



# To the Point

4/ 2015 17th February 2015

Hi Everyone,

**Cowboys visit a hit:** Two weeks ago whilst I was attending a Principal's planning meeting we had a visit from the Cowboys NRL team and some local Mackay Cutter's players. I caught up with some of our visitors this week and they told me they were very impressed with the manners shown by the children. Well done kids. I would also like to thank Mrs McKean for welcoming them to the school on my behalf.

Next week I will be attending the State Principal's conference in Brisbane and when we be visited by the Gold Coast Suns AFL team. Please show them the same manners as afforded to the Cowboys.

**Writing focus clear direction:** This year our explicit improvement agenda was outlined at our recent P&C meeting. Our school reading group strategy is always in place though this year we are paying particular attention to our ability to write well. We identified four areas including punctuation, sentence structure, spelling and vocabulary as the key areas of being a successful writer. Having parent child conversations are critical in developing a child's knowledge and use of words, their vocabulary! Exposing your child to new words, their meaning and use in a sentence or conversation is the key to developing good writers. I encourage all parents to spend some time each day asking what new words did you learn today and can you put the word into a sentence and tell you.

We have initially intensively targeted our year 3 and year 5 children with extension writing groups leading into the National tests in term two. The other year levels will be our focus groups after the NAPLAN tests in May.

**PBL School rule expectation for the week:** The PBL Program focus as mentioned on parade is Be safe – to always follow staff instruction. There were several green Responsible Behaviour Award cards recorded in the office data base this past week. The target is 25 for the term. Keep striving but also remember a pat on the back, a tick in your book or a nod with "well done" is just as important. Remember to demonstrate our three school rules – Be a Learner, Be Respectful and Be Safe.

**P&C executive committee formed:** Last night we held the annual general meeting for 2015 to elect our new executive members. The P&C is the representative voice for the parents and community. They assist with input into school policies and fundraising activities to support student learning. You are welcome to join the association and come along to meetings. Many thanks to those parents who were elected last night. I trust you will have an enriching year helping serve the needs of our children. Thank you to outgoing executive members for your time and energy. Your efforts are much appreciated.

**President:** Michael McGrath      **Vice President:** Jacqueline Todd,  
**Treasurer:** Marjory Madden      **Secretary:** Casey Dawson

**Parent/ teacher meetings again this week:** Last week several parents coordinated their time to sit in on brief get to know your teacher afternoons. Further parent teacher meetings are being held this week and I encourage those parents not working to try and make the meeting. It is a huge benefit if you can be there to find out the classroom routines and expectations of the children.

Rod Finney  
Principal

- **School Leader Ceremony Monday 23rd Feb 8:50am**
- **Safety Circus Thursday 26th Feb year 3's only**
- **Clean up school's day Friday 27th Feb**

Slade Point

*"Caring, Sharing, Learning Together"*

362 Slade Point Road  
PO Box 9150  
SLADE POINT QLD. 4740

Parents & Citizens Assoc meetings are held on the 3rd  
Monday of each month. All parents are welcome to attend.

Telephone: 4965 7333  
Facsimile: 4965 7300  
Student Absence Line: 4965 7360  
Email: [the.principal@sladpointss.eq.edu.au](mailto:the.principal@sladpointss.eq.edu.au)  
Website: [www.sladpointss.eq.edu.au](http://www.sladpointss.eq.edu.au)  
Home Research Website: <http://sladpointss.cmeweb.libcode.com.au>

## STUDENT AWARDS

Rubi, Summer, Nasir, Nathan,  
Mark, Mary, Jamie-Lee, Mason



## ATTENDANCE — ICE-BLOCK WINNERS

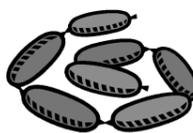


3rd Week: **PYA!** Well done!

## BUNNING'S SAUSAGE SIZZLE

**Saturday 21st March 8am**

is our 1st fundraiser for our year 5/6 camp. Miss Usher will send home notes very shortly asking for helpers for the roster.



## YEAR 6 SHIRTS

Students have received a letter regarding Year 6 shirts. If you would like a shirt for your child please send note with name/size and **\$31.50 cash** in an envelope into the office this week.

## YEAR FIVE/SIX CAMP—FAIRBAIRN DAM



We are planning a year 5/6 camp to Fairbairn Dam again this year — Term 3. Information will be sent home to the year 5/6 parents as soon as possible.

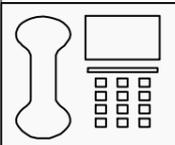
We will also be asking for parents to help us to do fundraising. Please see Miss Usher if you are able to help.

## SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking day is Thursday. Please put your bank books in the green box in the office. If you would like an account application form please come into the office.



## STUDENT ABSENCES/ CONTACT DETAILS



If your child/ren are absent from school please ring the student absent line on **49657 360**. Admin will be contacting parents/caregivers daily if you haven't contacted the office if your child/ren are absent. Thank-you Admin. If Admin couldn't get a hold of you, please write a note to your class teacher for the next day!

**CONTACT DETAILS:** Please make sure your phone numbers/addresses are up to date in the office. If an emergency, we can't contact you if the phone numbers are not up to date!



## STUDENTS LATE TO SCHOOL

If your child/ren are late to school after 8:45am please come to the office to collect a late slip. **DO NOT** go straight to the classroom.

## INTERNET AGREEMENT FORMS



If your child/ren have brought home an internet agreement form, please fill it out ASAP and return it to their teacher or the office. It allows the students to have access to the computers within the school.

## SCHOOL LEADERS CEREMONY

School Leaders Badges Ceremony **Monday 23rd February at 8:50am in the Hall.** Everyone Welcome to attend.

## QLD PCYC SAFETY CIRCUS

PCYC Sergeant Nigel Dalton will present the safety circus to our year 3 students in the hall on this **Thursday 26th February**. Parents/guardians are welcome to come along if you have a student in Year 3 only!

## PLAYGROUP-HAS MOVED CLASSROOMS!!



Wednesday 1-3pm every week of term. Free to attend. Please bring a hat, enclosed shoes and a drink bottle. We meet **downstairs in B Block**. Please go to the office if you need directions. Parents supervision required for the duration of the playgroup.

## FATHERS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN GETTING SONS TO READ

Engaging boys in reading can be tough. Many parents find that their boys either aren't interested in sitting still long enough, or they often perceive reading as a "girl thing". The consequences of boys not reading as frequently or as copiously as girls can be dire. National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) data shows that girls have consistently outperformed boys in reading across the last six years of assessments. Research also indicates that boys are three to five times more likely than girls to have a reading or learning disability.



## CLASSROOM NEWS



**P/1B:** Information session in the classroom D Block at 3pm sharp **Wednesday 25th February**.

**3A:** Parent Meeting in the classroom A Block at 3pm on **Wednesday 18th February**.

## CURRICULUM CORNER



"On demand" writing tasks are one way our school gathers information on how our students formulate sentences, paragraphs and stories. Our teachers show a stimulus picture to the students and then

students are allocated a time frame (20min – 45mins depending on the grade level) to create a story relating to the picture. Here is an example of a picture that could be used in this activity.

See if you and your family can use this picture to come up with a wonderful story within the abovementioned timeframe. You may find that it is not as easy as it seems. We would love to see your stories so please hand them into the office and we will display them for our community.

Happy writing!

Mrs Jo Mian

Head of Curriculum

## BRAIN SNACK



Please be mindful of brain snacks for your child/ren as a lot of food is getting wasted as children don't have much time. Please cut an apple/banana into a half size, suggestions are: cheese, grapes/sultana's.

## CLEAN UP SCHOOLS DAY

Clean up school day is on **Friday 27th February** during school time. Notes home soon.

