

# GARGETT STATE SCHOOL



Issue 1/19 February 4<sup>th</sup> 2019

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FACEBOOK PAGE: Gargett State School

*Great things are achieved and experienced in Small Schools*

Our School Priorities - Building our A to E data in Numeracy, Review and Update of the Australian Curriculum, Productive Partnerships with school community stakeholders

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back everyone and I trust that you all had a well-earned rest and now back into the school routine. Our current enrolment is 23 students; 15 families.

Our school year is well underway and even with the very wet conditions, please be vigilant in not making rash decision when crossing flooded creeks; remember if it's FLOODED: FORGET IT.

Last week we welcomed our three new prep students and a new staff member to our team. Please welcome our new 2019 Prep students: Hailey, Paige and Rylan;

There will be many familiar faces amongst our teaching and non-teaching staff this year with our new teacher aide Miss Amy Duncan. Amy has been working with other small schools within our district and when the opportunity arose to work here at the end of 2018, she jumped at it. When you see Amy don't forget to introduce yourself and make her feel welcome. We also welcome Mrs Marilyn Stokes as the music teacher for term one this year whilst Mrs Mitchell is on leave.

Sadly, we did say goodbye to Mrs Hardwick at the end of term 4. I would like to thank Mrs Hardwick for all the work she did in working with our students, supervising on camp, sports days and on excursions. Her work in the library and with our book fairs has been so thorough. We will miss you but wish you the very best for the future.

I would like to acknowledge the special efforts of staff in getting our school ready for students to commence their school year. Our cleaner, groundsman, teaching, office and support staff have combined to ensure our school was safe, clean and welcoming for students. A sincere thanks for the extraordinary efforts of these people.

## Before School Procedures

I would like to remind all parents that no students are to be onsite before 8am during the week. This time is set for school preparation and staff to ready themselves for the day. You can drop your child off after the bus. The first bell of the day is at 8:45 am, please ensure your child has arrived, packed in, lunch boxes in the fridge and ready to line up. If your child / children are running late please phone the school. The roll is marked at 9 o'clock

I look forward to the year ahead  
Have a great week everyone.

Fiona Tass  
Principal

**Staying safe during extreme weather events and natural disasters** In Queensland, the summer weather can be unpredictable. At these times, the safety of our school community is paramount. To keep safe, we remind parents to:

- stay informed by checking the School Closures website or local radio
- keep students at home if conditions pose a threat to their ability to travel safely to school. Parents/caregivers must make the decision of safe transit to & from school based on their local knowledge of their conditions (e.g. roads, creek crossings, etc.).
- advise the school of any absence due to extreme weather or natural disaster – this will not be recorded as an absence on student report cards
- Should buses be required to depart earlier than normal due to deteriorating conditions, families will be contacted. If contact is not made, students will not board the bus and will remain at school for their parents to collect.

## P&C News

Welcome to 2019! The P & C is a great way to become involved in the school I'd like to welcome all new and old families to Gargett School this year along with several new staff members!

As it is a brand new year I'd like to encourage you all to start thinking about what you can do for your school and how you can assist the P & C. There are lots of benefits in joining the P & C as you get the satisfaction knowing you are making in your child's education and to meet new people. The P & C is a place where you can express your views concerning your child's education and school community.

The date of the P & C AGM (Annual General Meeting) and the first general meeting of the year will soon be determined and we will advise this ASAP. Children are welcome to attend. We hope to see you there!

## STAFF UPDATE

My name is Amy Duncan. I have grown up in the Pioneer Valley. I went to Mirani State High School and Walkerston State School.

I really enjoy working with kids from all ages. I love hearing about their stories and helping them with their school work. I like working in a small school environment as well. I am looking forward to being apart of Gargett State School! Thank you for making me feel at home even though it has only been one week of school!"



## LIBRARY NEWS

Every Tuesday is library borrowing day starting from week 3. Students can borrow before school between 8.15am and 8.45am. Please ensure that your child has a library bag for borrowing books. This helps to minimise book damage from leaking water bottles,

textas or pens. Please care for our books and books can only be borrowed if previously loaned books are returned.

Lost or damaged books may be charged to you for a replacement.

## School Uniform/ Dress Standards

Congratulations to all parents for having your children looking so neat and well presented in their uniforms on the first day of school, I look forward to seeing this every day. A consistent presence of full school uniform is a very powerful way to create a sense of pride and community. The notion of a full school uniform, including a school hat, every day is endorsed by the P&C. I refer to the Departmental Guidelines that explain: apart from a watch, signet ring, sleeper or stud earrings or necklaces pertaining to religious or medical reasons, other jewellery or extras are NOT ALLOWED- safety for our children and presenting themselves respectfully is our concern. Other extras NOT ALLOWED include: ankle or wrist bands, dangly or obtrusive earrings and coloured nail polish.

## SAME DAY ABSENCE NOTIFICATION

The safety and wellbeing of students are the highest priorities for the Department of Education and Training and for the Queensland Government. New procedures have been updated to require same day notification for unexplained absences. From the start of this year, when a student is identified as missing from school, the school must notify the caregiver without delay either manually or electronically. This means that if your child is not at school before 9.30am without a reason the school must ring you to find out why. If you have notified the school why your child is away then no phone call will be made.

**Please remember to phone, text or email if your child will be away.**

## From the Guidance Officer

Welcome to the 2019 school year. After taking 12mths leave in 2018 to be with my family, I have returned to the role to provide the Guidance service within the Pioneer Valley cluster. As a Guidance Officer, I provide counselling, psychoeducational assessment, individual student support and advice to students, teachers and parents concerning educational, behavioural, career development, mental health and family issues. Permission from families prior to individual support from the Guidance Officer is required; all communication is confidential. I look forward to

working with the students, staff and families at Gargett this year.

Regards

Jodie Ballard Guidance Officer

### SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Scholastic Book club catalogue issue 1 is out now. If you are wanting to order from the catalogue, the money and order form can be returned to the school or ordered and paid for online following the instructions on the order form. Orders are due by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February. Every book you purchase earns rewards for the school. Thank you for supporting our library

### SCHOOL BANKING

Today, information about the Commonwealth Bank School Banking Program is being sent home with your child. Every Wednesday is school banking day. Students bring their deposit books to the school office in the morning and are returned to them on the same day. Children who participate are rewarded with Dollarmites tokens that they can redeem for exciting rewards when they deposit regularly into their savings account. Please contact the Office if you require more information.

#### 2019 Polar Savers Rewards

We're excited to announce the new Polar Savers reward items for 2019:



**Term 1:** Scented Stackable Highlighter, Snowy Origami Set

**Term 2:** Yeti Fluffy Notebook, Icicle Slapband Ruler

**Term 3:** Arctic Owl Fluffy Keyring, Scratch Art Cards

**Term 4:** Water Skimming Bounce Ball, Polar Pencils & Pencil Toppers

Students can redeem 10 silver Dollarmites tokens for a Polar Savers reward by completing a redemption slip and returning the whole slip with the students name and banker ID on their School Banking day.

### DATE CLAIMER

SCHOOL WATCH 13 17 88

### FEBRUARY

Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Homework starts

Tues 16<sup>th</sup> Playgroup starts 9am

Tues 16<sup>th</sup> Prep vision screening

Mon 25<sup>th</sup> – 28th Miss Tass at Principal conference

Feb 28<sup>th</sup> Safety Circus & NRL visit  
Whole school excursion to  
Finch Hatton SS

### MARCH

23<sup>rd</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> Choral Festival at MECC

### APRIL

Fri 5<sup>th</sup> Last day of term 1



Welcome to our 2019 Preps – Paige, Rylan and Haylie

### Visit by Registered Nurse for Free Prep Vision Screening

Good vision is important for a child's educational, physical and social development. Vision screening is therefore vital in early childhood, particularly for conditions such as 'lazy eye', which if not detected early can lead to blindness.

A Registered Nurse will be visiting the school in 2019 to commence vision screening for all Prep Year children. If you wish to have your child participate in this free vision screening program, please complete and sign the consent form sent home with your child and return this to your child's class teacher as soon as possible. You will be advised in writing of the outcome of your child's screening.

Please note that if your child has had a vision assessment in the past 12 months it is not necessary for him/her to participate in this screening program. If this is the case, please complete the consent form and indicate that you do not wish for your child to participate, and ensure that you follow the schedule of reviews recommended by your eye health professional.

## CHAPPIE NEWS

Could you get a wetter start to the new school year? Despite the damp everyone is working really well together to get all the class programs up and running. We welcome new staff and students My Chappie Day is every Friday this Term.

While thinking positive, Pioneer Valley Combined Chaplaincy has need of a Secretary in 2019. Come and meet Committee members and hear from the 3 Chappies in the Valley at our Committee Meeting/ AGM on Wednesday 13th of February, 6:30pm Marian School Library. Nominate that person you know who would be great as our volunteer secretary! Can't think of anyone? Might be YOU??

AGM date is Wednesday 13th February Week 3, in the Marian State School Library from 6:30 – 8:00pm. A refreshing supper will make it a wonderful evening. See you there

Rex the Chappie.



1 February 2019



## Pioneer Valley Junior Waterpolo

ages 8 to 12 years

Playing waterpolo is a great way to build kids swimming confidence and sporting abilities in a fun, team environment. Training sessions run by Silvia Plath, ex-state and national representative, and Queensland Waterpolo Accredited Coach, with current senior first aid and blue card.

Mirani Swimming Pool, every Friday starting 3.30pm to 5.30pm

Come on down to the pool and join in the fun or to register interest or for more information and session times;

Email: [Mirani.waterpolo@gmail.com](mailto:Mirani.waterpolo@gmail.com)

Facebook: [Pioneer Valley Junior Waterpolo](#)



## Week one reflections

Welcome back to our 2019 Playgroup and we look forward to meeting you all. Our Playgroup is an informal session where mums, dads, grandparents, caregivers, children and babies meet together in a relaxed environment.

No child is too young for playgroup. All children from 0–5 years of age, including babies, love new experiences and benefit from developing sensory, social and communication skills through activities at playgroup.

Starts: Tuesday 19 February

Time: 9:00 am -10: 30 am

Bring: sun safe clothes, hat, shoes, morning tea, water bottle

Come along for a morning of fun and exciting learning activities with Ms Sue.

