



Clare State School

"The Messenger"



Issue No. 5

25 March, 2013

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the final week of term 1. WOW! Hasn't this term really flown by? Reflecting on my first term at Clare State School, I would have to say that it has been an enjoyable and rewarding experience. The children of the Clare community have welcomed me into their school and shown a great deal more respect than a lot of children I have previously taught. Living in Clare has also been a positive experience for me and my family and it is a place we can see ourselves living for a number of years if all dominoes' fall in the right places.

I feel we have made some good progress this term in a number of areas. We have been implementing an intensive reading and comprehension program 4 days a week and the progress of the majority of students is evident. I believe we have achieved a lot this term but there are so many more events to come, decisions to make, lessons to plan and relationships to build.

I am looking forward to a few days off with my family over the upcoming Easter holidays. It has been a whirlwind ride for them this term as well. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the dedicated staff at Clare State School. They are all wonderful people and show a lot of commitment to the overall well-being and education of your children. We are lucky to have such people working in our school. Happy Easter everyone I hope you enjoy your break.

Year 7 Leadership trip

On Monday Brendan, Chelsea and Michael will embark on their Leadership journey to Brisbane. It has been a rite of passage for year 7 students at Clare State School for a number years. It will be a busy three days full of fun activities and educational experiences. We will start by visiting my old school, meeting their student leaders and sitting in on a class or two. We will then make our way to the hotel before exploring Brisbane and visiting some of the sights. On Wednesday we will attend the Leadership conference before heading home late in the afternoon. I am sure they will all have fun and will learn a lot from this experience.

Oral Reporting

A letter went home with the last newsletter requesting parents to nominate preferred times for the Oral

Reporting on Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th April. I strongly encourage all parents to make an appointment, as these discussions are crucial to developing an understanding of your son or daughter's progress.

Easter Bonnet parade

Please come along to our Easter Bonnet parade on **Thursday, 28th March** (last day of term) at 12.30pm. This day will be a celebration for the end of term 1. During this time your children will parade their hats and sing a song. We will also conduct an Easter egg hunt for the children in the morning. Let us know if you are bringing siblings and we can cater for them as well.

The day will also include games and a **shared lunch at 1.00pm**, so please bring along some healthy options as well as the usual sweet treats for everyone to share. We all look forward to the celebration. Due to our school running free dress events over the past 2 weeks, the last day of school will be a 'normal school uniform day.'

Student Council

Congratulations to Luke McNee and Amber Rapisarda for their election as Secretary and Treasurer respectively. As part of our end of term parade at 12.30pm, on Thursday, we will present both of these students with their badges.

Parent support

As mentioned, we have had a big focus on reading and comprehension in term 1. Moving in to term 2 we would like to invite parents into the school from 8.30am every morning, for 30minutes, to listen to children read, work on sight words and sounds. Please let me know if you are available any morning during the week, for term 2, and I will provide a timetable first week back. Your help will benefit your child and others in the school.

Parent Forum

Next term we will hold a parent forum to discuss concerns and opinions on key events such as;

- leadership options for 2014, and
- strategies for our school following the transition of year 7's to high school in 2015.

P&C

On Tuesday the 12th of March the P&C held their AGM. Thank you to the committee, community and parent helpers throughout 2012 and earlier, your support of the school has been tremendous. A special thank you to the past committee and their contributions to the P&C over the last few years, they have been invaluable.

Congratulations to Pippa Tomasetig and Shannie Cruz for being re-elected to their positions of President and Treasurer respectively. Welcome and congratulations Chantal Booth, Treasurer, and Kylie McNee, Vice President. I am sure you will all do a great job and I look forward to working with you all. I would also like to thank Angela McLeod (Bridget, Nick and Kodie's mum) who has agreed to be the tuckshop convenor for 2013.

Please support the new P&C team and consider attending a meeting. *The meetings will now be held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.* Hope to see you all at the next meeting.

Cross Country

The Burdekin Cross Country is in about 6 weeks' time. If you think that you would like to go to this event, you would need to start training this week. If you are interested in running in the cross country let me know and we will try to organise some training. The notes will come out early in term 2.

NAPLAN

Although there is always wide coverage in the media about NAPLAN, much of the information is an exaggeration of one aspect of the entire process. The results are intended to be used by schools and school systems to ensure the quality of the education provided. It helps highlight for schools and educational organisations, areas of the Literacy and Numeracy curriculum where more resources or teaching focus are required.

As a school we do not teach to the test as the content of the tests reflect the Australian Curriculum expectations. We do, however, try to teach the children the test skills they need to show to enhance what they know. This is known as 'test wiseness' and includes; practise at reading the questions carefully to identify the information the question requires. The skill of making an appropriate choice to answer multiple choice questions is also taught and practiced. As the NAPLAN tests have a time limit, part of the preparation process includes the provision of opportunities for children to complete work within a given time frame.

Parents also have the right to request their child's exemption from the test. This request needs to be formalised via the completion of the relevant form. If you have any queries about your child and NAPLAN, please contact me.

Every day counts

As we reach the end of Term 1, parents are reminded of the importance of sending children to school every day. Being at school every day counts. One day absent each week quickly adds up to two months of missed lessons in a year.

Unless your child is ill, it is expected that your child will be at school learning every day of the school year.

More information on the importance of regular school attendance is available at <http://education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts/index.html>

Read to Children Every Day

Parents and carers who read aloud to their children every day provide a strong, positive influence and help develop a life-long love of reading.

Find out more at www.thepremier.qld.gov.au/readtochildren

There are a number of things you can do to foster your child's love of reading:

- read aloud to young children every day, if only for a few minutes, and let them hold the book and turn the pages
- visit the library as a family and let your child select books that interest them
- engage older children and teens in discussions and debates about the books or magazines they are reading

Burdekin Library Holiday Activities!

D.I.Y Vest

Make an amazing vest out of an old shirt! Bring along a shirt you don't mind cutting up and we'll make it into something new. We will be using needle and thread so **adult supervision is required.**

When: Friday, 5 April
10.30am – 12.00pm @ the Burdekin Library
2.30pm – 4.00pm @ the Home Hill Library
Ages 6 and over

Minecraft Challenge

Can you build an amazing library using Minecraft or want to learn how? Come along and show us your Minecrafting creativity! Best library will win a small prize. Computers will be available but you can bring your own laptop if you like. Snacks will be provided.

When: Friday, 12 April
9.00am – 11.30am @ the Burdekin Library
But don't forget, we also have a Wii, boardgames, iPads and computers to use throughout the holidays, as well as Wink and Blink activity booklets!

School Photos

The date booked is **Thursday, 18th April**, which is the first week back next term. Students are to be in full school uniform on this day. We will be sending out the photo packages this week as soon as they arrive.

School Resumes

School will resume on **Monday 15th April**. We look forward to seeing all the children back on this day keen and ready to learn.

Reminders

■ Invoices for Maths textbooks and Maths Mate Homework sheets were given to students last week. Anyone who hasn't received an invoice please contact the office. Payments need to be made by Friday, 3rd May.

Thank you,

Lee Braney
Acting Principal

Quote of the Week:

Easter is the only time of the year where it is perfectly safe to put all of your eggs in the one basket.

- *Unknown*

ATTACHMENTS:

- Clare Club Food Menu
- PCYC Flyer
- Clare Police Flyer
- RE letter

P&C NOTICES:

- Clare Cricket Carnival Flyer
- Clare Dump Facility Roster
- P&C Notice

Congratulations to the Students of the Week:



Week 7 – Samyno Vaevae Pare

Week 8 – Caleb McNee

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Yr 7 Young Leaders Conference – Monday 25th March – Wednesday 27th March. Mr Braney and Mrs Schifilliti to accompany.
- Easter Parade and last day of school – Thursday 28th March.
- Parent Teacher Interviews – Thursday 18th April and Friday 19th April
- School Photos – Thursday 18th April

SCHOOL CALENDAR

This Week (25th March to 29th March):

Monday	PE – Last Swimming
Tuesday	LOTE – Year 7
Wednesday	LOTE – Year 6
Thursday	Music
	Easter Bonnet Parade – 12.30pm
	Shared Lunch
Friday	School Holidays commence!!!

Community Notices:

St. Joseph's Catholic Church – Clare Easter Week – Masses

*PALM SUNDAY Saturday (23/3/13) – 6.00pm
(Reconciliation at 5.30pm before Mass)*

HOLY THURSDAY – 28/3/13 AT 5.00PM Mass

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE – (No Priest) – 3.00pm

EASTER SUNDAY MORNING – 9.00am

*ALL DENOMINATIONS WELCOME –
Have a Happy and Safe Easter Everyone!*

