Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to week 3 of Term 2. This term is already flying by and there is so much work to get through. I am happy to say that the majority of children have returned to school with a good attitude and a willingness to learn. At Clare State School we have high expectations for our entire community and we expect our students to try hard at all times. Make sure you take some time out of your schedule to discuss your child’s school work, goals and results with them.

NAPLAN

On Tuesday 12th, Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th May, students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 across Australia will take part in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The students will sit these tests as listed below.

- Tuesday 12th — Language conventions and Writing
- Wednesday 13th — Reading
- Thursday 14th — Numeracy

The best way to assist your child prepare for NAPLAN is to talk to them about it being a routine part of their school program, and to urge them to do the best they can on the day.

Later in the year we will send you an individual student NAPLAN report that you can use to view and monitor how your child is progressing.

Cross Country

The details for the Burdekin District Cross Country (9 Years -- 12 Years) 2015 are as follows:

- Date: Friday 08th May 2015
- Venue: Old Ayr Race Course – Cunningham Street, Ayr
- Time: Start 9.10 am Finish 11:45 am

Nine and 10 year olds will run two circuits of the 1km course (2kms in total) while the 11 and 12 year olds will run two circuits of the senior course which is 1.5km (3kms in total).

If your child is interested in competing in this event please let the school know by Wednesday 6th May (Tomorrow).

Anzac Day Parade 2015

Thank you to all the families and our students who made the effort to attend the ANZAC day parade in Ayr. As always the Clare State School children displayed excellent behaviour and were respectful of the ANZAC tradition. It was great to be a part of the march and ceremony for such a special occasion. Thank you to Joshua, Meggan and Samuel for leading our school with pride.

School Photos

School Photos will be taken on Tuesday 19th May. Please ensure all photo payment envelopes are returned to the school, prior to this date, with either the correct money or the reference information that the account has been paid online.
Cricket Carnival

The Clare Cricket Carnival on May 2nd was once again an amazing day of cricket and fun activities. As I have previously said, the cricket carnival is a wonderful community day that brings together not only Clare residents but those from further afield too. Congratulations to the Clare Cricket Club committee for their successful organisation and running of the 2015 event.

Keeping Children Safe

Children are our most precious resource. It is our responsibility, as parents and teachers, to safeguard children and to teach them the skills to be safe. Every home and school should teach children about safety and protection measures. As a parent, you should take an active interest in your children and listen to them. Teach your children that they can be assertive in order to protect themselves. Most importantly, make your home a place of trust and support that meets your child’s needs. Together we can protect children by teaching them to be smart, strong, and safe.

Tips for discussing child safety

Who should talk about Child Safety? YOU! A parent is the best person to teach a child about personal safety.

When should you start talking about safety? NOW! There is no perfect age when parents should begin teaching children about personal safety but consider a child’s age and developmental level when talking about safety.

How? LISTEN to your children. Encourage open communication. Let your children know they can talk to you about any situation. Reassure your children that their safety is your number 1 concern.

TEACH your children. Set boundaries about places they may go, people they may see, and things they may do. Reinforce the importance of the “buddy system.”

Tips for Parents to Help Their Children Stay Safe

Safety at Home

Children should know their full name, home phone number and how to use the telephone or how to dial 000 from a mobile phone. Post your contact information where your children will see it; such as on the fridge. Children should have a trusted adult to call if they’re scared or have an emergency.

Safety in the Neighbourhood

Tell your children whose homes they are allowed to visit. Teach your children not to engage with adults who approach them for help or directions. Tell your children that if they are approached by an adult, they should stay alert because this may be a “trick.” Children should never go anywhere with anyone without getting your permission first.

Safety at School

Be careful when you put your child’s name on backpacks as if a child’s name is visible, it may put them on a “first name” basis with a stranger. Walk the route to and from school with your children, pointing out landmarks and safe places to go if they’re being followed or need help. Discuss road safety rules.

Adapted from the Child Development Institute Website.
Lorin Nicholson’s Presentation at Clare State School on 17th June at 11am

Clare State School will be hosting a presentation by Lorin Nicholson on the 17th June at 11am. We have also invited other small schools to participate in this presentation.

Lorin’s list of achievements in music, sport, education and business are quite remarkable, however what makes his successes even more extraordinary is that he was born with Retinitis Pigmentosa and has been legally blind his entire life. Lorin and his younger brother Dean created Australian history when they became the first blind persons to ride over 4000 kilometres across Australia in a four week epic journey from Perth to Sydney.

Lorin is also one of Australia’s highest-selling independent artists, he is a virtuoso guitarist with five albums to his credit and is also the published author of an inspirational children’s book. Lorin was honoured as an “Australian of the Year” nominee and was later awarded a Queensland service award for his valuable contribution to the community.

Lorin travels to schools all around Australia and speaks to students about what it means to live a full and meaningful life. The cost for this presentation for each student will be $10 and a payment form will be sent home closer to the date for collection of this fee. Parents and other interested community member are welcome to attend this presentation.

Thank you.

Lee Braney
Principal

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FIRST AID COURSE
DATE: Monday 18th MAY 2015
DURATION: Full Day – First Aid Course. 8:30am – 4:00pm
OPENINGS: 5 Positions still available. (Maximum 10 per class)
LOCATION: Mio College – Cert. III Room (Above Administration)
PRICE: $160/per person.

Mio College is considering organising more First Aid days in the future, with Saturdays being looked at as an option. If you would like any more information or have any enquiries in regards to the First Aid Courses please don’t hesitate to contact us on (07) 4782 7111.