



Gems 2/9/2014

PRIZE	NAME	CLASS	EXPECTATION	GIVEN BY
Milo Magnet	Brenda	1H	We Are Team Players	Miss Higginbotham
Dice Erasers	Tawakal	3P	We Learn	Mrs Poppi
Jumping Jacks	Fartun	3S	We Are Team Players	Mrs Smith
Activity Pad	Thomas	1H	We Learn	Miss Higginbotham
Girl Wrist Band	Rihanna	Prep 2	We Learn	Miss Bolton
Boy Wrist Band	Josaiah	Prep1	We Care	Mrs Munker
Year 5, 6 & 7 Prize	Antonia	7FG	We Learn	Miss Finney
Year 5, 6 & 7 Prize	Bryce	7FG	We Learn	Miss Finney
Year 5, 6 & 7 Prize	Julius	6H	We Learn	Mrs Hurdle



Serviceton South State School

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

Newsletter

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4 September 2014
PRINCIPAL – Mr Kim Tvede

Dear Parents/Carers

Proposed Changes To The School Day

In response to a need for students to be **more settled and ready to learn** before entering class in the mornings, and to achieve manageable supervision, we have for some time had **restricted movement** for students before entering classrooms at the start of the school day. It has worked well, and does involve students sitting in **marked areas** from 8:40am till 8:55am. We have already adjusted bell times to reduce this time to the current time of around 15 minutes.

Our P & C had identified **parental concerns** over the time students spend sitting while waiting to enter school. Various options have been explored to reduce this time further. The most viable seems to be a **change to start the school day at 8:45am and finish at 2:45pm**. This time is already used by some other schools in our area and others have 8:30am until 2:30pm as their school day.

We are currently **collecting parent comments** around this proposal. **Please let us know of any issues or concerns around changing our school day to 8:45am till 2:45pm by Friday 12 September**, to allow time for a decision and communication to **our staff, students and parents** before deciding whether to **commence with this change in Term 4**.

School Discipline Audit

Last week we had an official **School Discipline Audit**. This is a detailed analysis of how we are progressing in developing a settled **school climate to promote student learning**. The audit is less about school expectations around, for instance, running on concrete, and more about how students behave according to expectations that help learning.

The audit tool is designed against **international evidence** of what is important. The auditor spoke with the school management team, considered our documents, visited classrooms, spoke with staff and students, and also spoke with a selection of parents. Some contacts were provided to show a spread of staff, students and behaviours, and some were randomly selected by the auditor.

As a school that is in its first year of rolling out our **School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support Program**, we expected to do well in the areas we had already addressed, and have room for further development in areas we still need to refine.

The preliminary findings rank us in the **top 3% world-wide** for areas such as our **caring and supportive climate**, our **use of student feedback** to teachers, and our **school expectations** of 'we learn, we care, we are team players'.

Our **lunchtime activities** programs, **skills development** programs for staff in managing student behaviour in and out of classrooms, the **Sapphires** classroom systems level of understanding and use, and our **classroom climate evaluation and feedback** tools for teachers all rated us in the top 30% of the audit ratings.

The areas we knew we were still refining included how we **analyse our data** to include **minor** behaviour incidents in more detail than we currently do, and having structured programs in place for students with greater than normal levels of **behaviours resistant to change**. In these areas we rated in line with most other schools. We had **no low areas** for improvement..

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A copy of the summary of the audit report will be made available on our web-site when it is released for public access. This is anticipated to be in 3-4 weeks.

Thank you to all those parents contacted who responded to the auditors queries (we do not know who you are, only the auditor's report of what was indicated).

Parent-Teacher Interviews

Please ensure you have received and followed up with an **appointment** booking for our Parent-Teacher interviews that have already been sent home with students. Our teachers look forward to sharing understanding of your children and our students with you.



If you have more than one student, please check there is not a **clash of interview times**. Sometimes the best person to detect this is the parent. If there is a clash, please let the teachers concerned know so that changes can be made.

Curriculum Corner

This week, as a school community we celebrated Literacy and Numeracy Week. Children in the school participated in activities that helped to raise awareness of the importance of literacy and numeracy for all students. Year 2 students participated in celebrating **numeracy** by participating in the *Reach for the Stars* activity. This year the theme for numeracy was Water. Using the on-line stimulus, featuring a water drop superhero *Captain Plop*, students were able to discuss water conservation. The students brainstormed why water is a very important resource and ways in which they could stop wasting water at school and at home. The Year 2 students each responded to the text by identifying one immediate action that they could take to save water in their home. Through the discussions, students spoke about how they felt lucky to be living in a country like Australia where the water is easily accessible and clean, unlike many countries worldwide, where there are people living without easy access to clean water. The Prep students participated in the literacy activity *Read for Australia*. On Friday 29th August at 2pm, the Prep students read along and listened to the on-line version of Sunday Chutney written by Aaron Blabey. The Preps loved the Auslan interpretation of the story, which has sparked a keen interest in sign language. With the help of our lovely Teacher Aide, Kathy O'Brien, the Preps are now learning to sign the alphabet.



Supporting Your Child As They Learn To Read At School

Parents significantly impact the way in which their child views reading, the love and enjoyment they show towards reading and also their ability to read. As children learn to read at school, parents can help reinforce the skills they are learning in the classroom. It's important to remember that children will learn to read at different rates. Parents should discuss their child's progress with their teacher to work out the best way they can help their child at home. Children value reading by watching members of their family read and write every day. Encourage your child to read anytime, anywhere. Children often enjoy reading more if it is shared. Make time away from television and interruptions to read aloud with your child. Read in your home language if your first language is not English. Listen to your child read every day. Here are some ideas to use now and then, but remember some reading should just be for pleasure:

- look at the cover, title, pictures and talk about what the book might be about
- talk about the story so far and what might happen next
- after reading, talk about the story and ask questions
- talk about the pictures and how they add meaning to the text
- take turns when reading a harder book.

Take it slowly. If your child gets stuck on a word when reading aloud, encourage your child to read on to get the overall meaning. If your child makes a mistake, don't interrupt - allow time for your child to correct themselves.

Enjoy reading together!
Vanessa Munker
Head of Curriculum

Teacher Aide Day

As a school community we are very fortunate to have such a committed and dedicated team of Teacher Aides. We celebrated this day with a morning tea.



Building Blocks of Learning

Parents are invited to Serviceton South State School to hear a special guest speaker discussing topics such as: *Sensory Issues, Motor Skills, Social Emotional Issues and Resilience*
Where: Serviceton South State School - Parent Room
When: September 16 at 9.30am
Morning Tea provided.

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Interschool Chess

On Thursday 28 August our chess team (made up of Kien, Johnny, Amir and Anthony) competed in the Premier League competition for primary schools at Stretton College. This competition is for the top 8 teams in Brisbane South. The other teams were generally made up of more highly ranked players than ours, but our students put in a good effort, winning 10.5 games out of 28, including 6 games against more highly rated players. We were placed 7th overall. Johnny Nguyen played particularly well on board 2, winning 5 of his 7 games. We are planning to give more support to our chess team through additional lessons on Tuesday lunchtimes.



P & C News

Come along to our next meeting on Monday 15th September at 9.10am. The P & C will endeavour to post an Agenda for P & C Meetings on the Parent Room window. Thank you to those who supported our Father's Day stall and the students Tina, Holly, Edden and Cassie who assisted with the stall. We wish all Dad's a Happy Father's Day this weekend.

School Disco

We will be holding a School Disco for Years 3 - 7 on Thursday 18th September. Tickets are \$3 each, a flyer will come home soon with further details.



School Banking

School banking is every Tuesday morning from 8.20am - 8.45am.

Uniform Shop News

The Uniform Shop is currently running a super special on **hoodie jumpers** all sizes are \$16. That's a saving of over \$5. The special runs until sold out so be quick. The Uniform Shop is located in the Parent Room and open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 8.15am - 9.15am. Sorry no credit can be offered however we do have 12 week Layby.
Teena Zeitsch
Uniform Shop Manager

Canteen News

The Canteen is always looking for volunteers to help out, even if you can only spare an hour a week. Your ideas and suggestions are always welcome. Specials and new items are posted on the noticeboard outside the Canteen.



Parents please note that the Canteen does **NOT** offer credit, please ensure your child/ren has the correct money when ordering their lunch.

Local Ambulance Committee

Invitation

Durack
Local Ambulance Committee

Invites

everyone

to an Open Day to celebrate
Ambulance Week

at Durack Ambulance Station
495 Bowhill Rd Durack

On Sunday 14 September 2014

From 12.00 pm to 4.00 pm

A free sausage sizzle barbecue and
free tea and coffee will be provided.



Cleaner Position

At Serviceton South State School

10 hours per week (Permanent hours)

Application package available at school office.

Closing date for applications: 18/09/2014

Contact Margaret
Hagenbach-Freney
(Business Services
Manager)

Ph: 3714 0222



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

IMPORTANT DATES

10 & 11 September	Parent Teacher Interviews
10 September	BCC Recycling Incurison - Year 4
15 September	P & C Meeting
17 September	Prep Information Session
18 September	Year 3-7 Disco