

Newsletter
every second
Thursday

Clare State School The Messenger



CLARE STATE SCHOOL

Important Dates

4-5/2 – Boars and Barras Competition	9-10/2 - GRIP Leadership Camp	7 and 14/2 – Cricket Clinics
14/2 – Sweethearts Day	16/2 – Student Leadership Speeches	16/2 – Playgroup meets
17/2 – Student Leaders Announced	21/2 – Parent Reading Information Session	24/2 – Student Leaders Induction Parade

Thursday 2 February 2017

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back to the 2017 school year for those who are returning and welcome to those who are new to our school community. I hope you all had a wonderful break with your families and wish you all the best for 2017.

Here at school, the year has certainly started with a bang. You will be pleased to know that our enrolment of 21 students means that we can continue as 2 classes for this year. The educational benefits offered to the students through this set-up are excellent.

Our school goals have also been set for this year. The three goals that we have for this year are: implement Positive Behaviour For Learning across the school, have 90% of our students passing Maths and have 90% of our students passing English. As a staff and community, we will be working towards these goals throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Troy Patti

Principal



Burdekin Boars and Barras Competition

This weekend, the Burdekin Boars and Barras Competition will be held at the Clare Club. This is a major fundraiser for our school and unites the Clare community. Tickets are available at the office for those wishing to enter the fishing or hunting sections of the competition. Any members of the school community who are able to volunteer their time, please come down to the Clare Club at 12:30 on Sunday to assist with selling merchandise and weighing in everyone's catch. There is also a lucky door prize and tickets for this can be bought at the Clare Club on

Saturday and Sunday. Please support this outstanding event.

In the 3-6 Class

The first 2 weeks of 2017 have certainly been busy in the 3-6 class. In English, students have been learning about narrative writing. The yr 3 and 4 students will have to write their own narrative, whilst the yr 5 and 6 students need to analyse a narrative for their assessment task. The next unit for English will be a persuasive unit which will ensure that those students in year 3 and 5 are prepared for NAPLAN in term 2.

The other subject areas are also moving along nicely. In Maths, the students have covered a number of topics such as multiplication strategies, addition and subtraction strategies, estimation, telling time to 5 minute intervals on digital and analogue clocks, fractions and four digit numbers. We have also started our science unit, where we have been looking at Climate Change and its effects, and in Geography we have defined places and spaces that are special.

Many of the students have also shown a keen interest in the new subject that we are offering this year, Digital Technologies. During this unit, students will identify the parts of digital systems and explain how they work and what they are used for. They will also plan, design and create a simple maze or guessing game using Scratch software.

Please come in to our classroom and look at our learning walls to see what we have been learning.

P-2 Class

Prep – 2 have been working hard the last 2 weeks and have settled in nicely into school and our classroom routine.

We have been working on spoken presentations in English, with the help of Clarerissa, who is a hit in the classroom!

Preps have been busy learning their letters and sounds, sight words and numbers as well.



The students are very excited to have welcomed some pets into the classroom, as I'm sure all the mums and dads are well aware of by now. We have 2 hermit crabs, Spongebob and Squidward and we will also be getting some small fish and some chickens. Mind you, we will have to wait for the chickens to hatch first.

The purpose of the pets is for part of their science unit this term where they will be looking at 'our living world' and looking at the needs and habitats of living things.

They will also be learning how to put slideshows using pictures, sounds and movement.

Gotchas – Positive Behaviour For Learning

As a part of Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL), we will be continuing with Gotchas for this year. Again, the challenge has been set for the students to achieve 800 Gotchas by the end of Term 1. If this challenge is met, students will get to decide a fun activity that they will do for a Rewards Day. All students will be offered the opportunity to attend this day unless they have more than 1 major behavior incident recorded against them during this term. Even with the first week being short, the students were able to achieve 31 Gotchas.



To fully implement PBL, we have also taken the first steps towards re-writing our school rules. Our new school rules are: Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be a Learner. These rules have been discussed by the staff and students and will also be discussed by the P&C at their next meeting. Once the rules have been agreed on by all parties, they will form part of our Responsible Behaviour Plan.

Parents and Citizens Association Meeting

The next P&C Meeting for this year will be held on Monday 6 March at 4:30pm in the library. Please come along and join our P&C as they do a wonderful job of raising funds for our school and ensuring that the students have the best social, emotional and educational experience. This year, the P&C have already helped fund the Leadership Camp that the Year 6 students are going on next week.



Staffing for 2017

As mentioned before, I am pleased to announce that we will have 2 classes this year with Mrs Doran teaching the P-2 class and Mrs Annette Wellington and I teaching the Year 3-6 class. We welcome Mrs Wellington back to Clare State School as she was here many years ago as a classroom teacher and has also taught Physical Education here in the past. Mrs Wellington will also teach the Health and Physical Education for the entire school.

We also welcome Mrs Lisa Nash onto our staff as the groundskeeper for 2017.



Queensland Cricket Clinics

On 7 and 14 February, a representative from Queensland Cricket will come to Clare Sate School to conduct cricket clinics with all of the children. These clinics are free of charge and will be run during school hours.

Playgroup

Today marked the first meeting of our newly formed Clare State School Playgroup. It was great to see the children having a fantastic time learning, playing and making friends with others. Thank you to Rachael Booth, our co-ordinator, for volunteering to run our playgroup. Playgroup will meet in the library every second Thursday from 8:30 – 10:30. All children that are under school age are welcome to attend. If you know of anyone with children in this age-group, please encourage them to come along. Playgroup is free but all children must be have a parent or guardian present.



Sweethearts Day

The fourteenth of February is celebrated around the world as Valentine's Day but at Clare State School we will be asking the children to dress up in blue and make a gold coin donation for Sweethearts Day. This day raises funds and awareness for children with heart conditions. All monies raised will go to the foundation - HeartKids Limited. Appropriate school shoes must still be worn and shirts must have sleeves. No bare stomachs or shoulders please. Please support this worthwhile cause.

Leadership Camp

On 9 and 10 February, students in year 6 will be heading off to Townsville for the GRIP Leadership Camp. The boys will be accompanied by Mrs Corradi and Mr Patti as they attend the leadership conference on Thursday and go bowling, play laser tag and take part in a tour through the Townsville Bulletin on Friday. Notes have been sent home with the year 6 students. Please return these notes and monies to the Office by Monday 6 February.

Student Leaders

This year we have 5 elected leadership positions which are open to the students of year 5 and 6. All students in year 5 and 6 will present a leadership speech on Thursday 16 from 8:30 – 9:00 under the Covered Play Area. This speech will be presented to staff, students and any parents and community members who wish to come along. Once the speeches have finished, all of the staff and students will get to vote for the leaders of 2017.

The Leadership positions are:

Available to Year 6 only	Available to Year 5 and 6
School Captain Sports Captain	President of the Student Council Treasurer of the Student Council Secretary of the Student Council

Students who do not receive an elected leadership position will be Student Leaders and all positions will receive badges at our Induction Parade, which will be held on 24 February.

Students in Year 4 will also have the opportunity to participate in Student Council Meetings.



Reading Rotations and Spelling Mastery

Thank you to those parents and carers who have volunteered their time to assist with our Reading Rotations and Spelling Mastery. These programmes will start next week on Monday. If you have not put your name down to help, and would like to, please fill in the attached form and return it to the school office as soon as possible.

Also, if any parents and carers can volunteer to cover library books, this would be greatly appreciated. We are updating the books that we use for Reading Rotations and these books need to be covered before the end of this term. Any help will be warmly welcomed. Please see Mrs Corradi if you can help us.

Goals Charts

The goals set by students last year proved to be very engaging and improved the students' focus and results. These will be done again this year. Please complete the attached note by setting a goal for your child for this term.



Invoices for Senior Shirts and Textbooks

Invoices for Senior Shirts and Textbooks will be sent out next Tuesday. The Year 2 – 6 students will be invoiced for a spelling textbook and Maths textbook while students in Prep will only be invoiced for a Maths textbook.

First Day of Clare State School Playgroup



Clare State School Playgroup meets every second Thursday from 8:30 – 10:30 in our Library. All children under school age are welcome!