Dear families and friends,

Our flags fly daily now and we are so proud of our new respectful routine! We are looking forward to special moments and weeks so we can learn new protocols and when to fly the flags. The National Australian Flag is the first one up and the last one down, very important when you have two flagpoles, especially on Queensland Government land.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Thank you to families for the time taken to discuss all things relating to your family, child/ren, their education, welfare, challenges, opportunities, aspirations and sometimes concerns. The open and honesty of these discussion at this important juncture is the basis for communication throughout the year and allows discussion of thoughts, regarding grades from current assessment pieces as we move closer to semester report cards and other diagnostics and tracking data from internal monitoring.
Throughout next week students in Years 3 and 5 at our school like all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 throughout Australia will sit the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy. We wish all our students well and know they will put their best foot forward, with solid and consistent home school routines, diet, exercise and sleep patterns. This is the best start you can give every child for testing scenarios. The students are all familiar with NAPLAN, have undertaken practices and used the style of questions in all school activities over many years. NAPLAN is now part of culture and the most valuable standardised and normed national testing utility.

**Biggenden Show**

We hope everyone enjoys the upcoming show next weekend and checks out our school display and some of our work and entries in certain section of the arts and craft competitions.

**ICAS Digital Technologies Exam**

ON Tuesday 18th May all students in Year 3 and higher will sit the school funded University of New South Wales ICAS Digital Technologies exam. We will use this competitive exam internally for our diagnostics to get a standardised look at the skills and knowledge the students are building up in this realm of ever increasing importance, Being good at iPads and computers is not always the skills being looked for or assessed, this is why we look for a metric in this domain.

**Project Unify online learning**

The students have now completed their online courses titles - Booster Literacy and Numeracy. After next week (NAPLAN), the students in the older grades will begin a new online writing course titles WriteOn. It is an extension the Booster Literacy, so it should flow on well, especially with the school focus on writing and the ten areas for consistent student friendly marking, which is the space we are developing and teaching at present and consolidating throughout this year and long into the future!
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.

Current Permission Information

Term 2 2015
- NB and WB Representative Permissions

Positive Behaviour Focus

In the month of MAY we are - CREATIVE
- Come up with a range of ideas
- Look for other solutions
- Make new things
- See things in different ways

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 2 - Week 1 - 2015

P-6 - Amy T - Congratulations to Amy as our School Captain leads the way to start the term. She has been working away on the ANZAC Speech and

Term 2 - Week 2 - 2015
P-6 - Matthew - Matthew had a great week on campus, putting in the hard yards before his big week of sport in Week 3. Matt has been working steadily and was validated for completing all his work in a timely manner and to a high standard! Keep it up mate!

Positive Behaviour Award - Value of the Month - MAY - CREATIVE - Who will it be?

In The Classroom

P-6

This week the students had a formal Project Club meeting to outline some of the students ideas and actions between now and camp. We celebrated the students who gave their best at the recent Cross Country and also congratulations to Matthew who has headed to Hervey Bay Winter Carnival. Thank you to Mrs Gibbs for also coaching and managing teams at the Winter Carnival.

The contributions of teachers throughout the State needs further recognition, as the commitments, travel times, costs and distances are adding up for all staff as we continue to support sport, with less staff on the grounds. Rest up for NAPLAN next week our young Year 3 and 5 students as you will be busy throughout. Soundwaves in class activities will be modified throughout next week to accommodate the testing programs for all students. All Year 3 - 6 students will have modified spelling.

Mr Reed - breed15@eq.edu.au

Kid’s Corner

Welcome to Kid’s Corner!

Well done to all the students who went to North Burnett Cross Country and a very well done to Max who progresses through to Wide Bay regional representation! Our Project Impact Booster Literacy and Numeracy online courses finished this week. We have a week off while the Year 3 and 5s undertake NAPLAN and then we join a new Online Creative extension writing program called Project Unify - Write On. We have been upping the ante on some art projects and look out for our work and enjoy the upcoming local Biggenden Show! Roll up, Roll up! Jokes are back!

A big thank you to Scotty and the boys for undertaking the recent renovations. The new staircase beside Mrs Gibbs classroom, the gutters have all been fixed up and the school looks like it is in good shape. This weekend is the Mundubbera Show and next weekend you can check out all our work and the school display at our local Biggenden Show.

Q: What do you call a dinosaur with one eye?

A: Doyouthinkhesaurus!
Q: What is a sea monster’s favourite food?
A: Fish and Ships!

Q: Where do sheep go to get their hair cut?
A: To the Barrrrber!

Q: What sort of button can’t be undone?
A: A belly button!

by Amy and 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

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!

APEX CLUB TRIVIA
The Apex Club of Biggenden is holding a Trivia night on Sat 23rd May.
Any queries please do not hesitate to contact our Club Secretary Robbie Radel on 0416 162 404.

JUNIOR SOCCER
Open to all Junior players including high school. Training Thursdays 4–5 pm Gayndah Sports field.
Fee’s only $25 per player/season. Come and have a go! Ph Laine 0428931151 for more details.