FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S PEN

Dear Parents and Carers,

Currently teachers in the junior and middle school sectors are meeting with parents to discuss the ICP or Individual Curriculum Plan for their child. This is a new mandatory document introduced by the department this year. It will replace the ILP or IEP for your child. Your participation in the meeting and your input regarding your child’s needs is valued, and essential to your understanding of the curriculum plan which addresses the key learning areas within the curriculum.

The plan will be sent home before the end of the term for your approval and will be accompanied by the Positive Behaviour Support Plan.

Over the last two weeks I have attended the State Principal's Conference at the Convention Centre, and along with senior school staff members training in the ASDAN awards program. We will be providing parents in the senior school with information on ASDAN during the SET Plan meetings in the near future.

This week there will be a Braveheart’s presentation for students on Wednesday. Please ensure you return the permission and payment before Wednesday. The timetable for the presentation is:

9:45am: D1, D4, C5 and C3 and 11am: B1, B2, B3, and B4.

FUNKY HAIR DAY: On Thursday students are able to colour their hair or wear a funky hair style or wig to support Shave for A Cure. A gold coin donation is required. At 1:30pm three members of staff are having their head shaved to support the event. Parents are welcome to attend if they would like to show support of Mr Bill, Miss Neva or Mrs B.
P AND C Meeting: The Annual General Meeting will be held on MONDAY 16 March at 1:30pm. At this A.G.M. all positions will be declared vacant and new elections held. Immediately after the A.G.M. we will commence our first meeting for the year. All parents and carers are invited to attend and we look forward to meeting our new parents. Meetings are informal and friendly. They provide an opportunity to hear about school events, policies and most importantly provide parents with an opportunity to ask questions clarify any uncertainties and provide input into the future direction of the school. Please come along!

In the near future I will be providing parents with the draft Parent and Community Engagement Framework for your input and feedback. I will discuss the format for this with the P and C at the meeting.

Regards

Trish Thiedeman
Principal

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>I can learn</th>
<th>I am respectful</th>
<th>I am responsible</th>
<th>I am safe</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Casey, Reuben, Angela, Andrew J, Jesse, Amanda C</td>
<td>River, Devon, Declan, Liam C, Amanda C, Ben, Crystal, Angela, Andrew J, Jesse, Amanda C</td>
<td>Angela, Andrew J, Jesse, Amanda C, Shawn W, Dimmy, Emma C</td>
<td>Angela, Andrew J, Jesse, Amanda C, Shawn W</td>
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PRINCIPAL’S AWARD
Angela, Crystal

SMOKING NEAR SCHOOLS

From 1 January 2015, smoking is banned at all Queensland state and non-state schools, and for 5 metres beyond their boundaries. The law applies at all times – during and after school hours, on weekends and during school holidays. It includes the use of all smoking products, including regular cigarettes and devices commonly known as electronic cigarettes.

Five metre buffer – The buffer is a 5 metre no-smoking area around the perimeter of the school, beyond the school land boundary; including all structures in this area, such as bus shelters and car parks. This area does not extend into residential or business premises that share a boundary with school land.

If you see someone smoking within the 5 metre buffer, tell them that it is illegal for them to smoke in this area. If you wish to report a breach of these tobacco laws, contact 13QGOV (13 74 68).
SWPBS - I1

SWPBS stands for School Wide Positive Behaviour Support and it is an integral part of the classroom environment. Claremont Special School has four school expectations: I can Learn, I am Respectful, I am Responsible and I am Safe. I1 also has a set of class rules (see image) that describe what the school expectations look like in our room.

The students in I1 are expected to meet the school expectations and follow the class rules at ALL times. Students who do this earn tokens which they can use to earn free and frequent rewards e.g. computer and sport on a daily basis, and long and strong rewards e.g. mystery trip which students can earn once they have saved up enough. The students in I1 take part in daily SWPBS lessons where they learn about the expectations, and explore how the expectations align with real life.

They also set weekly behavioural goals focusing on a specific expectation. For example, this week the focus expectation was I am Respectful and the class’s goal was ‘I will act respectfully at all times even if I do not like someone’. The whole class worked hard all week to meet the goal. Well done! I1.

FOUR BLOCKS LITERACY – C6

Developing literacy skills is a very dynamic process in C6. On a daily basis students are engaged in activities identified in the Four Blocks Literacy Model during English, Numeracy and Science. In English students participate in shared and self-selected reading, writing and development of letter and word knowledge.

Each week we focus on a particular story book and complete shared reading activities which may require students to make predictions about the text and respond to questions. The class completes a writing activity based around predictable chart writing. We work with the sentences we make and publish them in a class book, complete with illustrations. The students are also encouraged to engage in the writing process using flip charts as an alternative to using a pencil. This is where I, as a teacher, can gauge understanding of where students are at in relation to the writing process. I embed activities such as word knowledge development, flip chart writing and predictable chart writing in numeracy and science activities. A very important focus of the Four Blocks Literacy Model is students seeing literacy skills being demonstrated.
Throughout the week I demonstrate reading, writing, alphabet and word knowledge. I talk about all the processes I complete as I read and write and I encourage students to pay close attention to what I am doing and what I am saying. The Four Blocks Literacy Model has added so much depth to teaching and learning in our class and the students are constantly showing improvement in their ability to attend and participate.

WORK EXPERIENCE IN THE SENIOR SCHOOL

We got off to a flying start this term with many of our senior school students commencing work experience in Week 2. We have a total of 20 external work experience placements and 3 internal work experience placements which include:

- 2 nursery hands at Plants Plus, Raceview;
- 4 factory hands at Endeavour Packaging Solutions at Wacol;
- 3 shop assistants at Bunnings Warehouse, Booval;
- 1 beautician assistant at Ipswich State High School;
- 4 farm hands at the McIntyre Centre;
- 3 kitchen hands at Brothers' Leagues Club;
- 1 tyre fitter at TyrePower, West Ipswich;
- 1 mechanic assistant at Pedders, Ipswich
- 3 classroom assistants within our Junior School
- 1 student has obtained a school based apprenticeship with the Busy Beat Café in the Ipswich Mall
- 1 student has been employed part time at Brothers' Leagues Club as a kitchen hand.

The aim of work experience is to provide our students with opportunities to build valuable employability skills in a real workplace in our community. Students focus on skills such as: Attendance – being on time and returning from breaks promptly; Personal Appearance – wearing the correct clothing; Sense of Responsibility – listening and following instructions and building self-confidence; Safety – following safety procedures and regulations; Showing an interest in the job learning new tasks, ; Relating to Others – speaking to and treating others respectfully; Quantity and Quality of Work – completing all tasks; Working as independently as possible and Self-Regulation – remaining calm on the job and using calming strategies when necessary. Students receive feedback from their supervisors and are also encouraged to reflect upon their work experience to find a focus for strengthening their skills.

Where possible, our students travel to and from work experience via public transport which assists students to learn independence and confidence when travelling in the community. From all reports our students are enjoying their work experience placements and are demonstrating the student expectations I Can Learn, I am Respectful, I am Responsible and I am Safe. We are all very proud of them as I am sure you are too.

Lisa Wright (VET Coordinator)
CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY!

On Friday 27 February 2015 Claremont Special School took part in Clean Up Australia Day. Cindy Recycling

What we should do to help our environment:

1. Reduce->reuse->recycle.
2. Plant more and more trees.
3. Don’t litter.
4. Warn people who smoke or use cigarettes that it’s dangerous for them as well as the environment.
5. Use eco-friendly items.

If we don’t clean our environment all the animals will die and our world won’t be the same. We will die because when we leave rubbish around, bacteria and diseases will get on humans and kill us. If we care for the earth, the earth will care for us. You think it’s silly but it’s true. The earth will care for us because it makes food we can eat and water we can drink. If the rubbish goes into the water all our underwater friends will die because they will eat the rubbish.

Bennett and her peers in I Block cleaned up the soccer fields. They found

- Paper
- Cans
- Plastic bottles
- Cardboard
- Rubbish
- Soccer tape
- Plastic bags
- Tools
- Clothes

Now you know why we should clean up Australia.
FUNKY HAIR DAY – WORLD’S GREATEST SHAVE

On Thursday 12 March 2015, Claremont Special School is holding a “Funky Hair Day” and taking part in the “2015 Worlds Greatest shave”.

All students are being encouraged to go wild and wacky with Funky hair and bring in a gold coin donation if they wish to participate.

On Thursday at 1:30pm, three members of our Claremont Team are going to “Be Brave and Shave”. Mr Bill, Mrs Bowmer and Miss Neva are shaving their heads as part of the “2015 World’s Greatest Shave”.

The Claremont Team are proud to support the Leukaemia Foundation with the great event.

If you would like to attend the event it will start at 1:30pm in the school hall.

SENSORY MOVIE DAY

Sensory Movie Day is an inclusive event for families with special needs. Lighting is on dim, sound lowered, volunteers monitoring fire exit doors. This month’s Sensory Movie Day is showing Penguins of Madagascar on Sunday 15 March at 11.00 am. Tickets are $6.00 with children 2 years and under free. Tickets are on sale now at the box office.