Principal’s News

Diary Dates
Thursday – Feb 9th – first day of Tuckshop
Monday – Feb 13th – P&C Meet and Greet
Tuesday – Feb 28th – Pancake Day

The Perfect Teacher
Do you have a recipe for the perfect teacher?
What ingredients would you need?
How would you make him/her?

My challenge to you is, how will you help your child’s teacher to be perfect?
What can you do to support the person who is educating your child?
A little bit of support goes a long way when you are doing a job of such importance, we take our jobs very seriously at Banana State School.

Be assured that we are always striving to improve in our delivery of quality learning experiences for your child.

School Rules
At Banana State School we expect high standards of personal achievement and behaviour.

At Banana State School, we have identified the following school rules for all members of our school community to follow:

- Be respectful
- Be a friend
- Be prepared.

We expect all students to take responsibility for their actions and make good choices.

Students are expected to demonstrate a positive attitude towards others.

Every classroom teacher will have classroom rules and expectations that relate to working hard, behaviour, the classroom environment, how students will learn and how to treat other people so that everybody learns.

HASS
This year, all students in our school will be learning at some time every week in the area of Humanities and Social Sciences, this is often abbreviated to HASS – you might see this written on the front of one of your child’s exercise books.

These subject areas are covered in HASS:
- History and Geography – Prep – Yr 6
- Civics and Citizenship – Yrs 3 – 6

Not every subject area is taught every term, they are spread out throughout the year.

In Term 1, all students are learning History and our Yrs 5 – 6 students are learning Civics and Citizenship. Mrs Butler, Miss Rynne and I all teach HASS – we will report on this area of learning in our Semester 1 Reports.

Miss Rynne teaches Prep – Yr 2 History, I teach Yrs 3 – 4 History and Yrs 5 – 6 Civics and Citizenship, Mrs Butler teaches Yrs 5 – 6 History.

Pictures of students
Parents at Banana State School are asked to give consent for the school to use their child’s photograph in our newsletter, on our website and on our Facebook Page.

It is not compulsory for parents to provide this consent.

We are still waiting for 6 families to return the Consent Forms which were sent home with the last newsletter. If you have misplaced your forms, we are only too happy to reissue them.

Parents are not asked to give other parents permission to take their child’s photograph.

Therefore, I would remind you that parents are not permitted to photograph other children at school activities.

Pancake Day

Pancake Day is also known as Shrove Tuesday and falls 47 days before Easter, on the day before Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent.

Pancakes are traditionally eaten on this day as they are made from butter and eggs, which were forbidden during Lent. People would make pancakes to use up all of these ingredients before beginning Lent.

Our pancakes will be served with a variety of toppings and we will also have gluten-free pancakes!

On Tuesday, Feb 28th, we will start serving pancakes around 8.30. No-one will miss out, as we will make sure that we provide for every student who wants a pancake before school.

Students who want a pancake will need to bring a gold coin which will be given to our Student Council to commence their 2017 fundraising.

If you have any queries, please address these to me at school.

Congratulations
I am very proud of our new student leadership team, each of our Yr 6s truly deserves the honour of leading our student body in 2017.

Elaine Pelling
Miss Rynne’s News
We have had a great couple of weeks in the Prep to Year 3 classroom. While the students may make it sound like all fun and games, I can assure you we have all been working hard in our lessons.

Maths
It has been a very packed two weeks in our maths lessons. Preps have been learning to connect number names, numerals and quantities up to ten and use positional language (on, under, next to etc.) to describe the position and movement of objects. I challenge my Prep parents to ask your child to tell you a positional language word! Year 1 students are able to give and follow directions (heads up Mum and Dad, they can follow directions!) and are currently working on recognising and classifying two-dimensional and three-dimensional objects. Year 2 have been learning to interpret simple maps and identify the positions of key features, in addition to investigating the effect of slides, flips and turns.

History
This term in History, Prep to Year 2 will be focusing on remembering the past. We are distinguishing between past, present and future. Students will be learning to sequence significant life events and describe an event from the past (who, what, when, where, how). I have asked students this week to bring in a photograph or object that will assist them in remembering a significant family event from the past. Our next History lesson is tomorrow (Thursday) and I would greatly appreciate if either a photograph or object could be brought to assist in enriching the lesson.

Science
This term in Science, Prep to Year 3 are focusing on the concept of The Living World. Preps will become scientists and explore living things and their needs in diverse environments. Whilst Year 1 and 2 explore the idea of ‘how does it grow’ and represent the life stages of a living thing. Year 3 are learning about observable feature of living things and how to distinguish between living things, once living, never living and products of living things.

Homework
Just a quick reminder that homework is monitored weekly. Students and I go through the homework every Monday afternoon, so that they are confident and comfortable in what they are expected to do. However, some areas do require parent assistance and guidance such as reading and also when specific tasks are set. I would appreciate it if parents could look over the homework at some stage during the week to ensure students are completing all of the work set. The work included in homework relates to what is being taught in class and will assist in enriching their learning. Homework and library books will be sent out on Monday afternoon and are both to be brought back on Friday. If homework is not brought back Friday or not completed then the school’s homework consequence policy will apply.

Parade Awards
I would just like to recognise the students who received awards on parade last week. These students (along with many others in the class) have given one-hundred percent these past couple of weeks and shown great learning behaviours in the classroom. So congratulations Jhrayne, Shanae, William Kurtz and Zara. Your hard work has not gone unnoticed! Keep up the great work.

Miss Jessica Rynne

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which Banana State School is built, the Gangulu people.
Mrs Butler’s News
Congratualtions
Our Year 6 Leaders for 2017 are:
School Captains – Paige Hobson and Matthew Donohoe.
Vice School Captains – Jahmaul Lowther and Abigail Cutting
Shirley House Captain – Heath Bayles
King House Captains – Abigail Cutting and Alex Ranford.
Mrs Pelling presented the badges to these worthy students and spoke to each of them about the wonderful qualities that they possess and the contributions they will make in their various positions as student leaders. Year 6 shirts will be organised this week. A note will go home regarding the cost and sizing. Money will need to be sent back to the school with your order. No shirts will be sent home until they are paid for. If this is a problem please advise Miss Charmaine in the office.

Student Council
Elections were held to select our 2017 Student Council Executive Committee. They are as follows:
President – Matthew Donohoe.
Vice President – Paige Hobson.
Secretary – Abigail Cutting.
Vice Secretary – Alex Ranford.
Treasurer – Heath Bayles.
At their first meeting the students have decided to hold an Easter Disco on Friday 31st March (Last day of Term 1) commencing at 5:30pm. Look for the posters around the school in the coming weeks advertising this event.

IMPACT
Last week students commenced their online learning - IMPACT Just Write – Years 4-5 project. Here are some of their reflections.

We learnt how to use a microphone. We met our teacher Ms Matthews and we also learnt to use the chat box. We used some tools to help us. We found out where she lives. She lives in Brisbane. Narmi

This week we began learning with Ms M and learnt all about the basics of how to use the microphone and the video. We also learnt how to use the tools for writing and drawing. She also asked if we had been on an adventure and we had to write it in the chat box. The chat box is where we write our answers and talk to her. Ms M gave us a brain break which is a funny song we danced to and this week it was The Chicken Dance. Then she let us use the tools so we could draw and write. Then we had to say goodbye. Dale

I learnt how to use the microphone when I need it. I learnt how to write back in the chat box and do pictures like smiley faces. I learnt to draw on the screen and the name of our teacher. Her name is Ms Matthews. She was really nice and kind to us and she taught us a lot of things such as how to do it properly and how to stay in our own square and not draw in anyone else’s box. Alice

Just Write is the best program. Ms Matthews is a wonderful teacher and the activities are fun. You get to learn while having fun. The chat box is fun. You can communicate with other people, you can draw, you can make shapes and you can type and colour the words. You can show how you feel by putting emoji’s on your name in the participant’s box.

Nykeeta

I learnt how to use text boxes and many different tools. I learnt how to use a microphone to talk to Ms Matthews, how to use a chat box and we watched The Chicken Dance. It was funny because there was a purple man who did The Chicken Dance with a chicken. Our teacher’s name is Ms Matthews. We had lots of fun. Our teacher is from Brisbane. Callum

We learnt how to use all of the tools. We learnt how to draw in the boxes. Ms Matthews taught us how to talk to her through the microphone. I liked talking to her. I liked it when she showed us how to make the words different colours and sizes. I cannot wait to do it again. Zaine

We learnt how to use the tools. We talked into a microphone and chat box. We met a boy called Luke and our teacher is called Ms Matthews. She is beautiful and she lives in Brisbane. Sophie

We got to muck around with the tools so that next week we can do some work on the white board. You need to be able to use the microphone so you can talk to Ms Matthews. We need to know how to write so we can do our work. It is so much fun to work with a teacher from Brisbane. Clayton

Mrs Kay Butler

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P& C and Community News
Congratulations to our School Captains Paige and Matthew, Vice Captains Abigail and Jahmaul, King House Captains Abigail and Alex and Shirley House Captain Heath. Your speeches were fantastic on Friday and you all should be very proud.

Today a form for sports shirts will come home. Please ensure all forms returned to the school Friday, February 25th.

Don’t forget on Monday, February 13th at 5:30pm we will be having a Meet and Greet. All families are invited to attend and we hope to see each family represented. A sausage sizzle will be held.

Tuckshop is back for the first term. We have changed it to a Thursday due to this day suiting the majority of our volunteers. A big thank you to everyone who responded, it is great to have your assistance. If you haven’t returned your form but would still like to assist please contact Leanne.

This week’s workers are Leanne and Kylie Lobley. Next Week will be Leanne and Belinda Spinks.

If you can’t volunteer for the day but would like to come and give a hand for an hour or so in the morning you would be most welcome. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Upcoming Events
1. Cricket Gala on Friday the 10th March.
2. Our Annual Cent Sale on Sunday 19th March. If you are able to donate prizes or cooking for our Cent Sale it would be truly appreciated. Please see Leanne for offers of assistance.

Chappy Selma
I’m not sure how your recent holidays panned out, but after driving nearly 10,000 kms over the Christmas break, I’ve realised that, despite all the amazing sights I’ve seen, there is no place like home among the wonderful people I work and play with! I have returned to school with a renewed appreciation for all the dedicated staff and beautiful children here!

Thankyou for sending them to Banana SS so that I can share a little in their lives. I feel privileged to be able to take part in class activities, and to run programmes to help with their social/emotional development. I’m also looking forward to starting up our regular Banana SonShine Club on Fridays after school again - this year in the new library.

I want to share this great quote with you from Mother Theresa. Parenting can seem such a thankless task sometimes it’s worth remembering that you have the future of the world living in your home!

I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the water to create many ripples."

Chappy Selma
Banana Shire Mobile Library: Due to unforeseen circumstances the mobile library will be off the road until March 7. Any questions please phone Biloela Library on 49927 362.

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