



AGNES WATER STATE SCHOOL

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clever • skilled • creative

WALK-A-THON

It was a beautiful day for our walk-a-thon yesterday, with our students showing wonderful manners and representing our school proudly in the community. Thanks to our Adopt-a-cop Shayne Rolph for helping our students cross the roads safely.

An extension to the submission of fundraising has been provided to next Tuesday. We will be submitting all funds for prizes on Wednesday.



Calendar of Events

Date	Event
Wed 1 April	Year 5/6 Boys AFL Gala Day
Wed 1 April	Transition Day 1 for Kindy - Easter Bonnet Parade P-2
Thur 2 April	Academic Triathlon – Math
Thur 2 April	Celebration Day
Fri 3 April	Good Friday
Easter Vacation 3 April to 19 April	
Mon 20 April	School Resumes
Tue 12 May	NAPLAN
Wed 13 May	NAPLAN
Thur 14 May	NAPLAN
Fri 15 May	Transition day 2 for Kindy - Under 8's Day
Mon 25 May	World of Maths
Tue 26 May	World of Maths
Thur 28 May	Show Holiday
Please see the attached State School's Calendar for information about school terms and student free days.	

Cross Country

Many thanks to Mr Lane for his coordination of our recent Cross Country and the many parent volunteers and staff who helped out in making the morning a great success.

It was a very tight competition with the lead changing throughout the day several times, however it looked like Sharks were going to be the favourite, until the last race, where a massive surge from Rays and Stingers completely flipped the overall placings. Congratulations to Stingers who managed to take out first place for Cross Country this year.

Well done to our fastest 3km runners:

Peter Bewsey & Anisha Millar

UNIFORM SHOP

Uniform shop hours

Tuesday 8:30 – 9:00

Thursday 2:30 – 3:00

From the Principal

As this is our final newsletter for the Term, I would like to take the time to thank parents for their support and welcome to Agnes Water State School. Our school is moving steadily forward toward achieving our goals for the year. Earlier this year I presented at the parent information night an overview of our Annual Improvement Plan through our vision of CREATE;

Consistency of practice – We have been working towards our unified approaches to Behaviour Management, Reading, Writing, Spelling and Oral Language and Homework.

Reviewing our practices – Our school will hold a School Review from the 15-17 June. We have begun our processes in establishing a Local Consultative Committee and developing a Positive Learning Culture.

Engaging opportunities for students – We have already introduced Chess, an Academic Triathlon, Readers Cup, Transition Days and UNSW Testing. This is on top of the already exciting programs that have been on offer in the past.

A focus on the positive and our core priority – learning – We have established a commitment to regular curriculum meetings with teachers, and an investment to release our Head of Curriculum for a full time capacity in 2015. Reviewing our behaviour data occurs monthly and is shared amongst staff. We are refining our Celebration Days as a way to reward our students. Our staff have committed to over 300 man hours of professional development this year already, most of this has occurred in the own time of teachers. This has occurred through online courses, work shadowing, modelling of best practice, afterhours PD sessions and professional workshops.

Targeted student support – New screeners and targeted aid program commences in Term Two. There is a commitment to every classroom to receive a minimum of 4 hours of Aide support

each week at 1 hour per day for the same time. We have invested an additional \$40 000 in targeted intervention for students most at risk of failure.

Education in Partnership – Provided opportunities for parents to hear about our changes through our information night initially lead by the Principal. We have also be moving changes to homework practices based on research and parent feedback. We have seen an increase in parents in the classroom which has been wonderful and we have proposed training sessions for parents for Semester Two.

Term One has been a busy time driving priorities and establishing the ground work for the next few years. Term Two will see our school continue to progress these priorities, furthering the re-shaping of our service provision for targeted intervention. It will also be an opportunity for our staff to consolidate the many initiatives instigated this term including our homework policy, spelling program, approach to word attack and sight words in our teaching of reading. During Term two we will further focus on our assessment and reporting processes, concluding the semester with our formal reporting process to parents.

Thank you to my staff for their energy and effort in moving their personal practices forward and ensuring that the outcomes for your children are our key priority.

Have a wonderful Easter Vacation and I look forward to an exciting Term 2.

Easter Bonnet Parade

As a part of our transition into school we will be joined by the Agnes Water Kindy **on Wednesday 1 April from 9:00am to 11:00am**. During this morning the Kindy class will work with our Preps in making Easter Bonnets and participating in a range of Easter based activities. The morning will

culminate with an Easter Bonnet Parade starting at 10:20am.

Our **Year 1 and Year 2 students** from all classes will also join in for the Easter Bonnet Parade. Students in Year 1 and Year 2 are encouraged to participate in this parade by making a bonnet at home or making one during second break on Monday and Tuesday in the Library during the last week.

Children that are starting Prep in 2016, and do not attend Kindy, are welcome to join us for the morning. It is important that a parent is in attendance with their child and must pre-register with the school. Non-Kindy children must bring a waterbottle, hat and their morning tea.

Celebration Day

Agnes Water State School is a School Wide Positive Behaviour Support school. As a school we know that more than 80% of our students continually meet our expectations, however managing and dealing with negative behaviours consumes the majority of our time. Being a School Wide Positive Behaviour Support school is about giving 80% of energy to the 80% of students who continue to meet our expectations and actively acknowledge and reward those who work hard to meet these expectations.

As a school we continually review our practices to get the balance right. One process that we have reviewed is our Celebration Day. Celebration days are an important component of most schools across Queensland to acknowledge those students who meet our expectations around behaviour.

The complication with our former structure was that it was one celebration for the entire year. A year is a long time in the world of children and students can demonstrate significant improvement in their choices over this period of time. Having one event a year, also meant that once a major behaviour incident occurred it was another full year before participation could occur.

Our school will be moving to smaller celebrations, but holding these at the end of each term. To

keep the process simple all students are invited to participate, apart from those who have been involved in a major behaviour incident that term. This process, takes into consideration that children are children. It acknowledges that we all need redirection at times and that our school is about education, not only academically but socially as well. Having celebrations once per term means that individuals that have been involved in major incidents, can show improvement and be included in the next Term's activity.

Celebrations are a reward for meeting the school's reasonable expectations, not a secondary consequence for an individual, as the activities will operate in curriculum time. As a Principal, it is my thank you to the students who continue to meet our expectations, by releasing these students from the classroom program. Those students not able to attend a celebration activity will be engaged in a curriculum program during this time.

What is deemed a Major Behaviour?

A Major Behaviour is clearly defined in our Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students where a student's behaviour is significantly impacting upon others and requires administration intervention, or where a minor behaviour is continually displayed although appropriate individual support is provided to correct the behaviour. The entire list of major behaviours can be viewed in Part Two of the Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students and can be downloaded from the school's website in our documents section. In determining the classification of behaviours, school staff always take into account circumstances of an incident and respond accordingly.

Due to unforeseen circumstance, individual letters will not be sent home today, rather will be received on Monday.

EASTER EGG WRAPPER COLLECTION

The **Year 3/4 class** will be completing an *'Easter egg wrapper'* art activity later in the year and would appreciate the collection of as many Easter egg wrappers as possible. If you are able to help, please flatten them as you unwrap them. Large

and small pieces are needed. The foil variety is the only type we will be needing. You can drop them into the office with your child. Many thanks in advance. **Ms McTague**

Science Resources for 6G

Year 6 have an exciting science unit next term and we are seeking empty 1.25L and 2L softdrink bottles. If you have any empty bottles, can these please be sent in clean to the Year 6 room before the end of the term.

From the Head of Curriculum

Professional Development

The dedicated staff in our lovely school are to be commended for their ongoing commitment to professional learning. Over the past two weeks teachers have participated in professional development webinars about the implementation of the Australian Curriculum in the subject area of Geography. A key point in the workshop was the way that teachers should use the Achievement Standards from the Australian Curriculum to make judgements about student work. These judgements are what we use to report to parents. As a way of ensuring consistency within our school, and knowing that a C standard in one class is the same as a C standard in another class, teachers will be participating in moderation. Moderation is a process where teachers compare judgements about standards of student work. Next Tuesday afternoon teachers will be bringing marked work samples to a moderation meeting and holding discussions about this. They will have the opportunity to ask each other questions and give feedback about the task. This process ensures we undertake a cycle of continual improvement in planning and assessment. Later in the year we will have moderation opportunities with teachers from other schools.

Continuing Explanation of the Australian Curriculum for Parents - from ACARA (Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority)

What are Achievement Standards? The Australian Curriculum is standards based. Teacher judgment is guided by achievement standards that are fixed reference points to describe what is valued as important for children to know, understand and

do. An achievement standard comprises a written description with illustrative student work samples for teachers to cross check their judgements. The sequence of achievement standards across the Prep to Year 10 Australian Curriculum describes and illustrates progress in the learning area. This assists teachers to plan for and monitor learning and to make judgments about their teaching to support student learning. For example, the prep achievement standard for English states:

By the end of the prep year, students use predicting and questioning strategies to make meaning from texts. They recall one or two events from texts with familiar topics. They understand that there are different types of texts and that these can have similar characteristics. They identify connections between texts and their personal experience. They read short, predictable texts with familiar vocabulary and supportive images, drawing on their developing knowledge of concepts about print and sound and letters. They identify the letters of the English alphabet and use the sounds represented by most letters. They listen to and use appropriate language features to respond to others in a familiar environment. They listen for rhyme, letter patterns and sounds in words.

Students understand that their texts can reflect their own experiences. They identify and describe likes and dislikes about familiar texts, objects, characters and events. In informal group and whole class settings, students communicate clearly. They retell events and experiences with peers and known adults. They identify and use rhyme, letter patterns and sounds in words. When writing, students use familiar words and phrases and images to convey ideas. Their writing shows evidence of sound and letter knowledge, beginning writing behaviours and experimentation with capital letters and full stops. They correctly form known upper- and lower-case letters.

The work you will see your child doing in their classroom and on their homework matrix will link directly back to the achievement standards from the Australian Curriculum and policies in our school.

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

Our hard working teachers utilise every opportunity we have to enrich learning for your children. This week I am celebrating the wonderful efforts of **Mrs Keryn Heenan in PH**. These lovely little students are engaged in learning every minute of the day. You will see them acting out stories in response to shared book experiences (*Look out Hairy McLairy!*), manipulating a wide variety of materials to build their fine motor skills (which assists with their writing), creating beautiful artworks that link directly to their literacy learning and much more. A visiting specialist teacher made a special mention of this class when he observed the very high standard to which these children can articulate behaviour expectations. When one student was asked why he had a ‘Student of the Day’ badge on, he very proudly replied, “Because I am a learner, and responsible and safe and respectful.” What a great reflection of the values of our school and what great lessons for life.



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

The Beach Break Bar

(Agnes Water Surf Club)

is under **New Management**

and we would love to meet you!

We are now open 7 days a week from 11am.

Don't forget we have the couresty bus, kids room

and free wi-fi.

Present this ad to one of our friendly staff

to receive 10% off your next meal.

Call us on 4974 9777 to book a table or

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Saturday May 23 from 11am to 3pm

St Lukes Anglican School
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A showcase of the region's

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- » HEALTH EXPERTS
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MOVE it are proud supporters of the Ring Road Run

www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au/moveit

MOVE it is an initiative of Bundaberg Regional Council

HUGE



FOLLOW SIGNS TO LOCATION

Held during Easter Break ! 2015

When **Tuesday 7 April - Saturday 18 April 2015**

Where **104 Allingham Way, Agnes Water**

Time: **8.00am to 4.00pm**

ANY FAIR AND REASONABLE OFFER ACCEPTED

Many and varied items to choose from

- Children's books
- Games and educational items
- Camping gear
- Crockery and Cutlery
- Exercise equipment
- Electrical goods
- Holiday books to read
- Home decorations
- Bedding
- Tents
- Picture & Photo frames etc



2015 school calendar Queensland state schools

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

