Wednesday 3 August 2016

Dear Parents and Families,

We are now in week 4 and fast approaching the midpoint of Term 3. At this point in time, the school community really starts to get busy. Our students have assessment work to complete, the teaching team are trying to maximise learning opportunities and parents may very well be dealing with tired and cranky children at home. It’s during these testing times that our school rules and values are most needed and most often called upon. My talk on assembly this week was about the need for all members of the Bluewater State School Community to be Responsible, Respectful and Resilient.

Each day at school, I am continually impressed at the power of ‘the five’ and the way it exists to help our children solve problems. Students, staff and parents know exactly what it means and they use it effectively. It is truly embedded from documentation to implementation. So much so, that on my 16th day of work and 4th ever assembly, I was very quickly reminded by the students that I didn’t go through the process with the school community. This sharp feedback will certainly stay with me as a constant reminder not to get this wrong again. Thank you for engaging in this work with your children and supporting the hard work that occurs in classrooms and out in the playground.

Last week I had the pleasure of attending two interschool events, the ATSIAP Challenge and a Robotics Boot Camp. Both events showcased the tremendous talents of Bluewater State School students and staff. The ATSIAP Challenge team returned home with the Runners up trophy for the quiz component of the event and a third place for their artwork that detailed the importance of attending school every day. The highlight of the Robotics Challenge was the clear focus on teamwork, problem solving and communication. Our students thrived in this environment and represented us well. Congratulations to all involved in these events.

The opportunities to represent our school continue next week with the scheduling of our next P&C meeting and the Interschool Athletics Carnival. We would love as many people as possible to participate and support these events- strong involvement ensures a strong team.

Have a great week.

Chris Wicks
Principal
Friday 12th August

Come to school in Free Dress and please bring a donation for our Country Fair Cent Sale Stall

Please donate any of the following items for our Cent Sale Hampers:
- Kids activity/craft pack
- Garden products
- Tea/coffee items

All donations are appreciated and will go towards making our Country Fair a success. Remember all profits from the Fair go back to our students.

Early Departure procedures:
If you are collecting your child before 3pm, please come to the office, sign out your child/ren. Take an Early Departure Slip and personally go to your child’s classroom and give the slip to the teacher and collect your child.

2017 Prep Enrolments

If your 2017 prep aged child has a sibling at this school or if you know of anyone who lives in our catchment area, (http://www.agso.qld.gov.au/maps/edmap/), please see the office for an enrolment pack.

Recycling - 4B’s Bluewater Way project

The items that we are recycling are:
- batteries (all sorts except car batteries)
- oral health waste including used toothbrushes, empty toothpaste tubes, mouthwash and floss containers and even the packaging that the new ones come in
- We are also collecting the ring pulls from the top of drink cans as these are used to make wheel chairs and prosthetics.

Each classroom has a recycling box to collect the items in.

BOOK WEEK 20th—26th August

The 2016 Book Week theme is Australia! Story Country

To celebrate Book Week, we will be holding our Book Week Parade on Thursday 25th August at 9:15am in the Parade Area

Parents, staff and students are encouraged to dress up as their favourite BOOK character.

There will be prizes for the best dressed and an encouragement award for each class.

Students are required to bring their book with them for the parade as this makes it easier for the judges to recognise their book character.

Lost Property

Please check the red box near staff room for any lost items such as hats, lunch boxes and jumpers!

on the calendar

August:
9th  P&C Meeting
10th  Red Track
10th  Meal Deal
12th  Free Dress Day
25th  Book Week Parade

Meal Deal

Wednesday 10 August

All meal deal forms and money must be handed in by Friday 5th August

Please note that Meal Deal day is the same day as Red Track

Year 5 & Year 6 Paluma Camps

All monies need to be fully paid by Friday 19th August

Thank you to parents who have already returned their forms and payments.

Last chance to grab a 2016/2017 Entertainment book

See Jodie in the library or order online www.entbook.com.au/27117x2
All proceeds to Canberra Camp 2017

RED TRACK Wednesday 10th August

Townsville Sports Reserve
Training sessions are being held at lunch breaks

Patches of Bluewater Craft Group

Meet every Thursday at the Bluewater Community Centre
9am to 1pm
New people are welcome
Contact Shannon Stanford on 4788 6465

Patches of Bluewater are proud sponsors of 3 x $100
Encouragement Vouchers presented at the 2016 Bluewater State School Christmas Concert
Creek Watch Program

Once a month SW work with the Conservation Volunteers Australia by participating in the Creek Watch program at Bluewater Creek.

We have learnt about the ecosystem of Bluewater Creek and the delicate balance that is required to keep the river system healthy. While we are there we collect water samples, check the oxygen and pH levels in the water, we use fish traps to collect information about the different species of fish, we identify bugs and other creatures that may occupy the creek.

Learning how to collect and identify samples from the creek helps us to understand and care for the creek.

While we are there we ensure that the native fish are released as well as disposing of the pest fish Tilapia. This week we managed to remove two 10cm Tilapia from the area, this will help to increase the chances of survival for our native fish.

A note from Chappy Travis:

Greetings Bluewater! Wow we are in August already!!

We are moving along in the year so quickly that it is a little scary as to how close we are getting to the end of the year. We have been doing so much along the way with Chappy Corner during lunch time where the kids are engaged in some fun board games and I do believe they out did me in every game (lol), from playing giant dominos to battleships. The students have been having a good laugh with defeating their Chappy.

With Father’s Day fast approaching, we have started making some fun presents for dad on his SPECIAL day. We will continue to make some little craft presents for Dads every Monday lunch time for Father’s Day on September 4.

I heard a great quote about family the other day.

“Unconditional love is loving your kids for who they are, not for what they do... it isn’t something you will achieve every minute of every day. But it is the thought we must hold in our hearts every day.”

AFTERSCHOOL YOUTH (ASY)

Afterschool Youth Term 3 is on hold at the moment as we organise some new leaders to join me on Wednesdays. I apologise for any inconvenience this has caused parents and guardians. It is looking hopeful to have ASY up and running again after the Camp being held from 12–14 August. I have been in contact with some new leaders and I will keep you updated.

Have a great week everyone!

Chappy Travis