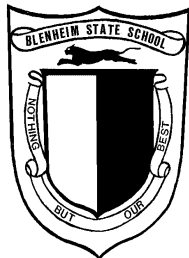


Blenheim State School
NEWSLETTER

Climbing high - in quest of success



'NOTHING
BUT
OUR
BEST'

Strength

Persistence

Achievement

Volume 2 – Wednesday 11 February 2009

From the Principal



We are well into Week 3 of the term and it is great to see how well the **students have settled** into the school's routines. With swimming lessons starting this week it is hoped that everyone remembers to bring all the necessities, **including \$1**. Parents are asked to ensure that children do not wear togs to school under their uniform. Students also need to change their library books on Thursdays.



I am sure the entire school community joins with me in extending our **deepest condolences** to Teacher Aide, Pauline Pitkin, on the passing of her father. While Pauline is absent from school she is being replaced by **Sue Ilka**.

From next week, Sue will be working with the Prep to 4 class until Annette Schulz is back on her feet (literally!) as **Amy Hanlon** has been fortunate enough to receive a teaching position at **Gatton State School**.

I wish Amy well in her new position and thank her for the great support she has given Annette over these 3 weeks.

I am pleased to inform parents and carers that **Annette Schulz will be remaining as the teacher of the Prep to 4 class**. This is good news for the continuity of the children's learning program.

I also welcome **Kathy Foster** back on staff this year. Kathy will be teaching the Years 5 to 7 class on Wednesdays and alternate Mondays. Kathy is also our Key Teacher for the Year 2 Net and does supply teaching when needed.

Blenheim students are demonstrating our school value of **Care and Compassion** by holding a **Free Dress Day** this Friday to raise funds to support the victims of the tragic **Victorian Bushfires**. Students who wear free dress need to bring a **minimum \$2 donation**. Of course, if families wish to send along a larger donation, you are most welcome to do so. Donations will be forwarded through the School Aid Trust.

Athletes from the **Get Active Queensland Schools Program** are visiting next Monday afternoon. The 3 young athletes who will inspire our students are: Kate Stewart, QAS soccer scholarship holder; Adam Carlton, triathlete and member of Australian Under 23 Elite Team for Work Champs 2007/08; Karla Reuter, World Cup and Olympic soccer player.



I wish to remind parents and carers of the importance of homework to the children's learning. Most students have made a good start and this needs to be maintained. Please ensure that reading is done every night and recorded on the appropriate sheet. Effective reading skills impact upon all curriculum areas.

Best wishes
Sandra Duncalfe
Principal

P&C AGM

Come along to the staff room on **Monday 16th February at 7pm** for our AGM. We would love to see new faces and have more families sharing their ideas. The P&C is very important to the school's operations and is a great way to support your children's school.

Fight Fire Fascination

Many children will, at some stage during their childhood, display a natural curiosity about fire. But playing with fire is another matter all together.

As parents and carers, you play a pivotal role in educating your child about fire safety.

However, what do you do when you find your child playing with matches or lighters, setting rubbish or paper alight or even burning toys or other people's valuables?

Children don't often consider the ramifications of starting a fire, and if you suspect your child's fascination with fire is risking their safety or the safety of others, help is at hand.

The Queensland Fire and Rescue Service has developed the Fight Fire Fascination Program to support parents in their efforts to educate their children about fire and promote fire safety.

Through the program, also known as *Triple-F*, specially trained firefighters work directly with your child and family in a series of home visits.

They explain the consequences of playing with fire and teach your child to make positive choices with regards to fire and help them understand how their behaviour affects others.

The Fight Fire Fascination is a free confidential service that brings together the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service, schools, and other services, where necessary, to help families address this very serious issue.

To find out more about the Fight Fire Fascination program visit www.fire.qld.gov.au or contact your local fire station.



Diary Dates

- ❖ 12th February Swimming lessons start for 5 weeks
- ❖ 13th February Free Dress Charity Fundraiser
- ❖ 16th February Get Active Qld school visit
- ❖ 16th February P&C AGM
- ❖ 10th April Good Friday
- ❖ 20th April Student Free Day
- ❖ 21st April Term 2 commences
- ❖ 12th, 13th, 14th May NAPLAN tests for Years 3, 5, 7
- ❖ 5th May School Photos

With Sympathy

Mrs Pitken will be away from school the next few days due to the passing away of her Father. We wish and her family all our love, sympathy and best wishes at this sad time.



Community Notices

Rosewood Gymnastics Club

Offering recreational programs for girls and boys from beginners to levels. Morning and afternoon Kindergym groups for children 15 months to 5 yrs.

Afternoon groups for children 6yrs to teens, beginners to more advanced levels.

For Information phone Tracey (Coach) on 54642450

West Moreton Women's Health and Ipswich Women's Centre Against Domestic Violence

Invite you to an

International Women's Day on
Thursday the 15^h of March
In the Ipswich city mall
From 10am to lunch (lunch included)

The Celebration will involve a fashion parade that celebrates the beauty, uniqueness and diversity of women in our community and also highlight the achievements of women over the past 150 years in Ipswich and Queensland.

Fashion from TS14+, In Fiore, Suzanne Grae, Val Haala, Trotte Beck, local op shops, local cultural groups and other retailers will be on show.

RSVP by Thursday the 26th February

For further information and to RSVP contact Kylie at West Moreton Women's Health on 3812 0138 or Katie at Ipswich Women's Centre Against Domestic Violence on 3816 3000

Performances by Dancing Tigers

BUSHKIDS: Kids corner including face painting, play dough, bubbles and storytelling

