



14 November 2013
PRINCIPAL – Mr Kim Tvede
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL – Mrs Wendy Wessling

Dear Parents/Carers

Sprint To End Of Term

The count-down to the end of the school year is rolling along very quickly. In the past weeks we have seen teachers and students working on assessment tasks to inform teacher's reporting of student achievements this semester. Our teachers are now heavily into forming suitable comments and ways of describing what those letter-codes on the report cards actually represent in learning outcomes and tasks completed. We anticipate report cards to be ready for the normal release time in the last week of school.

Because of the many steps we have before report cards are signed-off, report cards will not be available for early release to parents who may be planning to be absent before reports are scheduled to be released.

Late Return Term 1 2014

Any parent who intends their children to return after school has commenced needs to let the school know IN WRITING and signed advice of an expected return date. Without this, we may not have the staff to provide classes to meet enrolment needs. If students are leaving the school at the end of this year please inform the office.

Booklists For 2014

For 2014 we have some changes to our booklists. Firstly, parents will not have the expense of a maths text/workbook.

The school and teachers plan to have maths more aligned to the Australian Curriculum and student learning needs. This can vary within a year level.



Accordingly, in 2014 we will present student independent practice differently and have no set work book. This is similar to decisions made by other schools in our cluster.

From 2014, we will have school-wide standards in student presentation of work. Neat and accurate layout helps learning. In support, we have included a low-cost hand-writing workbook to the booklist.

The booklists for 2014 will be sent home with students next week. Please return all book orders to the school by Friday 6 December. Orders after this date will need to be placed directly with the newsagency in the Inala Civic Centre (next to Inala Library). If you choose to purchase your stationery elsewhere, please note that you still need to order the ***Targeting Handwriting Old Student Book*** by end of the year to ensure stock availability.

We are adding two software subscriptions of \$10.00 each for Reading (Reading Eggs) and Mathematics (Mathletics). These programs have been used in the school and teachers have now seen the value of these in supporting student learning. They take the place of textbooks. The subscriptions will be separately invoiced at the beginning of the school year.

Camp & Excursions

The Tallebudgera camp applications have been strong, with well over half the eligible students booked to attend. Our Camp Alani program planning is also firming up. Students and parents should be aware that the excursion planned for Year 7 students in the last week is still on a school day. As such, celebrating the end of year is not its only reason, and our teachers have planned various learning aspects to be part of this experience.



Teaching And Learning Achievements

At this time, we are also assessing progress of students since the end of *Semester 1* and in some areas, since the end of *2012*. We have a priority on checking student improvements in reading and mathematics. The results inform our teaching planning for 2014.

If the rate of progress of our on-line extension Maths team is any indication, we should have some interesting results. That particular team have improved their overall scores from low 80 per cent to the 90 per cent range in their time in this team. In the process they impress many of us with their ability to think mathematically.

End Of Year Events

Preparations for end of year events are also underway. The various performance groups have begun working towards our end of year concert and other events. Our Gala sports teams are also arranged for their upcoming events.

Positive Icon For Values And Expectations

This week we have met with staff and students to vote on selecting the new icon that will represent our school values and expectations. With five options, we are keen to see how students see this symbol for our school unfolding. Preliminary sorting shows an overwhelming support for a particular icon, so it seems we are not at risk of a 'hung' or narrow-margin decision.

Voting on:

Sapphires, Lorikeets, Superstars, Explorers, Superheroes

Weather

The storm season is well upon us. Please note we are keeping informed on weather developments, and should a severe storm be an expected problem at end-of-school time, we do understand people arriving for early pick-up. It may be that we use a lockdown procedure if hail or other damaging storm activity is likely.



Past-Student Achievements

The *Glenala State High School Awards* night on Wednesday evening was well-organised and it was particularly pleasing to see former *Serviceton South State School* students take their places and receive awards recognising their efforts, skills and achievements in secondary school. This is especially pleasing for parents and our staff when we consider *Glenala SHS* has made gains in academic performances of national-level recognition.

Busy Students Have Fewer Issues

As the temperatures go up, and the school year counts down, we are very focused on keeping school expectations as normal as possible. Young people in school who are focused on learning have fewer problems than when they start to lose focus and find other things to do, so we expect to maintain teaching as expected, right up to the end of term celebrations and preparation for 2014. We look forward to a successful close to the school year.

Student behavioural expectations are part of the conditions for participation in some events and activities. Thank you, parents, for your support of these expectations.

Volunteers Morning Tea

Our school is very lucky to have a great group of volunteers who come in every week to serve, encourage and help our school community. These people give of their time and talents and we are very thankful for their commitment to our students. This week we honoured these people with a special morning tea where they were recognized individually and as a group. Thank you again to all our wonderful volunteers, you make a great difference in our school.



Swimming

The last day for swimming for Years 1 to 3 is Wednesday 20 November.



Beenleigh Historical Village & Museum Excursion

On Wednesday, 20 November the Prep students are going on an excursion to the *Beenleigh Historical Village and Museum*. The cost of this excursion is \$12.00 per student.



P & C News

Come and join us at our next P & C meeting on Tuesday 19 November at 9.15am in the parent room. All welcome.

P & C Colouring Competition

If you wish to enter the colouring competition you can put your completed pictures into the box in the office or hand it into the canteen by Friday 22 November. There is a boy and girl first prize for each class. Good luck!

On 28 November Councillor Milton Dick is coming to judge the competition, winners will be announced soon after.



Christmas Fundraising

We are asking for donations to put towards our Christmas raffle. Raffle books will be sent home soon. We will be holding a Christmas stall for students to purchase gifts for their families. Parent help with the Christmas stall would be most welcome.



Uniform Shop News

Uniform shop hours are Tuesday to Friday 8.30am - 9.30am. (Every second Tuesday of the month the uniform shop will be closed for the P & C meeting). Sorry there is no EFTPOS. Credit is not available, we do offer a 12 week layby plan.

It is essential that all students wear a bucket hat. These can be purchased from the uniform shop for \$6.00.



School Banking

School banking is every Tuesday morning before school at the canteen. If you would like your child to participate in school banking please see Jo or Amy at the canteen.

Possies - 1 November

- | | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| Vincent-2YK | Mini Balls |
| Summer-3S | Kangaroo Pencil Case |
| Karen-1CH | Jotz Set |
| Charlie-1R | Stationery Set |
| Jotoa-Prep1 | Pencil Set |
| Esther-Prep2 | Pencil Set |
| Abdinasir-7N | Year 5, 6 & 7 Prize |

Possies- 8 November

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| Jessica-1R | Textas |
| Ahmad-1CH | Pencil Case |
| Tyson-3S | Snap Hand |
| Anthony-1CH | Playing Cards |
| Sam-Prep2 | Stickers |
| Larissa-Prep1 | Stars and Moons |
| Kupi-6/7H | Year 5, 6 & 7 Prize |
| Skyler-6/7H | Year 5, 6 & 7 Prize |
| Jacob C-6/7H | Year 5, 6 & 7 Prize |

Serviceton South State School:

We Learn

We Care

We are Team Players

We acknowledge the Yuggera people as the traditional custodians of the land on which our school stands.

Is your child afraid of seeing blood or having an injection or other medical procedure?

GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

At Griffith University, we are conducting a study to evaluate the effectiveness of a one session intensive treatment for children and adolescents (7 to 18 years of age) who have Blood, Injury and Injection Phobias. We are providing this service at **no cost** to families. To find out more about this project, **please contact** Dr. Ella Milliner and Dr Lara Farrell on (07) 567 88317 or email e.milliner@griffith.edu.au

Chill Out Space

- At the state school... corner of Lake Ave & Main St
- Fun! Food! Art! Chill! Activities! Safety! Friendship! Music!
- EVERY WEDNESDAY AFTER SCHOOL 2.30PM - 5.00PM
- Supervised & supported by local youth workers. All free!!
- 4 ANYONE 12 & UP DRUG - ALCOHOL & BULLY FREE ZONE
- For more info call Yvonne @ Lake Youth Services 33724459

IMPORTANT DATES	
20 November	Years 1—3 Swimming
22 November	Gala Day
22 November	Griffith University Year 6
25 – 27 November	Camp Tallebudgera
5 December	R E Concert
6 December	Awards Ceremony
9 December	Year 7 Graduation
11 December	End Of Year Concert
12 December	Dreamworld Year 7
15 December	Last Day of Term 4

What is your child learning?

Curriculum Corner

Often when we hear the term “games” we think recreational not educational values but playing the right games can have a very positive impact on your child’s learning. This newsletter we look at memory games and their connection to improved learning outcomes.

This excerpt is taken from the *Math and Reading Help* website [http://mathandreadinghelp.org/articles/Remembering_the_Importance_of_Memory_\(Games\).html](http://mathandreadinghelp.org/articles/Remembering_the_Importance_of_Memory_(Games).html)

Good memory skills are essential for a successful schooling experience. Read on to find out how memory games can stimulate your child's academic success.

There are many ways you to foster your child's memory at home. Ask them what part they liked the best about a story you've read together, or have them draw a picture of a positive memory in as much detail as possible.

The ability to memorise phone numbers or solve math problems requires training. Through the employment of specific exercises a child can be trained to remember more with less effort. Working on memory skills from a young age will help prepare a student for the future. Memory games can help your child master techniques for organising and storing information that will be of benefit for years to come.

Memory exercises that incorporate bright colours and

sound all help a healthy mind develop the memory devices that organise the experience of the senses. A child's memory is important in building relational awareness, establishing patterns of recognition for people and events, and for transforming information into knowledge that facilitates problem solving at a later time. Simply put, without proper memory skills, your child's experience in school, in social activities and at home will suffer.

The ability to recognise and utilize patterns is an important skill in the classroom. Patterns of letters create words that eventually become familiar in a child's mind.

Similarly, your child will begin to notice a pattern in how each word is used and what it means when grouped with different words in a series. (That series is sometimes called a sentence!) A similar thought, memory and recognition process takes place when your child confronts numbers and mathematical problems during lessons.

It's easy to take memory for granted. Introducing your child to sensory games will encourage them to use and sharpen their growing memory skills in an enjoyable context.

Next newsletter I will share links and resources that can be used at home to improve memory.

**Have fun learning,
Travis Goulter
Head of Curriculum**

The advertisement collage contains the following items:

- ALLIANCE MEDICAL CENTRE**: 1415 8116, 1415 8117, 1415 8118. Website: www.alliancehealth.com.au
- KUMON**: Every child can succeed. Website: www.kumon.com.au
- THE FIRST TRUST TRUST YET**: Website: www.firsttrust.com.au
- LYRIC CENTRE WITHIN A MY SECURITY**: Phone: 3372 7699. Website: www.lyric.com.au
- Brisbane REAL ESTATE Inala**: For all your real estate needs. Website: www.inalarealestate.com.au
- austnews**: DESIGN & PRINT WEB. Website: www.austnews.com.au
- austnews**: Promote your business in local news. Website: www.austnews.com.au
- Inala Plaza News**: All News, Sport, Events, Recreation Available. Website: www.inalaplaza.com.au

Small text at the bottom: Newsletter Newsletter Services Pty. Ltd. 1415 8116 | 1415 8117 | 1415 8118 | 1415 8119 | 1415 8120 | 1415 8121 | 1415 8122 | 1415 8123 | 1415 8124 | 1415 8125 | 1415 8126 | 1415 8127 | 1415 8128 | 1415 8129 | 1415 8130 | 1415 8131 | 1415 8132 | 1415 8133 | 1415 8134 | 1415 8135 | 1415 8136 | 1415 8137 | 1415 8138 | 1415 8139 | 1415 8140 | 1415 8141 | 1415 8142 | 1415 8143 | 1415 8144 | 1415 8145 | 1415 8146 | 1415 8147 | 1415 8148 | 1415 8149 | 1415 8150 | 1415 8151 | 1415 8152 | 1415 8153 | 1415 8154 | 1415 8155 | 1415 8156 | 1415 8157 | 1415 8158 | 1415 8159 | 1415 8160 | 1415 8161 | 1415 8162 | 1415 8163 | 1415 8164 | 1415 8165 | 1415 8166 | 1415 8167 | 1415 8168 | 1415 8169 | 1415 8170 | 1415 8171 | 1415 8172 | 1415 8173 | 1415 8174 | 1415 8175 | 1415 8176 | 1415 8177 | 1415 8178 | 1415 8179 | 1415 8180 | 1415 8181 | 1415 8182 | 1415 8183 | 1415 8184 | 1415 8185 | 1415 8186 | 1415 8187 | 1415 8188 | 1415 8189 | 1415 8190 | 1415 8191 | 1415 8192 | 1415 8193 | 1415 8194 | 1415 8195 | 1415 8196 | 1415 8197 | 1415 8198 | 1415 8199 | 1415 8200