FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S PEN

Dear Parents and Carers,

A big thank you to all parents and carers who attended the Open Day activities last Wednesday. Teachers had an opportunity to share classroom practices and curriculum with parents, and parents were provided an opportunity to ask questions and clarify any uncertainties.

This week, teachers will be sending home communications to parents regarding the upcoming Individual Curriculum Plan (ICP) meetings for students in prep to year 10. The ICP is the new mandatory document implemented by the Department of Education and Training and will replace the ILP.

I hope all parents take the opportunity to meet with their child’s teacher over the next couple of weeks. Parent input is essential and valued in the development of each student’s teaching and learning program.

This week attached to the newsletter is a term calendar of events which will hopefully assist you with planning of events across the term.

This week I am attending the State Principal’s conference at the Brisbane Convention Centre with peers from across the state.

Currently the breakfast club needs donations of honey, peanut paste and juice. If you can assist it will be greatly appreciated. A big thank you to parents who volunteer their time of a morning.

Have a great week!

Regards

Trish Thiedeman
Principal
HOW CAN STUDENTS APPLY FOR A TFN?

As of this year students cannot apply for a Tax File Number through Queensland schools. Applying online and presenting POI documents at a participating Australia Post Office is the fastest and most convenient way for students to get a TFN. More information on applying online can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for ‘QC27248’

Students who are unable to visit a participating Australia Post office will need to complete the application form Tax file number - application or enquiry for individuals form (NAT 1432). More information about lodging this form can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for ‘QC22604’

P & C ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting for our P & C Association will be held on Monday, 16 March 2015 at 1.15 p.m. All parents, carers and community members are encouraged to attend.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Whitehead Studios will be at Claremont Special School on March 4 (Wednesday) to take School Photos. We are sending envelopes home today outlining the photo packages that are available. If you would like to order a school photo please return the envelope with the money enclosed prior to FRIDAY 27 FEBRUARY.

FOUR BLOCKS – B3

Last week we spent Thursday in the kitchen with Mr Bill. On Thursday we have SAGK program. Today we are writing about the day we spent with Mr Bill and Ms Tracey.

On Tuesday we wrote about our day during our Shared Writing session.

The students wrote: “When we arrived at the kitchen, we washed our hands. We put on hair nets and aprons then we made chocolate chip muffins and pancakes for morning tea. We also made potato with corn chips and pork mince”.

CHAPPY’S CORNER

Rain, rain and more rain. With all this rain I trust all have managed to get through this event without too much damage done to one’s property and one’s spirit.

There are a number of Chappy events taking place over the next few weeks of which I would like to particularly draw your attention to. Firstly and most importantly is the fund raising dinner to be held at the
Ipswich RSL on 27 March. The Boonah Chappy Challenge, a fun event for those of you who enjoy running or cycling, will be held on 7 March. Please go to the following link for more information (www.chappychallenge.com.au).

A meeting was recently held with the Chaplains from the local Specials Schools to discuss chaplaincy in special education schools and ways we could improve our service to the wider school community. The idea of holding annual day camps during Spring Break was discussed. If anyone has any suggestions we would welcome your input.

Drumbeat and Vital are running well with students participating enjoying themselves. I am particularly impressed with the new students and how eagerly they have taken to drumming. Our Breakfast Club IS running well, however we still have the need for regular donations of honey and fruit juice. Many thanks to those who have already donated their time and those who have so kindly donated various breakfast items.

Chappy Bill
0416888573

STEPHANIE ALEXANDER KITCHEN GARDEN PROGRAM.

The program is off to a flying start with five class groups involved. They are B3, E1, J4, I1 and I8. Some students are returning to the program but a number of new students are also involved. Each classroom group over the two week period cooks the same morning tea and lunch with the Friday class groups also cooking a staff lunch. Staff pay for this which helps defray the cost of the program to participating families. So far this year students have cooked a variety of muffins, pancakes and scones for morning tea and sausage rolls, Vietnamese rice paper rolls and Texican baked potatoes for lunch.

The students participating in the program touch on most aspects of the school curriculum in an informal manner. Examples include measuring volume and weight, setting oven and frypan temperatures, hygiene issues and recognition of ingredients required to make dishes. Students look forward to participating in the cooking classes asking “What are we cooking this week?” or “It’s my birthday can we have a cake?”, which is always accommodated.

The garden program has got off to a slower start given that the garden beds required significant maintenance after the holidays. However I need to report as of Tuesday 17 February all garden beds in the top section of the school gardens have been planted out with vegetable seedlings. We also put in three new passionfruit vines and a bay and olive tree. I wish to thank Nathan Archer, a previous Claremont student and also Mark Dennis our groundsman for their help in getting this work done.

As Trish mentioned previously any help in the garden would be warmly welcomed as we have a number of larger tasks we need to complete to make the garden even more successful. We need to construct large compost bins, create new garden beds and increase the size and variety of our ‘orchard’. If you think you can help please let the office know and I will get in touch with you.
SWPBS – C5

What a busy start we have had to 2015. This week, the School wide Positive Behaviour Support rule has been I Can Learn.

We have settled into our new classroom, met our new peers, a new teacher and teacher aides. Not to mention we have also begun to actively model our new classroom expectations.

Our newest student Nathaniel is beginning to receive multiple tokens as positive reinforcement for showing the four S.W.P.B.S. rules: I can learn, I am responsible, I am respectful and I am safe.

In our class, we have five classroom expectations which we have aligned to these four SWPBS. We have even made a social story that reflects our class displaying all of our classroom expectations and school rules.

In our class we use kind words. This demonstrates our ability to show our friends and teachers respect. We use caring hands and know when to be in the right place. This way, we are consistently showing that we can be safe. In C5 we follow instructions and always try our best. When we listen to our teacher and have a go, we are being responsible and showing that we are ready to learn. Have a look at the photo of how we are showing active listening and learning.

C5 is very excited about receiving tickets for displaying various appropriate behaviours and we look forward to counting and gluing our tickets to our charts each afternoon session. Before we know it, our students will be able to forward completed charts to Miss Trish and receive their reward.