Dear friends,

Our school entrance sign states the singular priority goal of our school being: We aim to achieve the best possible educational outcomes for every student - ‘Integrity and Industry’. A strong statement of purpose for our school and community and all who interact with the students.

As part of the over educational system from early childhood through to employment, I believe our school and community are committed to successful learning for every student through 'engaging minds, empowering futures'. Our purpose is the provision of high quality learning and skilling focused on preparing Queenslanders with the knowledge, skills and confidence to participate effectively in the community and economy.

In the classroom is where this all happens with the personalised nature of the teacher and student relationship. There is an intended curriculum but every person who enacts...
this curriculum, is the key to wonder and engagement required to inspire and turn that teaching into learned content and skills. Teaching does not always equal learning, engagement is the key in a safe, supported, structured and disciplined learning environment.

As daily classroom life moves to the structured timetable now that LOTE (German - Year 6 and 7) and Project 600 elearning reading (Year 5) are in the final stages of organisation, it has been my pleasure to see the respectful routines of daily homework including reading, sight words, maths, spelling, occurring every morning and all throughout the day. Combined with an outstanding attendance record and diligence of families and all staff in ensuring daily that students are preparing themselves through owning the work they need to undertake and ensuring they have it validated daily.

Another fantastic system is the positive behaviour system that works very well and is embedded within the culture. Students passports accrue imaginary monetary rewards and there for effort, engagement and achievement can be acknowledged daily not only within academics but all aspects of school life, meal breaks, sports, leadership and many other reasons that deserve recognition. The system also works well because on Friday that banked value can be exchanged at the shop for small stationary and novelty items, which simulates the real world in many ways, as an added bonus.

Coalstoun Lakes State School in line with the Great Results Guarantee Agenda, will receive some direct funding to support Literacy and Numeracy Standards especially within the early years. As the success to school systems is the youngest periods of learning development and early identification and intervention, if and when required, is a priority for all.

More information and lots of other topics will naturally be discussed at our first P&C Meeting, next Tuesday the 11th at 6:30pm. This is also our AGM followed by a general meeting. I look forward to meeting more families next Tuesday night and if you can attend, that would be very much appreciated.

‘Integrity and Industry’
Benjamin Reed
Principal - breed15@eq.edu.au
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.

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

Current Permission Information

Term 1

Swimming permission - Season Pass or $1.50 per week

School Photos - Date Claimer

Positive Behaviour Focus

In the month of February we are ‘Balanced’
- we look after ourselves
- we use time well
- we reflect on our learning
- we have a range of interests (physical, creative, spiritual, intellectual)

Student of the Week Awards

Our weekly Friday Assembly Student of the Week Awards recognise many positive student achievements and can be nominated from any of our staff for many reasons - personal learning goal achievements, demonstrating leadership, or an attribute that exemplifies our motto through compassionate and thoughtful acts that embody - Integrity and Industry.

Term 1 - Week 2 - 2014

P-4 - Quade Farrell - Quade has read consistently each night and has improved with his organisation and is showing initiative. Well done!

5-7 - Paula Barnum has demonstrated outstanding bookwork and presentation in all subjects and tests. Her homework has been at a high standard everyday and has demonstrated keen learning behaviours.

Congratulation to our Class Student’s of the Week!
In The Classroom

P-4

Thanks to parents who have sent their child’s baby photo. We are having great fun using them as a ‘Who Am I?’ and comparing how we change as we grow. Photos can also be emailed to me directly - Thanks!

Mrs Gibbs - ngibb10@eq.edu.au

5-7

We have had a busy yet solid week. We look forward to using our Digital Library properly next week and beyond as all Year 5s will undertake 2 x 1 hour sessions in what is known as Project 600. Students engage in an online virtual classroom on their own laptop in a regional reading program which yielded success last year. All Year 6 and 7 also have 2 x 45 minute separate LOTE - German learning classes commencing next week also in the Digital Library at their own laptop.

We have been undertaking our number facts tests and revising our perimeter, area and volume formulae as well as daily number fact routines. We commenced and will finalise our online PAT testing regime and look forward to the instant data and diagnostic information this new online format of the testing can provide in its pre-test capacity.

We have been undertaking our daily morning activity and kicked off our swimming program.

Congratulations to Dustin, Rianna and Ryan on their participation in the North Burnett Cricket Trials and congratulations to Ryan and Rianna on their success in moving to the Cricket Team. Well done to all student on the 100% attendance rate this week and to our Student of the Week!

Mr Reed - breed15@eq.edu.au

Bus Conveyance AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the two bus routes connected with Mr Johnson’s bus (P178) will be held Monday, 24th February, 2014 commencing at 4.15pm at the Coalstoun Lakes School.

Assessment

There can be lots of assessment information that comes in the media and naturally tests and data pour out of schools. They all have a different purpose and we outline below some of the testing we undertake and why. There is a hierarchy of assessment that is based on many things and subjective but we believe the selection is just as important. Some have high stakes, some are diagnostic, some are summative, and some are standardised and normed and some are internal monitoring or tracking. Above all, a test is one point in time and the information that is derived must be personalised and purposeful for improvement, future achievement and skill development.
NAPLAN - (Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy), tests Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and Numeracy (non-calculator and calculator). It now has more over 5 years worth of useful data and item level information, features national standardised and normed scoring and also direct access to the skill tested, goal and teaching strategies. It also essentially is testing the general capabilities of the Australian Curriculum in Literacy and Numeracy.

We will undertake Term based NAPLAN practice testing (Year 3 and Up) and data analysis to derive Student Individual Learning Goals and Specific Targeted Teaching Strategies.

PAT (Progressive Achievement Tests), tests Reading, Vocabulary, Spelling, Maths, Science. Developed in Australia for Australian Schools, we use this standardised and normed testing package in the online format to undertake Pre-testing in Term 1 and Post Testing in Term 3.

Internal Monitoring is diagnostic and we utilise PM Benchmark, PROBE, iMaths Trackers, Sight Word, Number Facts, Spelling, Skill Tracking and many other quiz and tests through the school year.

This is triangulation we seek, for all three elements of our assessment schedule to tell us the same thing. Everyone has bad days, gets sick, absent, test preparedness level and confidence but which is why we look at student information from 3 perspectives to ensure we see the correct student data.

Australian Curriculum and the subjects we learn daily have summative assessment that ultimately is utilised for reporting of subject grades, report cards. All 3 styles of diagnostic assessment above must ultimately feed the subjects, content and skills we learn daily so that we can improve and learn more.

There is lots more information surrounding assessment however, the clarity and and purpose for our assessment plan and schedule is steeped in research and Teachers can talk individually regarding their own class procedures and other school, year level and class assessment information with anyone who would like more information now or into the future as may arise in your household and family.

**Community Information**

Please email admin@coallakess.eq.edu.au with any community information items you would like to feature here in our newsletter! Our newsletter is distributed online via our website coallakess.eq.edu.au and available in paper copy to families and at the Coalstoun Lakes General Store.