5 February 2016

Principal’s Report

Welcome to Week 2 Term 1.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back to Woodford P-10 State School. I do hope you had a fantastic summer holiday with family and friends. A special welcome to our new families. It is lovely to walk around the school and see the smiling faces.

Welcome New Staff

Ms Kylie Kirch: Kylie comes to us from Beachmere and she is in our 4/5 classroom.

Mr Brian Appelman: Brian is back after a year at Charters Towers. He is our PE teacher in Primary.

Congratulations Mrs Stephanie Schutt (Secondary English/Art) and Mr Drew Ricker (Secondary HPE) on being appointed permanently at Woodford P-10 State School.

A Big Week for Our New Prep Students

I have been to visit our new Prep students a number of times this week and they are so incredible. It is like they have been attending school forever. Congratulations to parents, students and staff for enabling the transition to be so successful for our little ones.

Prep Enrolment Change

Please be informed that Prep enrolments may now include children who turned 5 before 31 July in 2015. Please make contact with the school office for further information. This has been a new initiative put forward by the Department of Education, Training and Employment.

Explicit Improvement Agenda for 2016

Curriculum Focus

Writing: Develop/Implement a new writing program: The goal for students is to understand and use writing in real life settings to communicate their ideas, share information, stimulate thinking, formulate questions, or influence policy and actions.

Reading: Embed reading strategies that will support students in becoming successful readers/learners at school and in real life.

Attendance: Every day counts! We will focus on students attendance, ensuring attendance rate remains above 90%. This equates to no more than 5 days absent each term. Consistent attendance will help to build student confidence and capability so they may experience success at school and in the real world.

We will Monitor

Numeracy progress: In Mathematics we will continue to focus on fluency and reasoning within number.

U2B (Upper 2 Bands) Knowing our students and their achievement levels with a focus on maintaining a high standard in literacy and numeracy.


**P & C News**

The P & C held their AGM on Wednesday 3 February. A big thankyou to our 2015 P & C Executive and members for your great work and ongoing support throughout the year. Together we air conditioned all our primary classrooms. The P & C also donated a substantial amount of money to the Chaplaincy Program at Woodford.

Congratulations to our incoming executive:

- President: Leanne Klein
- Vice President: Greg Jackson
- Secretary: Lauren Keig
- Treasurer: Dennyse Mosley

Woodford P-10 State School looks forward to another great year with our incredible family support base.

**Meet the Teachers**

Please place Wednesday 10 February in your diaries. Staff will be hosting Meet the Teacher workshops to inform you as to how they will be working within their classroom and with your child/ren throughout 2016.

Our wonderful P & C will provide a free sausage sizzle for families and drinks will be available for purchase.

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**Evacuation Procedures**

Under the title of routines and procedures school’s practice evacuations and lock downs. In reference to the bomb threats schools around the nation are/have been receiving over the last 2 weeks we made a decision to practice our evacuation procedure sooner than later to allow our Prep’s and new students to experience this process.

In the unfortunate circumstance that we may receive one of these calls the school would endeavour to send out an alert email (this may not always be possible). If children were expected to be on the oval for an extended period of time we would walk them through the farm area to the Woodford Community Hall where they would have access to water and toilets.

Police would be managing the school site.

Parents who wish to access their children would be expected to park on Archer Street and walk through the farm easement to the school oval. If students are not at the oval they will be at the Community Hall. If you plan on taking your child please sign them out with the office staff who will be wearing high viz vests as the school needs to be accountable for students whereabouts.

It saddens me that I am even having this conversation with you, however I would rather our communication be open and forward thinking. I have made a request to the Moreton Bay Regional Council that the town hall be added to our emergency response plan.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me. Your child/ren is safety and wellbeing will always be our highest priority.

*Ronnie*

**News from Junior Secondary**

**Home Learning / Home Work**

Our Home Learning policy was sent home Monday. We are a homework providing school however home learning should take into account the demands of contemporary family life and parents should have the choice of opting out of homework for their child if they believe it is not beneficial to the child or they feel it is having a negative impact on the child’s attitude towards learning. If parents make this choice on behalf of their child, there will be no negative consequence imposed by the school.

**Responsibility of ALL students:**

- Reading at home to and with adults, and/or independently
- Assessment Task completion (in line with the school’s Assessment Policy as laid out in the Curriculum Guide and the student diary)

**Responsibility of student where parents opt in for their child to do homework includes:**

- Take the learning tasks home, completing them to the best of their ability and returning them to school in the agreed time; and,

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**Safe and Supportive School Environment**

**Wk 1 - School Routines:** Establish individual Classroom Expectations

**Wk 2 - School Routines:** Discuss/Roll play school routines across the whole school

Within the PBL (Positive Behaviour for Learning) and ASoT (Art and Science of Teaching) framework Woodford P-10 will be focussing on Routines and Procedures, Relationships and Learning Goals for the beginning of Term 1. Please discuss this with your classroom teachers.
• Seek assistance from the teacher where necessary (Study Session runs from 3-4pm every Tuesday).

Responsibility of parents / guardians includes:
• Completing and returning a notification of an intention to opt in either partially or wholly, or opt out of home learning.

Please ensure this form is completed and returned to the school by Friday 5 February.

Electronic Device Agreement
We recognise that electronic communication devices are an important part of our everyday world and are increasingly being used in teaching and learning. However, we do not want these devices to interfere with the students’ learning environment. Our school has devised a policy whereby students may use their devices for certain activities during break times however it is to be off and out of sight during class time.

The Student Electronic Device Agreement was sent home on Monday. Please read it with your student and ensure this form is completed and returned to the school by Friday 5 February.

ICT Agreement Form
Secondary students are required to complete an ICT Agreement Form for each year of secondary schooling. It is vital that students abide by the conditions outlined in the document for their safety as well as the security of our school network. Please read it with your student and ensure this form is completed and returned to the school by Friday 5 February.

Year 7 – 10 Meet & Greet Expo
On Wednesday 10 February we will be hosting our annual Meet & Greet EXPO! We would like for you to witness first-hand the learning experiences that your students will experience in their time here at Woodford. We will have activities from all curriculum areas set up in the hall for you to try. Our Expo will run from 4:45 – 5:45 inclusive. There is no formal presentation as part of the Meet & Greet. Please drop in, browse the activities on offer and introduce yourself to your student’s teachers.

Looking forward to meeting with you!

Lockers
The hire fee for student lockers is $20 for the year. Students must provide their own keyed lock and a key must be provided to the school. The student resource scheme must be paid in full ($130) as well as their Elective Levies before a locker will be allocated to the student. Locker Agreements will go out to Year 10 students Monday of Week 3. Year 9 students will receive theirs Friday of Week 3 and Year 8’s the following Friday. Any leftover lockers will be available to the Year 7 students via a lottery.

Year 10 – Certificate 1 in Construction
Barry Kennedy from Axiom College was welcomed into the school this week to assist our Year 10 students in obtaining a Certificate 1 in Construction.

Special Education Program ‘Meet and Greet’
Parents and carers of verified students with disabilities are invited to a Meet and Greet at S block on Monday 8 February at 2:00pm. Refreshments will be provided.

This is a wonderful opportunity to meet your child’s case manager and discuss any particular concerns, strengths and needs. The case manager will also be able to outline any EQ processes that will influence your child.

Many parents find this is a valuable time to meet other like-minded parents and form some networks.

Your child has a note with an RSVP, please look for this if you haven’t received this information.

If you require any further information please contact me through the office on 54225 333.

Brenda King
HOSES

Secondary Swimming Classes
Secondary Swimming Carnival will be held on Tuesday 9 February. Students have chosen a ‘Hawaiian’ theme again this year and we are all anticipating a fun day. The day commences at approximately 9.30am. Suitable swimwear, a hat, rashie/shirt and sunscreen must be worn. Two piece bikinis are not permitted. Entry fee into the pool is $2.90 and is payable at the pool. All parents/carers are welcome. See you there!

Junior School Leaders
On Wednesday 10 February and Thursday 11 February at 9:00 am, the Year 6 students will be presenting speeches to their peers for positions of Junior School Leaders and Junior House Leaders. We look forward to listening to the presentations. Year 5 and 6 students are able to nominate themselves as class representatives for student council. These students will present their speeches to their own class. Good luck to all of our nominees.

Immunisation program comes to school
In 2016, Moreton Bay Regional Council is providing free vaccinations for all Year 7 and Year 8 students, on 22/3/16, 1/6/16, 13/10/16, as part of Queensland Health’s annual School Immunisation Program.
All Year 7 and Year 8 students are being offered free vaccinations as recommended on the National Immunisation Program to protect against human papillomavirus (HPV), varicella (chickenpox) and diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (whooping cough).

In 2016, Year 7 and Year 8 students are being offered free vaccinations as Queensland is transitioning the School Immunisation Program from Year 8 to Year 7.

Transitioning the program to Year 7 will ensure adolescents continue to receive their vaccinations within the recommended age range (11-13 years) and align Queensland’s School Immunisation Program with other Australian adolescent programs which are delivered in the first year of secondary school.

The vaccinations will be conducted by a team of specially trained registered nurses and/or a medical practitioner.

A consent form for each vaccination offered will be given to your child to bring home. Please read the information carefully, sign the consent form and return consent form to the school by 4/3/2016.

Parents are encouraged to ensure their children have breakfast on the morning of vaccination.


**Prep Classes**

The Prep classes had a wonderful start to the year. The students settled well and enjoyed activities such as outdoor and indoor play, listening to stories and participating in number studies, sorting and letter and sound activities.

Please remember to send in a family photo as we are learning about families and history.

It is wonderful to see children remembering their hats, water bottles and fruit break every day. We look forward to working with you this year.

*Mrs McGregor and Mrs Henry*

**Year 3A News – Middle School is Awesome!**

The new school year has started and our class is already getting organized for a busy term. Most mornings we start with our daily calendar before our weekly spelling words and maths number facts practice. We are writing persuasive texts in English and investigating “Is it Living?” in Science. There’s lots to fit in daily, but we like to find time for a story or game together every day. Maths games and puzzles are very popular this week. Our main focus for success in 3A this term, is to be in control of our learning and to complete work with pride. Yes we are ready for Middle School!

**Year 7 Recount**

As I nervously walked through the gates of Woodford high school, I thought to myself that this year will be a wonderful year. When I went to my first English class, I found out we were learning about advertising and I was so happy. Maths has been so much fun, learning more about percentages, fractions and lots more. My teachers are awesome because they don’t treat us like little children. Being in high school is awesome because we can learn a lot more. I think I can say on behalf of the Year 7’s that we are having so much fun and are able to be ourselves.
Student Resource Scheme

Invoices will be sent home with your child next week, prompt payment would be greatly appreciated. Our preferred payment method is BPoint please refer to the attached link for further information:-

If you wish to set up a payment plan you will need to either contact Joanne Bliesner the Business Services Manager on 5422 5333 or make an appointment to see her. Centrepay is another option for families. If you receive any Centrelink payment we can organise a regular fortnightly payment to be taken from your Centrelink payment before you receive it. For the Centrepay option I can include Student Resource Scheme, Subject levies, Excursions, Camps and Uniforms. To organise this you will need to make an appointment to see the Business Services Manager to complete paperwork. This is a set and forget arrangement that takes a lot of financial pressure off families.

By Katie-lee Irwin

P & C News

Our AGM was held on 3 February. Our new team of executives and members aim to make 2016 a productive year to support our school and its students. New members are always welcome. Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 9 March at 6.30 pm in the school admin building.

Like us on Facebook – Woodford P & C. Any P & C matters or upcoming events will be communicated on our facebook page, in the school newsletters, notices sent home, displays around the school and on the electronic notice board.

Middle School Awards

Early Year Awards

Date Claimers

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<td>SEP Meet and Greet</td>
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<td>9 February</td>
<td>Secondary Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>District Swimming Trials 10-12 years</td>
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<td>Meet and Greet</td>
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<td>QUT Science and Engineering challenge</td>
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<td>P &amp; C Meeting</td>
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<td>District Netball Trials 10-12 years</td>
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