Welcome Back!

Where has the year gone?? We hope that Term 4 will be busy, productive, and positive, as students complete their final units of study and prepare for the challenge of moving up a year level in 2014. Next year will be momentous, with both our Year 6 & 7 classes leaving at the end of the year, with the move of Year 7 to high school throughout Queensland. Please make an appointment with me to discuss any queries or concerns you may have.

Absentee Line 46604366 available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Remember to call in anytime to explain your child or children’s absences. We all know that at times, it is difficult to find time to call, or written messages can be lost or misplaced, so letters are sent home to ensure that we have no unexplained absences for your children.

Junior Landcare Conference a great success!

Our school came alive from Friday, September 27 to Sunday, September 29, as 48 children from all over Queensland enjoyed a wide range of activities to develop awareness about the precious resource, water, on our planet! While their parents participated in the State Landcare Conference at St Mary's Upper School, the children interacted really well together and learnt lots about biodiversity, rivers, and our Australian wildlife. Mrs Catherine Potter and Angela Burrowes provided the program and the presenters, as well as resources for the children, and, as we all remember from our very successful Sustainability Day, they did a GREAT job! Mr Alun Roberts, a teacher from Warwick West SS, was the chief supervisor, ably assisted by Mrs Robyn Marsh, Ms Jayne Shelley, Mrs Jill Mitchell, and, providing the delicious food for three days, our P&C members. Rachael & Matthew Atherton, Jill & Russell Neucom, and Alexander Manfield, worked together to ensure that everyone was well-fed. I was lucky enough to join the conference on Saturday and Sunday, and thoroughly enjoyed the experience! Well done, everyone!

P&C Meeting next week, Wednesday, October 16 at 5:30pm in the Hall

Everyone is most welcome to attend the monthly general meeting of our P&C Association! We really appreciate your good ideas and your contributions to the group. Now that the weather is warmer, please come along and share a light supper with us! Alexander Manfield runs a great meeting, keeping a close eye on time and ensuring that the agenda is closely followed. We would love to see some new faces! It is quickly getting to the end of the year, so we would appreciate lots of helping hands with the arrangements for break-up, passing out parade, graduation, and our final disco for the year.

Road Safety Reminder

Our very busy, conscientious, and capable crossing supervisors will be having a chat to the children on parade this week about the importance of using the crossings, particularly at the busiest times of the day, both before and after school. The local police will also be doing regular patrols to check that the road rules are being followed by everyone.

Staff Changes

Mrs Margaret Gambrill is on leave, and will be replaced by Mrs Marion Burrill for the first four weeks, Mrs Cathy Petrasiunas returns to behaviour management on Mondays and Tuesdays, as well as taking Mrs Cavanagh’s class each Wednesday, and Mr Stephen Clark will take up duty with the Prep H class each Thursday and Friday, working closely with Ms Carmen Hentschel to provide a quality prep program for the students. Mrs Guymer is also on leave and will be replaced by Mr Bob Baldwin, who has been working each Wednesday in her class for most of the year. Adrienne returns in Week 3. Mr & Mrs Willing have returned from their holiday in Europe, which they thoroughly enjoyed! We look forward to hearing lots of vacation stories!

Principal’s Prattle EVERY week at 9:30am, Monday, in Library

Principal’s Prattle continues next week, and will focus on spelling rules next week. Spelling continues to be a challenge for some students, particularly if they are not visual learners, so the use of rules and rhymes to assist, can help scaffold their learning. Everyone is most welcome!

Insights Article this week

This week’s article is about the importance of reading daily – something we all enjoy doing with our children and grandchildren! Some of our happiest times as a family have been when we have been reading together! I hope you enjoy the article and find some great ideas for your family!

Puzzle of the Week

This term’s word puzzles are called ‘Word Ends!’ The middle of a word is given, and you have to guess what the missing letters are. The first and last letters are the same in the following word: _rom_. What is the word? Answer in next week’s newsletter!

Joke of the Week - How do you start a firefly race? Ready, set, glow!!!!

Thought for the Week: Having somewhere to go is home, having someone to love is family, having both is a blessing!

Have a great week! Chris
SWIMMING INSTRUCTION - Learn to swim will be conducted in fourth term. Days are as follows:

**Wednesday:** 4/5D 7C (Oct 16, 23, 30 Nov 6, 13, 20, 27)

**Thursday:** 2P 4A 6C 5M 3W (Oct 10, 17, 24, 31 Nov 7, 14)

**Friday:** 1T 1G 2/3D (Oct 18, 25 Nov 1, 15, 22 & 29)

Cost: $2.60 Students need to bring swimmers, towel and goggles (if possible). If your child has any concerns about the program please do not hesitate to contact the school. It is important for parents/caregivers to value learn to swim lessons and support it with your child’s attendance.

Payment - Parents, it is possible for you to pay for all swimming lessons at once rather than remembering to send $2.60 each week.