What's on this term?

Thursday 26th June – Year 4C, 3R & 3/4W excursion to Jondaryan Woolshed

Friday 27th June – NAIDOC

Friday 27th June - Last day of term

School resumes Monday 14th July

Acting Principals Message

Semester 1 Thanks

I would just like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for welcoming me into the Warwick Central community this semester. This school has an incredible staff and amazing parents who work tirelessly together to ensure that the students have the best opportunity to learn. It is with mixed emotions that I leave for term 3 to take up the Acting Principal role at The Summit state school. I look forward to returning in term 4 with many stories about cold winds and frosty mornings.

Book Fair

Last week saw the library full of books and other items that were available for purchase during the book fair. Thank you to Mrs Gilchrist for her fantastic organisation and to all the people that helped during a very busy week. The total raised throughout the week was an astonishing $500 for new books, well done!!

Don’t forget Home Bake Day!

Over $128 was raised at home bake day last Wednesday! We are very much appreciative of your support for our P&C association as they provide delicious food for the children.

Final week activities

- Fun Day

  This week we are having our usual term Fun Day. On Wednesday students will be able to watch a movie in the library as a reward for their behaviour throughout the term.

- NAIDOC Day

  Friday is NAIDOC day and we will have many different activities throughout the day. Please see the attached flyer for more details.

- Behaviour Medals

  This Wednesday afternoon from 2pm we will be having a special parade in the undercover area. We will be congratulating all the students that have shown great behaviour this term by awarding them Bronze, Silver or Gold medals. Please come and join us to congratulate these students.

Insights Article this week

This week’s article focuses on interpreting your child’s report cards, and understanding the language used to describe progress. This is such an important time for all of us as we assess and plan for next term. Enjoy!

Have a fun filled and happy holidays.

Cheers Alun

School Captains and House Captains

We have a copy of the School Captain and the House Captain Photos on display in the office. The photos are available to order.

Parents if you wish to place an order please come to the office to fill in an order envelope.

The cost of the photos are $18.00 each

Keisha from the Toowoomba Mountaineers held a Basketball clinic at school last week.
Congratulations to our students and staff member of the week.

BOOK FAIR
Thank you to all our wonderful students and parents who supported our book fair last week. As a result of our sales we were able to purchase $498.00 of new books for the library.

Congratulations to Madisyn who won guess the lolly competition and Hayley who won guess the number of pages in the book.

Congratulations also to our winners of the colouring competition.

Some of our Book Fair Competition Winners.

Understanding Your Child’s Report Card

As you are aware, students and teachers this year have been working with the new Australian Curriculum, as interpreted through Queensland’s C2C curriculum resources. Whilst the Australian Curriculum is similar in many respects to the previous Queensland curriculum, there are some differences which have required adjustments. For example, some concepts are covered earlier than previously expected, there is a stronger focus on specific areas and in some cases a different standard of work is expected of students.

For Semester 1 report cards, teachers are evaluating student work based on our C2C/ESL units and assessments tasks from Term 1 and 2 in English, Maths, Science, Geography and History. Due to the implementation of a new curriculum, report card results may also reflect students’ ‘learning curve’ in terms of the change in expectations for learning in their year level. This is not cause for concern, as teachers are adapting and adjusting their teaching/learning to ensure that students receive the necessary prior knowledge and are supported through their learning tasks. Also, C2C units are in ongoing review and adjustment, based on feedback from teachers. However, it is worth noting the fact that report card results in English, Maths, Science, Geography and History this semester are based on the new content descriptors and year level Achievement Standards from the Australian Curriculum, and as such may not be reliably compared to previous years’ results. For further information on the Australian Curriculum standards visit the online curriculum at http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/

Over recent years, parents, students and teachers across Queensland are gradually becoming more familiar with a 5-point scale (e.g. A-E) process for reporting in all schools.

The new system schools are using refers to attainment standards called “benchmarks of achievement” or “criteria.” So what makes an “A”, “B”, “C” etc is predetermined by a scale of achievement. Any student who shows evidence of meeting a particular level, deserves that benchmark grade.

This is what you could consider the new difference for a “C” really means:

A “C” means that the student has met the criteria for a learner to be at the appropriate age level.

A “C” means that the student is doing everything required at their Year Level at school. The best description is to say that a “C” means that the student’s academic development is exactly where it needs to be.

That means attaining a “C” for Achievement means you are ON TARGET for your age level!

With all of this in mind, we must accept that it may be harder to get an “A” or “B”. These grades are not awarded simply to the top students in the class. They are only given to students who show that they are independently capable of working beyond the criteria required for their Year Level.

FOOD HANDLING COURSE FOR VOLUNTEERS

Where: At Warwick Central
Cost: $10.00
Date: 18th July 2014
Time: 9:00 to approximately 11:00
Certified certificate at the conclusion of the course
Making the most of your parent-teacher interview

It makes sense for you as a parent to be prepared and ready to make the most of the brief time you have with teachers.

Parent-teacher interviews provide a great opportunity for you as a parent to find out how your child is progressing at school.

Many parent-teacher interviews are tightly scheduled and can seem a little rushed. Teachers are generally highly organised so they can make the most of the time you have together.

It makes sense also for you as a parent to be prepared and ready to make the most of the brief time you have with teachers.

Here are some guidelines to make the most of these interviews:

1. **Prepare well.** Before the interview, list any questions that you want to raise. Keep questions short and to the point.

2. **Attend with a partner or friend** particularly if you are nervous or unsure. It is easy to miss a point and often difficult to relay information to a partner.

3. **Give the teacher a chance to** make an assessment of your child’s progress. This may seem obvious but some interviews never get off the ground because enthusiastic parents take over.

4. **Take notes and clarify information** that you don’t understand.
   “What do you mean by ‘he needs to spend more time reading’...?”

   Make sure you have a good understanding of the messages your child’s teacher is giving.

5. **Be prepared to give an assessment of your child’s performance.** You may be asked how you think your child is performing so give an honest, but realistic assessment.

6. **Ask how you can help your child if there are any areas that need to be strengthened.** No doubt your child’s teacher will have some strategies for you to assist your child, so make sure you have a clear understanding before you leave.

   If there are unresolved issues or you wish to discuss your child’s difficulties in greater detail, consider asking for another interview. This is being respectful of the teacher’s time and of those parents who are to follow.

   Once the interview is over consider how you will discuss it with your child.

   Avoid giving generalisations or simplistic appraisals such as: “The teacher says you are a good girl.”

   Discuss areas that need work in positive terms. Talk about strengths or successes first before discussing areas that may need more work.

   A clear message such as, “We talked about your reading and the teacher suggested that we should try...” is far more helpful.

   Involve your child in discussing any plans for improvement. Avoid making big plans for your child to improve in a subject area without consulting him or her. By involving children and taking notice of their ideas plans are more likely to be successful.
Tallebudgera Year 6 parents please be advised that you may make payment towards your child's school camp at any time from now until early November.