

Queensland Art Gallery and GOMA Excursion -Year 4
On Thursday October 30, students from Year 4 visited the Queensland Art Gallery and the Gallery of Modern Art.

This excursion provided an excellent opportunity for students to view modern and ancient Indigenous art as well as participate in hands-on activities organised by the gallery.



Gems 04/11/2014



PRIZE	NAME	CLASS	EXPECTATION
Coloured Pencils	Kita	1C	We Learn
Crayons	Jetoa	1H	We Learn
Jumbo Markers	Esther	1H	We Learn
Mini Writing Set	Danielle	Prep2	We Learn
Milo Magnet	Chloe	4S	We Learn
Colour Pencils	Kori	Prep1	We Care
Year 5, 6 & 7 Prize	Kundai	5/6N	We Care

Gems 11/11/2014



PRIZE	NAME	CLASS	EXPECTATION
Coloured Pencils	Fiona	1H	We Are Team Players
Pencil Pack	Sarah	1C	We Lean
Erasers	Jason	3P	We Learn
Torch	Mason	Prep2	We Learn
Activity Pad	Azaliah	2C	We Care
Rainbow Band	Carissa	Prep1	We Care
Year 5, 6 & 7 Prize	Bryce	7FG	We Are Team Players
Year 5, 6 & 7 Prize	Adam	6MB	We Learn
Year 5, 6 & 7 Prize	Jake	5/6N	We Learn



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

Newsletter

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13 November 2014
PRINCIPAL – Mr Kim Tvede
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL – Mrs Wendy Wessling

Dear Parents/Carers

See Food

Congratulations to the P & C and Canteen for the successful change to the new menu. Not only are students continuing to support the ‘healthy foods’ approach to the menu, students are also increasing their interest in eating fruits and vegetables.

Part of the success story is that our Canteen organisers have worked to make the food visually attractive to students. An apple is fairly ordinary, but an apple that looks like a ‘Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle’ – now that is attractive! Clearly food marketers have been right all along – it is not how healthy it is that sells, it is what it looks like! Healthy is a bonus.



Book Lists

So that our families have time to plan for the individual student costs around supplies for 2015, we will be releasing our 2015 booklists next week. You may notice changes in some Year levels as we introduce a personal whiteboard for each student for the first time. This is part of our increasing student participation through staff being able to rapidly check student responses, and still keep the pace of a lesson going. To ensure your child has all their stationery requirements for the beginning of the school year including **text book**, please place your order with Inala Plaza News before the end of the school year. Orders may be handed in to the school office. All payment to be made directly to Inala Plaza News.

Gala Day

This week we have three teams competing in Volleyball competitions at Richlands East State School. Well done to those students for signing-up for what should be an enjoyable demonstration of our students as ‘team players’. As part



of our ongoing support of students practicing positive behaviour at school, team members participation in this extra-curricular activity has depended on them showing behaviours in line with our expectations of ‘we learn, we care, we are team players’.

Excursions

Letters have been going home around excursions for many Year levels. The school, in conjunction with support from the P & C, have identified that many of our students need to increase their experiences of various community-based activities to allow them more understanding of, not only the vocabulary used to describe and talk about these experiences, but also the behavioural expectations that change from place to place. A visit to the art gallery, for instance, while also giving more understanding of the indigenous perspectives, also reinforced the understanding that sometimes one can ‘look but not touch’, and that voices need to be ‘inside voices’, not ‘outside voices’. We can assume students just know such things, and in reality, they need to be taught at some time, and have that reinforced.

Graduation for Year 6 & 7

Invitations have gone home with students for the graduation event. The program commences with the awards ceremony. There will be separate and equal awards for both Years 6 and year 7, since both year levels are in their final year of primary school. The meal will follow, and the event will finish with separate performances by the Year 6 and Year 7 student groups. Teachers and students are at various stages of planning and preparation for this event. There is a limit of two adults per student, and no other children are to attend. The evening is focussed on our graduating students.



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Absences

We are, at various times, called upon by our senior managers to explain our absences. The State target is to have all students attending an average of 95% of the time. With around 200 school days across 40 weeks in a year, that really means absences for illness, appointments and family circumstances should be around 10 days per year.

Every Day Counts – we know that. One aspect of our community is that we have many students with family overseas, and family is important. Parents are reminded that permission needs to be given for extended absences, and all absences need to be explained.

For students on extended absence, we generally expect work negotiated with the teacher to be completed under family supervision. This is not really a substitute for regular school attendance, and families are encouraged to plan for such absences to line up with school vacation periods as much as possible. Also, we need advance notice for work preparation. Teachers cannot reasonably be expected to generate work for extended periods of time on sometimes very short notice.

Late arrivals can sometimes occur. Frequent late arrivals can lead to students missing essential learning and then falling behind, and classes can be delayed while staff time is spent getting students in line with class learning. School commences at 8:45. Plan to have your children at school to start work for this time, please, for everyone’s benefit.

Behaviour vs Effort

When report cards are presented this semester, the reporting of student behaviour and of student effort has been tightened. This is in line with Education Department expectations that we not only encourage student attendance, but also work on how students are performing when at school. We will provide further information on this reporting enhancement when reports are sent home with students.

Red Sapphires

Did you know that a Ruby is really a Red SAPPHIRE??? Next week, as part of the lesson of the week, all school staff will be looking to increase our student’s ability to **follow instructions - immediately and - without back chat. For one week only** (starting 17/11/14) and to assist students in making this positive choice, school staff will be handing out “Rubies” instead of “Gems”. These precious “Rubies” will naturally be RED and students can count them as a “Gem” in their gem books. However, the class that receives the most “Rubies” by Friday morning will receive a pizza party for the whole class. Individual students who receive “Rubies” will also have their names go into a draw to receive a free slushy from the canteen. Please encourage your students to **follow instructions - immediately and - without back chat** and earn a “Ruby” and who knows maybe even win a pizza party!



Lesson of the Week:- Staying Calm in the Classroom

What does it mean to be calm? Being calm means that you are steady, at rest, not agitated and chilled out. Just saying the word calm reminds you of how it feels to be calm.

Why do we need to be calm in the classroom?

- So we are focused when completing our work.
- When you are calm you can think more clearly about the activity or task.
- If we are calm we will not distract others.

If we are calm others around us will be calm.

We need to be calm class mates so we can focus on our learning

By being calm in the class room shows that we are good learners; because when we are calm we can think about our work rather than acting out on our emotions. We show that *We Care* when we stay calm in the class room because if we are calm we are not disrupting others while they learn. We are also *Team Players* when we stay calm because if we work together as a team so stay calm and we encourage others to keep calm our class as a whole will remain calm.

Earlier this term teachers and teacher aides completed “8 EFFECTIVE CLASSROOM PRACTICES” as part of our whole school approach to improving student outcomes with increased instructional time and improved engagement.

Practices which positively impact on instructional time:

1. Clarifying expectations
2. Classroom procedures and routines
3. Encouraging expected behaviour
4. Discouraging inappropriate behaviour

Practices that positively impact engaged learning time

5. Active supervision
6. Opportunities to respond
7. Sequencing and choice of activities
8. Task difficulty

When teachers know and use positive and preventative management strategies, many of the commonly reported minor classroom behaviours can be avoided.”

Scheuermann & Hall, 2008

“Effective classroom management is a key component of effective instruction, regardless of grade level, subject, pedagogy or curriculum.”

Sprick, Knight, Reinke & McKale, 2006

“Little Lorikeets” – Transition Program to Prep

Starting school is an important and exciting time for children and families. A successful transition to school can be a positive life enriching experience for all children and their families and a time for celebration. Over the past 4 weeks our own school’s transition program Little Lorikeets has been running in our Prep classrooms. The program is designed as a Pre-prep playgroup that is a fun and enjoyable experience for our new Prep

students coming in 2015 promoting early numeracy and literacy skills. The ‘Little Lorikeets’ were able to experience ‘life’ as a Prep student, meet with the teachers, engage with songs and stories, play in the playground and go for a walk around the school grounds to help familiarise them with their new environment.

Being ready for school is more than knowing letters, colours, shapes and numbers. Children who settle easily are able to:

- Share and take turns when playing with other children
- Sit and listen to stories
- Ask questions and follow directions
- Respond to when spoken to
- Separate from parents
- Take care of their belongings
- Go to the toilet independently and
- Ask for help when they need it.
- By encouraging your child to become more independent, you will be helping them to develop the skills necessary for settling into Prep.

P & C Upcoming Events, Canteen & Uniform News

The P&C’s Term 4 DISCO is on Friday 21st November for Prep to Year 7 students. Entry is \$2 and the DISCO runs from 3.30pm – 6.00pm. We ask that parents promptly pick their children up by 6pm sharp.

Our fun family LEGO Movie Night fundraiser is on Friday 28th November. Ticket prices will be \$2.50 per person or \$7.50 for a family of 4 (wow what a bargain!). Tickets will be available from Canteen. Food will be available for purchase on the night.



Please come along to our last P & C Meeting for 2014. It is on Monday 8th December at 9.00am in the Parent Room.

A reminder that School Banking is every Tuesday at the Canteen from 8.20am – 9.00am, prizes have to be ordered so when your child is up to ten deposits please ask the banking coordinator for an order form.

We welcome our new Canteen Convenor, Michelle Forward. You may have seen Michelle in the Canteen as she has been volunteering for a while now. Michelle has extensive experience and qualifications within the food industry including over 10 years’ experience working in school canteens. We are looking forward to the healthy food journey that Michelle is taking students on. Some of these ideas are excursion survival lunch packs, veggie sticks with dip in a cup, watermelon ice block sticks, small fruit salad tubs (great if you forget the brain food!) and Slushies are back for summer! Volunteers are always welcome in the Canteen and mostly needed from 9.00am-11am Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, if you can assist please let Michelle know. A reminder canteen is open **Tuesdays** first and second break for over the counter sales. No orders will be

taken however students will be able to purchase drinks and ice-blocks. Parents please note that the Canteen does not offer credit so please ensure your child has the correct money when ordering their lunch. Our uniform shop is located in the Parent Room and is open Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 8.15am – 9.15am. Sorry no credit can be offered and no EFTPOS available. We can do 12 week Lay-bys. There will be a slight increase come January 2015 to the polo shirts due to embroidery price increases.

iSee Care Hampers



Our school has been privileged to be partnered with iSee Care. We have been receiving some amazing hampers to give out to some much needed families. iSee Care are a not for profit organisation and focus on being a positive voice in our community.

Serviceton South State School, have partnered with iSee Care to help with their Hamper Program. “Food Assist Hampers” are several grocery bags of non-perishable food items that are distributed to those families identified within each school that may need extra support.

We have set up a Mobile Hamper Drive where schools can help support iSee Care by either donating non-perishable food items or loose change to assist some much needed families.

Check out the office and see how you can be a part of this amazing project and helping our community.



INTENSIVE HOLIDAY SWIM LESSONS

(prepare your children for Term 1 School Swimming Lessons)
5 LESSONS: \$50
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We respectfully acknowledge the Jagera people, the Traditional Owners of the land on which this school stands.

IMPORTANT DATES	
14 November	G20 Public Holiday
18 November	Nudgee Beach Excursion Year 1
19 November	Final Swimming Lesson Years 1 - 3
20 November	Incursion Silly Scientist Prep - Year 4
21 November	Disco Prep - Year 7 - 3.30pm - 6.00pm
24 November	Ngutana Lui Excursion Year 4
25 November	Griffith University Year 6
28 November	Movie Night - 6.00pm - 9.00pm
28 November	Sciencentre Excursion Prep and Year 2