Happy Birthday to Michela for 27th May

There are outstanding Students Cards to be returned to the School Office. Could parents please check their child’s card and correct any information which may have changed in the last year and return to the school office by ASAP.

**All Student Cards are to be returned with or without information changes.**

It is vital that we have the correct information on file to ensure that effective communication between school and parents is maintained.

**SCHOOL ABSENCES**

***Could all parents please ensure that the school is notified if your child is away with the reason by a phone call by 10am so the correct information can be entered on the Roll. If we are not notified of the reason for your child’s absence it will be recorded as ‘unexplained’ and thus on the report to Central Office in Brisbane for reporting to the Australian Government.***

School Reminders

- Broad Brim Hats must be worn at all times for outdoor activities.
- Water Bottles only allowed in class.
- Art Shirts are needed for art activities and are to be named and left at school.
- Children are not to arrive at school before 8.00am – if no staff are present, please wait with your child.
- School finishes at 3.00pm - if you are unavoidably detained after school, please ring the school and advise time for collection of your child.

School Jewellery/Make-up Policy

Students are reminded of the School Jewellery Policy. Jewellery must not be worn to school for safety reasons. Only jewellery items permitted are signet rings, medical identification bracelets, plain sleepers or stud earrings and watches.

No makeup or nail polish should be worn to school.

Social Tennis

Social Tennis is held every Thursday afternoon at 3.30pm at the Mirani High School tennis courts. Games are non-competitive and just for fun and exercise. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please phone Elaine 49591260 or Grace 49543348 for more information.

Music Lessons

Why should your child be involved in a music program?

Music helps in the development of pathways in the brain allowing children to become creative thinkers as well as developing empathy and social skills. The instrumental music program on offer (currently we offer guitar, ukulele, keyboard, piano, saxophone and clarinet), is designed to develop skills that are not only of benefit to students in their musical endeavours but also enhances the skill required in other subjects such as maths and language.

Students are first taught the fundamental skills in moving their fingers in what is widely accepted to be the most effective and accurate way to produce clear notes on the chosen instrument. This helps develop hand and eye coordination as well as developing audio recognition (needed in language skills).

While students are learning correct techniques, they are also learning to read music scores. These score are arranged in a progressive manner so as the students develop their skills, new scores with new techniques and challenges are introduced.

All lessons contain elements that help to improve, hand eye coordination, music theory, rhythm, ensemble work, discipline, problem solving and multiskilling. Students are encouraged to work out for themselves how to play the music scores they have received.

Because students develop at different rates, there are no time limitations set to learn the different skills. Student are encouraged to work at their own pace and to seek assistance from their parents.

For further enquiries please contact Funkey Beat Music Tutor on 0498742296 or Email admin@funkeybeat.com

COMMUNITY NEWS

From the Principal

Under 8’s Day

Next Friday we will be hosting under 8’s day. On this day students from local small schools will be coming to share in the celebrations. We will have a range of fun activities available on the day. Thank you to all those who have returned their forms outlining which food they will be providing on the day. If you have not yet volunteered to help on the day, but would like to share in our school spirit, please come along! We appreciate all the help we can get!

Sandpit

Our new sand has arrived for our sandpit. Thank you to Mike Lewer who has spread the sand throughout the play area with his bobcat. The new sand is looking great and the students are enjoying digging through it. Hopefully not too much of it will end up at home!

NAPLAN

Congratulations to all our students participating in NAPLAN last week. Everyone did an amazing job focusing and persisting through the tasks. I was proud of all our students and I’m sure we will see some great improvements.

NEWSLETTER NO 7

Thursday 19 May 2016

Life Education

In week 9 we will have life education coming to visit our school for the years 5/6 to participate in the ‘Talk About It’ sexual health program. Life Education will also be holding a parent information session if parents of the years 5/6 students (or any other parents interested) would like to know more about the program. Further information and permission slips will be sent home before the event.

Cross Country

Congratulations to all our students who participated in the Pioneer Valley Cross Country. This was an excellent event. The students involved showed great persistence on the day. Well done Maddison, Jayda and Joshua.

Social Emotional Learning

This week in our social emotional learning we are focusing on tone of voice. Many of the students, while saying nice words, are using a tone that is hurtful to others’ feelings. We are focusing on speaking to others in a calm voice. We are also building on our learning for personal space, ensuring that we respect others’ wishes.

Words of the Week

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BIRTHDAY
This term in reading we are focusing on learning specific strategies for decoding texts when they are hard to read, and strategies for comprehension. While they may seem very simple, it is important that even the older students remember these strategies as a useful tool to draw on when stuck on a word.

This week’s strategy: Stretchy Snake

It often requires a lot of patience to listen to beginning readers as they learn to decode and sound out words. Beginning readers usually learn their sounds in isolation and as a result sound choppy when they try to put these sounds together to make words. Taking the individual letter sounds and blending them together can be a first step to becoming a reader for many children. As with any other task, to improve in reading a person must have increased exposure and practice, practice, practice. Your child is working on the accuracy strategy of blending sounds. The following ideas provide you with suggestions on how you can assist your child in becoming a better reader.

How can you help your child with this strategy at home?
1. When reading and blending sounds together, encourage your child to listen for a familiar word.
2. Give your child a rubber band and have them take it between two hands. Write down a simple word for your child to read (3 letter words such as bat, dog, and cap). Have your child pull the band apart a bit with each sound in the word. This will have your child stretching out both the band and the word. When finished with all of the sounds, say the word together while bringing hands together.
3. When reading, tell your child, “Say each letter as you stretch them out, then put them together and say it fast.” Demonstrate what this sounds like for your child.
4. If your child is having difficulty blending sounds and still sounds choppy, encourage your child to sing as they sound out the word. It is almost impossible to make a word sound choppy when you are singing.

Thank you for your continued support at home!