Term 1, Week 3 - Wednesday, February 8, 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Next Monday 13th February at 9.00am in the Multipurpose Hall we will be holding our School Leaders’ Induction. All parents are welcome to attend. This is instead of the usual parade.

Day 8

Thursday of last week, Day 8 of term one, was the Department of Education and Training’s day when enrolment numbers are collected and staffing is allocated based on numbers. This year this meant some changes for Oonoonba SS. At the end of the year based on enrolments out and new enrolments received, I predicted 23 classes would be the required number of classes. However when school resumed a number of families who left the school and had not contacted us impacted on this as we did not then receive further enrolments to supplement this loss. Therefore, we had to rearrange classes based on one less teacher/class. We do our very best to come up with the best option for all involved. Students who were required to move started in their new class on Monday.

We appreciate that for those students who are moved initially it can be very distressing and we thank all parents and carers for their cooperation in this matter.

As a result of class changes Mr Fleet will return to his position as District Reliever, Mrs Olsen will move into the Health role and Ms Cockrem has been assigned to teach Year 2. We thank these teachers for their cooperation in this matter.

Brainy Snack

There is a great deal of research about the brain and for that reason students at Oonoonba are encouraged to have a healthy snack and drink of water to recharge the brain for learning during our first session. Prep to Year 4 students stop for a short break around 10 o’clock while Year 5 & 6 students tend to have their snack at some point throughout the session while continuing their learning. As it is designed to be a healthy snack and something that can be eaten quickly, parents and carers are encouraged to include foods like a piece of fruit (for younger children this should be cut up so it is easier for them to eat), cheese, nuts. Be aware that some children in the class may have allergies to eggs, bananas or nuts. Experts recommend that foods are not banned however it is important for your child to be aware if there is a child in their class with an allergy. The class teacher will help monitor this.

Given that food may be consumed in the classrooms in the upper school classes it is important that foods provided if spilled are not going to spoil the carpet. Should there be an exception to these guidelines for your child please contact the class teacher.

Internet/Facebook/Mobile phones

Lately there has been a great deal of coverage about the use of internet or social media like facebook and its dangers. Whilst there are very positive reasons or purposes for these, there is definitely a downside if not used appropriately.
The legal age for students to have a Facebook account for example, is 13 years of age which would mean that primary school students should not be users. However that is not the reality and parents and carers are encouraged to check what your child is up to if allowing them to have accounts.

Parents and carers are also reminded about the use of Facebook. Prior to social media, you may have complained to a few people but when you post something on Facebook many others who don’t really need to know become aware of the complaint and this causes stress and negatively impacts on the school which is not a preferred outcome. In more serious instances actions can be taken if deemed to be offensive or damaging.

A good rule of thumb is don’t put something on Facebook that you are not prepared to come face to face with a person and say. You are always encouraged to come and see me if you have any issues.

Oonoonba SS has a policy on the use of mobile phones also which is included in the Parent Handbook or on our website. Generally speaking students are permitted to have a mobile phone for access on the way to school and the way home but must not use the phone for any purposes inside the school gates or during the school day.

**Code of Conduct for Volunteers**

We appreciate that many parents and carers want to give up some of their time to assist in classroom and P&C activities. It is a requirement that you complete the Code of Conduct each year if you wish to volunteer in the school or P&C activities.

Next Tuesday at 9.00am in the Resource Centre Meeting room our Guidance Officer, Miranda van der Slooten will conduct the Code of Conduct for Volunteers. RSVP using the form in the newsletter so that we know how many participants to expect.

Should Tuesday not suit you due to work commitments, please return the slip with a suggested day and time and I will organise another opportunity.

**Swimming Carnival**

Looking forward to our annual swimming carnival next week for students who were born in or prior to 2008. We encourage as many students as possible who are eligible to attend. All the best to all students. It is usually a great carnival for both the junior and senior school.

Regards

Anne-Marie Day
Principal

**FROM THE DEPUTY’S DESK**

Tomorrow, Thursday 09 February our school captains, school vice-captains, house captains and music captains will attend the GRIP Student Leadership Conference at the Mercure Inn. The 13 students will participate in a range of activities with school leaders from other primary schools. The learning activities will focus on developing their student and personal leadership abilities. Mrs Walker will accompany the students as she will work alongside Mrs Outtrim regularly with our student leaders and student councillors this year.

*Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference!!*

Have a great week!

Trevor Milton
Deputy Principal

**Payments to the Office**

Payments to the office can be made from **8:00am – 9:30am** via EFTPOS at the counter or cash via the new payment slot which is located inside the main office doors. All payments made outside of this time will not be receipted until the next school day. Payments by cash need to be in the correct amount as the office does not issue change. Please ensure that all permission slips are sealed inside the envelopes and your child’s name is clearly marked on the outside.
STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the following students who will receive ‘Student of the Week’ certificates at parade on Monday.

Addisyn  Salome  Zac  Scarlett  Rhiley
Jordyn  Ava  Kael  Tarn  Talhon
Chloe  Mackenzie  William d  Jett  Teika
Marli  Bailey  Madison  Seth

Library News

Library - Reminders about Book Club orders. Orders and payments this year can only be made online. To place an order, use the “LOOP” payment which is option 1 on the back of the Book Club brochure. The school is not using Option 2 or 3. Please note that no payments will be taken at the school. Book Club closes this Friday 10 Feb. and thank you for the tremendous support so far with Book Club.
Jan Toy
Teacher Librarian

P&C Matters

Uniform shop - Is NOW on FLEXISCHOOLS!! Jump online and order all of your Oonoonba School Uniform needs and then simply collect from the tuckshop.

School Diary - Year 5 & Year 6 School Diary is available from the Tuckshop for $13.50.

P&C General Meeting - Our next general meeting will be held on Wednesday 15th of February in the Library and commences at 5.30pm. We look forward to seeing as many of our school family members as possible.

P&C Annual General Meeting - In the coming weeks the P&C’s AGM will be held. At this time all Executive positions are vacated. Nomination forms for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer can be requested via email from the P&C at pandc@oonoonbass.eq.edu.au All memberships to the P&C Committee lapse at the AGM too. New membership forms can be filled out and submitted at the meeting or beforehand and emailed to the Secretary prior to the meeting date. 2017 Membership & Executive nomination forms will also be available from the School web page in due course.

Thank you.

-Every time you support your P&C, you support your children-

Oonoonba P&C - Creating opportunities-Making a difference.

Music News

Classroom music lessons have well and truly begun and already we are in to Week 3 of our program. Exciting times for Year 6 students this year as they will be learning to play the Ukulele in classroom lessons. Mr Temple’s instrumentalists have begun their lessons and it is really nice to see a number of returning students this year as well as our beginners. Remember, beginners as soon as you return the EQ11 form that Mr Temple gave you and have paid your $20 levy at the school office you are able to take home your school instrument for practice.

Mr Temple has asked that you remember to practice at home because practice will make you better. Each child has a home practice sheet which needs to be filled out and signed by a parent/carer and returned each week with your music folder on Tuesdays.

We welcome Miss Rebecca Brown to our Music Department as the new Strings Instructor for our school. By now she has met most, if not all of the beginning students and returning students. This week (tomorrow) lessons will begin for returning students. Beginners should have received the EQ 11 form from their classroom teachers. If you can return these forms ASAP and pay the $20 levy to the office you will receive your school instrument in the next week or so. Each child will receive a copy of the timetable of their lessons and their will also be a copy on the Instrumental Music Room Door. Miss Brown will be here on Thursdays for lessons.

Choir has begun on Monday lunch times and this week we had over 40 keen students attend and make some beautiful singing together. Any child in Years 3 to 6 is welcome to come along and try out for our school choir. We perform at many school events throughout the year and the annual Townsville Juvenile Eisteddfod in September.

Until next time, let’s all keep making beautiful music together.

Mrs Gough, Mr Temple and Ms Brown.

Sports News

Oonoonba State School Swimming Carnivals:

Next week students will be competing in the senior (Tuesday) and junior (Wednesday) interhouse swimming carnivals. It is great to see students enthusiastic about competing in the four new sporting houses for the first time. Thanks to the parents and carers who have volunteered their time to help out with timing of the 25 metre events.

Fitness Fun:

This term grade 5 and 6 students are participating in a fitness unit. Students in grade 5 and 6 only are allowed come out and participate in the fitness obstacle course. The fitness obstacle course will be running on a Monday morning only from 8.15am. Students wishing to participate will need to be at the CPA by 8.15am.

Billy Green
Health and Physical Education Teacher
RSVP - Volunteers Induction - Tuesday February 14, 9.00am

☐ I am able to attend the Volunteers induction.
☐ I am unable to attend the Volunteers induction and will make arrangements to participate at another time.

Name: ............................................................................................................................ (Please print)

Childs Name: ..........................................................