SCHOOL WATCH 13 17 88

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<th>Student Absence number</th>
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<td>School</td>
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Dates for Your Diary

22/03/17 Prep photos in Gympie Times

Please - remember
send a note or ring the school office 24hr answer service on 5489 0266, if your child is absent for any reason.

SCHOOL LEADERS

Congratulations to our House Captains that were elected in Week 3 and announced on parade. They are: Araluen House – Maddy, Josie, Milly; Dawson House – Emjaye, Oliver, Enily; Sadowa House – Phoebe, Tim, Claire. Already, our school leaders have started running parade and each House will take it in turns to do so. There are also many other responsibilities for school leaders throughout the year. There will be a leadership day that the school leaders will attend in early March. More details will be sent home soon.

SCHOOL FOCUS

It is hard to believe that it is Week 4 already. Students are well into the first units of work in all class rooms. Our curriculum focus for 2017 is to improve Reading and Numeracy throughout the school. This is a ‘sharp and narrow’ focus in order to target improvement in these key areas. Our funding will be directed towards this improvement plan and we are hoping to see gains in these areas. Reading and numeracy can also be promoted at home with reading for enjoyment encouraged and simple numeracy skills such as estimation and rounding practised. Attendance at school also helps to ensure that vital concepts and skills are not missed.

BUS TURNING LANE

I have been approached by the bus company of the first afternoon bus to ask parents to please not park on the left hand side of the carpark/pick up entrance due to the room that is required for the bus to turn into the bus lane. There are no designated parking bays in that area and stationary cars there could be a hazard. I believe this has been an ongoing issue and that a suggestion to help the problem is for parents to arrive after 3.05pm once the early bus has departed. Many schools face similar issues at the end of the school day with cars arriving en masse to pick up children. Staggered arrival times, after 3.05pm, would certainly help to alleviate the problem at Two Mile SS. There is a significant interval between the first bus departing and the next buses arriving, which would allow plenty of time for cars arriving to pick up children, allowing the early bus to arrive without having to negotiate cars that are parked outside of the designated parking bays.

SPORTS REPRESENTATIVES

Some of our students recently attended sports trials for softball and Australian rules football. Congratulations to Emily, Claire and Tim for being selected in the Gympie District 10-12yrs softball teams. They will compete in the Wide Bay Trials in Hervey Bay on March 29 and 30. Cyle was selected in the Gympie District AFL team. Cyle has been invited to attend the Wide Bay Trials in Bundaberg. Congratulations and good luck for the Regional Trials. Good luck also to students attending other up-coming district trials.

12 MINUTE RUN

Students have commenced the 12 minute run on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. This week was cool enough to have our first run and we had a couple of kangaroos that wanted to join in. For our first run of the year the students joined in very well. I’m sure that we will fare well at the Cross Country.

Yours in Education,

News from Year 6

The students are well under way with our Short Story unit in English. We have practised writing a story that will be similar to the assessment item required near the end of term. By writing a practice version, students will identify where their writing could be better. We have looked at the elements of a short story, including plot, setting, rising tension, characters, climax and conclusion. Students will also look at language features that are used to make the stories interesting.

In maths, students have been learning about fractions. They have also been working on chance investigations and language around probability, such as ‘likely’, ‘unlikely’, ‘certain’ and ‘impossible’. During History, we are learning about Federation of Australia and the various viewpoints as to why people of the time agreed or disagreed with it. In Science, we are investigating states of matter and how certain materials can change from solid to liquid to gas. Some changes to states of matter are reversible, such as with water, but others are irreversible (such as burnt toast!).

In general, for behaviour, we will be focusing on getting along and how to diffuse situations that have a potential to escalate. We have spoken about the ‘high five’ of conflict resolution, i.e. ignore, talk friendly, talk firmly, walk away and report. As teachers, we also like to keep parents informed as to situations that might impact on students’ learning. A calm, focused classroom is most conducive to learning.

In Year 6, we are looking forward to some exciting events coming up. On March 6, our class will be attending a Science Discovery Day in
Gympie. More information and permission notes will be sent home soon.

Mr Teagle and Mr Wood

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MYCP
Do you have children aged 2-6 years whose behaviour is difficult to manage! If so you may be interested in the Management of Young Children Program.

This program has been developed and is run by staff from Education Queensland.

MYCP is an individual parenting skills training and support program for parents of children with challenging behaviour. It takes a practical approach aimed at restoring the parent-child relationship.

On the Sunshine Coast this program costs participants in excess of $1000. Through the support of all Gympie schools we are able to offer this program free of charge!

If you are interested and would like to know more please contact Wayne Bahr 0408701039.

Anglicare Parenting Information Sessions
1-2-3 Magic® and emotion coaching

Come along and join us for parenting information sessions. These have been designed to provide parents of children aged between 2 and 12 with strategies for modern day parenting. Troubleshoot those teenage years looming ahead with tools and tips developed to provide your family with the skills to enhance your family relationships.

Learn:
- How to place appropriate boundaries without arguing, yelling or smacking
- How to deal with those challenging behaviours
- About choosing your strategy; the 3 choices
- How to use emotion coaching to encourage strong family connections and relationships.

Parents will receive:

When: Wednesday, 15, 22 & 29 March, 2017
Where: The Early Years Family Hub
2 O’Connell Street, Gympie
Time: 6-9pm
Cost: Free

To register your interest or enquire for more information, please contact us on (07) 5482 9012.

SUPPORT SERVICES -GYMPIE AND DISTRICT

ACT for Kids (Connecting families to the right service at the right time) 54518200
Family and Child Connect 13FAMILY (133264)
Child & Youth Mental Health Service 5489 8777. For children, and young people who are experiencing depression, anxiety, issues of self-harm, suicidal.

Lifeline, Gympie Counselling 5482 7742
UNITING Community Care 5480 3400
MYCP (Management of Young Children Behaviour Program) 0408701039
Lifeline 131144
Laurel Place (Sexual Assault support) (07) 5482 7911 Crisis Care: 1800 177 135
Early Years Hub/Support services for parents of children to 8 years) 2 O’Connell Street (corner Palatine) Phone: 5482 9012
Relationships Australia. (Counselling Service) 1300 364 277
Refocus Indigenous support 5442 3992
Kids Help Line. 1800 551800 – Freecall telephone service for children and teens

Beyond Blue 1300 22 4636
Department Of Child Safety 1300 703 921
Centacare Family Mental Health Support services 41216410
Anglicare 1300 114 397 .Provides early intervention and prevention services and resources that are aimed at improving children’s development and wellbeing and supporting the capacity of those in a parenting role.

Some Private Providers of Counselling Services:

Sunshine Allied Health 54797311 Provides health services to children with disability or developmental delay.
Therapeutic Care Solutions 0420 105829. Bulk bills through Medicare, but referral from G.P and mental health care plan are needed to use this service

Gympie Counselling and Psychology. 5482 8470.
Serenity Psychology. (SunshineCoast) 5447 7473.