



To the Point

Issue 02/2016 2nd February 2016

Hi Everyone,

Wonderful start to the year: The early years students transitioned into their new classes calmly this week. I pride myself on delivering the very best education for your child and this includes providing smaller class sizes than many other schools across the state. With a clear focus on improving writing I have given every student their own diary to use every day as a direct communicator between school and home. Our student feedback 'growth strategy' will be evident in their writing books with red, green and purple or blue coloured comments mentioned last week in the newsletter. Red means stop, a chance to improve learning. Green means growth and improvement with a suggestion or correction idea. Purple or blue pen means you are on track and improving. Notable improvements will be celebrated on our Thursday PBL parades in the morning. Thursday parade is often a brief parade to focus on specific learning behaviour areas and celebrate continued growth. Parents may attend if they wish however, Monday parades is where we present attendance, student of the week awards along with our special token award presentations.

Attendance focus as 'every day counts.' Most parents may know we work very hard to ensure our students attend school every day. Our target is be above 95% each term which equates to around three days absent. In past years the Department has enforced mandatory student attendance which can lead to parents being summoned to court and fined heavily. Our School Attendance Policy is very clear in that we will support parents to assist their child be at school regularly though it does have strict guidelines around seeing improved data over specific time periods. Please plan family holidays in the school holiday periods and please call to discuss any issues that may affect your child's attendance figures. It is also very much appreciated by teachers if medical appointments can be made for before or after school bell times.

Snake alert in our community: Recently I have had to deliver a safety message to all our students regarding active snakes in and around the school. With the very hot conditions snakes are seeking cool, moist environments with access to water. Toilets, laundries and bathrooms in your home may be likely places for a snake to take up residence. There are several poisonous snakes in our area including the Eastern Brown, Red and Yellow Bellied Black snakes. We also have numerous harmless tree snakes but the message to our students is the same. That is, to move away quickly and let an adult know. When at school please be on alert especially around the toilet areas and gardens. Hopefully cooler weather and rain will encourage them to leave and seek the comforts of our beautiful native bushland.

Road Safety to and from school and safety on school grounds: I love seeing children walking, riding and scooting home with friends and family. Our new police officer Constable Matthew Biggs introduced himself yesterday and we discussed road safety. He is expecting all students and adults to apply road safety rules at all times like wearing helmets, pushing your bike across the crossing and slowing down when approaching pedestrians. For everyone's safety, parents are asked not to bring pet animals onto the grounds unless previously arranged with the class teacher as a learning situation. Bikes, scooters and skateboards are to enter and depart through the front gate off Slade Point Road walking them in or out. Smoking is not permitted at any time on school grounds or within 5m of the school fence. Thank you for ensuring the safety of our children, staff and community members.

Please consider joining the School P&C Committee: Becoming a member is free and a very simple form to fill in. We have a dedicated group of parents and staff who would love to hear your thoughts and opinions on school related matters. Come along and take an active role in your child's schooling. I look forward to seeing you on Monday night the 8th of February at 6pm for the annual general meeting. Remember, keep your pencil sharp and try your best to improve your learning especially your writing every day.

Rod Finney
Principal

- Monday Munchies Mon
8th February
- P&C Meeting Monday
8th February 6pm

Slade Point State School

"Caring, Sharing, Learning Together"

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

Parents & Citizens Assoc meetings are held on the 1st
Monday of each month. All parents are welcome to attend.

Telephone: 4965 7333
Facsimile: 4965 7300
Student Absence Line: 4965 7360
Email: principal@sladpointss.eq.edu.au
Website: www.sladpointss.eq.edu.au

Home Research Website: <http://sladpointss.cmeweb.libcode.com.au>

P & C NEWS

- AGM is the **Monday 8th February 6pm** in the staffroom. All welcome to attend. All executive positions will be vacant. Nominations needed for this year.
- **Monday Munchies** will be on **Monday 8th February**. Notes home in the this week.



HATS

HATS: Parents/caregivers can we please arrange that your child/ren have a hat with their name on it. Thank-you.



PREP INFO SESSION

PYA info session will be held next Monday 8th February in the classroom at 3pm. Chappy Lyn will be supplying afternoon tea for those parents who will be at the info session.

INVOICES/PAYMENTS

If you receive an invoice for Swimming, Instrumental Music, Camps etc, please contact us about making part payments if you require to do. We accept weekly/fortnightly payments. Direct debit and cash only we accept. No EFTPOS facilities available.

YEAR 6 SHIRTS

An order form has been sent home. If you wish to order a shirt, please return the order form and payment of \$35.50 to the school office. The shirts normally arrive around the end of term one.



THANK-YOU



Thank-you to the Kentwell family for donating books to the library.

CHAPPY NEWS

Hello and welcome to 2016 School Year. A big welcome to the Prep families who have commenced their educational journey at Slade Point. If at any stage you need a listening ear then I am available. This year I will be working Monday, Tuesday and every second Friday.

My main focus for this term is helping with the Prep and Year 1 end of the School. I will be recommencing the gardening club on Fridays. On Mondays I will be inviting children class by class to join with me in an activity in the lunch break – some weeks it will games and dancing other times art and craft in my room.

I read an interesting article called “10 Ways Gratitude Makes Your Life Better” in the Generation Next newsletter. I will share it over the next few newsletters.

“It's no accident that all of the major world religions employ some form of gratitude in their rituals. It's simply because it makes our daily life better, even if you're not religious or spiritual.

Gratitude is the feeling of being thankful and showing appreciation for what is in our lives. And thankfulness and appreciation are a pathway to a life of happiness and well-being. When you pause and recognize all of the wonderful things in your life, you feel happier. Appreciation keeps us focused on what is already good in our lives, and opens up the doorway to more goodness to flow into our lives. Gratitude also equips us to handle setbacks and failures in a more resilient way. Science is producing mounting research that our lives are much better when we practice gratitude.

And indeed, gratitude does make your life better in the following ways... 1. You Feel More Satisfied- Not completely happy with your life? Gratitude is a lasting feeling that sustains you longer than other fleeting sensations. Grateful people are more satisfied with their lives because they focus more on what they do appreciate in their life. When you practice gratitude, you take time to appreciate the things that you're thankful for in your life. And this means that you won't be longing as much for what's missing in your life, because you won't pay as much attention to it. 2. You Motivate Others- When you say "thank you" to someone, they feel that you appreciate what you did for them, even if just a little bit. Saying "thank you" is therefore a powerful motivator for others to keep helping you again, because you are rewarding them with your appreciation. Have you ever noticed how it feels when someone doesn't appreciate what you did for them? It makes you not want to help them again in the future because they don't appreciate it. Small thank you's go a long way, whether it's a simple text message or a thoughtful email, you can never show someone enough gratitude.”

....to be continued.....

Have an awesome week Chappy Lyn