Dear families and friends,

Following the completion of Week 2 of this new school year routines are now firmly established and both staff and students are working very effectively to achieve the highest educational goals for all concerned.

Thank-you to all our parents for your ongoing support with such programs as home reading, sight word lists and homework in general. (We have now resumed giving the children their weekly homework sheets on Fridays.) Your assistance in this way makes a huge difference to your child’s results in so many ways.

Gayndah Visit
Our visit to Gayndah last Thursday was highly successful on many levels. This delivery model of professional development for staff had not been tried previously, but I’m sure there will be more of the same to come. With the only cost to the school being the bus hire and catering (less than the cost of one supply teacher for one day) we were able to have five teachers and teacher-aides attend from Coalstoun Lakes, thereby allowing the whole school team to engage in planning curriculum directions and gaining the benefits of networking with staff from other schools in the district.

Of equal importance is the fact that not only were the children also involved in meaningful learning opportunities at Gayndah SS, but their interactions with other students from a variety of schools, in a bigger unfamiliar school environment, has started to strengthen a whole range of their social and emotional skills such as resilience, confidence, getting along, persistence, etc. This can only be a good
thing as they will need all these skills to be well developed by the time they transition to high school.

I've asked the children to write a brief report of their outing to Gayndah SS, some of which are included in this newsletter.

**Claire (Yr2)**
Last Thursday all the small schools from our area travelled to Gayndah SS for the day. I did Maths, handwriting, and reading. I liked Gayndah school but I like this school better.

**Katria (Yr 2)**
Last Thursday all the small schools from our area travelled to Gayndah SS for the day. I got to meet some naughty people from some schools but I also got to meet some very good people from Binjour. My teacher was Mrs De Nobria and my teacher-aides were Mrs Madden and Mrs Cherry.
The thing I liked best was I got to play on the playground.

**Brie-Ann (Yr 3)**
Last Thursday all the small schools from our area travelled to Gayndah SS for the day. I made some friends at Gayndah SS during morning tea and had fun at that school. The work was very easy.

**Quade (Yr 3)**
Last Thursday all the small schools from our area travelled to Gayndah SS for the day. The school was huge compared to our school. It took a while to get used to. We did easy stuff. I was nervous.

**Mathaniel (Yr 4)**
Last Thursday I went to Gayndah SS on a bus for the day and I met lots of people. On that day there was lots of fun with other schools while the teachers were having a meeting.
While I was there I played soccer.

**Melita (Yr 5)**
Last Thursday all the small schools from our area travelled to Gayndah SS for the day. I learnt LOTE, Maths and English. The thing I liked best was “Chappy’s Corner”. I would like to go there again.

**Georgia (Yr 5)**
Last Thursday my classmates and I went up to Gayndah SS. We were joined by Boynewood and Binjour and we met all the Yr 5 students of Gayndah SS. Our teacher was Mrs Moorrees. I thought that some students from other schools were very noisy and naughty. What we did with Mrs Moorrees was Maths and English and we did LOTE with Mr Moorrees.
The reason why we were there was so staff could have professional development and so we could experience what it was like to be in a bigger school.

**Amy (Yr 6)**
Last Thursday all the small schools from our area travelled to Gayndah SS for the day. I learnt Maths, English and LOTE but I knew most of it so it wasn’t too hard and I didn’t have too much trouble.

**Ruby (Yr 6)**
Last Thursday (4/2/16) all the small schools from the North Burnett region came to Gayndah SS for a teachers’ meeting and so the small schools students could experience the feeling of a bigger school.
At morning tea I went to “Chappy’s Corner” and at lunch I went to the library with Amy, Georgia and Melita. Some students from other schools were silly and rude but I had to put up with them.
The best thing was meeting Mr Moorrees for the first time. Mr Moorrees is my LOTE teacher and we normally do online lessons with him. LOTE stands for Languages Other Than English. Thanks for reading my report.
**Swimming**

**SWIMMING** – will commence this week and be held on Wednesday afternoons. Students will depart the school at 1pm and travel by bus to the Biggenden Swimming Pool to undertake their weekly swimming lessons. Students who reside in Biggenden may be collected from the Biggenden swimming pool at 2.30pm. All other students will return to school for collection at 3.00pm.

Students will require the following items:

- Swimming togs and swimming sunshirt
- Goggles
- Towel
- Sunscreen
- $1.50 pool entry if you don’t hold a seasons pass.

**Curriculum Spotlight: “The Arts”**

Our Arts focus for the first half of this term is Dance and Music, with the children singing and learning Australian bush-dances. To date these have been the “Heel and Toe Polka” and the “Stockyards”.

Thank-you to Tania Fraser for providing the children with these lessons which are proving to be very stimulating and enjoyable educational experiences for them.

**Student of the Week Awards**

Today I awarded our first Student of the Week badges and certificates for 2016, one each to both an upper and lower school student.

**Amy** has demonstrated great LEADERSHIP with her schoolmates and has been of great assistance to me as I settled in to learning about how the school was organised and operated. Thank you, Amy.

**Quade’s** award is for PERSEVERENCE and PERSISTENCE. Quade is conquering his uncertainty with new, unknown experiences and is becoming more resilient. Keep it up, Quade.

Who will next week’s worthy award winners be???
P178 Bus Conveyance AGM Meeting
Date: Wednesday, 17th February, 2016 at 4.30pm at Coalstoun Lakes State School. All welcome to attend. For more information please contact Shane Johnson – 4127 1514 or Kayleen Medew on 4127 5198.

Prep Request
The Preps will be exploring families in their history unit this term. The students will be investigating their own personal story including their family background. They will examine different family structures and appreciate that family groups today have commonalities as well as differences. To support their learning it would be helpful if you could send in a few family photos that they can discuss and share with the class.

Homework
Students will receive homework each week. Homework is marked, along with home reading, daily. Students are also given time to go through their sheets to ensure they understand the activities and this will support them in completing most activities independently when at home.

Homework this week all students have:
- Reading
- Words
- Homework Sheets

For further information regarding homework and guidelines:

Bookclub
A reminder to families that Bookclub orders and payment are to be returned to school by 12th February, 2016 if they are wishing to purchase items.

Student Banking
Coalstoun Lakes State School is excited to offer the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program to all students.

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).

Student banking takes place on Thursdays and will commence this week. If you would like your child to become involved, they will need to have or open a Youthsaver account. An information package is attached to this newsletter or if you have any questions regarding the program, please contact Michelle at the school.

**P&C Meeting and Annual General Meeting**
Successful schools invariably have a strong and supportive P&C working collaboratively with school staff to achieve their positive outcomes. Please try to make it along to the AGM/General Meeting tomorrow evening, commencing at 6.30pm so you can have a voice in the continued development of this great school.

**School Forms**
To safeguard your children during their attendance at this school, there are several forms for families to complete and return each school year. These are:
- Parent's / Guardian's General Permission
- Internet Access Agreement
- Student Consent Form (usage of student's photos)

Your prompt attention to these would be appreciated.

Also attached is Administration of Medication forms and information. Please keep these on hand should your child require medication at school.

**Explicit Improvement Agenda**

**Literacy and Numeracy Aims** - All students to be above the National Average in NAPLAN and improving at a rate greater than the nation. Increase percentage of students achieving in the Upper 2 Bands to greater than 50%.

**Australian Curriculum Aims** - All students achieving C+ or better in English, Mathematics and Science and making Adequate Yearly Progress or Value Adding in achievement.

Improve writing for all students through consolidation of student friendly marking guides and explicit teaching of the ten elements of successful pieces of writing and literature.

‘Integrity and Industry’
Howard Frost
A/Principal – hfros5@eq.edu.au
P&C News

Our next general meeting and Annual General Meeting will be held Tuesday 9th February 2016, commencing at 6.30pm. All invited and welcome to attend.

As a way of supporting the school, families are requested to mow the transpiration area on a rotational basis according to your family’s surname. There is a push mower, which was purchased by the P&C, available for families to use. With the recent rain and the warm days, the grass has now started growing at a rapid rate and the transpiration area now needs mowing by the Cuthbertson Family.

Community Information

Please send community information for the newsletter to admin@coallakess.eq.edu.au

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**Coalstoun Lakes Hall Committee**

invites you to our Hoy & Cent Auction

To be held at the
Coalstoun Lakes Hall
Saturday 13th February
Doors Open 12:45pm
Starts 1:30pm
Entry: $2
Donations are Welcome
All Welcome to Attend

Home Made Afternoon Tea Provided
Raffle & Lucky Door Prizes

Enquiries to Vi Rackemann 41275171
or Terena Staib 41275006

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**Gayndah and District Netball Association Notice of AGM 8 March 2016 7pm YMCA**

An invitation is extended to all Senior players AND parents of Junior players to attend the AGM of the Gayndah and District Netball Association. It is essential that we have representatives from our Junior parents for the continuing functioning and existence of our Netball Club.