



# Agnes Water News

15 June 2018

## What's happening at AWSS

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Mon 18 June              | Cupcake Fundraiser - Annie McLean                 |
| Mon 18 June              | P&C Meeting                                       |
| Tues 19 June             | Year 6 Camp - Sausage Sizzle                      |
| Wed 20 June              | Year 2/3L Waste Management                        |
| Thurs 21 June            | Principal Meeting - Maryborough                   |
| Fri 22 June              | Principal Meeting - Maryborough                   |
| Mon 25 June              | Cupcake Fundraiser - Annie McLean                 |
| Wed 27 June              | Behaviour Celebration Day                         |
| Wed 27 June              | Semester One Report Cards Released                |
| Thurs 28 June            | Athletics Carnival                                |
| Fri 29 June              | Athletics Carnival                                |
| Sat 30 June -<br>15 July | Winter Vacation                                   |
| Mon 16 July              | Term 3 Commences                                  |
| Wed 18 July              | Prep Eye Screener                                 |
| Tues 24 July             | Year 6 Camp - Sausage Sizzle                      |
| Tues 31 July             | UNSW English Competition                          |
| Sun 5 Aug                | Bunnings Sausage Sizzle - Bundy                   |
| Tues 7 Aug               | Year 6 Camp - Sausage Sizzle                      |
| Wed 8 Aug                | Year 5 / Kindy Buddy Leadership Program Commences |
| Tues 14 Aug              | UNSW Mathematics Competition                      |
| Mon 20 Aug               | Aussie All Sorts - School Performance Tours       |
| Tues 21 Aug              | Year 6 Camp - Sausage Sizzle                      |
| Wed 22 Aug               | Year 5 / Kindy Buddy Leadership                   |
| Mon 3 Sep                | Academic Triathlon (Technology) TBC               |
| Tues 4 Sep               | Year 6 Camp - Sausage Sizzle                      |
| Wed 5 Sep                | Kindy Transition Day 1                            |
| Fri 14 Sep               | Colour Fun Run                                    |
| Tues 18 Sep              | Year 6 Camp - Sausage Sizzle                      |
| Wed 19 Sep               | Behaviour Celebration Day                         |
| Thurs 20 Sep             | World of Maths                                    |
| Fri 21 Sep               | World of Maths                                    |

### School Attendance

Our current attendance rate: 92.3%

Our 2018 target: 94%

### Absence Details

Illness: 41.7%

Holiday: 20.5%

Other: 37.1%

Unexplained: 0.7%

## Congratulations Annie!

Annie McLean is our first student to be representing North Coast Region in Cross Country for a very long time. Not only is Annie representing our region at the State Championships, but goes in as the winner of the Regional, District and School Competition. To get to this stage, Annie has had to already compete in and win three levels of cross country. Participation at a State level is very expensive and Annie has taken it upon herself to help fund her participation. Annie is running a cup cake stall at school on Monday 18 June and Monday 25 June to help her get to the State Competition in July. Good Luck Annie.

## UNDER 8's DAY DESCRIPTIVE WRITING YEAR 1

AAAAAAAAHHHHH! The koala popped out from the fire truck.

Ace Kenyon

Pop, pop, went the bubbles as the bubbles floated away. I had fun. The bubbles are like a rainbow.

Abigail Laird

Float, float, the bubbles are floating away. Chitter, chatter people are talking. I am having fun. Some of the kebabs look like a rainbow.

Lejla Konjic

Yeah the ambulance is here now, the talk is over, and we all get to play. Now I can play on the obstacle course. I am going to the mini tennis. Mmmm I am hungry I want to go and get a kebab.

Reed Rodgers

Check out some more further in the newsletter.

## *From the Principal*

*Mr Trevor Buchanan*

Schools around the world are continuing to grow in complexity as we further understand and try to cater for the individual learning differences of children. Schools are also expected to take on more than the core curriculum of Mathematics, English, Science etcetera, as governments shift community education programs and health priorities into schools. There is a fine line between schools being an educational provider and becoming health providers as many facets of education are heavily interconnected with health and childhood development. It gets even more complex as more health services, that were traditionally separate to schooling, are becoming available and are expected to be available at schools. This normally occurs through partnerships with health providers, such as Speech Pathology, Occupational Therapy, Counselling Services, Psychology Services and Sight and Hearing Assessments. Further, school staff are more highly trained in health domains than ever before, including Mental Health First Aide, suicide intervention and are often called upon to assist in parenting programs with many staff having formal training in parenting programs and formal studies in child psychology and development.

At Agnes Water State School our core role is to provide an education for children based on the Australian Curriculum. We support students to engage in this curriculum through three levels of support; differentiated and explicit teaching for all students, focused teaching for identified students who are having difficulty with the concept and intensive teaching for the small number of students who cannot access the age relevant curriculum. Through these three levels, support can look like pre-teaching and post-teaching of concepts, modified instructions or tasks, accelerated or reduced curriculum expectations, and targeted support programs focusing on particular skill development. For students who are not able to engage with the curriculum either cognitively, socially or behaviourally, even after these levels of support are provided, our school seeks the support and refers parents to health providers to help inform our classroom practices or provide specialised support for children to be able to access the schooling curriculum.

Our location often makes accessing specialised support difficult for families and over the years, our school has extended itself to try and provide access at school to specialised services and research driven interventions. These have included partnerships with Royal Far West, Bridges Australia, DCCHS, Chaplaincy and BUSHkids. I am pleased to say that these programs have helped to provide greater access to the needed support for children of our school. I am keenly aware that we need to continue to look at what else we can do from a school on an educational basis. One challenge facing our school and many others, is the difficulty for students in building their literacy skills. Globally there are many contributing factors for this including the changing roles of parents at home and the reduction of exposure to written texts, games and conversations for children before they enter school. There is also research that shows that 15-20% of children have specific learning difficulties, often undiagnosed, including dyslexia and dyscalculia. For these students, they may be cognitively advanced but find extreme difficulty with reading, writing, spelling and numeracy skills. For these students, specific learning interventions and different models of teaching and assessment are needed.

Many of the strategies employed to assist these students can assist all students and over the next six months, our teachers and teacher aides will be involved in further training on how to assist students. This training will consist of targeted intensive training for students who are facing extreme challenges in their literacy skills, through to general support that can be used in the classroom day to day. While teachers cannot diagnose learning difficulties and disabilities, they are very skilled at identifying learning traits and responding to these. This new focus will provide our school and teachers with another set of tools to assist our students in engaging with the Australian Curriculum. I look forward to sharing with you success of this support over the coming twelve months.

### **Principal Meeting and Showcase Award**

On Thursday 21 and Friday 22 June I will be in attendance at a Regional Principal Meeting in Maryborough. At this meeting, the Regional Showcase Awards will be held. I am pleased to announce that our school has been nominated for Excellence in Early Years and Primary Education. This category is very competitive and I am proud of the efforts of our school staff to have a worthy Showcase nomination submitted. I am also humbled to have been nominated by and endorsed by my Assistant Regional Director and Regional Director for the category of Principal of the Year.

### **Athletics Carnival**

Our 2018 Athletics Carnival will be held on Thursday 28 and Friday 29 June. This is held over two full days to allow all students to participate in all field and ball game events and most track events. Parents are welcome to attend both or either days. Thursday 28 June is primarily a field day, with some track events for our older students. Students will participate in long jump, shot put, discus and high jump (7yrs and older, novelty events are held for 5 & 6 years). Friday 29 June is our track and ball game day. All students will participate in at least one sprint, one relay and one ball game on the day. We also have a few fun events on the day and are always looking for a few parents to help challenge the Year 6 students in the highly entertaining relay event.

There is a modified tuckshop on both days, with pre-orders being sent out next week. We are seeking a few parent volunteers to help with the tuckshop as these are often our busiest days of the year.

### **Behaviour Celebration Day**

On Wednesday 27 June, will be holding our Term Two behaviour celebration day. This will be a half day program to Workman's beach and include a range of games, beach clean-up and sausage sizzle. As always, students who have continued to demonstrate the expectations of our school over the term, have completed all classwork and not been involved in major behaviours, will be provided an invitation later in week 10. Please ensure that permission forms are returned by the due date.

### **Staff Changes in 5/6LR**

There will be a change of teachers in the Year 5/6 LR room at the end of this semester. Mrs Kylie Rupp will be finalising her contract with our school. Mrs Rupp will be spending a large portion of the remainder of the year travelling with her family. We wish Mrs Rupp a wonderful time with her family and hopefully we will see her later in the school year.

Mrs Sara Keltie will be joining our school for the remainder of the year in the Year 5/6 class, working on a Thursday and Friday. Mr Lane will continue in his normal class role of Monday to Wednesday. Mrs Keltie is currently the local relieving teacher based from Rosedale, demonstrating great diversity in her teaching capabilities working in both the Primary and Secondary sector. Mrs Keltie comes with an interesting background prior to teaching, with a particular focus on science. We welcome Mrs Keltie to our school and I am certain she will be a wonderful inclusion to our school staff.

### **Staff on Leave**

During the last week of this term, Mrs and Mrs Hancock will be on long service leave. Mrs Hancock will be replaced by Mrs Marg Crowther and Mr Hancock will be replaced by Mrs Amy Stuth.

### **School Annual Report**

Our 2017 Annual Report is now available from our school website. Hard copies are also available from our school office upon request.

### **Car Parking Progress**

The car parking plans at Agnes Water State School are continuing to progress, while it is a slow process, it is progressing. This week I met with architects from GHD and Building Asset Services regarding the planning designs of our future car parking. The drawing designs from Gladstone Regional Council, along with similar designs from recent school upgrades were reviewed. A possible workable plan that will meet our concerns and those of GRC was identified, with proposed drawings aimed to be returned to Education Queensland mid-July. If this design plan is successful, then it should remove all parking and buses from the front of the school. It will provide for a clearly defined bus interchange, stop, drop and go and increased parking. Further it will remove all vehicles, including staff vehicles from within the school grounds where children are operating.

# *From the Head of Curriculum*

*Mrs Leigh Tankey*

As we move towards the end of another successful and rewarding term I would like to recap on what to expect in your child's report card.

## **Understanding Assessment and Reporting at Agnes Water State School**

At Agnes Water State School, we encourage parents to take a genuine and close interest in the work of the school, we acknowledge YOU as the first teachers of your children, and we engage as partners in your children's learning. (Parent and Community Engagement Framework)

It is parents, families and carers who have the most influence on their children. When families are actively involved in their children's education, children usually enjoy school and achieve better results. (Australian Curriculum)

## **Australian Curriculum Overview for Parents.**

As Agnes Water State School has moved towards nationally consistent curriculum, assessment and reporting; parents can be assured that:

- the learning that their child undertakes is consistent with that of other schools.
- the judgments that teachers make about their child's performance are made using the same Standards as those applied in other Queensland schools and schools across Australia.

## **How do we decide on the reporting scale?**

The P-12 Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Framework (P-12 CARF) specifies the curriculum, assessment and reporting requirements for all Queensland state schools in delivering the curriculum from Prep to Year 12. It supports schools to deliver a world-class education and improve the progress and academic achievement of every student.

The P-12 CARF is complemented by supporting documents that provide detail to enable Queensland state schools to:

- provide students with the required curriculum.
- differentiate teaching so that every student's learning needs are met in ways appropriate to their age, the context in which they are learning and the nature of the curriculum.
- assess and moderate using standards.
- report to parents/carers and students about their learning and achievement.

## **How do we use the Australian Curriculum to decide on a mark for our students?**

Within the Australian Curriculum we have ACHIEVEMENT STANDARDS. These describe what students are typically able to understand and able to do as they progress through schooling. They set out depth of understanding and sophistication of skill. They are a year's worth of learning for the subject. This learning can take many forms. The learning is collected and assessed against the standards using a 5-point scale. These are a part of the requirements of the P-12 CARF.

Teachers decide on what standard is demonstrated in the work samples. In Queensland, the Achievement Standard represents the C standard – a sound level of knowledge and understanding of the content, and application of skills. After teachers make judgements about student work we then moderate with each other. This ensures that our judgements are consistent and comparable. A C given for a piece of work in one year 3 class would also be given a C in another year 3 class.

## **Should I be concerned if my child had a B for English last semester and this semester they have a C?**

If a child is demonstrating a C standard in various work samples then that means they are demonstrating the Achievement Standard. The Achievement Standards build from year to year. The degree to which they demonstrate a particular part of the Achievement Standard may vary due to the mode of assessment or assessment type. For example in English they may have excelled at narrative writing semester 1, yet needed more support for persuasive writing the next semester. If you want more information seeing the teacher about this is your best way of finding out why there is a difference.

### **How do teachers make sure they cover the whole Achievement Standard in one year?**

By the end of your child's year in a particular year level they will have a collection of work samples (including teacher observation, teacher checklist, written, spoken etc – a whole range of assessment instruments are used) that demonstrate the Achievement Standard. On your child's task sheet you will see the relevant parts of the Achievement Standard that teachers will be expecting to see in that particular task. Teachers keep track of what they have taught and what they need to teach using curriculum trackers.

### **How can I help my child?**

As a parent or carer you play a vital role in your child's learning. Building a positive relationship between home and school plays an important part in the education of your child. Talking with the school may help you in communicating with staff throughout the primary years. Parents can provide a positive approach to education at a time when children begin to develop skills and attitudes to influence their own learning.

Parents can take an interest in their child's learning by:

- talking to their child's teacher
- reading the task sheets and discussing what is sent home with your child
- attending parent-teacher meetings
- taking an active interest in what their child is doing in the classroom.

### **Do you need more information?**

Please do not hesitate to call your child's teacher or myself for an appointment.

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

This week I am celebrating the dedication and efforts of Mr Richard Gourlay. Every year around this time he can be found on the oval at most lunches enthusiastically training our AFL Team – The Bush Turkeys. Students in this school are so proud to be a Bush Turkey – a place on the team is coveted, and a lot of this can be directly attributed to Mr Gourlay's fair and inspirational coaching. His love of Australian History has ensured that students in his class are taken back in time and learn valuable lessons about our stories as a nation. Thanks for being so dedicated to our students Mr Gourlay, we appreciate you.

Please share what you see as you walk around our lovely school...email me at [ltank1@eq.edu.au](mailto:ltank1@eq.edu.au) so we can keep ensuring that our children flourish.

### **More great writing from Year 1...**

I heard the siren from the fire truck going. I heard the ambulance. I played with the bubbles. I was doing the obstacle course. By Mykall Yeats

Rrrrrr, Rrrrrr. The sirens were going off. Under 8's Day was fun. There were lots of fun activities. I didn't get to do all of them. My favourite one that I did was Mini Tennis. By Daine Fraser

At Under 8's Day I had a fruit kebab. It was yummy. I made a rainbow serpent with lots of colours. I played with the playdough. I made a snowman. By Charlize Cupitt

Pop, Pop, the bubbles are popping. Chill, Chill, the ochre face paint was cold. It was smooth too. I was a koala. By Olivia Yantsch

Dots on my face. It was fun. I loved ochre face painting. I was a turtle. By Angelina Arpas

Squish, squish I'm making clay animals. I made a T Rex and a plesiosaurs, crab, snake and a snail. I had fun. By Leo Embling

Slide, slide the people were putting the ochre face paint on me. Whoosh, whoosh I was spinning the bubbles. Rattle, rattle I was dancing. Munch, munch I was eating fruit kebabs. Boing, boing I was doing gymnastics. I had fun. By Celeste Wintle

Chitty chatter! Children talking. Bounce, bounce, I liked bouncing on the trampoline. By Trystan Maluga

Roll, roll! I ran and then I jumped. Then I fell off. I balanced on the beam. I had fun at the obstacle course. By Maxwell Anderson

Bang! Bang! Smacking the tennis balls fly over the fence. It was fun! Mini tennis was fun. By Jozef Rohrlach

Boing, Boing, Boing. I am bouncing on the trampoline. Who is that in front of me? By Max Cousins

## General News

### YEAR 6 CAMP FUNDRAISERS

#### Sausage Sizzle



On Tuesday 5 June and Tuesday 19 June, the student leaders will be running a sausage sizzle at school at 1<sup>st</sup> break to raise funds for school camp. It will be a simple sausage and white bread with sauce for \$2.00. Students can come to The Kitchen at eating time to buy their sausage on bread. This will be held every even week Tuesday during Term 3 as well.

#### Hair Colour and Coloured Zinc

On the morning of the Athletics Carnivals, Year 6 will be providing hair colour and zinc for a gold coin. This will be set up on the grass beside the undercover area from 8:15am to 8:40am on both mornings.



## Help Annie McLean get to States for cross country racing

Cup cakes for \$1.00 donation

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June 1<sup>st</sup> break

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June 1<sup>st</sup> break



The race is on in Maroochydore 22<sup>nd</sup> July