Dear families and friends,

This week has definitely been a busy one. We can now say NAPLAN is officially finished for another year. The 3 and 5 students were very focused during NAPLAN and ensured they put in 100%.

I am looking forward to checking out the Biggenden Show this weekend and all of the great art work our students have entered.

After a productive P&C Meeting on Monday we have some important dates for you to put on your calendar;

Kid Fun Night and Meet and Greet- Friday 17th June (Disco and fun activities for the kids and time to kick back and catch up for the adults)

Coalstoun Lakes Markets- 30th July (The Project Club will be running a stall)

Tuckshop Day- Friday 27th May (Hamburgers). Tuckshop will be available twice a term.

Under 8's Day- Tuesday 24th May @ Coalstoun Lakes SS (open invitation is extended to community members)

I am starting to organize graduation for the end of the year and would appreciate it if the parents of students in year 6 could send in photographs from their younger years. The more embarrassing the better 😊

Auskick

Our first Auskick lesson was held this week. All of the students enjoyed learning some AFL skills, especially after spending the rest of the day doing NAPLAN. This will continue on Tuesday until the end of term.
Student of the Week Awards

On our weekly Assembly, we present our Student of the Week Award, which recognizes positive student achievements and can be nominated from any of our staff for many reasons - personal learning goal improvements, outstanding achievement, demonstrating leadership, or an attribute that exemplifies our motto, through compassionate and thoughtful acts that embody - Integrity and Industry.

This week CHARLI BRUCE is student of the week for being a great role model and a supportive class member to the Preps.

Reading Information for Families

10 Reading Tips for Parents

As parents you are your child’s most influential teacher with an important part to play in helping your child to learn to read. Here are some suggestions on how you can help to make this a positive experience.

1. Choose a quiet time Set aside a quiet time with no distractions. Ten to fifteen minutes is usually long enough.

2. Make reading enjoyable Make reading an enjoyable experience. Sit with your child. Try not to pressurise if he or she is reluctant. If your child loses interest then do something else.

3. Maintain the flow If your child mispronounces a word do not interrupt immediately. Instead allow opportunity for self-correction. It is better to tell a child some unknown words to maintain the flow rather than insisting on trying to build them all up from the sounds of the letters. If your child does try to 'sound out' words, encourage the use of letter sounds rather than 'alphabet names'.

4. Be positive If your child says something nearly right to start with that is fine. Don't say 'No. That's wrong,' but 'Let's read it together' and point to the words as you say them. Boost your child's confidence with constant praise for even the smallest achievement.

5. Success is the key Parents anxious for a child to progress can mistakenly give a child a book that is too difficult. This can have the opposite effect to the one they are wanting. Remember 'Nothing succeeds like success'. Until your child has built up his or her confidence, it is better to keep to easier books. Struggling with a book with many unknown words is pointless. Flow is lost, text cannot be understood and children can easily become reluctant readers.

6. Visit the Library Encourage your child to use the public library regularly.

7. Regular practice Try to read with your child on most school days. 'Little and often' is best. Teachers have limited time to help your child with reading.

8. Communicate Your child will most likely have a reading diary from school. Try to communicate regularly with positive comments and any concerns. Your child will then know that you are interested in their progress and that you value reading.

9. Talk about the books There is more to being a good reader than just being able to read the words accurately. Just as important is being able to understand what has been read. Always talk to your child about the book; about the pictures, the characters, how they think the story will end, their favourite part. You will then be able to see how well they have understood and you will help them to develop good comprehension skills.

10. Variety is important Remember children need to experience a variety of reading materials eg. picture books, hard backs, comics, magazines, poems, and information books.
The Wall of Awesomeness!!
This is where we will add a picture of awesome work from the week.

Some beautiful Art from the Prep students Bronte, Mitchell, Caden and Leah.

Volunteers
If there are some lovely people out there that would like to cover some books for the library please come in and see Amanda. We have a truck load so any time you can spare would be great.

Captains Reflection
This week we started AFL which was lots of fun. The year 5’s and 3’s had NAPLAN while the rest of us did some rotations. We are looking forward to the Biggenden Show this week end.

‘Integrity and Industry’
Cassandra Bruce
A/Principal – cbruc31@eq.edu.au
P&C News

Our next general meeting will be held Tuesday 9th February 2016. All 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. This request is generally only made once or twice to each family per year and each family’s assistance is greatly appreciated.

Community Information

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