Dear Parents, Carers, Staff members and Students,

It is hard to believe that we are already half-way through the term! I always love Term 4 because it is all about celebrating how our students have grown as learners.

In week 2 the Year 6 & 7 students went on camp to Chaverim Outdoor Education Centre. As you know this experience is a tradition for graduating primary students that has become a ‘coming of age’ experience for many. This year, with two cohorts heading off to high school next year, it was an extra special milestone for our students. You will read all about the details of the camp in the article below, however I wanted to say a special thank you to all the staff who attended this camp. In my previous region, the experience of ‘camp’ has all but been reduced to recreational ‘days’ off site as schools struggle to get staff to participate. If they do offer a camp, it is usually one, or at the most, two nights away only. We are incredibly fortunate to have staff who value the importance of this experience for your children that they gave up so much of their own time to commit to a five day camp! As I discovered through camp week, we have a very modest teaching team. ‘It’s just what we do!’ I look forward to shining a little extra light on our staff in appreciation of what they do above and beyond what is expected.

The 31st of October was a big day for us – World Teachers Day AND Day for Daniel. It was very touching for all teachers to be presented with hand-made individual gifts by the non-teaching staff. As I walked throughout the school, I heard of further gifts to teacher’s like having songs written for them, cakes and chocolates, bunches of flowers, beautiful drawings and of course the simplest gift of all, adoring shining eyes that say thank you everyday!

I was overwhelmed by the support of Day for Daniel. Over 95% of our students wore something ‘red’ and donated to the Morcombe Foundation. As a school, we raised over $250, with some families anonymously donating $5, $10, $20, even $50 to this incredible cause. The simple message, ‘Recognise React Report’, has been adopted by our school to ensure that all students are safe at Agnes Water State School. I can’t think of a better way to promote the physical and emotional wellbeing of our students because I believe prevention is the key.
Operation ‘Explain Away’ was launched on the school’s Facebook Page on 23 October. Essentially the goal was to achieve 100% explained absences for Term 4 in support of our school values Be Safe, Be Responsible. As a school, we have introduced a couple of new systems to support this initiative, including SMS messages to be sent home everyday when your child is marked absent. I am extremely happy with the outcome so far. Yesterday, for example, we hit the target of 100% explained absences for the day! SO GOOD!!!

Across the world, schools have identified that attendance is the single most important factor attributing to successful learners. It is gratifying to share that, as a school, we are on the up and up in terms of attendance; from 88.4% in Term 3 to 91.3% for Term 4 so far.

The mid-term Year Level Attendance Leader Board:
- 1st Year 5 - 94.2%
- 2nd Year 4 - 92.9%
- 3rd Prep – 91.7%

The green zone for attendance is between 95 – 100%. An impressive 107 students will receive certificates at assembly this week for Outstanding Attendance. This is a significant reflection of how important education is in our school community.

You may have heard ‘Everyday Counts’ before, but what you may not have heard is the joy in teachers voices as they talk in our staffroom, ‘Can you believe that I have had 100% attendance for 3 days in a row this week! It makes such a difference knowing that no one is missing out on learning.’ Mrs S Smith  Year 2/3.

Key dates –

- **Tuesday 18 November**
  - Artslink “No Way” $6.00
- **Thursay 20**
  - Yr 6 & Yr 7 Parent Info Evening 5:00 - 6:00 at school
- **Monday 24 November**
  - Prep Orientation
    - 9:00 - 10:45
- **Wednesday 26 November**
  - Volunteers M/Tea

- **Tuesday 2**
  - P & C Meeting
  - Awards Night
- **Wednesday 3**
  - Yr 6 & 7 Transition
- **Thursday 4**
  - Yr 6 & 7 Transition
- **Monday 8**
  - Reports posted home

- **Monday 8**
  - Celebration Day
- **Tuesday 9**
  - Yr 6 & 7 Transition
- **Wednesday 10**
  - Graduation Dance
- **Thursday 11**
  - Xmas Concert 11.30

Regards
Neroli O’Neill
Principal       0456 075 193
Hello Parents and Carers,

Students are currently hard at work with all classes involved in their assessment of their gain throughout the year. The teachers are often heard discussing how this student or that has improved so much and can now do ‘such and such’ that they had no idea about earlier. This is what teachers thrive on and largely why they are teachers. The sheer thrill in seeing development in students gives a gigantic boost to morale.

A big thanks to Greer from Agnes Water Home Wares for her generous support of the School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) Captain Starfish awards program. The students really appreciated the new prizes and were very enthusiastic about selecting them. Thanks very much.

Yours
John Hancock
STLaN:HOC

A BIG THANK YOU TO
JASMIN AND DEMI SWINKELS
WHO MADE CUPCAKES FOR WORLD TEACHERS DAY
THANKS GIRLS!!
Assembly Awards Recipients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Term 4 - Week 3</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooke Collins</td>
<td>For being a wonderful, positive and a hard working student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amy Gordon</td>
<td>Awesome math test results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amani Fraser</td>
<td>Good work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ella Christian</td>
<td>Magic effort during reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phoenix Arpas</td>
<td>Trying his best during reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molly Weir</td>
<td>Becoming a responsible learner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mia Swan</td>
<td>Great balance during ‘crate stack’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cody Turnbull</td>
<td>Great effort</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gemma Owen</td>
<td>Always trying hard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noah Mischke</td>
<td>Great balance during ‘crate stack’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Term 4 - Week 4</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbey Halliday</td>
<td>Fantastic sentence writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyson Growcott</td>
<td>Writing a great letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mack Harrington</td>
<td>For improved effort in all areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessica Eising</td>
<td>Working had independently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooper Keleher</td>
<td>Staying focused having great manners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Shurte</td>
<td>Taking responsibility for his learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angus Clifton</td>
<td>Writing some great sizzling starts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caleb Renton</td>
<td>Being responsible</td>
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</tbody>
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YEAR 2 NEWS - TASMANIAN PEN PALS

*Did you know that our class have pen pals in Tasmania?*

Last year Mrs Hancock met a teacher Mrs Wright who teaches Year1/2 at Glen Huon State School in the Huon Valley in Tasmania.

Mrs Hancock and Mrs Wright decided that their students should write to each other to not only practice their writing skills but to learn about each other’s state, lifestyles and community. We each have a friend to write to and we have already written to that friend and received our first letter. We spend two weeks writing our letters. First we write them, and then we edit and then write out our neat copies. We are all very excited about writing and always try to do our very best writing and to write very interesting letters!

Mrs Wright has said that ‘our letters are quite a labour of love as well’ and she is ‘amazed at some of the facts about your area that have already emerged’.

We will follow Mrs Wright’s example and start a display board and every time a new fact comes to light about Tasmania we will write it down and stick it to our board, along with maps etc. This certainly is an interesting way to learn Geography and History!

Catherine Hancock
Year 2
CONGRATULATIONS ALKI – A TREMENDOUS ACHIEVEMENT

Alki Kallas is well known for his sporting achievements and has recently returned from competing with the Wide Bay Primary School Athletics team for the Queensland School Sport State Championships 800 metre event at the QE2 in Brisbane.

Alki achieved amazing results in Brisbane making the finals in his 800 metre run of which only nine children qualified. He achieved his personal best with a time of 2.26-81 which qualified him for the finals the following day. Alki had two issues to overcome, firstly his shoes broke 15 minutes before his race and secondly he stopped prior to the finishing line (he misjudged a ‘solid line’) for the finishing line!!!!

Finals were on the next day, but Alki couldn’t walk!!! The 800 metre coach said that his calves had ‘blown out’ as he hadn’t trained on a tartan track and he couldn’t run. Alki jogged the final and completed the race, coming in 8th in the state (36 competitors).

Fantastic result for a ’beach boy’. Next … surfing no doubt!!!
Year 3M

Geography Excursion

Year 3M were very lucky to be able to participate in an excursion to 1770 foreshore area last week. Thanks to parents who made it possible by coming along to help. Students were required to find out what was significant about the place we chose to study in Geography. Students surveyed the public, parents, and teachers to find out what people believed to be important to the area. The information collected is for our assessment. Some students have emailed me to let me know what their favourite part of the day was and here is what a few students had to say.

Maddison and Krystal said, “I liked the sketch of 1770 that we had to do”.
Lilly said, “My favourite thing was swimming because we went all the way out to the sand bar”.
Saffron said, “I liked the whole excursion”.
Patrick and Zak said, “the thing I liked was that swim”.
Tom said, “My favourite part of the excursion was going for a swim and going to interview people. It was cool”.

...
Dear Parents, Guardians, teachers, staff and students:

In light of the recent serious traffic crashes on Capricornia District roads, we are asking all members of our community to abide by the road rules and remember the fatal five:

- Speeding;
- Drink and Drug Driving;
- Failure to wear a Seatbelt;
- Driving while Fatigued;
- Distraction and Inattention.

Each year a considerable number of people are killed or seriously injured on our roads. The safety of our students, children and families is a very high priority.

Students who travel by bus to and from school are reminded if your bus has seatbelts, you must wear them. Students who ride their bicycles to school should always be aware of their own personal safety and that of other road users. It is compulsory for cyclists to wear helmets. These helmets must be in good condition, fastened correctly and fit properly. Otherwise, they are effectively useless and will provide no protection when you may need it the most. Parents/carers are requested to ensure that their child has a suitable helmet that meets the Australian Standards.

Students who drive to school are reminded that it is a privilege to hold a drivers licence. We ask all drivers to be aware of the speed limit in school zones and be very conscious of pedestrians and other road users. Driving is the most dangerous activity that occurs on our roads. Every year hundreds of people are killed or seriously injured. Always drive responsibly and always abide by the Australian Road Rules. Failure to comply may result in traffic infringement notices being issued as well as your vehicle being confiscated by Police.

Please drive safely so you can go home at the end of the day to your loved ones.

Kind regards,

Superintendent Van Saane
District Officer
Capricornia Police
What a Week!

It all began on Monday when Year Six and Seven boarded the bus for a great adventure to the Burnett River. We arrived at the Chaverim Outdoor Education Facility, where we would spend a week creating ever lasting memories with our peers. Everyone had an eager expression on their face, just waiting to see how this week would unfold. All through the week we did some amazing activities and had some delicious meals. Some of the accomplishments we have conquered throughout the week included, fighting through our fear of heights and also learning to trust one another and work as a team.

The first day we met our instructors Jodie, Nathan, Anita, and Adam. They helped us and directed us when it was needed, during the course of our activities. The activities that we completed through the week were Flying Possum, Low Ropes, Flying Fox, Centipede, Crate Stack, Tree Climb, Orienteering, Canoeing, Abseiling, High Ropes and last but not least the Rock Wall. Throughout the week’s activities our three favourites were the Tree Climb, Abseiling and the High Ropes. During these activities we learnt to work together by encouraging other students and also conquering our fear of heights.

At the end of the day we participated in night activities, which included our favourite games; Cave Man Cave Woman, Zombie Stalk and Sock Wrestling. Prizes were given out whilst competing in the games, like chocolates and lollies. Also on Tuesday and Wednesday night the two classes sat in a circle to share their highlights. Night games were a great way to get to know each other because we had to team up with other students we don’t usually work with, such as Year Six.

The meals were delicious and we had a different variety of food each day. Our favourite meals were pancakes for breakfast, hotdogs for lunch, lasagne for dinner and for dessert, butterscotch pudding with ice-cream. The meals were a contributing factor to how great we thought camp was.

Oooooooooooooo ………did you see that Cheyanne!
For a week at camp we stayed in a spacious cabin which could hold up to six people and also each cabin had their own ensuite. They were well maintained and were always ready for the next students to use. Our stay at Chaverim was an extraordinary once in a lifetime experience and we were fortunate enough to stay there for a whole week. The scenery from the top of the many high rope activities was as breath taking as the first sight of light after a stormy night. We really enjoyed our stay and hope we may have the chance to relive that great adventure in the future!

Written by Lizzy Gordon and Amber Liekmeier

Meditation really helps with pain relief.
My favourite part of camp! - Year 6’s

The flying possum was my favourite part of camp. It was so fun because you fly in the air. I did the superman and the cyclone. It was so fun when you’re up the top. There are 7 donkeys running and you get lifted into the air and this was my favourite thing by far. It lifts you at least 8 metres up.       By Kye

About two – three weeks ago my class went to camp so did year 7’s. My favourite activities were the flying possum and archery. The flying possum was one of my favourite activities because you would go flying up and it was so cool when you would go so high and I love heights. There were all different ways you could go. I did the superman where you run straight forward and then you go flying up and the cyclone when you run on an angle then you go spinning up. It looked awesome from up high! Archery was one of my favourites as well because I’ve always wanted to do it and I finally got to do it. You would have targets to shoot at and I got the yellow, blue, black and white. It was pretty good for my first go doing archery. I wasn’t the best though but I did pretty well. I liked everything but the flying possum and archery stood out to be the best for me.

From Codi 😊

My favourite part of camp was the flying possum because it felt sick when I was in the air. It was trippy and it felt like I was flying.       By Darcy

2-3 weeks ago most of the Year 6’s and 7’s went to a camp because; it is our last year at Primary School. We left on a Monday and came back on Friday afternoon. At camp we did the activities, Orienteering, Flying Possum, Low ropes, Raft building, Rock Climbing, Flying Fox, Tree Climbing, Archery, Canoeing, Centipede, Crate climb and heaps more! My favourite part was the Flying Fox because; I faced my fear of heights. The flying fox was when we had to climb high up in a tree and stand on this really small platform and then we had to jump off the platform and at first I felt like I was falling but, then I felt like I was flying and it was really fun, cool and, awesome! That is why my favourite activity at camp was the Flying Fox! Camp was AWESOME!

Written by Tayla French 😊😊😊

3 weeks ago year 6’s and 7’s went to school camp. We were all in a cabin most cabin’s had 5 people in them. The activities we did were orienteering, flying possum, tree climb, low ropes, raft building, flying fox, milk crate stack and more. My 2 favourite activities were the flying fox and tree climb. They were my 2 favourite because I was conquering my fear of heights on both of them. The tree climb was when you climbed a really high tree with heaps of people attached to you and the flying fox was when you climb a tall tree and stand on a platform and jump off. It felt like I was flying. Camp was amazingly awesome!! 😊 Written by: Lucy

My favourite parts of camp were the activities that had heights in them. That camp got me over my fear of heights. The one that got me over my fear of heights was the flying possum. It is where you get hooked on to a harness that is hooked onto a rope that goes up and over a wire then down to a donkey team then you chose what you want to do either an elevator, a superman or a cyclone. The next activity that had heights was the flying fox. That is where you get hooked on to a donkey team again then you climb up a 10 metre tree where the instructor is waiting then they un-hook the donkey team then she hooks you in to the tree then they hooks you into a wire then they unhook you from the tree then you have to jump. The thing that had height was the tree climb that is where you have to climb up a 14 metre tree with a group of people.       By Connor

Things I loved about camp were….. Archery because I was really bad at the start but I got better at it, at the end we all had a competition. I also liked the flying possum because, it felt as though I was FLYING!!! But the activity I loved the best was……

The Crate Climb because, it tested your balancing and communication skills and abilities!!

SO THAT’S WHAT I LOVED THE BEST AT CAMP!!! 😊😊  BY LIANA COOPER