



# AGNES WATER STATE SCHOOL

P.O. Box 238

1 Donohue Drive, AGNES WATER QLD 4677

Ph: 07 4902 1333

Email: [the.principal@agnewatess.eq.edu.au](mailto:the.principal@agnewatess.eq.edu.au)

clever • skilled • creative



PICCOLLAGE

Agnes Water State School were joined by Wartburg, Lowmead and Discovery Coast Christian School on Wednesday 13 April to welcome Denise and Bruce Morcombe to our community.

Calendar of Events	
Date	Event
Fri 22 Apr	School ANZAC Day service
Mon 25 Apr	ANZAC Day Dawn Service and Street March
Wed 27 Apr	Girls AFL Gala Day Bundaberg
Mon 2 May	Labour Day Public Holiday
Tues 10 May	NAPLAN
Wed 11 May	NAPLAN
Thurs 12 May	NAPLAN
Tues 17 May	UNSW Digital Technologies
Fri 20 – Sun 22 May	1770 Festival
Thur 26 May	Bundaberg Show Holiday
Fri 27 May	Under 8's Day
Tues 31 May	UNSW Science
Fri 3 Jun	Academic Triathlon Debating Day 1
Tues 7 Jun	Twilight Teacher PD
Fri 10 Jun	Spectra Science Fair
Mon 13 Jun	UNSW Writing
Wed 15 Jun	UNSW Spelling
Tues 14 Jun	A Slice of Vaudeville Performance
Wed 22 Jun	Report Cards sent home
Wed 22 Jun	Celebration Day
Thur 23 Jun	Athletics Carnival Day 1
Fri 24 Jun	Athletics Carnival Day 2
Fri 24 Jun	Last day of Term 2
Saturday 25 June to Sunday 10 July Winter Vacation	
Mon 11 July	School Resumes Term 3

### Cross Country

Congratulations to Rays for an outstanding effort at our 2016 Cross Country.



## **FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

Welcome back to Term Two. This term has kicked off quickly with a very busy first week. On Wednesday we had the lovely Denise and Bruce Morcombe present their Recognise, React and Report tour to our students. We were joined by Lowmead, Wartburg, DCC and many parents for the afternoon. This presentation was a great way to reinforce the safety programs we run within our school. On Wednesday and Thursday our teachers worked with our Leadership Team in planning around Term 2 and focusing on enhancing our programs in Mathematics, Writing, Spelling and Vocabulary. Friday was our Cross Country and it was awesome to see so many parents joining us for this event. Congratulations to Rays for their valiant effort on the day with highest points and taking out the participation trophy for the day. The end results were Rays 114, Sharks 111 and Stingers 107. Well done to our Age Champions 10 yrs - Taj Crompton-Noy & Hannah Thompson, 11 yrs - Jackson Horley & Caryss Parry and 12 yrs - Connor Yeats & Luca Doble. Our two 11 year age champions also took out the fastest 3 km awards. The remainder of our term promises to be just as lively and cram packed full of exciting events and learning opportunities for our students.

### **Celebration Day**

The wet play day at the end of last term was well received by students and our Behaviour Celebration Day this term promises to be a star studded event. Our Term Two celebration day will be held on Wednesday 22 June in Bundaberg. This will be a whole day outing, with students having the opportunity to see the opening day screening of Finding Dory or the new release Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 2. As in all Celebration Days, students must show continuous positive behaviours. Students who continue to demonstrate minor behaviours or any major behaviours will be provided a work program at school for the day. I am looking forward to this day out with our students and seeing all of our students attend. More information about our Term 2 Celebration Day will come home closer to the event.

### **Code of Dress**

It is expected that students at Agnes Water State School wear their school uniform each day as per our Code of Dress that parents and students agree to upon enrolment in our school. In each instance, when a student is not in uniform for any suitable reason a letter must be provided by parents explaining the circumstances. We are starting to see many students wearing additional jewellery, nail polish and coming to school without a broad brim / bucket hat. Students wearing jewellery outside of the Code of Dress will be

asked to hand this into the office and will be able to collect at the end of the school day. Students with nail polish will be provided the opportunity to remove before the next school day or nail polish remover will be available from the school office.

It is highly imperative that all students bring a suitable broad brim blue hat or blue bucket hat each school day, whether they plan to play or go to the Library. Each class does some form of outdoor activity on most days and students require their hat for these activities.

Sometimes parents are unaware when their child has arrived at school out of uniform. To assist parents, if a child is observed being out of uniform a notice will be provided to parents and will need to be returned signed the next school day. A copy of our Code of Dress is available on our school website under enrolment – [www.agnewatess.eq.edu.au](http://www.agnewatess.eq.edu.au).

### **ANZAC Day**

Each year our school commemorates ANZAC Day with a short parade at the school, participation in the Dawn Service and marching in the parade. Our school service will be held at 9:00am Friday 22 April on the front lawn (flag poles). All parents and community are welcome to join us.

On Monday 25 April, our Captains and Vice Captains will represent our school at the Dawn Service. We will be seeking participation from as many of our students as possible at the street march. Students will need to assemble at the vacant block in front of the Tavern at 10:00am in their full school uniform, blue hat and bring with them a waterbottle. The street march will commence at 10:30am, with the service following immediately after. It is anticipated that the morning will conclude at approximately 11:30am. Parents with younger siblings are welcome to march with us.

### **Attendance**

Our average attendance rate is at its highest in two years with an average of 91.33% with 100% of any absences explained. While this is fantastic, absences other than illness still form our largest percentage of student absences. These absences are the ones that we have greatest control over. Our attendance rate, while on the rise, is still below the State Average. Our target is to reach an average 93% attendance rate before the end of the school year and attendance by every student, everyday will help us to achieve this.

## **GENERAL SCHOOL NEWS**

### **1770 Festival**

Our school will again be participating in the 1770 Festival. This year our classes will be working towards a school float for the parade and a static display will be included at the Festival on Saturday 21 May and Sunday 22 May. Details about the parade will be provided to parents closer to the event.

### **Bundaberg Show Holiday**

While our school operates in the Gladstone Regional Council, it forms part of the Bundaberg schooling area and is aligned with services that are supported from Bundaberg, including bus transportation and our feeder high school of Rosedale. It also aligns with the Agnes Water Childcare who have operated the Bundaberg Show Holiday as a public holiday in the past. Our school investigated the options of moving our show holiday last year, however the impacts of this outweighed remaining with the Bundaberg show holiday as the school has done for the last 25 years. Agnes Water State School will be closed on Thursday 26 May for the Bundaberg Show Holiday and will be open in August during the Gladstone Show Holiday.

### **Contacting school staff**

Maintaining regular contact with the school is an important part of the Parent – Teacher relationship in educating your children. There are lots of ways that this can occur, face to face, telephone, email or smart phone apps that we are currently trialling in some classes. Sometimes contacting our teachers is difficult as they are on class or out at duty and we make every attempt to minimise the interruptions to the learning occurring in our classes. This means that often you cannot be connected with your child's teacher straight away. We always make every attempt to get back to parents as quickly as possible and this usually occurs within 24 hours. Phoning staff via their personal phone is not appropriate particularly on weekends or outside of school hours. In the event of an emergency issue, the Principal can be contacted on the out of hours phone number listed on our website, however it is asked for parents to consider whether this is an emergency or something that can be dealt with at the next school day. Parents are reminded that your child's class teacher is always your first point of contact. Our school office is open from 8am to 4pm every school day and appointments to meet with our teachers or administration team can be made through Helen.

### **P&C AGM**

Unfortunately not all positions were filled at our P&C AGM last term. The position of Secretary is still to be filled and is an important part of ensuring the ongoing viability of our P&C. We will also be looking for a

treasurer later in the school year. Without a full executive, we lose all of our P&C Funding, are not able to undertake fundraising and will have to close our tuckshop. The P&C is also an important part of ensuring transparency of school operations in our school and a valuable way for parents to provide feedback to the school. If you are able to assist with our P&C association please do not hesitate to contact the school as soon as possible.

## **SPORTING NEWS**

### **AFL Gala Day**

Congratulations to our boys at the AFL Gala Day in Bundaberg last term. Their sportsmanship and determination was commended by staff on the day. Wednesday 27 April will be an opportunity for our girls to show their stuff and hopefully see a repeat of last year's achievement making it to districts. Good luck to our Year 5 & Year 6 girls on Wednesday.

### **House Captain Elections**

Congratulations to our six newly appointed house captains;

Rays – Jet' Aime Cipak-Robertson & Jake Meakes

Sharks – Ebony Cooper & Connor Yeats

Stingers – Caryss Parry and Tom Moody

## **HEAD OF CURRICULUM NEWS**

Welcome back to an exciting term of learning opportunities for our fantastic students. We have our new SPECTRA science project cards underway, our recycled rug in its final stages ready to be part of an Australia-wide event and much, much more.

### **Ideas for Writing**

This term sees us start a new round of peer coaching in specific areas across the school with Mr Buchanan focussing on numeracy, Miss Doughty coaching spelling and academic vocabulary and myself working with teachers and students on implementing our writing program. We had many great successes last term and the momentum of this is continuing into this term. As parents of students in year 3 and 5 are aware, we have our NAPLAN testing in May – just a couple of weeks away. Our teachers have been preparing our students all year in a variety of ways and there are some ideas for you to help at home too. As I emphasised in our last newsletter the most important part of the writing process is the thinking – the brainstorming. In alignment with the Seven Steps to Success writing program we call it 'Planning for Success' with our students. We have been helping

them practice this using an idea called “Show, Not Tell”. It is a fun way of using words to paint the picture instead of just telling. For example, you could ask your child how they felt before they ran the cross country – but use words to show, not just tell you. So instead of saying, “I was nervous” they could say, “My knees were shaking, my palms were sweaty and there were a thousand butterflies in my stomach!” The reason that this type of writing is more effective is that it helps them connect with their audience and improves their use of vocabulary. It is much more interesting and informative, and is a much clearer way of communicating how we feel. If they can do this with you in the car on the way to school or around the dinner table it will flow into their writing. It is yet another way of making writing fun – a crucial element to success. I’d love to hear what they come up with.

#### **SPECTRA Science Extension Program**

Over 80 students in our school have signed up for our science extension program through the SPECTRA science project. This week participating students will bring home their chosen topic and a letter explaining how it all works. In week 9 all students and parents will be invited to our Science Expo in the hall where these budding young scientists will set up their own display showing the work they have completed over the term. We are going to learn about the world of pets and gardens, how things fly and what chemistry happens in the kitchen to name a few. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions about this – I am happy to support and help.

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

This week I am celebrating the hard work and dedication of Mr Stu Lane – our PE and student support teacher. Mr Lane is to be commended for the excellent preparation and organisation of our recent school cross country. All students were coached many weeks leading up to this event as was evidenced in not only the fantastic individual results, but the massive number of students who persevered through the whole course – regardless of the place they finished in. The emphasis was on persistence and sportsmanship – and all students shone. Mr Lane fosters a life-long love of physical activity for our students through his calm and encouraging teaching style. Thanks Mr Lane!

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

Yours in Learning,  
Mrs Leigh Tankey

### **Agnes Water Tennis with Ange Draheim**

Tennis lessons before school have now recommenced with Ange at the school. Lessons are also available at Ange’s court on Bicentennial Drive after school on a Tuesday. Lessons are \$10 each session. For bookings please contact Ange on 0409 971 401.

### **Soccer at Captain Creek**

Soccer has recommenced with Mandy Bassard at Captain Creek Sport Reserve on Tuesday Afternoons from 3:30pm to 5pm. The school bus can drop off at the venue. Please contact Mandy for registration or further information on:

**4974 7186**

#### **SCHOOL BANKING**

Don't forget school  
banking is every  
Tuesday.



# 2016 school calendar

## Queensland state schools



<p><b>DECEMBER 2015</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5</p> <p>6 7 8 9 10 11 12</p> <p>13 14 15 16 17 18 19</p> <p>20 21 22 23 24 25 26</p> <p>27 28 29 30 31</p>	<p><b>JANUARY 2016</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>31 1 2</p> <p>3 4 5 6 7 8 9</p> <p>10 11 12 13 14 15 16</p> <p>17 18 19 20 21 22 23</p> <p>24 25 26 27 28 29 30</p>	<p><b>FEBRUARY</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6</p> <p>7 8 9 10 11 12 13</p> <p>14 15 16 17 18 19 20</p> <p>21 22 23 24 25 26 27</p> <p>28 29</p>	<p><b>MARCH</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5</p> <p>6 7 8 9 10 11 12</p> <p>13 14 15 16 17 18 19</p> <p>20 21 22 23 24 25 26</p> <p>27 28 29 30 31</p>
<p><b>APRIL</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2</p> <p>3 4 5 6 7 8 9</p> <p>10 11 12 13 14 15 16</p> <p>17 18 19 20 21 22 23</p> <p>24 25 26 27 28 29 30</p>	<p><b>MAY</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7</p> <p>8 9 10 11 12 13 14</p> <p>15 16 17 18 19 20 21</p> <p>22 23 24 25 26 27 28</p> <p>29 30 31</p>	<p><b>JUNE</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4</p> <p>5 6 7 8 9 10 11</p> <p>12 13 14 15 16 17 18</p> <p>19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p> <p>26 27 28 29 30</p>	<p><b>JULY</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>31 1 2</p> <p>3 4 5 6 7 8 9</p> <p>10 11 12 13 14 15 16</p> <p>17 18 19 20 21 22 23</p> <p>24 25 26 27 28 29 30</p>
<p><b>AUGUST</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6</p> <p>7 8 9 10 11 12 13</p> <p>14 15 16 17 18 19 20</p> <p>21 22 23 24 25 26 27</p> <p>28 29 30 31</p>	<p><b>SEPTEMBER</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3</p> <p>4 5 6 7 8 9 10</p> <p>11 12 13 14 15 16 17</p> <p>18 19 20 21 22 23 24</p> <p>25 26 27 28 29 30</p>	<p><b>OCTOBER</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>30 31 1</p> <p>2 3 4 5 6 7 8</p> <p>9 10 11 12 13 14 15</p> <p>16 17 18 19 20 21 22</p> <p>23 24 25 26 27 28 29</p>	<p><b>NOVEMBER</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5</p> <p>6 7 8 9 10 11 12</p> <p>13 14 15 16 17 18 19</p> <p>20 21 22 23 24 25 26</p> <p>27 28 29 30</p>
<p><b>DECEMBER</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3</p> <p>4 5 6 7 8 9 10</p> <p>11 12 13 14 15 16 17</p> <p>18 19 20 21 22 23 24</p> <p>25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p>	<p><b>JANUARY 2017</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7</p> <p>8 9 10 11 12 13 14</p> <p>15 16 17 18 19 20 21</p> <p>22 23 24 25 26 27 28</p> <p>29 30 31</p>	<p>  School terms   School holidays   Public holidays   Staff professional development day   Flexible staff professional development day                 </p>	

There are 194 school days in 2016. Semester 1 2017 commences for teachers on January 19 and for students on January 23.

**STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS**

Staff professional development days for teachers are January 21-22, April 6-8, and October 17. 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 18 is the final date for Year 12 attendance for receipt of a Senior Statement, November 25 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 2.

*The information in this calendar was correct at the time of publication (July 2015) but may be subject to change.*

For more information and the latest version of this calendar, visit [www.education.qld.gov.au](http://www.education.qld.gov.au)

