Be Safe  Be Responsible  Be an Active Learner

Our Key Priorities in 2016 are Writing (underpinned by Spelling), Reading and Numeracy.

Regional Attendance Goal: 93%  Our Attendance this Fortnight: 92%
Remember…. At School, on time, every day counts

Dear Parents, Families and Community Members,
The term is quickly coming to an end and we are working towards finishing our reporting period and preparing for parent teacher interviews in Week 11.

Last week I had the opportunity to act as a Peer Reviewer in a review for a small school in Northern Queensland. It was a valuable experience and a privilege to work with another school in a process that mirrored our review. I only wish that I could have brought the torrential rain back with me.

Visitors this fortnight
- Narelle Sandford – Guidance Officer
- Dani Obel – Speech Therapist
- Peter Tanzer – Assistant Regional Director

Triple P Parenting
As part of offering opportunities within the community, Cooyar State School is proud to host Julie Rathmell from Bush Kids to run the four week Triple Parenting Program at the school over four afternoons. We decided to run this on Tuesdays from 2.30 – 4.00pm (31st May for 4 weeks) to coincide with After School Sports. This program is offered at no charge to parents and will be run in the demountable building. Afternoon tea will be supplied.

Small Schools Athletics Carnival 2016
Our athletics carnival will be held on Thursday 14th July, 2016. A program for the day and a tuckshop menu is attached to this newsletter. This year orders will not be taken for tuckshop. It will be a purchase on the day arrangement. We have planned a full day program. Students have been busy training this term during Miss Sharon’s After School Sport sessions. South Burnett Trials will take place on 24th August, 2016. Nominations will be completed post carnival.

Student Council Theme Day
On Friday 17th June, the Student Council will be holding a ‘B’ Theme Dress Up Day. Students can come dressed in “B” Themed clothes. Notes will come home in KIT books closer to the date.

Drama Performance
On Friday 17th June, 2017, Junior, Middle and Senior Students will be sharing their performances with the school community. We invite parents and family members to attend the performance from 1.15pm on the day. The performance will be in the eating area at the end of A block.

DATE CLAIMER: P and C End of Term Barbeque and Games Afternoon
On the last day of school, from 1.00pm, the P & C will be holding a family barbeque followed by a game of sport. Food supplied. BYO soft drinks.
THANK YOUS for this FORTNIGHT

- Miss Sharon for volunteering for the term to run After School Sports
- Shane Gibson, Michael Duncombe and Scott Duncombe for spending last Sunday at the school constructing a watering system in the lead up to sports day. Thank you to Scott Duncombe for coming and moving the sprinklers around for us over the last week.

Student Resource Scheme
From 2017, a student resource scheme will be brought into the school instead of annual book lists. The scheme will cost approximately $100 per student and all stationery and text books will be provided by the school. Parents will not have to source books. After discussions, it has been decided that parents will be able to take their children’s books home and cover them if they choose to. The total cost of the scheme will have to be paid by the end of 2016. Invoices will be sent home at the start of Term Four to give families time to pay before the end of the year.

New Homework Program
Last week we started the new homework program as decided by the P and C at the last meeting. A new format across the school for Homework. Homework now consists of home reading, spelling and times tables (from Year 2).

Senior Camp 2016
Please return Senior Camp 2016 notes indicating whether your child will be attending this year’s camp at a cost of $100 per student. Monies can be paid to the school office. The P and C will fund the remaining cost thanks to their annual Trail Ride. Please note that attendance on camp is also dependent on student behaviour.

2016 Premier’s Reading Challenge
We already have one student’s form returned. A great effort! The reading period for Prep - Year 9 students is 16 May - 26 August. Students who complete the challenge will be awarded a certificate from our Premier and a morning tea with Miss Seccombe at the end of the challenge. Students can return their reading forms to the school office when they have completed the challenge.

Assessment and Reporting
Over the coming weeks, final assessment items are being completed for report cards. Attendance every day is really important during this time. If students are absent they will miss important review, revision and assessment activities. Report Cards will be sent home on Friday 17th June with interviews being offered on Wednesday 22nd June.

Photocopier Tender
Our warranty is up on our photocopier and, as part of departmental policy, we have replaced the photocopier with a new machine. We are offering the old photocopier on tender to the wider community. As part of the tender process, we have to advertise this opportunity to the whole community. Attached is a tender form for submission for interested parties. The machine is tendered ‘as is’ with no further support/maintenance. It will also come with two full black ink cartridges. Please return the attached form if you are interested in submitting a tender for the item.

Hot FM Ultimate Day off School
Miss Sharon has entered the Senior Class into Hot FM’s Ultimate Day off School. We are asking parents and family members to log onto their website and add an extra entry. Thank you in advance for your support.

Please check for and treat your children for head lice. We have had more reports of head lice this week. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Yours in Education, Kendall Seccombe
Junior Class News from Mrs Spencer

It was a sad farewell on Monday to Mrs Lisa Strohfeld. Lisa presented the school with a new copy of ‘The Very Blue Thingamajig’ on her leaving for which we are very thankful, as it is a much loved book and our copy was looking decidedly ‘used’. There is now only one practicum left for Lisa to complete her course which is an internship in October. We all wish Lisa the best in the last months of her study and thank her for her valuable contributions to the school over the last few weeks.

With the end of term getting closer there has been a number of assessments being completed. In maths, Prep and year one students are completing tasks on location. This part of their maths unit ties in with our Technology unit beautifully. Students have been learning to give directions to a platypus and/or crocodile as they make their way around a zoo grid to feed animals. Preps found it much easier to move their own bodies – it has become quite tricky transferring that learning onto a 2D drawing! This will lead students into programming Bee Bots next week.

English has seen students looking at adjectives, verbs and adverbs in the book ‘The Very Blue Thingamajig’. Students really enjoyed the study of this particular book! After a short review time Year One students now are currently completing their persuasive writing assessment. Wow! Students are really flying with their Sight Words – it is hard to keep up with the certificates! We now have four Prep students who know all their Gold Sight Words and a couple of Year One students almost finished all the Magic 300 words. Term testing for Sight Words will be carried out in Week 11 while reading benchmarking has started and will continue through to the end of term. Spelling post-tests will be held in Week 11 also so don’t forget to review all term 2 spelling with your child.

Our Science assessment has started. Year One students are proving to be wonderful little scientists, predicting, trialling and making changes to their boats based on results! Prep students have used their knowledge of materials to construct a wind ornament that can handle the Cooyar outdoors (which have been pretty rough the last few days!). Students trialled the wind ornaments on Tuesday and will reflect on the outcomes Wednesday.

Homework – there was some confusion last week around homework. Students need only complete spelling practice and their home reading. However as homework booklets were made for the term students have been encouraged to complete this. I am very impressed that most students have done this.

I would just like to give a BIG thank you to our classroom helpers – Mrs Rowena Gibson and Mrs Rita Barron. They come in each week and help with reading, Sight Words and Sounds. Thank you ladies. If there is anyone else who can spare 30mins a week or fortnight that would be fantastic, especially any Dads – kids would absolutely love that!

Last but not least Happy Cleaners’ Day to Mrs V. She does an amazing job at our school and probably should earn overtime in the Junior Room some days!! We really appreciate her dedication.

The Cooyar Chronicle Term 2 Week 9, 2016

THIS FORTNIGHT’S SOCIAL SKILL FOCUSES

Each week we have a social skill focus that is taught explicitly on parade and in classrooms. We ask that parents support this learning by discussing these social skills at home.

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<th>9</th>
<th>Be a Learner in the Playground</th>
<th>• Cooperate with and include others</th>
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| 10| Be a Safe and Responsible Learner for Road Safety | • Cross the road with care  
• Remain seated while the bus is moving and show respect  
• Walk bikes in the school grounds, to and from the bike racks  
• Always wear a helmet when riding a bike  
• Move directly to and from school  
• Use paths to enter and exit school |
From Miss Seccombe in the Senior Class

In Mathematics we have been working on:
Order of operations:
- Brackets, multiplication, division, addition, subtraction
- Inserting brackets, working left to right
Multiplication and Division:
- Split strategy multiplication, multiplication word problems.
- Setting out division, division with remainders, division word problems.
Geometry:
- Axes of symmetry, reflection symmetry, drawing reflections
- Identifying nets for three dimensional shapes.

In English we have been completing our end of term persuasion on the topic “All schools should have bee hives”. Students have been researching the contribution of bees to the human population over the term and have been encouraged to use this information to add strength to their arguments. Over the term we have been learning how to use the following elements in our writing: Paragraphs – sentence starter, topic sentence, supporting sentences and concluding sentences; punctuation sentences; complex sentences; age appropriate vocabulary and editing with our ‘Mark the change, make the change’ guide.

In Technology and Science, students are working on completing their end of term assessment items. Students are learning how to read and write computer code in technology. They are also working on Bee Bot Robotics challenges as part of their assessment.

Our Student Council are working towards their B Day on Friday 17th and ordering for their Father’s Day Stall in Term three.

Students of the Week

Week 8

Cody Duncombe – Being an Active Learner and learning his sight words every night.
Michael Beckhouse – For being safe and responsible by following instructions in the playground immediately
Jessica Mylett – For general application to work in all areas and taking tasks seriously. Being a Learner
Willow Davis - For making an improvement to her handwriting in her bookwork.

SHAKE AND STIR DRAMA PERFORMANCE

Last fortnight Mrs Crockett organised engaging and active drama workshops followed by a performance ‘Thrice Upon a Time’. Feedback from the students rated the day as ‘excellent’, ‘fantastic’, ‘the best’. A great experience for our students.
**From Mrs Duncombe in the Middle Class**

**English**

Students are completing their independent persuasive assessment task this week on the topic of “Tree Houses or Castles”. The majority of the class decided they would prefer to live in a tree house while the rest decided that the castle life was definitely for them. The standard of work has really improved over the term with students using a more advanced structure for their persuasive writing. I look forward to marking this assessment and seeing if the class can persuade me on which place would be better to live, a tree house or castle?

Each student’s spelling results are graphed each week on our wall as a visual reminder of their progress. It has been pleasing to see the high number of students getting close to or achieving 100% on their weekly spelling test. Well done everyone!

**Science**

We have been learning about chemical sciences this term. Year 2 students are exploring materials, their properties and purposes. As part of their assessment, they will choose materials to combine to make an object that could carry lunch items. Year 3 students have been discovering the differences between solids and liquids. They will conduct experiments to determine how solids can become liquids and observe the changes.

**Maths**

Last week students took home the two times table as part of their homework to work on really quick recall of their multiplication facts. We will be testing their quick recall this week. The five times table will go home once they are really confident with the two times table. This week students are also completing tests as the term comes to an end.

**History – Year 2/3’s Mini Museum**

We will start to create our mini museum in the old library on Monday of Week 10. We hope to have a showing later in the week. Please keep an eye out for any notes to go home about this and we would LOVE any donations of old items to put in our museum. Very special items could just be brought in for the day. Thank you to all parents who have already brought in items.

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**From Mrs Strohfeld**

It is with sadness that I say farewell to Cooyar School after five weeks of practical experience in the Prep/One classroom. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time in this room, learning not only from the staff, but the students. Together with the Year 1s we investigated ‘materials’ in science, worked with number, place value and shape in maths, wrote persuasively and descriptively in English and learnt about the importance of looking after our bodies in health.

It’s been fun learning about materials and their properties in science, and I know the year ones are enthusiastic and excited about their upcoming boat making assessment which starts this week. My fingers and toes are crossed that everyone carefully chooses a material that makes their boat ‘sturdy and strong’, so it stays afloat when tested. Good luck year one’s, you’re all great little scientists and you have worked hard during this unit!

Thanks to the Preps for allowing me to explore alphabet letter and word sounds with them. I can’t believe they are all reading…writing…spelling…and now even learning sight words! Wow, this is very impressive Preps!

My teaching memories at Cooyar will be forever treasured and it’s thanks to the wonderful people who I have encountered along the way. You have a great school here and the students who attend it are very fortunate. Happy holidays everyone, they’re just around the corner! Thanks for having me, especially you Mrs Spencer.

With Sincerest Thanks.
New learner driver app

A new free app allows learner drivers to record their driving hours using a smartphone or tablet device. The Queensland Learner Logbook app enables learners to electronically submit their completed hours directly to the Department of Transport and Main Roads for processing, saving learners time and money mailing their completed logbook in for processing.

Important cyber safety tips

The department has recently been alerted to random users contacting children using the social media app ‘Instagram’. The following tips are provided to parents on how their children can avoid random contact on social media:

1. Know which social media your child uses.
2. Discuss with your child who their online friends and followers are. Only be friends with people online who you know and trust in the real world.
3. Take a proactive approach and establish clear and agreed rules for your child’s internet use.