



Agnes Water News

18 May 2018

What's happening at AWSS

Mon 21 May	P&C Meeting 3:00pm
Tues 22 May	Interschool Chess Comp
Tues 22 May	Secondary School Readiness Program - Day 2
Fri 25 May	1770 Festival Re-enactment
Fri 25 May	Art Exhibition Visit - Year 5/6
Sat 26 May	1770 Festival Street Parade
Sat 27 May	1770 Festival Fun Run
Mon 28 May	Under 8's Day Activities
Tues 29 May	UNSW Science Competition
Wed 30 May	AFLQ Schools Cup - Childers
Thurs 31 May	Bundaberg Show Holiday - School Closed
Fri 8 June	Pyjama Disco
Wed 13 June	UNSW Spelling Competition
Wed 27 June	Behaviour Celebration Day
Thurs 28 June	Athletics Carnival
Fri 29 June	Athletics Carnival

Year 5/6 Art Show

The Year 5/6 Art Show was held on Thursday 17 May, showcasing student work in Visual Arts. The standard of the art work was highly impressive, as was the turnout of parents who attended. Congratulations to Ms Hartley, Mrs Rupp and Mrs Tankey and their students for the amazing work.



School Attendance

Our current attendance rate: 92.33%

Our 2018 target: 94%

SCHOOL BANKING IS EVERY TUESDAY



From the Principal

Mr Trevor Buchanan

Over the last two weeks, our staff have been focusing on positive behaviours in the playground. In the last eight days alone, our staff have awarded 186 Captain Starfish Tokens for positive behaviours of being respectful, responsible and safe in the playground. Our target for a four week period is 200 Captain Starfish Tokens. I am so proud of our students and the behaviours that they show and the way they represent our school. This was evidenced further by an opinion piece written by the Gladstone Observer when they recently visited our school to interview students and staff about our wellbeing initiatives. Both the wellbeing article and opinion piece are available online (Wellbeing: <https://www.gladstoneobserver.com.au/news/guided-meditation-helps-students-focus-in-the-clas/3412684/>, Opinion Piece: <https://www.gladstoneobserver.com.au/news/opinion-our-school-children-a-breath-of-fresh-air/3412700/>)

Bike Helmets

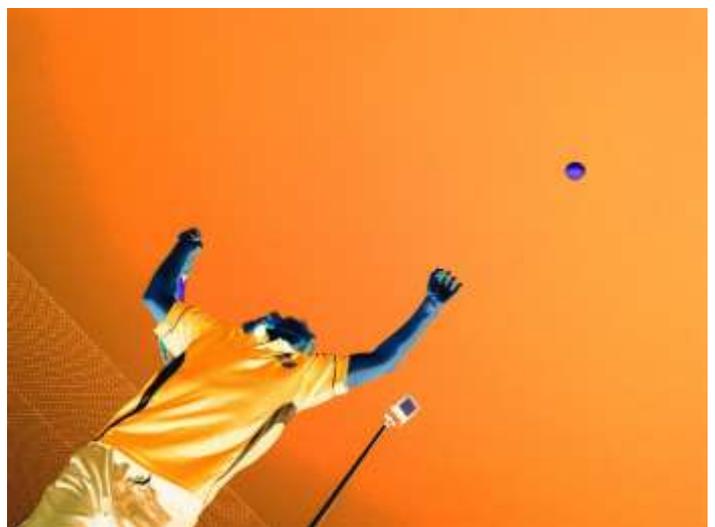
We take the safety of our students seriously and I am very concerned about the recent increase in students riding bikes and scooters to school without helmets. It is the law for students to have a helmet buckled up when riding a bike in public. It is good practice for students to also wear a helmet on their skateboards and scooters.

As students are putting themselves at risk by riding to school without helmets, we will be contacting parents of students without helmets to either collect their child at the end of the afternoon or have their child walk home to collect their helmet. We will put bikes into storage overnight in administration to ensure that children are safe when travelling to and from school. Please assist us in keeping your children safe by making sure they are wearing a helmet to school.

Students are also reminded to walk their bikes and scooters from the front gate to the road crossing point at the front of the school.

Transitions through Schooling

Transition through schooling can be a challenge for children no matter the age and whether it be a transition into Prep or moving into Secondary School, the more exposure to different learning environment prior to formal commencement the better. Next Tuesday (22 May) our Year 6 students will be participating in another Secondary School Readiness day at Rosedale P-12 school. On this day, students will meet with representatives from Central Queensland University, visit the Army Cadet Unit and participate in curriculum subjects. The following Monday (28 May) is an opportunity for our future students to join our school at our Under 8's Day Activities. Our morning will kick off at 9:00am and finish at 10:30am on our school oval. Families with children who have not yet started school are welcome to join our school for the morning.



Tuckshop Volunteers

Thank you greatly to the parents who have been able to assist with our tuckshop over the last few weeks. We are still seeking volunteers to assist, particularly on a Friday which is our busiest order day. If you are able to assist, please email pandc@agnewatess.eq.edu.au or come in and see Deb in the tuckshop.

Show Holiday

A reminder that Agnes Water State School closes for the Bundaberg Show Holiday, Thursday 31 May 2018 along with the other state schools in our cluster of Wartburg, Lowmead and Rosedale and Agnes Water Childcare. Our school will be open during the Gladstone Show Holiday.

NAPLAN

Congratulations to our Year 3 and Year 5 students for their efforts in NAPLAN this week. This annual assessment of Literacy and Numeracy skills was held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. I am really impressed with the determination of some students to be here for the testing days, pestering their parents to attend even when they were sick or were supposed to be away. I am not sure whether it was the test they were desperate for or the pancakes each morning. We normally receive results of student performance towards the end of Term Three.

Uniforms

As we move into the cooler months, it is a reminder that the only winter clothing to be worn are items on our Code of Dress. Jumpers and tracksuit bottoms must be navy blue. Stockings can be white, black or navy. Denim jeans are not part of our uniform and are not to be worn. Please ensure that names are on all items of clothing as we already have many unnamed jumpers that have been left around the school. Thank you to the parents who have provided notes for their children when they are out of uniform for the day.

Attendance

We have been plagued with a few illnesses travelling through the school at the moment, including nausea, headaches, head colds and sore throats. This is having a significant impact upon student attendance, however we are still continuing to see significant other absences occurring across the school, with some unexplained absences. Please note that student absences from school must be accompanied by a reasonable excuse for non-attendance and unfortunately as much as it would be nice, "It was my birthday", is not a suitable reason for a day off.

From the Head of Curriculum

Mrs Leigh Tankey

Australian Curriculum at Agnes Water State School.

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.

Wellbeing in Our Classrooms

At Agnes Water State School we are devoted to improving the wellbeing of our students through high quality programs in our Health Curriculum. Some of these programs can be woven into our daily routines and even home life. An example of this is the Smiling Mind app. 'Smiling Mind exists to help build individual mental health and wellbeing through positive, pre-emptive tools based on mindfulness meditation. Co-developed with psychologists and health professionals Smiling Mind is accessible to everyone, irrespective of geographic location or socio-economic status. The Smiling Mind Education Programs are mapped to the curriculum and designed to support educators to bring mindfulness into the classroom. All our lesson plans are tailored to each age level across primary and secondary school levels.' Smiling Mind

We are excited to notice how regular practice of various forms of meditation in different classrooms is creating calm learning environments and the students notice this as well. If you would like to learn more about how Smiling Mind works you can download the free app and talk through this with your children. There are even programs for parents and some are aimed at different transitions in our lives – such as resuming school and so on. Teachers have even been adding different mindfulness activities to the homework matrix – be sure to talk with your child about this. (<https://smilingmind.com.au/our-programs/mindfulness-in-the-classroom/>)

Chess Tournament

Our chess team is training hard and working together to keep improving. If your child has expressed an interest in chess, take a minute to have a game – challenge them and teach them some of your secret moves. We have noticed that we improve in leaps and bounds when we play people who are more experienced than us. Even though chess is an individual game, it has been terrific to see the comradery developing between the 12 team members.

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

This week I would like to celebrate the efforts of our fantastic mums. One of the nicest things about our job is that we get to see firsthand the rewards of a mother's hard work.

You all deserve medals.

You dedicate yourselves to making sure your little ones have all they need to succeed.

You bring them to school with full bellies and happy hearts.

You read to them, run them to tennis and dancing and football and piano.

You patiently listen to their stories about the best kick they have ever done in their lives that day in soccer.

You should be celebrated everyday.

Thank you for the way you support other mums, for the way you support our teachers and for the way you give. I hope you all had a wonderful Mother's Day!

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

General News

Bush Turkeys

On the 30 May, a selected team of Boys and Girls will be representing our school at Childers for the AFLQ Cup. Unfortunately we can only run one team for the AFLQ Cup for Boys and Girls and selection in the team will be based on **behaviour, completion of in class work** and participation in all training sessions.

Cross Country

Congratulations our students who represented AWSS at the District Cross Country on 9 May. Our students performed exceptional well, with Annie McLean taking out first in her age division.

Dogs on school grounds

It is a reminder that dogs are not permitted on school grounds without prior consent of the Principal. This includes during after school activities, pick up and drop off.

1770 Festival

Tickets are now available for sale on the Festival website www.visitagnes1770.com.au/captain-cook-1770-festival/tickets/

This year the Captain Cook 1770 Festival will be BIGGER and BETTER than EVER! There will be workshops, demonstrations, a fun run, new free kids activities as well as the usual Street Parade, kids rides and entertainment!

- Save 10% on ticket sales when purchased online.

3 hour personal ride pass (pay 2h, get 3h)	\$28.00 (AUD)
10 ride tickets (incl. free fairy floss)	\$40.00

Fun Run: Sunday, 27th May, 2018, starting at 8.00am from the SES grounds, 1770.

The fun run is part of the annual 1770 Captain Cook Festival.

The event features a very scenic out and back course. The 5.7 km course takes participants along Captain Cook Drive to Cook's monument and return. And a shorter 3 km course has its turnaround near the public toilets at the Air Sea Rescue Park.

The fun run will be professionally managed. Captain Cook Drive will be closed to traffic during the event. An electronic timing system will record participants' times and placings.

This is a whole of community event. Participants can try for a fast time, but they are just as welcome to walk and treat this as a social outing. We want this to become an annual event to encourage locals to enjoy a healthy, active lifestyle.

We hope to get 300+ participants for the 2018 fun run, and believe the key to reaching this target is to maximise participation from local schools.

To encourage school participation, \$500 will be awarded to the P & C Association of the school which fields the highest number of participants (students and staff will count toward participation numbers). In addition, a boy and girl from each of the main schools will win a \$50 voucher from Shoes, Feet, Gear (Gladstone) plus a pair of quality sport socks (this will be via a random draw, open to anyone who participates).

FAQ's

- Participants don't have to run. Walkers are welcome.
- People can participate in the shorter or longer event. But we ask that children under 10, take part in the 3 km event.
- Entry fees are \$20 for adults, and \$10 for participants under 18.
- Food, drinks and a range of 1770 festival activities, will be available after the finish. It will be a fun morning for the whole family.
- For further information, and to enter, visit <https://www.visitagnes1770.com.au/captain-cook-1770-festival/fun-run/>

