



AGNES WATER STATE SCHOOL

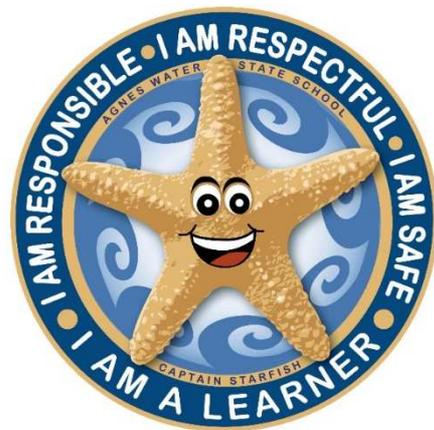
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Calendar of Events	
Date	Event
Tues 27 Jan	School Resumes
Fri 30 Jan	1 st Parade for 2015 – 9am
Fri 30 Jan	Day 4 – Early enrolment data collection
Sat 31 Jan	State Election
Mon 2 Feb	P&C Meeting 4pm
Thur 5 Feb	Day 8 – Enrolment data collection
Fri 6 Feb	Parade
Tues 10 Feb	Parent Information Night
Fri 13 Feb	Parade
Mon 23 – Fri 27 Mar	Parent-Teacher Meetings

Please see the attached State School's Calendar for information about school terms and student free days.



From the Principal

Welcome back to an exciting year at Agnes Water State School. The last few weeks have been very busy for staff of the school in preparing for the year, with some very late and unexpected interruptions to our plans. Our P/1 teachers had a rude shock only a week ago, advising that they would have their room painted before the start of the school year. This was only finished on Saturday and it has been a mammoth effort by these two ladies to have their rooms ready for day 1. Our school has also seen a significant enrolment increase during the week before school commenced, giving us an enrolment expectation of 247. This increase in enrolment will most likely cause a significant reshuffle across all classes after our enrolment collection on Day 8. As always, the school will take into consideration the best interests of all students, their academic and social needs as well as the overall welfare of all staff and students in each class. Where possible the school will consider parent requests, however this is not guaranteed. It is anticipated that any changes to class structures will begin on Monday of week three, with parents notified on Friday 6 February once staff allocations have been confirmed.

Hopefully all parents received advice about their child's class enrolment until Day 8 with a letter outlining the importance of working together to achieve great outcomes for the students of our school. A key component of this is communication and it is our endeavour during 2015 to ensure that parents and students are clear of the academic and behavioural expectations of this school as well as building an awareness of the wonderful opportunities that we have to offer during the year.

One of the exciting activities that will be commencing this term is the Academic Triathlon that our school will be coordinating. This interschool activity will consist of a mathematics tournament, spelling challenge and debating. Winfield, Wartburg, Lowmead, Rosedale and Discovery Coast Christian College will all participate in this event.

It is hoped to build our links with the Agnes Water Kindy, enabling a stronger transition program that will start this term.

We will be refining our curriculum enrichment programs for both student support and extension, including programs with the School of Distance Education and targeted intervention that addresses the specific learning needs of our students.

Our school will nurture the hard work of our School Wide Positive Behaviour Support team, and continue to acknowledge and reward positive student behaviours. A part of this, will be clarifying our expectations for celebration days and other positive rewards that will be on offer throughout the year. Part of this will be achieved through an explicit instruction to students about our school rules, starting this week with I AM A LEARNER, followed by next week I AM RESPONSIBLE. Each week will culminate in our parades and an acknowledgement of students who have excelled in these behaviours.

Further to our explicit instruction, we want to be able to give parents regular and timely feedback of how your children have been achieving our expectations at school. Each of our classes will be utilising Class Dojo and further information will come home this week to parents.

As an educator my grass roots begin in the classroom and that is where I intend to dedicate a lot of my time during 2015. On a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning, I will be in classrooms from 8:40am until our first break working with groups of students. This time is important to the children and myself and I ask that this not be interrupted. While I will be in class at other times throughout the week, I am able to be more flexible on these times.

Finally, as I have already mentioned, but cannot stress enough, a key agenda for our school year is about communication. Attached with the newsletter today is information about how we will provide information and how parents can contact our school. The first major opportunity for communication is our Parent Information Night on Tuesday 10 February. The exact timings

of this night will be confirmed after our P&C meeting on Monday 2 February.

I look forward to working with families over the coming years to ensure that Agnes Water is an awesome place of education for the children of this community.

I AM A LEARNER

I am a learner is the first priority of our explicit instruction about expected behaviours. Within our school this looks like:

all settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Set goals for own work and work habits ➤ Make good choices to help me learn ➤ Be an active listener ➤ Be an active participant ➤ Ask for help when needed ➤ Encourage and assist others to do their best ➤ Have a go and show a positive attitude ➤ Work without disturbing others ➤ Be open to different ideas, activities and ways of learning
classroom/library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Take pride in work and achievements ➤ Attend all lessons ➤ Ensure tasks such as homework, class activities and assignments are completed and submitted on time ➤ Be prepared for learning ➤ Plan to be ready for school at the beginning of each new term
Play areas/PE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Learn new games and activities ➤ Discuss/agree to rules before play ➤ Play by rules ➤ Follow school routine

Parade is changing!

Our weekly parades will now be held on a Friday Morning from 9:00am in the hall. Students must first go to their classes and will then be brought up to the hall by their class teacher.

Homework

At Agnes Water State School, we believe that homework needs to be valuable, meaningful and contribute to a child’s education. To achieve this, our school has reviewed our Homework Policy and this is now available on the school’s website. This homework policy reflects current research into best practice and aligns with the

policies of Education Queensland. Homework is an important part of schooling in establishing routines and does contribute positively to outcomes in student education. One of the key components of homework is reading. No matter the year level, active engagement with texts is an important daily activity. Contributing to the family routine and being active are two other key components that are an important part of homework. Homework is one way parents can engage on a regular basis with your child’s education.

P&C Meeting

Our first P&C Meeting will be held on Monday 2 February in the staffroom from 4pm. Our P&C is an important component of our school and we are always looking for parents to get involved. All parents are welcome.

Student Attendance

Our school commences at 8:40am and concludes at 2:40pm. Students are expected to be at school on every school day between these times, unless a suitable reason can be provided. Unfortunately, as much as we all might like a day out shopping, this is not a suitable reason for a student’s absence from school. It is important that every absence is reported to the school in-writing, in-person or by phone by a child’s guardian or parent. It is important that this occurs on the day your child is absent.

Students who arrive after 8:40am are arriving at school late and must be signed in by a parent or guardian at the office. Students who depart before 2:40pm are departing from school early and must be signed out at the office by a parent or guardian. If you need to collect your child early from school, please come to the school office and one of our staff will organise for your child to come to the office.

New Assistant Regional Director

Our school has a new Assistant Regional Director. Mr Ross Zellow takes on the role for our school as of the beginning of the school. Our school looks forward to working with Mr Zellow over 2015.

Legislation Changes to Smoking

From 1 January 2015, smoking is banned at all Queensland state and non-state schools, and for 5 metres beyond their boundaries.

The law applies at all times—during and after school hours, on weekends and during school holidays. It includes the use of all smoking products, including regular cigarettes and devices commonly known as electronic cigarettes.

School land is defined as land on which a:

- state school provides education programs under the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006*
- non-state school provides primary education, secondary education or special education under the *Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act 2011*
- state or non-state school provides other educational facilities, instruction or activities, for example, sports grounds, and including land that is owned or leased by the school.

The buffer is a 5m no-smoking area around the perimeter of the school, beyond the school land boundary; including all structures in this area, such as bus shelters and car parks. This area does not extend into residential or business premises that share a boundary with school land.

If you see someone smoking within the 5m buffer, tell them that it is illegal for them to smoke in this area.

If you wish to report a breach of these tobacco laws, contact 13 QGOV (13 74 68).

AGNES WATER TENNIS

Welcome back everyone. What a summer of tennis!

For those who are new to our school my name is Angie Draheim and I am a passionate tennis tragic!

A Level 2 ATPCA qualified tennis coach and Teacher Aide at Agnes Water SS.

Tennis lessons are for children as young as 4 years of age.

Modified equipment is used to guarantee an emphasis on fun, learning new skills and playing in a team environment.

2015 group classes before/after school are planned to commence in week 4 (Monday 16 February) for 5 weeks.

Cost of group lessons is \$50 for Term 1.

A Come and Try session will be held at Bicentennial Court for interested new players.

Trial Dates: Monday 9 and Tuesday 10 at 3.30pm.

All equipment provided.

Junior racquets, grips, restrings available.

Further enquiries please contact Angie on 0409 971 401.

All returning students, please text Angie on 0409 971 401 or

email: angietennis@icloud.com

2015 school calendar Queensland state schools

DEC 2014	JANUARY	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
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AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER
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	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	JAN 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School holidays Public holidays Flexible staff professional development days Staff professional development days School terms 	
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 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		

There are 195 school days in 2015. Semester 1 2015 commences for teachers on January 22 and for students on January 27.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

Staff professional development days for teachers are January 22 and 23, and October 19, with three additional flexible days. 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 20 is the final date for Year 12 attendance for receipt of a Senior Statement. November 27 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 4.

All other state primary, secondary and special schools will close on December 11.

In 2016, all state schools will re-open for students on January 25.

The information in this calendar was correct at the time of publication (August 2014) but may be subject to change.

For more information and the latest version of this calendar, visit www.education.qld.gov.au

Great state. Great opportunity.
And a plan for the future.





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Communication

Communication is key to all good relationships and our school strives to ensure we sustain great relationships with our parents through clear, timely and concise communication. Our goal is to be approachable and ensure you have the information you require for your child's education.

How the school will communicate with parents

Newsletter

Our fortnightly newsletter will be provided to parents in electronic form through email or on the school's website. Parents may request to have the newsletter provided in hard copy form if email or internet access is not available.

Facebook

Our school's Facebook page will be used to celebrate student achievement and promote school activities. This site is moderated with all posts made in private, while comments to school created posts are monitored for appropriateness.

Website

Our school's website is a public document with access to school policies, newsletters, annual reports, calendar of events and general information about the school. Parents can access this website via the internet, or they can download the QSchools App which will give parents notifications about new newsletters and news posts that are added to the site.

Notices

Over the year several notices will be provided to parents regarding excursions or coming events. These notices are generally classroom specific.

Information Sessions

Information sessions will be provided to parents three times throughout the course of the year. The first is held at the beginning of the school year where general information about education and school operation will be shared. Parent-teacher information sessions are offered at the end of Term 1 and Term 3 where parents may meet individually with their child's teacher to discuss academic and social achievements.

Formal Reporting

Parents will be provided a formal written report of their child's academic and behavioural achievement at the end of Semester One and Semester Two each year. These reports are specific to the academic achievement of each child in that particular semester. Semester Two report is not an overall report for the year.

Phone and email

Phone and email communication is used by the school in instances where individual parents need to be contacted.



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How parents can communicate with the school

Parents have several different methods in which to communicate with the school.

Classroom Teachers

Your child's classroom teacher is the first point of contact for anything relating to the classroom or behavioural concerns. When making contact with classroom teachers it is asked that parents please be mindful of teacher preparation time in the mornings before school. It is always best to make an appointment through the office if you require time to discuss any significant matter.

Administration

Our office team are the staff to make contact with for making appointments with teachers, specialists such as our Guidance Officer or the Principal. You can notify the school of any student absences through the school's office. You can contact the office via phone 07 4902 1333 or email admin@agnewatess.eq.edu.au

Facebook

Our Facebook page is the only page that the school will respond to posts by the community or parents. This page is moderated and posts are made as private messages and will not be displayed. Parents may choose to comment on posts by the school and this will be displayed, however negative and defamatory comments will be deleted.

Confidential Issues

Where an issue is highly confidential, very serious or issues require escalation beyond the classroom teacher, parents are able to contact the principal initially via email the.principal@agnewatess.eq.edu.au or request an appointment through the school's office. The issue may not be able to be dealt with immediately, however you will receive a response from the Principal either electronically or via the phone, normally within 1 working day.