapy. This partnership has recently been recognised by the Governor of NSW and we will be hosting a telecare demonstration with the Governor next Friday. The use of technology to deliver outreach services is one way that we continue to overcome the limited specialist services available locally. Congratulations to our staff, students and families that have been involved in this program and to Royal Far West for the continued support of our school.

### **Celebrating Behaviour**

Yesterday our school was visited by our Regional Behaviour Coach. During her visit, she analysed our student behaviour data from the year, finding something that we already knew. Our school is leading the way in creating a safe and supportive school environment and our students are great kids. The analysis that was undertaken showed that 94% of our students are what we deem as in the green meaning no behaviour concerns, and only 3% are within the red category identifying repeat behaviours. As a state our target is for 80% in the green and 10% in the red. Our school is far exceeding this and our entire school community, staff, parents and students must be congratulated for making this a great school.

### **GENERAL SCHOOL NEWS**

#### **District Athletics**

Congratulations to the forty students who have been selected to represent our school at the District Athletics on the 4 and 5 August in Bundaberg. This is one of our largest teams in many years. Good luck to our students for the two days.

#### **Million Stars Project**

At first break on Thursdays the student leaders will be helping younger students make stars from ribbon. These beautiful stars are symbols of light, courage and solidarity to end all forms of violence, including violence against women, bullying and racism.

The Million Stars project is an opportunity for us to be light and hope in the world and to make something beautiful and powerful together.

The short term goal this project is to weave one million stars and to display them at the Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast in 2018 in Queensland, in partnership with the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games arts and cultural program.

#### **Student Leadership**

The leadership of our Year 6's this year, has set a high standard for our 2017 prospective leaders. From mid August we will begin the student leadership selection process with our Year 5 students. Part of our leadership selection process is the opportunity for Year 5 students to show their leadership by being a part of the Kindy Buddy Program. Prospective student leaders develop relationships with our future Prep students through visits to the Kindy and participation in our Transition Days. This program assists with settling our Preps into our school in the first few weeks of school and gives Prep students a friendly older face in the school that will look out for them.

### **CPR Training Year 4-6**

Over the last two weeks our Year 4 to Year 6 students have been involved in a CPR awareness program, learning the basics of;

D – Danger  
R – Response  
S – Signal for help

A – Airway  
B – Breathing  
C – Circulation

Students also had the opportunity to practice how to conduct CPR

Thanks to our local paramedics for running this program with our students.

### **NED Show**

The NED show is a character education programme that centres around three important messages that have life-long relevance;

Never give up  
Encourage others  
Do your best

During a special assembly on Tuesday 2 August students will learn about NED's three messages while enjoying storytelling, magic, humour and yo-yo tricks.

This program is free due to a pay it forward process, where the sale of merchandise from the program helps to pay for future schools to participate. Further information about this will be provided the week before our parade.

### **Dinosaur Science**

*With lashings of humour, loads of audience participation and huge scale models, Dinosaur Science is designed to 'wow' even the most cynical students and unearth their inner palaeontologist.*

On Friday 5 August our students will be involved in the School Performance Tour Program, Dinosaur Science. This program will be held from 9:30am to 10:30am in our hall. All program costs are being covered by the school for this event and no permission forms are required.

**Due to this performance in the hall, there will be no parade on Friday 5 August.**

### **Readiness for High School Programs**

Our Year 6 students commenced their Secondary School Readiness program last term with visits from Secondary School staff and students. During the next two terms, students will be engaged in learning about Secondary School and how it differs from Primary School through experience days that we hold at Rosedale P-12 School.

Our first experience day will be held on Thursday 4 August and is conducted by the University of Central Queensland. This first exciting taste of secondary schooling is jam packed full of activities and challenges for our students. This year we have the opportunity for our Year 5 students to also participate as a one off due to the reduced numbers attending. For our Year 6's who are attending District Athletics on this day, opportunities for learning about Secondary School will occur in Term 4.

### **QSO**

On Thursday 11 August our school will be hosting the Queensland Symphony Orchestra for a unique musical experience. Our school will be joined by students from Rosedale P-12 school. We will be running a slightly modified first lunch break, to enable an 11:30 commencement of the Instrument Demonstration.

### **Year 6 Camp – Parent Meeting**

The Year 6 Camp was held on Monday night. Thank you to those parents able to attend. Student permission forms and camp details were sent home earlier this week with invoices payable from today. Families who have their email registered with our school will receive this invoice electronically. Payments can be made in full or by part payment.

### **School Photos**

Our School Photos are scheduled for the 1 and 2 September. The program of photos and photo package prices will come home a few weeks before the photos.

## **HEAD OF CURRICULUM NEWS**

### **Sharing Best Practice**

This week I have thoroughly enjoyed working in different classrooms around our school working on the implementation of our whole school writing program, Seven Steps to Writing Success. This week's lessons were focused around brainstorming and being creative. After analysing our student writing samples we could see that, while they had great imagination, their writing lacked planning and they often ran out of steam before the ending. To get the ideas flowing we shared lots of ideas in group-work - having fun with our planning and just having a go. We didn't put much pen to paper at this stage, but we did share some funny stories and learn a lot from each other. If you would like to work on this skill at home you could do it with some fun guessing games. Have them think of a place and an emotion, then act it out to see if you can guess what it is (eg angry in a shopping centre or bored on a train).

This will transfer into their writing and they will be able to describe settings and show emotions - without just telling. It helps them to be original and think outside the box.

### **Curriculum Forum**

This week Tarnia Doughty, our Master Teacher, and I were fortunate to attend the North Coast Region Curriculum Forum in Maryborough with other curriculum leaders in the area. The day was extremely worthwhile and reinforced the direction we are all taking with regards to curriculum delivery in our school. One of the key messages presented was that we can build certain traits in our children to enable them to reach their potential. These are things like persistence, resilience, collaboration and confidence. So often we want to 'rescue' our children when things get uncomfortable or tricky, but in doing so we deprive them of potentially valuable life lessons. By encouraging them to stick at the frustrating maths problem or sort out the argument with their friend for example, we are building life-long skills. It is easy to tell them how to do something but there is so much more power in letting them discover. These are traits that we must model as parents and teachers, and we embed opportunity for this growth in all that we do.

### **Celebrate What You Want To See**

This week I am celebrating one of the hardest working groups of educators that I have had the pleasure of working with - our teacher aides. This group of cheerful women share their many talents daily in our classrooms. They create artwork, make displays and resources, coach tennis, gymnastics, teach chess, run Opti-minds and so much more. They deliver the classroom programs effectively and with a smile, and always a kind word to say. We are all very grateful for each and every one of you. Thanks teacher-aides!

Please share what you see – we welcome feedback about your child's education...email me at [ltank1@eq.edu.au](mailto:ltank1@eq.edu.au) so we can all benefit from the wealth of knowledge in this lovely community.

Yours in Learning,

Mrs Leigh Tankey