Dear Parents, Carers, Staff members and Students

It has been a pleasure to have met so many of you over the last couple of weeks. My time in Agnes has been brief but full of so many incredible insights and experiences that I feel like I have been here for more than two weeks.

As I mentioned in my recent website post, my first impressions of the school were literally beautiful butterflies thriving in our lovely gardens. As my two boys were jumping about, pointing excitedly to all the wonderful play areas, I was genuinely impressed by the facilities and fantastic learning spaces that seamlessly shifted beyond the walls of the classrooms. As I continued to explore the school, I imagined what it would be like to be a teacher here, seeing the smiling faces of my own children, I knew that I had come to a special place.

Coming from a school of 1600 students, I have set my own personal challenge to learn the names of every student in the school as soon as possible. This has been made easy by the openness and genuine courtesy of so many of the children here. I have had pictures drawn for me, cards made, and masses of students waiting for me during morning tea and lunch, all eager to share what is great about Agnes State School. I became an educator because I am passionate about learning and passionate about kids. My first few weeks here have reminded me of what really matters – my job is to ensure that we are doing everything we can to allow our children to flourish.

We have a very busy term planned with lots of special events and functions. Did you know there is a Q Schools App? This links to the calendar on our school website, and is another great way to stay informed about what’s happening this term. I am in the process of reactivating the Agnes Water State School Facebook Page, so when it is up and running, I will post a link on the community page.

Active After School Sport has begun this week. Students are invited to join Rugby, Softball and AFL from 3.00pm – 4.00pm Wednesday and Taekwondo – Thursday. For this week only AFL will be held this Friday then will divert back to Wednesday. This is a fantastic way for your child to try a new sport, or continue developing skills in a sport they already love. For more information about which sport is offered on which afternoon, please contact the office directly. Don’t forget to let the office know to take your child off the bus list.

Friday Afternoon Sport begins 24th October and is offered to all students in Year 4 – 7. Notes have already been sent home with your child and it is important that you complete these and return them to school as soon as possible so we can confirm numbers and facilities. Please remind your child to bring to school what they require to participate in their particular sport choice.

EVERY DAY COUNTS! I know you have probably heard this before, but it really does. While it may not seem like a big deal to miss a day here and there, as the number of these days add up, so does the missed learning. I will be focusing on the importance of attendance this term and supporting families in ways to promote going to school ‘every day’. Remember – if you child is away from school, it is your responsibility to let us know. You can do this by calling, emailing or writing a note.
Have you moved or changed your mobile number? It is vital that the school has your current contact details, including all phone numbers, postal address. As a mum, I know that if anything happened to my boys at school, I would want to be contacted. If we don’t have your correct details, we can’t call you. Please take 5 minutes to contact the school and confirm that we have your most recent information, including phone numbers, emergency contact and email address.

Daniel Morcombe Day – Friday 31 October. Please wear red and $2.00 donation

NRL Backyard League Program will be occurring at Agnes Water SS on the following dates:
November 5th  the local rugby club will be supporting the first session, with some of the Junior and Senior players
November 12th
November 19th - from 3.00 – 3.30pm

Anyone interested in participating and supporting this event, please contact either Neroli O’Neill 0456 075 193 or Daniel Skinner 0449 888 640 (President Junior Marlins).

Lastly, just a reminder that Monday 20th October is a Student Free Day for all students except our Pre Preppies. This means you have an extra day with your lovely little-ones, I trust you will make the most of this magical weather!

I am looking forward to the rest of the term, and if there is anything you would like to talk to me about, please feel free to join me for a ‘Friday Chat’ at 10am each week.

Regards
Neroli O’Neill
Principal
0456 075 193

Get the kids to log on and register at beroadaware.com.au and click on register or http://www.beroadaware.com.au/RoadAware/register.php  Personal prizes of BMX bikes and equipment and school prizes of $15 000 of sports gear, only open to students from Chinchilla to Gladstone and closes 31 of October. Hook in!!

TV RETUNE
NEW DATE - 19 NOVEMBER
Hello everyone,

I trust you all had a safe and happy break with your children and are all ready for the final term of 2014. We welcome Mrs O’Neill as our new Principal and we all look forward to working with her after a flying start to the week. We also welcome Ms Ladlow, Mrs Crowther and Ms Pretty this term.

Last term is always a busy one with the last of the year’s work and assessment followed by the awards night and the big feeling of moving up a grade next year. Please help keep on track with homework and reading as this, like growing kids, never stops.

In the last newsletter I asked for any parents of students of Aboriginal or Islander heritage not identified on our school system to please let us know. If you do identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage please tell us ASAP.

Also in the last newsletter I wrote, “Each week we draw a name from the Captain Starfish tickets for showing Safe, Responsible, Respectful behaviour from each class. We need 12 small awards each week. As you can see, if we use costly awards it would soon eat heavily into funds. We need items that students from ages 5 to 12 years would like to choose from the prize box. If you are aware of items that may be used please inform me. I seem able to get plenty of items suitable for the younger ages but find it difficult with older years. I have used items from the ‘cheap’ shops and items we have around school but I am looking for ideas and I am hoping you might help stretch our limited funds yet have a real “prize”. This still applies and I look forward to your input.

We will soon be running our internal check on reading and maths by using the PAT test (Progressive Achievement Test) which gives a snapshot of understanding against an Australia wide benchmark. It informs us on the progress made and the strengths and weaknesses in our teaching and learning so that we may better target our teaching emphases in these areas. Please don’t pressure or stress your children but do have them attend at all times unless ill. I would also like to remind everyone that students can access their Reading Eggs and Mathletics sites at home using their school login so please add this to their available sites. Many of our students really enjoy the challenge section of Mathletics as they take on opponents from around the world in math facts at a chosen level.

In the past I have mentioned food and healthy snacks and lunches as these affect concentration and behaviour quite significantly. Please have a look at this website if you are wondering what is in those foods!


Have a great term 4 and please say hello to our new Principal, Teachers and Students.

Yours

John Hancock

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Tuckshop has lost 2 volunteers this Term. I would like to thank Taryn DiFrancesca & Elaine Plath for their help in the past year – their assistance was much appreciated!

This also means there is a need for more Volunteers in the Tuckshop especially on Fridays. If you can help please contact Debbie at Tuckshop on 49749527.

Tuckshop News for Term 4:

- Slushie Machine is back in operation!
- Billabongs no longer exist & have been replaced by Fandangles – Choc Schmallow / Fairy Floss / Caramel Popcorn flavours
RESPECTFUL  RESPONSIBLE  SAFE

Assembly Awards Recipients

Term 4 - Week 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shayla Thompson</td>
<td>Good work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tajh Crompton-Noy</td>
<td>Working steadily and quietly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violetrose Horbushko</td>
<td>Being a responsible student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milly Hetherington</td>
<td>For being a great listener</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mack Harrington</td>
<td>Making great choices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rowan Brennan</td>
<td>Perfect spelling results in Term 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosie Moody</td>
<td>Always being on task and having exemplary manners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jorden Suckelis</td>
<td>For improvement in homework</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiona Lawson</td>
<td>For being confident with others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blake Gordon</td>
<td>For improvement in literacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ewan Norton</td>
<td>For improvement in handwriting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haylee Melouney</td>
<td>For asking for teacher support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brandon Bourke</td>
<td>For improvement in handwriting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander England</td>
<td>For improvement in organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caleb Renton</td>
<td>Being responsible during rotations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erin Hazell</td>
<td>For helping others</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STOPPING BULLYING STARTS WITH YOU

If someone tries to bully you

- Ignore them, turn and leave
- If you can, look them in the eye, tell them to ‘stop’ and then walk away
- Pretend you don’t care
- Go to places where you feel safe.

If you have been bullied

- Talk to an adult (parent, teacher) you trust who can help stop the bullying
- Seek support from your friends
- Keep on asking for support until the bullying stops.

If you see someone being bullied

- If safe, do something to stop it
- Report it to a teacher
- Support the person being bullied

For more information or support
Kids Help Line
www.kidshelp.com.au
1800 55 1800
Year 5

The Time Of My Life
Last term we investigated about our life. No wonder years 5s are tired because we have been at school for 1035 days. Did you know that my heart beats at least 106,560 times a day now that is a lot for one day. Wow did you know I have eaten 12,132 meals in my life and if that’s not inspiring then read this. I take approximately 46080 breaths every day and also even when I try not to blink I still blink approximately 34560 times every day. We were allowed to find out another surprising number for our life and I found out that I’m a bit of a sleepy head because I sleep 8640 hours a year, wow that is a lot. If you want to try this at home, you can.

By Haydon Grave

PLAY GOLF WEEK

1 Entry is free and open to all primary schools in Australia. Each primary school may enter more than once, however only one entry per year level per school is permitted.

2 Schools who employ employees and their immediate families of the Promoter, their related corporate bodies and Agencies are not eligible to enter.

3 The promotion commences at 9.00 am AEST on 1 October 2014 and closes at 11.59 pm AEDT on 23 November 2014.

4 To enter, schools must design a mini-golf hole. The hole may be a drawn diagram, a clay or paper-mache sculpture, a structure containing obstacles built on the oval or in the school playground, etc.

5 To submit the entry:
a. Email a diagram, picture or video link of the hole to mygolf@golf.org.au and include in the subject line “MyGolf Schools Competition Entry”. 
In English we have been doing story writing. We have been learning about the orientation, who and where, the problem and the resolution which is how to solve the problem. In Maths we have been learning about money, times and how to trade money. In theme work Geography we have been learning about the continents and world divisions. In Science we have finished making our toys that push or pull.

By Nevaeh, Class reporter
Yr 1/2 Miss Kate’s Natural Talents
2014 TENNIS COACHING AGNES WATER
Coach: - Angie Draheim Level 2 ATPCA

M: 0409 971 401 E: angietennis@icloud.com
Tennis Lessons aim to benefit your child by:
• Being a healthy non-contact sport
• Developing social skills
• Providing a fun learning environment
• Developing gross motor skills and hand-eye coordination

- Offering opportunities to extend players by attending fun and competitive days

TERM 4 CLASSES COMMENCE WEEK 2 (Monday 13 October 2014) 5 week - $50

Lessons are held before school at school court on Tue/Wed/Thur mornings and
After school at Bicentennial Drive court on Mon/Tue/Thur afternoons

Student: .............................................. Parent/Guardian..............................................

Address ....................................................................................................................................

Preferred Day/Time ..................................................................................................................

Contact ph/mob .........................................................................................................................

Any health issues that the coach needs to be aware of

..............................................................................................................................................

RESTRING & GRIPS
AVAILABLE JUNIOR
RACQUETS $20

JNR RACQUETS $20