



AGNES WATER STATE SCHOOL

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clever • skilled • creative

Book Fair 2015



| Calendar of Events | |
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| Date | Event |
| Mon 24 Aug | P&C Meeting |
| Fri 28 Aug | School Performance Tours |
| Mon 31 Aug | Parent Information Session – Prep 2016 |
| Tues 1 Sep | Teacher Twilight PD Session |
| Wed 2 Sep | School Photos |
| Wed 2 Sep | Father's Day Stall |
| Thurs 3 Sep | School Photos |
| Thurs 3 Sep | Father's Day Stall |
| Thurs 3 Sep | Miriam Vale Excursion |
| Fri 4 Sep | Teacher Aide Day |
| Mon 7 Sep – Fri 11 Sep | Parent Teacher Meetings |
| Fri 11 Sep | Interschool Soccer Year 4-6 |
| Thurs 10 Sep | Prep Transition Day |
| Wed 16 Sep | Inter-school debating |
| Fri 18 Sep | Celebration Day |
| Spring Vacation: 19 September to 4 October | |
| Mon 6 October | Labour Day Public Holiday |
| Tues 7 October | School Resumes |
| Mon 12 Oct – Fri 16 Oct | Year 6 Camp |
| Mon 19 Oct | Student Free Day. |
| Fri 11 Dec | Final Day for 2015. |



From the Principal

One of our priorities this year is around developing engaging opportunities for students. This is continually taking shape with more diverse opportunities on offer all of the time in our school. These activities aren't just about having fun, but about challenging the thinking processes of our students. Our students learn and grow each year in the school as the curriculum demands change and increase, however we want more for our students. We want them to have a love of learning and strive for excellence. This is developed through activities that change the way students think, feel and approach learning. It is also important for our staff to model the ongoing passion for learning. This year, we have staff who have re-engaged with formal study through their Masters, others who are working through vocational programs while other staff are continuing to refine their practices through the support programs within Education Queensland.

Further it is important to me for our school staff to be passionate about being an active participant in our school. On Friday our community had the opportunity to view some of that passion on parade with our staff acting out, "The Day the Crayons Quit". While this is only one small example of our passion and commitment, it is an important one that shows that our staff love their job and want to be a part of this school.

While it was unfortunate that I was not able to be personally in attendance, the videos and photos that I saw showed how passionate our kids and families are about our school and for that I thank you.

Staff changes and leave

Please be aware that towards the end of this term and into next term, there are a couple of staff changes and leave occurring. During the last two weeks of this term, Mr Richard Gourlay will be on long service leave. Mr Gourlay will be replaced by Mrs Kylie Rupp. In the same two weeks, Mr and Mrs Hancock are also away on long service leave. Mrs Hancock will be replaced by Mrs Margaret Crowther. In the last week of this term, Mrs Keryn Heenan is away for the week with long service leave and participation in professional development. Mrs Nyree Buchanan will be replacing Mrs Heenan for this week.

In Term 4, Miss Danielle Tooker will commence maternity leave. Presently, Miss Tooker will return in 2017. During Term 4, Mrs Nyree Buchanan will replace Miss Tooker. Mrs Karen Hartley will continue in the Year 2/3 classroom now until the end of the year and when Mrs Stephanie Smith returns to school, she will be transitioned into our Students with Disability support role until the end of the school year.

Many thanks to all of the families for providing a response around enrolment for 2016. This significantly assists our school in planning our staff allocation for next year. As there are still many factors that impact upon our enrolments for 2016 I cannot confirm our staffing allocations for next year, however our predicted enrolment is currently showing that it will be lower than in 2015. In previous years our school normally sees an influx in enrolments during the last week of school holidays and first week of the year. As occurred this year with 30 enrolment within a week, this has a significant impact upon the structure of our school. It is likely that class and teacher allocations will not be finalised until the last week of school holidays and will still be subject to change as in every year based on our Day 8 enrolments.

Survey Series – Survey Two coming this week

A couple of weeks ago I sent out the first of a series of surveys regarding our school. By the end of this week, the second survey will come home with a focus on successful learners and what we do already or could be doing to further outcomes for students.

HOC News

At Agnes Water State School we pride ourselves on maintaining up to date with implementation of the Australian Curriculum. Every activity that occurs in our classrooms is carefully planned to link with the content descriptions in the Australian Curriculum. Over previous newsletters I have given explanations of different elements of our curriculum. The content descriptions for each year level DESCRIBE what is to be taught. The way that this content is taught is decided by us as educators. We use the context of our school, our town and our students to make learning relevant. The year 4 class recently participated in tree planting on our beach. An example of how this activity links to the Australian Curriculum is found in the

following Year 4 science Content Description: Living things, including plants and animals, depend on each other and the [environment](#) to survive ([ACSSU073](#)) By learning about the needs of the trees we planted, what the plants would need to survive, and why we even needed to plant trees in that location, the students were being taught the Australian Curriculum in a context very relevant to them. This is what we strive to do.

Chess Success:

In week six, twelve members of our Chess Team travelled to Walkervale State School for our second chess tournament this year. Students are to be commended for their high level of sportsmanship and excellent conduct for the day. Win, lose or draw they came back after each game with a big smile and a story to tell about a new move they had learnt. The chess bug is catching....next term we will be recruiting some younger players to be coached by these students to keep our chess culture strong. Special thanks to Jerry Cabarrus for volunteering his time each week to work on strategies and pass on his knowledge, and Mr Gourlay for teaching the game of chess in his maths rotations. Well Done!

Celebrate what you want to see more of.....

This week I would like to celebrate the work of our year 5 and PE teacher Mr Stu Lane. It was energising to see the teamwork and joy on the faces of his year one students as they mastered soccer skills. (Year One HPE content description - Perform [fundamental movement skills](#) in different [movement situations](#) ([ACPMP025](#)) Students were given lots of opportunity to demonstrate their skills in a fun game situation – all the while learning important lessons in playing fair and being good sports. It is clear to see why so many students love Mr Lane's PE lessons!

Thank you for your positive comments and feedback about what we are doing at our school – please feel free to email me at ltank1@eq.edu.au with curriculum questions, context ideas and wonderful things you see happening in our lovely school.

Mrs Leigh Tankey

Head of Curriculum.

General News

Modernising Payments, invoicing and activity permissions

By the end of this school year, we will be trying to move to a cashless school environment, where parents will receive invoices electronically (via registered email), will be able to respond to student permissions electronically and will also be able to pay for all activities through BPay and Direct Debit. We will trial this process with several small activities in Term 4 ensuring successful roll out for all activities in 2016. Parents who do not have a registered email with the school or internet access will still receive a hard copy of invoices and permission forms.

Programs in the Arts

This Friday is our second School Performance Tours with "Heave Ho Off We Go" being held in our school hall. It is not too late for children to still participate in this program. There is a cost of \$4.50 per child to attend.

Next Thursday or Prep to Year 2/3 class also have an excursion to the Miriam Vale to watch the performance "A Knight to Remember". It has been several years since our school has been able to support the drama program at Miriam Vale State School and the calibre of performances from these secondary students are rather impressive. Permission forms and money are due into the office by this Friday.

Parent Teacher Meetings

Our Parent Teacher Meetings are an important way for parents to be kept informed of their child's progress in current units of work and their behaviours in the classroom. These meetings will be held during week 9 for all classes apart from 1H and 6G which will hold their meetings next week. Last week information on how to book online for these appointments was sent home. There is a computer available in our foyer for parents who do not have internet access at home.

Please ensure all bookings for 1H and 6G are finalised by the end of this week as bookings will close on Friday. For all other classes, parents have until Friday 4 September to finalise bookings. Please be aware due to the commitments of our staff outside of school

hours that appointments will not be taken after the closing of bookings.

Opti-Minds

Congratulations to our Opti-Minds team for their efforts on Saturday. Our team represented our school with pride and performed exceptionally in the competition. The competition is designed to challenge the thinking of students and allows only the minimalist input from team supervisors. Many thanks to Mrs Cook and Mrs Harris for their commitment to this program and running the many sessions during lunches and after school.

Transition into Prep

Over the next few months we will be extending our transition programs for Prep for 2016. We will be holding a transition morning on Thursday 10 September from 8:40am to 11:00am. The Agnes Water Kindy will be joining us for the morning and parents with enrolments for Prep in 2016 are also invited to join us.

We will also be running three morning sessions in Term 4 from 8:40 to 11:30am. These transition mornings will be held Tuesday 27 October, Wednesday 4 November and Thursday 12 November. The Agnes Water Kindy will again be joining us for these mornings and Preps for 2016 that are not attending Kindy are highly encouraged to attend.

It is a legal requirement that all children are accompanied by a parent for the duration of their attendance at school or are under the supervision of a Kindy program. On each of these days in Term 4, we will be running parent information sessions and offering morning tea for parents who are attending with their child. This will give parents an opportunity to meet with key school staff, find out about our expectations and what occurs in Prep. This will also give our school staff an opportunity to see how our future prep children interact and operate without their parent directly supervising.

In addition to our future Preps coming to visit us, we will be offering opportunities for our future school leaders in Year 5 to show their potential through a buddy program with the Kindy. From late August some of our Year 5 students will visit the Kindy on a Thursday morning to help build a buddy program and assist in the transition into our school.

On Monday 31 August, we will be holding a general information session about Prep from 6:00pm to 7:00pm in our Hall. This information session will focus around enrolment into Prep, expectations before entering Prep and offerings at Agnes Water State School.

Parent Helpers Wanted

Our P&C are currently seeking one or a couple of parents to assist in coordinating our annual production of the Agnes Water phone book. If you have time or are willing to assist with this, please let one of our executives know or email pandc@agnewatess.eq.edu.au

Our 25th anniversary is sneaking up on us very quickly. We are planning an open day on Wednesday 18 November to commemorate this anniversary. The school is seeking a couple of keen parents to help in the planning of this event. If you would like to be involved please email principal@agnewatess.eq.edu.au.

Woolworths Earn and Learn

As a school, we always want to support local businesses and encourage parents to shop locally, however if families or any of your relatives happen to shop at Woolworths during the Woolworths Earn and Learn promotion, we do collect the stickers and sheets as we do receive free resources for our school.

Celebrating 25 Years of Education in Agnes Water

Did you know that 2015 is Agnes Water State School's 25th Birthday? We will be celebrating 25 Years of education in Term Four. We are seeking any old photos of the school and interesting stories from ex-students. If you have any history of this school could you please send it electronically to principal@agnewatess.eq.edu.au .

If photos could be scanned and sent, or send this in as a hard copy and we will scan these for you and return.



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SCHOOL BANKING

Don't forget school
banking is every
Tuesday.



Agnes Water / Seventeen Seventy
Agnes Water Community Centre
Thursday, August 27

9.30am to 10.15am: Join Councillors for morning
tea and an informal chat
10.15am to noon: Book a 20 minute meeting to
discuss issues or ideas

To book a appointment please phone 4977 6803
or email councillorconnect@gladstonerc.qld.gov.au

E-Safety News

Too much gaming can affect your school or social life. It is important to be aware that if you chat with other gamers, you must protect your privacy and keep personal information private.



Know the basics

If you are worried about the time you spend gaming, you can:

- limit your game play time
- make time offline for your friends, your favourite sports and other activities you enjoy.

Protect yourself

- If another player is behaving badly or making you uncomfortable, block them from your players list.
- Report poor behaviour to the game site operator.
- Keep personal details private.
- Respect others in the game.
- Be aware of game classifications and age restrictions.

Online gambling

Online gambling is a distinct and ever increasing form of online gaming. It comes in many forms, from lottery tickets and betting on sporting games and racing to card games like poker. There are many games and social media applications that look like gambling websites that ask you to pay money to play or access features.

You need to be aware that some online games are actually considered to be gambling sites and are designed to make money for the company providing the service, not the user.

If you are under the age of 18, gambling is an illegal activity whether your play online or offline. It's always best to ask your parents or a trusted adult to check the game or website before you play or pay.

Remember:

- Gambling online is risky, and it can lead to trouble.
- Always read the terms and conditions of a website before paying to play a game online.
- Be aware that some game sites may look very similar to legitimate online gambling sites.
- Make sure you know what you are getting for your money if you do pay for games online.