



# Two Mile State School Newsletter

## Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2019

SCHOOL WATCH 13 17 88

Student Absence number	54890266
School	5489 0222

Dates for Your Diary  
Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> Bookweek Dress Up  
Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> Prep Hearing Tests



**Please – remember send a note or ring the school office 24hr answer service on 54890266, if your child is absent for any reason. Calls before 9am are best.**  
**The designated text number for urgent or bulk messages should only be used to reply to messages received**

Two Mile State School Explicit Improvement Agenda focus areas for 2019: **Numeracy and Writing**

### From the Principal's Desk **School Opinion Survey**

Thank you to all of those who have already completed the *Parent/Caregiver Survey*. If you have not had a chance to complete the survey yet, please note that the online surveys will remain open until **Friday, 23 August 2019**. This is your opportunity to provide feedback about what our school does well and how we can improve to help shape our school's future.

If you haven't received any survey access details yet or if your access details have been misplaced, please contact our office on: Telephone: 54890222  
or Email [principal@twomileless.eq.edu.au](mailto:principal@twomileless.eq.edu.au)

### **Maths Team Challenge**

On Friday, August 30 some of our Year 5/6 students will travel to Gympie West State School to compete in the Maths Team Challenge. Violet, Jake, Nicholas and Lucas will be part of our team to take on other schools in a series of maths challenges. Good luck to our team.

### **Book Week**

Book Week celebrations are underway this week, August 17 – 23. A 'Storyteller' from the Gympie Library, Curtis, is visiting school to show students shortlisted books from the Children's Book Council Book of the Year Awards. At the time of distributing this newsletter, many students will be at school in costume as their favourite book character. This year's theme is 'Reading is my Secret Power'. I'm looking forward to seeing the amazing costumes that students (and teachers) will be wearing.

### **Muster Fundraiser**

Thank you to the volunteers who are helping with the ice sales at the Gympie Music Muster and to our fantastic P & C members for organising all of the logistics around this major fundraiser. Mr Rob Warner has been manning the site with campers already having arrived. Our scarecrows at the front of school are advertising our ice sales too!

### **Staffing**

We are very pleased to have Mrs Thorpe working with our Year 5/6 class for the next few weeks. Mrs Curran is glad to be working full time in Year 3/4 while Mr Jackes is on long-service leave. I have been assuming the learning support teacher role during this time. After the holidays, Mrs Thorpe will cover my leave for the first two weeks back. This will allow Mrs Curran, Mrs Martin and Mr Jackes to complete diagnostic testing of students' reading.

### **Attendance and Behaviour**

Our attendance target is 93%. For Week 4, Term 3, attendance was 87.1% and for Week 5, attendance was 86.7%. Unfortunately, we weren't able to reach our target as a whole School in either of these weeks. However, class 3/4 achieved the highest attendance in Week 4 and exceeded our target with 94.3% and in Week 5, Year 5/6 had the highest attendance with 91.45%. Both of these classes received a visit from Timmy the Turtle, our attendance mascot.

Our Behaviour Focuses for Weeks 5 and 6 respectively have been, 'Be Respectful – students providing appropriate attention', and 'Be Responsible – be on time (e.g. to line up at the end of breaks)'. Our Program Achieve 'You Can Do It' capabilities have been Persistence and Resilience in Weeks 5 and 6 respectively.

### **Parenting Ideas**

This week's Parenting Ideas blog is attached, and is about 'creating a consistent parenting storyline'.

Yours in Education,

### **Prep/1/2**

The Year 1/2 students have been focusing on writing more interesting sentences. They have been practising writing sentences using adjectives and interesting verbs. We have just started diary writing this week with the aim to improve their writing stamina. The Preps are working on writing sentences and rhyming words. They have all written a four

line rhyming verse which they are going to perform to the class.

In Mathematics the Preps have been introduced to the concept of addition and they have been making up addition stories and representing them with pictures and counters. In Year 1 we have been representing 2 digit numbers with bundling sticks and representing the numbers on number lines. In Year 2 we have been doing a unit on multiplication and division. They have been representing word problems, using groups and arrays and then writing them as a number sentence.

In Technology the Preps and Year 1 have been using the I pads. The Year 1 students will have to use the I pads in their English assessment to make a multimodal image to match the retell they write. The Year 2 students have been learning how to make word documents as they will have to present their good copy of their English assessment as a multimodal presentation.

### Year 3/4

We are on our final week of Kitchen Garden this week and the students have all been putting in a tremendous effort around the garden and kitchen. Special mention to Aidan who worked very hard last week planting and mulching the potatoes. We have just finished a unit of work on fractions and will be going on to number, place value and multiplication this week. English units for both the Yr 3 and 4 class is starting assessment, with both classes writing a story, editing and publishing it on the computers. It is very important that students are at school unless sick during this time. We have some Picasso paintings hanging up in the classroom and all students have done a wonderful job. The next artist we are studying is Andy Warhol from the Pop Art era. Mr Teagle has started the Technology unit of work with the class and he will be sending home a list of items for students to bring to school so that they can get a start on it Monday week, when he is next in the class.

### Year 5/6

In Maths, Year 5 and 6 have been revising fractions and their relationship with patterning, sequencing and decimals. Next Monday during our Maths lesson, both classes will join together to attend our classroom's 'Decimal Diner', where they will work in groups to solve fraction and decimal problems in a real life setting. The students have also started a daily 50's Club, to improve their recall of multiplication facts and daily Mental Maths, this helps and encourages children to develop mental calculations, problem-solving and introduces them to a range of mathematical vocabulary. During English both year levels have been studying language features and word choices in narrative writing and personal

letters. The classes have also been involved in Digital Technologies where they have been working through different exercises to learn about basic coding and computer science. Interschool sport continues this week where students will participate in Rugby Union, Touch Football and Netball. The students had a great time last week learning the skills for their chosen sport, and look forward to putting these skills into their games this week.

### Community Notices

**The Gympie Gold Fins Swimming Club** – Sign on days  
 Tuesday 17th of September. 3.30 – 5.30pm  
 Thursday 10th of October. 3.30 – 5.30pm @ Gympie Aquatic and Recreation Centre, Tozer Park Road  
 Fun and Fitness  
 Weekly Club Nights  
 Free Swim Cap for all new members



~ Students of the Week ~		
Class	14/08	21/08
Prep /1/2	Ryan	Loghan
3/4	Harry	Eva Walsh
5/6	-	Rhys Hand

~ Gotchas ~		
Class	14/08	21/08
Prep /1/2	Harlon	Levi
3/4	Nayte	Caitlyn
5/6	Tyler	Cody

## Parenting Ideas

*Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's the author of 12 books for parents including 'Spoonfed Generation' and the best-selling 'Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It'. His latest release 'Anxious Kids', was co-authored with Dr Jodi Richardson.*

*"My partner needs to hear this!"*

This is typical of many comments I've been hearing lately from participants at our Anxious Kids seminars and workshops. It's a healthy recognition that parent consistency is a significant element in successful parenting, particularly when facing a child's behavioural or wellbeing challenge.

It's also recognition that one of the biggest challenges for many couples is creating the same parenting storyline. It's a common challenge.

You may be strict, while your partner is lenient. You may value family mealtime highly, while your partner is ambivalent about breaking bread as a family.

Differences in parenting are natural, reflecting past parenting experiences, gender differences and personal experiences of children. They are a sign of independent thinking, and can provide a sense of balance to family life.

Parents who work together need to know when to compromise, when to keep out of the way and when to present a united front. Knowing when to take each approach takes practice and depends on the issues at hand, your parenting styles and your individual values.

### **Differences can be stressful**

Different approaches can cause discomfort, stress and anxiety to one or both parents, particularly when communication and empathy levels are down.

In some cases, the differences can lead to inconsistent parenting where there is no agreement on rules and standards of behaviour and inconsistent follow-through when kids behave poorly. It's like driving a car when there are two sets of road rules. There'd be accidents in the first five minutes.

Similarly, there is chaos in a family when there's more than one set of rules. The rules and boundaries that govern children's behaviour and family life need to be agreed upon.

Parents who work together need to know when to compromise, when to keep out of the way and when to present a united front. Knowing when to take each approach takes practice and depends on the issues at hand, your parenting styles and your individual values.

### Creating the same storyline

Agreeing to the same parenting storyline as your partner takes work. It can be done whether you and your partner live together or not.

Here are some ideas to help

### **Keep your partner informed**

It helps if the primary parent can keep partners informed about what's going on in children's lives. These can include updates about behaviour, educational achievements and their general well-being.

### **Defer to your partner**

Kids have a habit of putting their parents on the spot, particularly with issues such as going out or buying the latest fad. Rather than responding to children's requests yourself, get into the habit of deferring to your partner. Not only does this keep your partner in the communication loop, it helps you work as a united front.

### **Share insights with your partner into your own childhood and family**

These types of reflective conversations can lead to a deeper level of understanding and often reveal why you both feel strongly about different parenting matters.

### **Divide areas of responsibility**

Don't keep all the responsibilities to yourself. Bring your partner into the loop, and give them a share of the parenting jobs.

### **Communicate concerns to your partner about differences**

Avoid disagreeing openly in front of the children. Find a time later to air any concerns you may have and generate alternate strategies or ideas for your partner to try.

### **Work out your family brand.**

In my book *Thriving*, I showed parents how to establish a strong family brand. That is, work out the type of family atmosphere you'd like to establish; the values and attitudes that are important to you; your preferred parenting style and identify the family traditions and rituals you'd like to nurture.

From my experience, parents can get away with parental differences when kids are young, however it can become a big problem in adolescence. Some teenagers become adept at driving a wedge between parents who are on different wavelengths. They generally go to the parent who will give them the answer they require when it comes to the tricky areas such as going out, access to alcohol and relationship issues.

That's why one of the greatest gifts you can give your children is the consistency they experience when both parents work together using the same parenting storyline.