Keynote

Dear families and friends,

On Tuesday we were privileged to have a school visit from our Assistant Director-General of State School Operations, Mr Bevan Brennan. It was an honour to showcase some of the teaching practices and student learning that is evident. He also acknowledged our small school issues surrounding connectivity and multi-age curriculum delivery. He commended the culture and tone of the school, in addition to the fantastic personalised learning that is taking place daily.

Project Club Gardens

We have new vertical garden tubes and would love a few transplants such as chives, strawberries and other small herbs that suit vertical gardens. We are also searching for a few veggies or tomatoes to plant in the other garden beds again.

P&C Thermomix Raffle

Tickets are now available in the P&C Thermomix raffle.
Available from School, P&C, NAB Biggenden or The Coffee Pozzie in Biggenden for $10 each with all proceeds going towards the P&C for Coalstoun Lakes SS to support students and other projects, excursions and camps.

New Emergency Fire and Lockdown Alarms

For a long time in small schools we have relied on whistles and old school bells to practice fire and lockdown drills and staff rely on clocks for bells and public address is non existent. There are good reasons for this as traditionally the school campuses were smaller, less buildings and less movement throughout those fewer buildings, and the cost of bell and PA systems. I have reflected over the course of last year in our quarterly drills, that if the scenario of fire or lockdown were ever real, would ringing the school bell be effective if a student was in toilet, and staff in the Library or split into online learning in the Digital Library, for example.

We now have a dedicated iPod and the School PA app situated in the Office connected to our portable PA system. This allows for consistent, user friendly and new electronic tones and bells to be broadcast loudly. The added benefits of such a system is automated music bells and the ability to activate a Fire Drill or Lockdown that will actually be heard throughout the campus. We don’t envisage the worst case, but we will prepare for it, to ensure our staff, students and community are safe at all times.

We will train the students in the new easier to understand alarms and then resume regular quarterly drill cycles. We think students will enjoy the new music bells and hopefully Mr Reed will get the students out on time as well!

Library System Online

coallakess.cmeweb.libcode.com.au - Our new Library system is available online at the above address. Resources are continually being added and as such we are currently up ‘C’ in Junior Fiction. For families with High School students, you may find our online library to be a great launching portal for research and springboard to subject based online resources.

‘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. 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.

Current Permission Information

Term 1 2015
- Term 1 Swimming Program - complete
- Year 5/6 Project Impact online permissions - complete
- North Burnett Zone Sport Trials permissions - complete
- Biggenden District Cross Country Trials - compulsory age 10 and up - TBA

Positive Behaviour Focus

In the month of MARCH we are - BALANCED
- Look after themselves
- Use time well
- Reflect on their learning
- Have a range of interests (physical, creative, spiritual, intellectual)

Student of the Week Awards

Our weekly Thursday Assembly, our Student of the Week Award recognises many 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.

Term 1 - Week 6 - 2015

P-6 - Brie-Ann Liddle - After a 2014 year of 100% attendance, Brie-Ann continues her perfect attendance record this year and brightens everyone's day when she walks in first off the bus everyday! Her dedication to her homework and continued efforts in her vocabulary development, sight words and reading skills make her a worthy Student of the Week!
Term 1 - Week 7 - 2015

P-6 - Max Corfield - Max has demonstrated high achievement in the recent online Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT) in pre-test format. Testing the literacy, numeracy and scientific skills through the Reading Comprehension, Grammar and Punctuation, Vocabulary, Spelling, Mathematics and Science abilities of every student is a fundamental part of schooling and Max has achieved highly!

Positive Behaviour Award - Value of the Month - March - Balance - Who will it be?

In The Classroom

P-6

We have been thinking about our writing and the nature of the aspects that create a great persuasive or narrative piece of writing. There are 10 conceptual framework aspects as well as mechanical processes and structures, that all make up a story or effective argument.

Audience - Text Structure - Ideas - Devices such as character and setting or persuasive techniques - Vocabulary - Cohesion - Punctuation and Grammar - Spelling - Paragraphs - Sentences.

This framework is naturally useful for all writing, letters, emails, texts, blog entries, recounts, research assignments, science reports and every other piece of literature that is inked or keystroked.

With the current building works on rooves, staircases and verandahs, please keep safety at the forefront when moving throughout the campus and observe safety fences and barriers.

We had a visit from the NRL Development Officer Colin and many of our students are now attending sporting trials.

All students will soon have a student data conversation with me, surrounding their performance in NAPLAN re sit tests and PAT pre test data and reporting. They will develop goals and work towards these in conjunction with the NAPLAN practice packs. NAPLAN is skills based assessment based on the Australian Curriculum and as such works directly in conjunction with the curriculum subjects taught to enhance literacy and numeracy skills, as we deliver assessment as, of and for learning.

Students have already undertaken their reading conferences with Mrs Gibbs and can now evaluate their reading and spelling levels on the school visual data wall. We know that goal visualisation and attainment is one of the high personal motivators and these strategies are designed to empower students to develop self-efficacy and internal drive and motivation over the longer term.

When strategies and ideas move into processes and then transform into culture and just 'the way it is done', culture suddenly trumps process and we acknowledge our responsibility in developing these soft skills of creativity, resilience, time management, confidence and to an extent spirituality and sense of community and connectedness in students through safe and supportive school environments.

Naturally students see them as new garden beds, new alarm sounds, new bells, flagpoles, leader uniforms and badges, reward, praise and discipline systems, new technology etc, but at a higher level
there is acknowledgement of an evolving society, one which we create and contribute to actively through backward mapping future outcomes for individual young people.

Mr Reed - breed15@eq.edu.au

Kid’s Corner

Welcome to Kid’s Corner!

Did you know we now have music bells through the day and a new Fire Drill and Lockdown alarms! We also get a bell after 10 minutes of eating at Morning Tea and 15 minute eating bell at Lunch. We also have 5 minute warning bell prior to end of Morning Tea and Lunch playtime to go to toilet and wash up. Mr Reed says this is for us, but we all know it is just to keep him on time!

We had a visit from the NRL development officer Colin who showed us some new drills and ball skills and discussed healthy eating and exercise habits and routines for the development of our bodies. Mr Reed is giving us lots of tests that will help us understand our learning edge and what to do next.

Thanks for reading!  Mr Reed on behalf of Zac

Community Information

Community fliers are scanned and emailed to families, once per week, from the Administration Office.

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

JUNIOR KIDS FISHING DAY

Lines now getting wet!  Kids interested in learning to fish?

Where - Paradise Dam

When - 22 March

25 children aged 7 - 13 years

Sausage Sizzle lunch and fishing gear provided

For further information and registration, please contact,  John or Ruth  4127 7252  jnrrok@gmail.com

GUNThER GUMNUT PLAYGROUP

Every Tuesday at Gunther Village in the playground next to the Coffee Shop 9.30am – 11am

All parents with young children welcome to attend, an activity and morning tea provided.

We look forward to seeing you there!