Principal’s Message

Hello Everyone

Welcome back students, staff, parents, and teachers. I trust you have all had a safe and relaxing break, and have returned energised to embrace the challenges and opportunities of a fresh new school term.

Welcome to our new student and families. I wish you and our students every success, and look forward to working with you again throughout the year.

Our current enrolment is 20 students / 13 families

This is a nine week term, and already we have great learning opportunities ready across all curriculum areas. Every Day counts so I do encourage each child to gain 100% this term. If you are absent from school due to illness please ring the school and leave a message. If you have to take your child out for an appointment, you will need to sign your child out; this book can be found inside the classroom.

Our 2016 staff are: Miss Tass (Teaching Principal), Miss Amanda Walz (Science/The Arts/Technology Teacher), Mr Paul Keyes (LOTE), Mrs Tracey Stanieg (HPE), Mrs Caroline Stratford (Admin), Mrs Kay Nash (Teacher Aide), Mrs Roseen Lopeman (Teacher Aide), Mrs Sarsha Moore (Cleaner), Mr Colin Jennings (Groundsman), Mrs Kim Muscat (Grounds care), Mrs Hobbs (Religion Teacher Prep-2), Mrs Cappello (Religion Teacher Year 3-6)

Australia Day is a time to celebrate the nation and people we have become. We celebrate the history that has made us who we are, the country that we love and the values and institutions that underpin it. I trust that if you did attend a ceremony that you enjoyed yourselves. Students spent this week completing activities about this special day.

Student safety is paramount, if your child is walking, riding or catching the bus, please ensures that you remind them regularly of all road, signage & bus rules. When collecting your child at three o’clock please be on time, remember the front of the school is a DROP OFF ZONE only and at times I do have meetings to attend too and have to leave early. If you are running late, please call the office of your arrival time, so we can reassure your child that you will be collecting them soon.

Our new school toilets will hopefully be completed by the end of February, we are just waiting on a few things to be added. Whilst this is happening, we will be still using our relocatable toilets positioned between the staffroom and library.

MASSIVE thanks must go to Colin Jennings (grounds) and Sarsha Moore (cleaner) for all of their hard work getting the rooms and grounds ready for action. A huge task considering facilities were dormant for the Christmas vacation period.

We are always looking for parents to help cover library books, if you could help please see Mrs L. Your time helping will definitely help us out. Remembers every book goes into the library and classroom use, without them being covered the students will miss out on using these great reads sooner.

When on site, don’t forget to introduce yourselves and get to know each other. Our school family is small but when we work together as a team, great things can happen. We are hoping to run our first family barbeque this term, so watch the school calendar for dates, times etc.

Remember if you have any concerns in regards to your child learning and achievements, please do not hesitate to speak with me, you can ring or email if you find a face to face hard due to work commitments.
Any concerns of your child’s learning please talk to the teachers concerned. Homework will commence next week for all students in grade 1 to 6.

Fiona Tass
Principal

School Infrastructure—What’s New?
- New amenities block
- New environmental septic Toilet system
- Hot water in the tuckshop
- New kitchenette in the office
- School security improvements
- More security lighting going up around the school

Attendance – Every Day Counts
Last year our school attendance rate for the year was 94% which fell just below our target of 95%; however it is well above the State and Central Queensland averages. In 2016 we encourage all families to strive for 100% attendance throughout each term and semester.

BIRTH CERTIFICATES
For all new prep enrolments we require a copy of your child’s birth certificate for audit purposes. If you haven’t already done so could you please provide a copy to the office ASAP.

SCHOOL BANKING
Gargett State School is excited to offer the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program to all students. School banking will commence on Wednesday the 3rd of February

The School Banking program provides children with an opportunity to deposit money into their Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account at school each week. The program is about how often your child makes deposits, not how much they deposit.

To encourage regular savings behaviour the program offers an exciting Rewards Program. Every deposit earns your child a silver Dollarmites token, and once they’ve collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for a reward.

The rewards available during 2016 are:
- Flying Snake Tail
- Wildlife Writer Set
- Mud Splat Handball
- Outback Pat Bag Tag
- Backtrack Eraser Pen
- Jump and Skip Rope
- Bush Fly Fan
- Wriggly Glow Worm

School Banking is also a great fundraiser for our school. Our school receives $5 when a student makes their first ever School Banking deposit and 5% on every deposit made through the school (to a maximum of $10 per individual deposit).

Getting involved in School Banking is easy!
You can get involved in the School Banking program by opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account at your local branch. All you need to bring is your current identification as well as your child’s birth certificate. If you are an existing Commonwealth Bank customer and have NetBank, you can open an account online.

If your child has an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account they can start banking straight away. They just need to bring their deposit in every week on School Banking day using their Dollarmites deposit wallet.

School Banking day is Wednesday. Each week you need to hand in your bank book to the office.

If you would like to know more about School Banking, please ask for a 2016 School Banking program information pack from the school office.

P & C NEWS
Welcome back everyone and a special welcome to all our new Gargett SS families. In February we will be having our first meeting for the year (date TBA) and I would like to welcome you all to come along and consider being part of the P & C. The P & C play a vital role at the school and everyone is welcome to be a part of it whether helping out at tuckshop or
supporting one of our school fundraisers. We will also be looking for a new committee for this year as our executive have all moved on from the school last year and the roles of President, Treasurer and Secretary will need to be filled.

By joining the P & C you are able to make a difference to your child’s education and will give you an opportunity to express your views on your child’s education. Last year the monthly meetings were held after school and lasted about an hour. Children are welcome to attend.

Last year the P & C donated almost $5000 to the school to help with purchasing new computers and sporting/play equipment, we paid for school swimming for all students and we offset the cost of the school camp for the grade 3 -6 students. We really do make a difference!

Hope to see you at the February meeting 😊

COMMUNITY NOTICES:

PIONEER VALLEY JUNIOR GOLF
29th January / 5th February from 3.30 pm will be sign on for Pioneer Valley 2016 Junior Golf. Friday lessons and Sunday competition. Please contact Ben on 0429 914 480 or the Golf Club on 4959 1277 for further information.

WESTS NETBALL CLUB
Want to play? Come to our Sign on Day! Saturday 30th January 9 am – 1 pm Marian State School. Wednesday 3rd February 3.30 pm – 5 pm Mirani State School. For further information place email westsnb@gmail.com

COUNTRY UNITED SOCCER CLUB
Attend our 2016 information afternoon on Wednesday 3rd February 3 pm – 7 pm at Western Suburbs Rugby Leagues Club. For further information please contact: Christina (Junior Registrar) 0413 861 900, Lorraine (Senior Registrar) 0408 786 146.

JUNIOR TENNIS AND BOWLS 2016 at Pioneer Valley Sporting Club in Gargett
Tennis and Bowls will commence on Wednesday 3rd February. Junior Lawn Bowls has started so please contact Roy Garland on 49 593 336 or 0417 749 844. Junior registrations for Tennis and Bowls is $16.50 per year. For further information on tennis please contact Trish on 0438 418 763.

WESTS JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE
West Junior Rugby League Sign on at Wests Rugby League Club on Saturday February 6th (10 am – 2 pm) or through the Wests website if you are an existing Wests Junior.
Our 2016 Preps