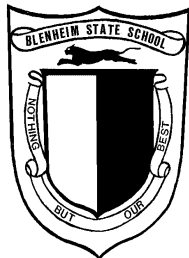


Blenheim State School
NEWSLETTER

Climbing high - in quest of success



'NOTHING
 BUT
 OUR
 BEST'

Strength

Persistence

Achievement

Volume 7 – Wednesday 29 April 2009



From the Principal

It was great to have so many families join us for the day of activities at the end of Term 1. An enjoyable day was had by all and the Fun Run raised an impressive **\$1,816.70!** The students' prizes will be distributed to them as soon as they arrive at the school.



It has been mentioned that points for our sports houses, Ryan and Bichel, would be awarded from the Fun Run. These are **Bichel 37, Ryan 44.** These will be the starting points for our school **Athletics Day on Thursday 11th June.** This date has been changed from **12th June** as this is now **Under 8s Day.**

The **Year 4 and 6** students completed their **QCAT English** tasks this week. These will be moderated at a cluster and regional level before being reported on in the Semester One report card.



I wish to heartily congratulate **Barbara Pope** upon her selection as **Barnardos Queensland Mother of the Year.** This is hugely deserved recognition of the dedication and sacrifice that Barbara (and Derek) has given to improve the lot of disadvantaged children over many years. We are very proud of you Barbara.



Congratulations are also extended to Miss Schulz who was married over the Easter break and is now **Mrs Slape.** I am sure that the entire school community wishes Annette and Michael a long and very happy life together.



A huge **thank you** goes to the parents of the 10 students who participated in the **ANZAC Day march.** The children were very well behaved and I was extremely pleased to have so many younger students turn up for the march. School leader Sarah Allen laid a wreath of fresh flowers on the memorial on behalf of the school.



Our school community greatly values the **Chaplaincy** service which is so well provided by **Phil Bryce**. Phil gives **support** to students and their families whenever this is required. He provides a **very positive male role model** for the students, who always look forward to our 'Chappy' days – every second Wednesday. The Laidley Cluster has been very fortunate to obtain federal funding for the chaplaincy services, Blenheim's share being worth **\$15,000 over three years**. In addition to this the **school contributes \$600 annually**. However, there is a **shortfall of about \$13,300 per year across the cluster** to maintain our chaplaincies. The local **Baptist and Uniting churches provide financial support** but more is needed from the school communities. To this end, the school will hold **one fundraising day per term for the chaplaincy**. In addition, if you value Phil's chaplaincy in our school, **a direct donation can be made of whatever amount you wish**.

If the cluster is unable to make up the shortfall in funds, we are informed that Scripture Union will have to **reduce the chaplains' hours**, which would be extremely disappointing.



I wish to remind parents and carers that, for safety reasons, **students should not be dropped off or picked up in the school driveway or car park**. All students are to enter and leave the school grounds through the small pedestrian gate. Your cooperation in this matter is much appreciated.



It is with mixed emotions that I wish to inform the school community that, at this point in time, in Term 3 I am taking **8 weeks long service leave and then retiring** at the end of the term. I shall be working at the school for the final 2 weeks of the term until 18th September.

Best wishes
Sandra Duncalfe
Principal

Estimating and measuring area

In the early years of school, your child will need to have an understanding of the concept of area.

Here are a few tips to develop your child's knowledge of this concept:

- talk to your child about what measuring the area of something means. In simplest terms it means coverage of a surface
- encourage your child to estimate before they measure as this will help them to think logically
- many household items can be used to cover and measure surfaces – your child could experiment with items such as leaves, tiles, lids, envelopes, shoes, books. You can even try using your feet and hands
- talk about 'covering surfaces' when your child is involved in activities such as painting and colouring, playing with pattern blocks or jigsaw puzzles, matching lids to containers, making patterns or even covering a table with a table cloth or placemat
- ensure your child sorts everyday objects according to their area in everyday situations such as separating the larger plates from the smaller plates, making piles of similar-sized jigsaw pieces, or finding cloths that would cover a coffee table or kitchen table
- ask your child to lay out enough newspaper on the floor or table to protect the surface from spills before they use paint.

For more information, or ask your child's teacher for advice or visit the website for parents at:
www.education.qld.gov.au/parents/map/

Diary Dates

(Please note that these dates may change. Notice will be given if this occurs)

- ❖ 30th April Laidley District cross country trials at Blenheim School
- ❖ 12th, 13th, 14th May NAPLAN tests for Years 3, 5, 7
- ❖ 5th May School Photos
- ❖ 8th May Lockyer District Cross Country Trials Toogoolawah Golf Course (**change of venue**)
- ❖ 11th (**change of date**) June Inter-House sports day Blenheim SS
- ❖ 12th June Under 8's day
- ❖ 19th June 9.30 Arts Council Blenheim Hall. Cost \$6 per student or \$15 for family with 3 or more. Performance is titled "Thoughts have feelings too"
- ❖ 25th June Laidley District Small School's Athletics Carnival 26th Laidley Rec Grounds
- ❖ 26th June end term 2
- ❖ 13th July Pupil Free Day
- ❖ 14th July begin term 3
- ❖ 3rd August Choral Festival day long practice at Ipswich High school.
- ❖ 3rd August Choral Festival Performance 5.30pm – 6.15pm at Ipswich High School
- ❖ 10th August Show holiday
- ❖ 12th August Pupil Free Day
- ❖ 21st August Ball Games Carnival at Thornton SS
- ❖ 18th September Speed Soccer Carnival Laidley Rec Grounds
- ❖ End term 3
- ❖ 5th October Term 4 starts
- ❖ 15th, 22nd, 29th, October, 5th, 12th November swimming lessons 1pm – 2pm.
- ❖ 19th October Pupil Free Day
- ❖ Friday 13th November Laidley Small School's swimming carnival Laidley Pool
- ❖ 11th December end term 4 2009

Important Notice from the Student Council

Mother's Day Stall

Next Friday 8th May we will be holding our famous annual Mother's Day Stall. This is a very popular stall for all our students to purchase gifts for the Mums and other wonderful women in their lives. For this to be the success it always is could we kindly ask for donations of items for this stall. Cheap items from Wayne's World or Crazy Clarks are idea for this. Even hand made sweets are ideal. If you are able to donate an item then please leave it at the office before next Friday. Items will be selling for \$5 and under. Thank you for supporting the School Student Council.

Jake, Bree, Sarah and Amy



Community Notices

Forest Hill SS Annual Trivia Night

- ☺ Saturday 16th may
- ☺ Forest Hill School of Arts
- ☺ 6.30pm for 7pm start
- ☺ Theme- Denim & Diamonds
- ☺ Lucky door prizes, raffles and famous handtowel raffle
- ☺ Light supper provided
- ☺ Bookings phone school 54112111
- ☺ Enquiries ph Linton 54654151, Ann 54654344 or Helen 54654668