



Clare State School

"The Messenger"



Issue No. 2

17th February, 2014

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to week 4, term 1. I am happy to say that our staffing will not be changing for the remainder of 2014. We have come through 'Day 8' with our numbers at a stable 28. This means we retain our second teacher, which I never doubted we would. We have also retained the services of Kara Flanagan in the Prep – 3 classroom for 2 days a week.

Clare State School is lucky to have the calibre of teachers that we do, with Sharon teaching the upper school and Kara teaching in the lower school. I am excited by the learning that is already occurring across the school and I look forward to seeing the results as the year goes on.

Well done to everyone on such a great start to the year.

Parent information sessions:

Thank you to those parents who made the effort to attend our Parent/Teacher information sessions. During these times, parents were able to meet their child's teacher and hear what their child is currently learning about. As well as this information these parents were informed of upcoming school events and programs that we are currently implementing at school.

Swimming

Congratulations to Joshua Mio for being named age champion for 10 year olds at the B&C swimming carnival. This is 2 years in a row. Joshua you should be proud of yourself, it is an excellent achievement.

Swimming lessons start this **Wednesday 19th February** during our normal PE lessons for the next 6 weeks.

Times:

11.30 – Prep -3

12.15pm – 4 -7

All children need to attend as it is part of the school curriculum. You need to notify the teacher by phone/written note if your child is not attending swimming for that week. All students are required to bring their swimming togs, a sun shirt or other shirt, a towel and sun cream. Goggles are optional but recommended. As we walk to the pool from school all students are asked to wear a hat. Children whose families are not members of the Clare Pool Management Committee are required to

pay \$1.00 per student per lesson which is to be paid directly in the box located at the pool.

Leadership badge Parade

The Year 6, 7 Leaders Badge Ceremony will take place, **9am Thursday, 20th February**. All parents and carers are welcome to attend. We will have a morning tea for the parents and Student Leaders afterwards. We ask that all families of the 'Leaders' please bring a plate of food to share. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Interschool Sport

The year 5 -7 students will be participating in Interschool Sport throughout term 1. We will be playing mixed hockey, as we did in term 1 last year. All players/students will require a mouth guard to participate. The school supplies all shin pads, sticks and balls. Hockey will start **Friday, 28th February**, and will run for 5 weeks.

As was the case last year, we require parent support with transport. If we don't receive enough support to assist with transport, we will not be able to go. We thank you for your assistance. Please find attached a parent transport note which needs to be returned by **Thursday 20th February**.

Travel to and from School

Thank you to all parents and carers for the care taken to adhere to speed limits and parking signage around our school. Please remember that there is a bus zone directly outside the gate. Bus zones are a designated no standing zone. For the safety of our children, I would like to remind you to continue to park outside of this area. I encourage everyone to continue to be vigilant when picking up and dropping off their children. This minimises the risk of any accidents and will help to ensure that our children stay as safe as possible.

When children arrive before the first bell, 8.30am, they must be seated under the undercover area and should remain there until the first bell has gone. After this bell students are allowed to play handball or enter their classroom. They are only to enter the classroom if a teacher is present and has said they can.

Curriculum

The North Queensland region, as a whole, has highlighted reading as our main focus. This is due largely to a large number of people achieving at or below

National Minimum Standard (NMS) on NAPLAN testing. Our school has made good improvements in reading and last year we managed to have all students in year 3, 5, and 7 achieve at or above NMS. With this in mind we have set our goal this year to have all students above NMS. This is ambitious but a goal we are sure we can achieve.

Our second focus is in the area of writing. Whilst we performed fairly well in writing on last year's NAPLAN tests, we believe as a school we can do better. We have once again set a goal to have all students above NMS in writing.

As well as ensuring all our students are achieving above NMS we are also trying to increase the number of students who are achieving in the upper 2 bands (U2B's). We had a number of students achieve U2B's last year and we are trying to improve this percentage this year.

Our school will once again adopt an intensive reading program with explicit teaching of decoding and comprehension strategies. We will also adopt an intensive writing program with explicit teaching of text structure, language devices and idea development. These programs will start with a focus on year 3, 5 and 7 and will continue with 1, 2, 4, and 6 throughout term 3 and 4.

Home Reading

Take the opportunity each night to read to your child, share a story and have your child read to you to help them to develop an interest in books and reading. Please help make this a fun experience by finding a comfortable place to sit close to your child and praising their attempts at reading.

Following are some tips on how to assist your child deal with mistakes in their reading:

- 1) If the mistake makes sense, do not intervene until the end of the story
 - Then look carefully at the word
 - What letter does it start with?
 - What makes sense?
- 2) If the mistake does not make sense, prompt with cues about the story
 - Pause for 5 seconds
 - Does that sound right?
 - Does that make sense?
 - Look at the picture?
 - Look at the first letter?

- Only then TELL
- 3) If the child pauses and says nothing
 - Pause for 5 seconds
 - Ask the child to read on
- Ask the child to re-read
 - Look at the first letter
 - Ask the child to guess
 - Only then TELL

It is important to ask questions about the text after they have read it to you. This will assist in comprehending and give you an indication if they have understood what they have read.

Clare Open Barra Competition

The Clare Open Barra competition was held last weekend, February 8th and 9th. This event was our P&C's major fundraiser for the year. I am happy to say that it was a huge success and I look forward to it being an annual event on the school calendar.

We had approximately 150 competitors from across the Burdekin and surrounding areas sign up to chase the elusive big one. For most the Barra seemed very elusive but for others they were able to catch some monster fish. Well done to everyone who entered. It was great to hear all the fishing stories. It was also great to see Clare on the front page and 5th page of the Advocate on Wednesday.

I would like to thank Luke Booth for coming up with the idea, and Luke, Russell Hall and Chantal Booth for all the hard work that you put into finding sponsors, the advertising, set up and running of the event.

Thank you to the following sponsors for your donations of money and or goods.

Blo-N-Hose mobile hose service
Griggs Haulage
Booth Farming
Mio Farming
Boozan Planting
MAFFIA group
Chris Hesp
LGR Hall Farming
Clare Cricket Committee
Scott Harness
Dal Santo Farming
NQ Machinery and Marine services
Marchioni and Co
Ranbuild Sheds
Shane McNee
Galvin Truck Hire
Willmar
Larry Hudson Engineering and Welding

Rapisarda and Co
Scuderi Signs
Zunker Welding
McNee Spraying
About Town Bait and Tackle
Landmark
BP Reliance
Elders

I apologise if I have omitted any names. Your support was appreciated.

Winners:

Senior Heaviest Barra – Dean Krogh 13.12kg
Secret Weight – Ben Gorizia 4.43kg
Heaviest Catfish – Deon Pegoraro 4.10kg

Junior Heaviest Barra – Cody Scalia 11.49kg
Secret weight – Kodie Zimmerlie 2.73kg
Heaviest Catfish – Caitlen McDonnell 3.37kg

Adult Lucky nomination draw – Michael Detenon
Junior Lucky Nomination draw – Kiel Keryk

Congratulations to all winners and once again thank you to all sponsors. Clare State School really appreciates your support.

Invoices

Handwriting Textbook invoices (Yr P-7) are attached to the newsletter along with Brisbane Leaders Conference invoices (Yr 6&7). Payment dates are stated on these invoices.

Reminders

- Thank you to those parents who have kindly donated a ream of photocopy paper and a box of tissues. If you have not already done so, it would be greatly appreciated.
- When children are returning notes or handing in money, could you please put the money in an envelope with the child's name and what it is for on the front of the envelope. All notes and money are to be handed into the office and placed in the locked steel box and **NOT** handed to classroom teachers.

Thank you

Lee Braney
Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- School Swimming commences – Wednesday 19th February
- School 'Leader' Parade – Thursday 20th February
- Interschool Sport commences – Friday 28th February
- Halogen Young Leaders Trip – Monday 3rd March

ATTACHMENTS:

- P&C Newsletter
- Application for P&C Membership
- 'First Child Tax Offset' Flyer
- Invoices
- Transport Permission Form (Yr 5-7)

SCHOOL CALENDAR

This Week (17th February to 21st February):

Tuesday	LOTE – Year 6
Wednesday	LOTE – Year 7 PE – Swimming commences Music RE
Thursday	Leaders Parade

Next Week (24th February to 28th February):

Tuesday	LOTE - Year 6
Wednesday	LOTE – Year 7 PE – Swimming Music RE
Thursday	Parade
Friday	Interschool Sport (Y5-7)

Quote of the Week:

“Leadership is hard to define and good leadership even harder. But if you can get people to follow you to the ends of the earth, you are a great leader.”

Indra Nooyl, Chairman and CEO of PepsiCo