

Newsletter
every second
Thursday

Clare State School

The Messenger



CLARE STATE SCHOOL

Our Focus: Improving student outcomes through explicit teaching of writing within the curriculum (English, Maths, Science and HASS focus learning areas)

We will know that we have achieved this when:	Achieved?	
100% of Year 3 students achieve the National Minimum Standard with NAPLAN Writing and 50% achieve in the Upper 2 Bands (top 20% of the nation).		
100% of Year 5 students achieve the National Minimum Standard with NAPLAN Writing and 45% achieve in the Upper 2 Bands (top 20% of the nation).		
90% of all students achieve a 'C' or better in English, Maths, Science and HASS.	English – 85% Maths – 85%	Science – 85% HASS – 80%
45% of all students achieve an 'A' or 'B' in English, Maths, Science and HASS.	English – 42% Maths – 63%	Science – 63% HASS – 50%
100% of parents and students satisfied with feedback given to students.		
100% of students in Year 5 show a gain that is similar or above to the nation in NAPLAN data when their current results are compared to their results in year 3.		

Important Dates

3/8 – Small Schools' Athletics Carnival	7/8 – Playgroup	8/8 – Camp Meeting
13/8 – Playgroup	14/8 – ASHS Year 6 Transition Day	15/8 – Cricket Clinic
17/8 – District Athletics Carnival	21/8 – Playgroup	21 – 23/8 – Burdekin Festival of Arts and Book Fair
23/8 – Ventriloquist and Magician Visit	24/8 – Inter-School Cricket	27/8 – Playgroup
29/8 – Child Injury Prevention Day	31/8 – Inter-School Cricket	3-7/9 – Camp
4/9 – Playgroup	7/9 – P-2 Excursion to Ayr	10/9 – Playgroup
14/9 – Inter-School Cricket	17/9 – Under 8s Day	18/9 – Playgroup
19/9 – Fancy Dress Ball	20/9 – Oral Reporting	21/9 – Last Day of Term 3

Thursday 2 August

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Transitioning between educational institutions is a very important component of ensuring that all children have the best start possible to the next phase of their education. Our school has robust partnerships with all of the local kindergartens where information is shared about student strengths, weaknesses and needs. Last week these relationships were further strengthened when I had the wonderful opportunity to visit three of the local kindergartens. These visits allowed me the opportunity to engage with the children, discuss the early years' curriculum with the kindergarten teachers and observe how kindergartens operate and the types of activities that the children engage with. There were a number of ideas that we will now be modifying to implement in our programme with our Prep – Year 2 cohort. Thanks to the kindergartens for allowing this opportunity.

At the other end of their primary schooling, our year 6 students will be taking part in a Transition Day to Ayr State High School on 14 August. There will also be more Transition Days between now and the end of the year as well as a visit to our school by a member of Ayr State High School's administration team. This transition programme allows our students to become familiar with the processes, facilities and curriculum demands of high school. It also allows us to communicate the strengths, weaknesses and needs of our students to the High School.

Sincerely,

Troy Patti - Principal

In the Classroom



Over the past two weeks, our classrooms have been a hive of activity with students participating in a range of exciting, engaging and challenging activities. In the P-2 group, our students have been retelling stories and comparing short stories to information texts. The students have been analysing the story 'Old Pig', a very sad story, and have been doing more independent writing. They have also started a new Phonemic Awareness Programme to complement Jolly Phonics. They have also been doing addition and subtraction in Maths and learnt how to partition shapes and collections into halves.

Our year 3 and 4 students, have been doing lots of work with money problems, division and multiplication. Our year 3 students are currently completing their first assessment task for the term, which is an e-assessment on representing money amounts and calculating change. They, along with the year 5 and 6 students, have also been analysing poems. The year 3s have been reading funny poems and explaining what the poet has done to make them humorous whilst the other students have been analysing narrative poetry and some have started to convert their poem into a short story.

The year 5 and 6 students have also been doing lots of work in Maths and have covered many concepts such as multiplication, division, written addition strategies, negative numbers, the cartesian plane and financial mathematics. It has been encouraging to see many of these students putting in their best effort in Mathematics and their efforts are starting to be seen in their results.

Our year 3 – 6 students have also been learning about coding through an online teaching programme. Over the past few weeks the year 3 and 4 students have been familiarising themselves with drag and drop coding by creating simple games whilst the year 5 and 6 students have been writing their own codes. Yesterday, they also started to create their own robots with the brand new robotics kits that our school has purchased through these programmes.

These students have also been learning heaps in Science where they have investigated the changes between solids, liquids and gases. They have even got to make ice-cream! The temptation was too much for the P-2 students as they worked quickly to complete all of their work about farm practices in Technologies so that they could join in for the lesson!

Positive Behaviour For Learning

Recently, it has been pleasing to see so many students doing extra little things that make our school the best. From writing letters on behalf of the Student Council, to setting up obstacle courses and watering our garden and pot plants, many of our students have taken on extra roles within our school community. Well done kids!



Unfortunately, while some students are working hard to make our school a great place for all, some of our students have been disrespectful to both their peers and staff members. The biggest issue that we are experiencing at the moment is deliberately choosing not to follow instructions in the classroom and choosing not to listen when instructions are being given. This behaviour is limited to a few students in the P-2 and Yr 5-6 cohorts and it is not acceptable. Parents have been, and will continue to be, informed

if their child is exhibiting this behaviour as it has the potential to affect their learning and the learning opportunities available to their peers. As a result, BEING RESPECTFUL is our current focus rule that we are explicitly teaching to all students. Please remind your child about the importance of being respectful.

Parents' and Citizens' Association

The P&C are currently working exceptionally hard to make decorations for Fancy Dress Ball and have pledged some considerable donations to the school to purchase new iPads and subsidise our up-coming school camp. Thank you to our amazing P&C for this support. Please let the P&C know if you are able to assist them in any way.



Playgroup



Our next Playgroup will be held on Tuesday next week (7 August). All children aged 0-5 years and their families are welcome. Bring your kids along and have a chat while they have fun, make friends and learn.

Musica Viva

On Friday, we were joined by the students and staff from Millaroo and Airville State Schools for Musica Viva. The touring group 'Wyniss', a Torres Strait Islander song and dance group, were excellent and the students learnt a great deal about Islander culture while enjoying the songs and dances. Thank you to Mrs Dal Santo for running the music programme and making this fantastic performance happen.



School Camp

From 3 – 7 September all of our year 3 – 6 students will have their School Camp. The camp will be part of our Science Programme where students will look at the many farming practices that occur on various farms throughout Far North Queensland and the chemical changes that occur when cooking the products. The camp will be centred around the Daragee Environmental Education Centre near Innisfail and students will travel to nearby farms and factories over the course of the week. The cost of the camp will be \$160 per child. All permission forms and information are attached to the back of the newsletter. We will also be hosting a camp meeting in the classroom on 8 August at 3:30pm. All parents and guardians are encouraged to attend this meeting as we will discuss everything about the camp and will answer any questions that you have about the camp.

While the year 3-6 students are enjoying themselves on their camp, our students in Prep – Year 2 will also be having a great time with an excursion to Ayr planned for Friday 7 September. During this excursion, the students will visit the Burdekin Theatre to view a play before making their way around to many of Ayr's historical sites. This is part of their HASS curriculum where they have to look at historical sites and discuss why those sites need to be preserved.

Burdekin Festival of Arts

The Burdekin Festival of Arts will be held at the Burdekin Theatre from August 21 – 23. This year our students have entered works in the sections of Narrative Writing (Yr 3 - 6) and Photography (Whole School). We will also be performing our poem "Louder than a Clap of Thunder" and singing a song on

one of these days. The exact date for these performances will be released at a later date. Please venture in to the Burdekin Theatre during the Burdekin Festival of Arts to view your child's works.

Inter-School Sports

Congratulations to the Clare Cricket Team who were victorious against Ayr State Team 2 last Friday. Clare won a close game by 9 runs (108 – 99). Inter-school cricket will return on Friday 24 August. We are still seeking one more parent or guardian to assist with transport too and from the Home Hill Cricket Grounds. Please let the School Office know if you are able to assist.



Burdekin Show Awards

Congratulations to these students for their amazing achievements at the Ayr Show recently.

Georgia Tomasetig: 1st - Short Story, 1st - Nature Photography, Encouragement Award - Clay Sculpture

Billy Booth - 1st – Collage

Flynn Kovacich – 1st – Collage

Kalan Booth – 2nd – People Photography

Rihanna Ferris – 1st – Clay Sculpture and Reserve Champion for the Junior Craft Section

Student Council News

The Clare State School Student Council met last Tuesday and the following ideas were passed:

1. The Student Council will sell icy cups at the Athletics Carnival for \$1 each.
2. A letter is to be sent to the Clare Club asking them if they wish to have their garden revitalised by the Student Council.

The sale of hot chocolates will cease until further notice.

Book Fair

We will be hosting our Book Fair on 21 – 23 August. The Book Fair will be in the Library and parents and their children will be able to come in between 8:00 and 8:30am and between 2:30 and 3:00pm.

Combined Small Schools' Athletics Carnival



Tomorrow will mark our biggest sporting event for the year with 11 small schools from across the Burdekin converging on Clare for the Burdekin Combined Small Schools' Athletics Carnival. The students have spent the past few weeks practicing the various athletic disciplines and games that they will be performing. All family members are encouraged to come along and support our athletes. The students have also made war cries and although they are to wear their school uniform, they are allowed to colour their hair and face (i.e. with zinc cream) in our school colours. They are also welcome to decorate our School's area so long as all decorations are packed away at the end of the day. All of this will go towards them competing with the other schools for the Spirit Award.

Covering Books

If anyone is able to help with covering books, please see Mrs Corradi. There are a number of books that need to be covered in the Library. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Fancy Dress Ball

The annual Fancy Dress Ball is scheduled to be held at the Clare Club on 19 September. The theme is "Back in Time" and the students have started learning some dances from various eras throughout history. The entire Clare Community is welcome to attend. Please see the attached flyer for details.



School Opinion Survey

The School Opinion Survey is now open. All parents and guardians are strongly encouraged to complete the survey. If you need access to a computer, please advise the School Office and we will set you up on one of our school computers. If you have lost your form, also let the School Office know as we do have some spare forms. All surveys are to be completed **by Friday 24 August.**

Year 6 Transition Day to Ayr State High School



On Tuesday 14 August, students in year 6 will be going to Ayr State High School for a Transition Day. The day will start at 9:00am and will finish at 2:00pm. Students will need to arrange their own transport to and from Ayr State High School.