Dear Parents and Carers,

Student Leaders:
I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the 2013 Clare State School Captains: Michael Hall, Brendan Mio, and Chelsea Sutcliffe.

I believe that each of you has the potential to be a great school leader and I know that you will learn a lot from being school captains this year. Well done on your speeches on parade, each of you spoke very well and should be proud of your efforts.

Thank you to Pippa Tomasetig for presenting the Student Council President, Chelsea Sutcliffe, with her badge and for her last minute but heartfelt speech. I would also like to acknowledge the attendance of Mrs Rosemary Menken, Local Member for Parliament, who presented our School Captains and our House Captains, Michael Hall (Landers) and Brendan Mio (Dalrymple) with their badges. Mrs Menken has a long history with the area and it meant a lot to have her at our school.

Finally I would like to thank the parents and grandparents who attended our special event. Without you, the day is not quite as special. The children and our staff really appreciate the efforts you all put in to attend.

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.

Parent coffee mornings:
In an effort to break down communication barriers and to build relationships between the school and community I would like to offer our School Library as an area for parents and community members to meet and have coffee and biscuits on a weekly basis.

I will be in the Library from 8am every Wednesday morning. Please feel free to come along and have a tea or coffee and have a chat with myself or just take the opportunity to meet up with a friend. I look forward to seeing some of you utilise this facility in 2013.

Sport:
On Friday the year 5 – 7 students travelled to Ayr to play mixed Hockey. We have been fortunate enough to receive 5 players from Maidavale, which allows us to nominate 2 teams. Both teams played extremely well considering the lack of training we have had. The Clare/Maidavale team won both their games and all players played extremely well. The Clare team drew both of their games and were unlucky not to win their second game. This team played well together and with some more practice for those who haven’t played before, they will be a force to be reckoned with. Well done everyone you did Clare proud!

Reading Intervention:
We are currently running an intensive approach to reading and comprehension in each of our classrooms on a daily basis. The Prep to year 2 class have their 1 hour daily session from 9am – 10am and the year 3 to year 7 class have their daily session from 10am – 11am. Each class is split into 4 levelled groups with a Teacher and three Teachers Aides taking a group each. During this time the Teacher and Teacher Aides are explicitly teaching strategies to assist with reading and comprehension, as well as in the lower grades there is explicit teaching of phonics. This program has been designed to dramatically improve the reading and comprehension of all students across the school. Reading has been an area highlighted across the region and our school as an area in need of improvement.

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.

University of NSW testing:
Attached to this week’s Newsletter are nomination forms for the University of NSW tests for Computer Skills, Science, Writing, Spelling, English and Maths. These are voluntary tests for students from year 3 – 7 and do not form part of the current curriculum or assessment items. Students who sit the tests receive a report outlining their achievement for the test in relation to other students across Australia. If you are interested in your child participating please return the form and money by Friday, 22nd March.

Tuckshop
This year the school and P and C would like to continue running the tuckshop. We require a Tuckshop Coordinator to provide fantastic lunches to the children of Clare State School on a fortnightly basis. These lunches will be a one item food much the same as last year. The tuckshop cannot run without wonderful and committed parent support. If you are interested in taking on this role please contact the school or P and C President, Pippa Tomasetig on 0413 673198.

Working Bee:
There will be a working bee this Friday, 1st March at 3pm. The P and C require parent support with the cleaning up of the school grounds, including weeding and the hedging. We would appreciate your help if you can make it. Remember this is your school too.

Well Done!!
Congratulations to Joshua Mio for his great efforts at the Webber Shield. Joshua received a 2nd in Breaststroke and Butterfly, a 3rd in Freestyle and an 8th in Backstroke. Well done Joshua!!!

Reminders
- P&C AGM is on Tuesday, 12th March at 7.30pm in the Library. All are welcome to attend.

Thank you,

Lee Braney
Acting Principal

Quote of the Week:
Here’s to the crazy ones. The misfits. The rebels. The troublemakers. The round pegs in the square holes. The ones who see things differently. They’re not fond of rules. And they have no respect for the status quo. You can quote them, disagree with them, glorify or vilify them. About the only thing you can’t do is ignore them. Because they change things. They push the human race forward, And while some may see them as the crazy ones, we see genius. Because the people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world, are the ones who do.

- Apple Inc.

DATES TO REMEMBER:
- Working Bee – Friday 1st March
- P&C AGM – Tuesday 12th March

ATTACHMENTS:
- Rural Health Flyer
- Rotary Club Flyer
- UNSW Form and envelope
SCHOOL CALENDAR

This Week (25th February to 1st March):

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<td>Friday</td>
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Next Week (4th March to 8th March):

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

SCHOOL CLEANER
Clare State School
Larkin St, Clare  Q  4807

Permanent position 26.75 hrs/wk.
All prospective employees must make application for, and be able to obtain, a suitability card from the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian.
Successful applicant may be subject to a probationary period.
Applications will remain valid for 12 months.
For an application package, please visit the school office, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday between 9am & 3pm.
If you have any queries please contact the school office on 4782 7133
Applications close 1st March 2013