



Serviceton South State School

*We learn; we care; we are team players
We are Serviceton South Sapphires!*

Newsletter

Thursday 1 March 2018

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School Leaders 2018



Principal's Piece.....

We had a wonderful visit from Denise and Bruce Morcombe on Tuesday. Make sure you ask your children about the hands that Mrs Prendergast and our school captains are displaying in this photograph. And a huge thank you to Mrs Prendergast for working so hard to organise the visit.



Parents sometimes have concerns about their child's learning and aren't sure with whom to talk to. The class teacher should always be the first point of contact. Teachers are often available for a quick chat at the end of the school day, but if you need a longer appointment it is a good idea to contact the office for an appointment. Mrs McCoombes can pass on your request and your child's teacher can call you to make an appointment time.

Friday 16 March is the National Day of Action Against Violence and Bullying and we always do something special to mark the day. This year, on Thursday 15 March, we have Nova 106.9FM broadcasting live from the school and a special visit to the Year 6 classes from the Reputation Management branch of the Department of Education to talk about cyberbullying.

Hats! Hats! Hats! Hats!

We have always had a great record when it comes to students wearing hats to school, which is so important in the Queensland climate. ALL students must have a school hat at school EVERY DAY. Caps are not permitted and will be 'kept safe' by staff until the end of the day. Students who do not have a hat will need to sit out of play during the breaks. NO HAT, NO PLAY!!!

Our P&C needs new members and I would encourage all parents to come along to a monthly meeting to see what it is all about. The AGM will

be held in the Parent Room on Monday 12 March from 9am and it would be wonderful to see a good roll up.

In 2017, the P&C committed to raising half of the funds needed to air condition both Prep classrooms, with the school funding the other half. With the weather being so hot we have gone ahead and booked the installation of the air-conditioning, with the P&C continuing to raise the funds promised. The work will start this Friday. Thank you to parents and community members who continue to support the fundraising activities of the P&C. The money they raise goes to supporting our students.

We have a free dress day to raise money for the P&C this Friday. Please remember that students need to wear modest (no midriff), sun safe clothing (no singlet tops), and joggers, enclosed shoes. Parents of students who wear inappropriate free dress will be phoned to bring a change of clothes or students will be provided with a second hand shirt to wear over their clothes.

A reminder about Tuckshop processes:

Please make sure your child brings their order to school on a paper bag with the money inside, which will go straight into the tuckshop box in the classroom.

Warm regards
Marni Morrison
(Principal)

Positive Behaviour for Learning and Attendance

Over the past few weeks we have been dealing with many incidents involving physical aggression towards other students and teachers. These incidents have been dealt with, in accordance to our Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students. This is a reminder that physical violence towards another individual is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. The students have been learning about keeping themselves and others safe over the past couple of weeks. Our Lesson of the Week, **Stop, Walk and Talk** focussed on a whole school strategy to use if there is a situation occurring where a student feels they are being picked on or if someone is making them frustrated. The student tells them to 'Stop' and then 'Walks' away. If that person continues to ignore the request to stop, the student walks to

the closest adult and 'Talks' about the situation. It's important to use the stop, walk, talk process so that students are telling others how they feel without getting physical and involved in fights. This way the person understands what he/she is doing is wrong or is upsetting to another student. Please spend some time to talk to your child about Stop, Walk and Talk.

Major Office Discipline Referrals



We have not been tracking very well with our Major behaviours over the past two weeks. Each week we have had more than the Target 12 Major Office Referrals. With the concentrated efforts on

acting instead of reacting and our safety messages around the importance of following rules we hope to see a reduction in these behaviours over the next few weeks.

Attendance

The following is our attendance percentage for our 2018 Year Levels:

Position	Year Level	Attendance
1st	4	93.9%
2nd	5	91.8%
3rd	6	91.7%
4th	3	91.2%
5th	Prep	89.9%
6th	2	85.8%
7th	1	83%

Our current whole school attendance is 89.8%. While this is far from our target of 95% it has increased over the past few weeks. We need ALL families ensuring their children are attending school every day.

Remember to get to school every day and on time.

- First Bell: 8:35am
- School Starts: 8:45am
- School Finishes: 2:45pm



The best gift any parent can give a child is the love of books and the joy and benefits of independent reading for fun. Children who read at home, or are read to, have a head start on reading success in school.

Our class is participating in **Scholastic Book Club** this year. Up to twice a term, during the school year, I will send home a Club catalogue

with a different selection of books offered for all ages.

You'll find award-winning books and bestsellers, as well as old and new favourites. I recommend them because the books span a wide range of children's reading levels and interests and because they are inexpensive (some books cost as little as \$2).

It is easy to order. The **Book Club LOOP** platform for parents allows you to pay by credit card. Your child's order is submitted directly to school safe and sound and the books will be delivered to class. You can place your child's order at scholastic.com.au/LOOP or using the **LOOP** app, which can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play.

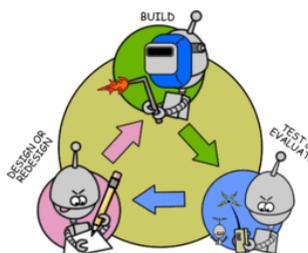
Owning your own books is something special! We hope that you will encourage your child to order books this year. Each order helps earn free books and teaching materials for our classroom; however there is never any obligation to order. We know of no better way to encourage reading than to allow children to choose the books they want to read.

New Coding and Robotics Program

This year we are introducing a new program in Coding and Robotics, which addresses the Digital Technologies area of the National Curriculum. In first semester, the following classes will be studying Coding and Robotics: P/1C, 1A, 1/2B, 2B, 6A and 6B. All the other classes will be studying Coding and Robotics in second semester.

Students who are studying Coding and Robotics attend a single one hour lesson each week in the computer lab in the library. We are currently introducing the children to coding on the Code.org site, which has several well-developed courses on coding for primary school children. Children in years one and two will be learning to program Bee-Bots to navigate a maze, and will then move on to programming Dash robots. Children in year six have been introduced to programming mBots, and will also get to program the Dash robots. Parents who are interested in experiencing coding activities like the ones the children are completing in class could go to the Code.org 'Hour of Code' site at:

<https://code.org/hourofcode/overview>



Junior Art Club

A large group of YEARS 1, 2 AND 3's are enjoying the drawing, painting and craft exercise. Junior club is held in the EALD room every Wednesday at first break.

Mr C manages these four classes assisting students in developing their individual creative talent, while producing exciting art, The office has a display of some of the arts that have been created by student.



Attention Somali parents

You are invited to attend information sharing sessions in the EAL/D Classroom in Week 8 and Week 10 this term. The purpose of these meetings is to build better home school partnerships and intercultural understandings as a way of improving outcomes for your children. Come and find out what's happening at school as well as ways to help your children socially, emotionally and academically.

The first session will be on Monday 5th March from **2:00pm - 2:45pm**.

You will have an opportunity to ask questions about topics which you would like to know more about.

Light refreshments will be served. Younger children are welcome to attend and we will provide toys for them to use.

Attention Vietnamese parents

You are invited to attend information sharing sessions in the Parent Room in Week 8 and Week 10 this term. The purpose of these meetings is to build better home school partnerships as a way of improving outcomes for your children. Come and find out what's happening at school, and meet other parents. The first session will be on Monday 5th March from **2:00pm - 2:45pm**.

Light refreshments will be served. Younger children are welcome to attend and we will provide toys for them to use.

P & C News

Next meeting will be our Annual General Meeting with the election of the new committee. Memberships for 2018 will be taken at the meeting. Meeting will be on Monday 12th held in the Parent Room at 9.00am.

Free Dress Day is Friday 2nd March. A gold coin donation would be appreciated, as funds from this event help to fund the much needed air-conditioning in the Prep areas.

Serviceton South is participating in the Coles Sports for Schools Program. Please collect the Sports for Schools Program vouchers when your shop at Coles and drop them off at the office.

Lost Property

We have a large supply of **LOST** hats and lunchboxes, If your child is missing something please encourage them to check the LOST PROPERTY BOX located outside the office. Also please ensure that all items are clearly marked.



Dates to Remember

2 March	Free Dress Day
2 March	SSSS Cleanup Day
8 March	Oral Health Visit Year 5 & 6
12 March	P&C AGM – 9am Parent Room
13 March	Hearing Testing
21 March	Harmony Day
22 March	School Disco

We respectfully acknowledge the Jagera people, the Traditional Owners of the land on which this school stands.

Investiture

