



### Gems 12/8/2014

PRIZE	NAME	CLASS	EXPECTATION	GIVEN BY
Playing Cards	Brooke	3P	We Learn	Mrs Lovell
Car	Matthew	1H	We Learn	Miss Higginbotham
Quiz Book	Angeliyah	3P	We Are Team Players	Miss Peters
Fairy Colouring In Book	Noah	3S	We Are Team Players	Mrs Smith
Animal Rescue Book	Cherry	Prep1	We Learn	Mrs Lovell
Wrist Band	Mason	Prep2	We Learn	Mrs Bolton
Year 5, 6 & 7 Prize	David	6H	We Care	Mrs Hurdle
Year 5, 6 & 7 Prize	Tyrone	6H	We Care	Mrs Hurdle
Year 5, 6 & 7 Prize	Savanna	5/6N	We Learn	Mr Nineham



### Gems 19/8/2014

PRIZE	NAME	CLASS	EXPECTATION	GIVEN BY
Stickers	Bella	3P	We Are Team Players	Miss Peters
Paint	Ivy	3P	We Are Team Players	Miss Peters
Milo Magnets	Aimee	1C	We Learn	Mrs Lovell
Hot Wheels Car	Oskar	1C	We Learn	Mrs Lovell
Bracelet	Jasmine	Prep2	We Learn	Miss Bolton
Glo Flyer	Dallas	Prep1	We Are Team Players	Miss Clarke
Year 5, 6 & 7 Prize	Bailey	7FG	We Learn	Miss Gunton
Year 5, 6 & 7 Prize	Carlos	5/6N	We Learn	Mr Nineham
Year 5, 6 & 7 Prize	Jake	5/6N	We Learn	Mr Nineham

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### Newsletter

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21 August 2014

PRINCIPAL – Mr Kim Tvede

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL – Mrs Wendy Wessling

Dear Parents/Carers

#### Assessment And Learning In Our School

This week, for the first time, we had access to our 2014 NAPLAN results for the school showing students' **scaled scores** which are those shown in students' **individual NAPLAN reports**. Teachers are now able to **review patterns of students' results and individual student's responses** to assist in refining teaching and learning programs. In fact, this data from mid-term 2 is now a Term out of date as we have passed the mid-point for Term 3, but the patterns are still valuable for us.

In the media we find many comments about the stress on students and teachers about NAPLAN testing. In Queensland we have had a major focus now to improve Queensland results against the nation. This push for **greater focus on higher expectations** is an ongoing process, not just in Queensland, but nationwide. Last year, in line with Metropolitan Regional expectations, we placed a major focus on students who may have been 'coasting', as they found school work comparatively easy, learning to accept greater challenges in learning, and more stamina in class to achieve higher performances. The results for us were spectacular. Students with greater needs in learning to standards also did not miss out, and their progress, statistically across the school, tended to show a reasonable balance in their outcomes.

In NAPLAN assessment, students are only assessed every two years. Thus, **year-by-year comparisons are a bit problematic** as different groups of students are being assessed. For schools, the data is more interesting for individual students when we look at 'distance travelled' over the past two years. We can see that compared to *our assessments* conducted at the beginning of Term 1, our students in 2014 have made steady progress and some students quite significant progress. How we compare

against other similar schools is of interest to us in terms of considering our rate of school and student improvement. This data is not fully analysed yet at a systemic level, but our results thus far suggest we have a wider range of student achievement ranging from those with high learning needs to those with high performance, than many of our local schools. We have a plan for our improvement and it is expected to take more than one or two years to reach our goals.

Parents may have heard there were concerns this year about the **writing task**, as many 2014 students in Australia did not do as well as students in previous years. To allow NAPLAN scores to be compared between Year 3, 5, 7 and 9, the task given students is the same for each year level. Students writing is then scored across several measures that are expected to develop over the course of schooling from Year 3 to 9. Thus, for example, on one of these measures Year 3 students may be anticipated to score 1-3, Year 5 may be anticipated to score 3-5, Year 7 may be anticipated to score 4-6, and Year 9 score 5-7. This can provide a very good measure of rate of progress in writing skills. If the task difficulty changes, it can affect the *distance travelled* from, say, Year 3 to Year 5.

In 2014, though, the NAPLAN writing task asked students to consider *a rule or law that needed to be changed*, and write a persuasive argument for such change. For many younger students, this also required a level of **conceptual thinking and higher order thinking skills** that may have been greater than the tasks from previous years. This can affect the basic score. How our students compared to other schools is still something we need more data to be able to consider. We knew there were issues as soon as our students completed the test, and now we find this is a nationwide issue. It is a matter for the test designers and interpretation of results, but not a real concern over NAPLAN.

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At a school level, our challenge is to continue to **raise expectations** and have students **learn to intensify their commitment to lessons** so our staff and students together can 'raise the bar'. **Families can help in this**, firstly by **reducing school absences** where non-attendance may not be needed. Getting students **to school on time** to start lessons with the class, and spending time **explaining things and discussing what is going on** with their children so our student learn to really 'see' and think about what is going on, and not just experience life with limited understanding. **Thank you to the parents who are doing all this.** Your children, our students, benefit from this involvement in our students **learning, caring** and being part of not just our **school team**, but also **family and community teams**.

### Curriculum Corner

**National Literacy and Numeracy Week** aims to raise awareness of the **importance of literacy and numeracy skills** for all Australians. The National Literacy and Numeracy Week will be held this year from 25<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> August. As a school community we are participating in different activities to celebrate. One of the activities will be *Read for Australia*. On Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August at 2pm, we will join with other schools across the nation and read *Sunday Chutney* written by *Aaron Blabey*. The activity will allow children to experience the social pleasure of reading with their friends and teachers.



### Engaging In Your Children's Education

As you are aware, **parents play a major role** in the development of their children's education. Over 40 years of research tells us that how well children do at school has a lot to do with what happens at home. Parents are the first and most important influence on a child's **attitudes and values toward school and learning**. By creating a home environment that encourages a continuous love of learning from an early age, you can help your child to achieve positive outcomes throughout their schooling and beyond. You may like to extend the *Read for Australia* activity by:

- borrowing *Sunday Chutney* from your local library and reading it aloud with your children
- making one day a week where the family read a book or part of a book aloud with each other

The *National Literacy and Numeracy Week* website has a range of information and resources for parents on how they can get involved in the week's activities and how they can extend that engagement at home. Make sure you visit the website [www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au](http://www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au). Let's celebrate the love of reading together!  
Vanessa Munker  
Head of Curriculum

### Book Week

On Tuesday 19 August the school celebrated *Book Week* with a special assembly. The theme for book week this year is "*Connect to Reading*", and a short video presentation showed some of the texts students have connected with at each year level. Certificates were issued to 18 students in Years 3 to 7 who have already achieved a target of reading 40 books for the year. Book prizes were awarded to students for costumes at the *Book Week assembly*, and a demonstration was given of a way to connect to reading using a tablet app called *Aurasma*. A big **thank you to all those parents** who helped their children with costumes for the *Book Week Assembly*!



In the weeks leading up to Book Week students have been reading CBCA short-listed picture books during library lessons. The winners in each category were announced on Friday 15 August. They are:

#### Book of the Year Early Childhood:

Winner – *The Swap* by Jan Ormerod and Andrew Joyner  
Honour books – *I'm a Dirty Dinosaur* by Janeen Brian and Ann James, and *Banjo and Ruby Red* by Libby Gleeson and Freya Blackwood

#### Picture Book of the Year:

Winner – *Rules of Summer* by Shaun Tan  
Honour Books – *King Pig* by Nick Bland, and *Silver Buttons* by Bob Graham.  
Alan Cockerill  
Teacher Librarian

### NAIDOC

We celebrated NAIDOC last Monday with students in every grade participating in activities. We started the morning with a Morning Tea for our Indigenous parents and our local elder Uncle Albert Holt. A craft activity about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags was enjoyed by our younger students. At first break our student Indigenous Dance Group performed a few dances accompanied by Joshua Walker. Jahmarley Dawson from *Koomurri* hosted two, hour long workshops about Aboriginal culture, music, art and language. Senior students also played the Indigenous game EDOR on the Top Oval hosted by Carrie from the PCYC. All students in Years 3-7 have their hand print on a large Canvas art work as a memory of NAIDOC 2014. It was a fantastic day for all, thank you to the parents and community members for their support.



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### Sports Day Age Champions

Congratulations to the following students on receiving their Age Champion medallions on Parade this week.

9 Year Old Boy	Jackson - 4S
9 Year Old Girl	Georgia - 4H
10 Year Old Boy	Daniel - 5BM
10 Year Old Girl	Magdalen - 5BM
11 Year Old Boy	Jeryle - 6MB
11 Year Old Girl	Charlize - 6MB
12 Year Old Boy	Paul L - 7FG
12 Year Old Girl	Tomi - 7FG
13 Year Old Boy	Shadric - 7FG
13 Year Old Girl	Jennifer - 7FG

### Ekka Excursion

Students from Years 5-7 attended the EKKA on the first day of the exhibition. Students and staff went through many of the Educational pavilions and saw the farm animals, quilting, art exhibits, and even met Justin Hodges from the Broncos. There was so much to see and do, the day ended with a quick trip to the show bag pavilion. Thank you to all the staff, especially Mrs Middleton for organising this excursion.



### Monster Truck Visit - 20 August

For positive behaviour, students with *Sapphire* wrist bands were able to attend the monster truck visit to the school.



### P & C News

Come along to our next meeting on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 9.10am in the Parent Room. We will be holding a Father's Day stall towards the end of August with cool gift ideas for Dad at cheap prices. The stall will be held in undercover area outside Canteen on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings from 8.15am - 9.00am.



### 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

### School Banking

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

### Canteen News

#### We need volunteer helpers in the Canteen.

The Canteen is always looking for vibrant volunteers even if you can only spare an hour a week it still helps. Come along and offer your ideas and suggestions they are always welcome and your child/ren will love seeing you in the Canteen!



We have extended the closing date for applications for the position of Canteen Convenor. The position is partially paid 12hrs per week @ \$23.21 per/hour, applicants must hold a blue card and must have a food handling certificate and/or equivalent. Applications can be emailed to [pc.executives.ssss@gmail.com](mailto:pc.executives.ssss@gmail.com)

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

### Heavily Funded Training in Health

Health Industry Training is a not-for-profit Registered Training Organisation representing the professional interest of General Practice and Primary Health Care in Queensland.

Health Industry Training is offering highly subsidised qualifications for parents who are interested in working within the health industry. At a cost of \$320.00 for concession participants and \$600.00 for non-concession participants, this will allow you to complete a Nationally recognised qualification in Allied Health Assistance, Health Service Assistance, Health Administration, Community Services Work, Aged Care, Disability, Home and Community Care, Youth work, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health care and Health Support Services.

For further information please call Health Industry Training on 1300 381 415

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

### IMPORTANT DATES

26 August	Year 2 Geography Incursion
27 August	Science On The Go Years 5 - 7
28 August	Chess Tournament Stretton College
3 September	6H & 6MB Inala Civic Centre Excursion
4 September	2C & 2R Geography Incursion
10 & 11 September	Parent Teacher Interviews
17 September	Prep Information Session