Principal's News

Pancake Day and Open Morning
On Tuesday 13th February, the students, staff and parents of Banana State School are invited to celebrate Pancake Day with a Breakfast and Open Morning to be held at the school. This will be an opportunity for the students to participate in a nationwide activity which aims to raise funds for Uniting Care’s work with those in need. All students and parents who plan on eating pancakes will be asked to donate a gold coin and all funds raised will be used for this worthy cause.
This will be a great opportunity for parents to visit their child’s classroom and see firsthand how our English classes operate.
The Banana P&C Association is proudly supporting this event in recognition of the vital role which parents play in our school community.

P & C
The first meeting of the P&C will be held on Monday, February 19th, at 6.00 pm in the Library. All parents are invited to join us for the AGM followed by the first General Meeting for 2018.
The P & C Cent Sale will be held on March 18th – we hope that you can join us.

Student Leaders
Congratulations to those Yr 6 students who have been elected to the following positions:

SCHOOL CAPTAINS
Alice Stevens
Dale Lewis

KING HOUSE CAPTAINS
Sophie Cutting
Quinton Dales

SHIRLEY HOUSE CAPTAINS
Clayton Lang
Zaine Maslen

STUDENT COUNCIL
President Nykeetah Lobley
Vice president Dwayne Ruth
Treasurer Callum Ranford
Secretary Dale Lewis
Student leaders will be presented with their badges on parade on February 12th and we hope that parents will also attend this very important occasion.

School Camp 2018
National Capital Explorer
21/07/18 to 25/07/18
After making enquiries and receiving a number of quotes regarding our trip to Canberra, we have settled on a National Capital Explorer Tour with EducaTours of Australia in 2018.
We have a proposed itinerary, and quotation which we would like to present, for your consideration.
No bookings have yet been made on our school’s behalf in respect to accommodation or venues/activities included in our proposed itinerary, including PACER required venues. Once we receive our parents’ acceptance of the proposed itinerary and quotation, all bookings will be confirmed on our behalf.
This camp is not compulsory. Students who do not come to camp will be expected to attend school for the days that we are away – not going to camp is not an acceptable reason not to attend school.
All Yrs 4, 5 and 6 students are invited to attend the 2018 trip to Canberra.

All interested parents and students are invited to attend a Camp Meeting tomorrow afternoon at 3.15 in Mrs Butler’s classroom.

Swimming
Students in Yrs 2 – 6 will be going swimming in Weeks 5 – 10, with the Swimming Carnival to be held on the last Monday of Term 1.
All students in Yrs 2 – 6 will be travelling to and from the Moura Pool on a bus hired by the school. Every student will be travelling to and from the pool, even if they are not swimming. We will leave the school after Morning Tea and return at lunchtime. All staff, except for Mrs Butler and Miss Charmaine, will be supervising students at the pool.
Accounts for swimming will be issued with the next newsletter so that they can be paid before the end of Term 1.
If you have outstanding debts for swimming from previous years, please contact the School Office so that we can make an arrangement which makes it possible for you to pay off the amounts owing to the school.
In compliance with our Australian Curriculum Swimming program, students in Prep and Yr 1 will not be coming to the pool in 2018, they will be staying at school for Health and Physical Education lessons. 

Mrs Elaine Pelling

Explicit Focus Areas for 2018:
Writing
Reading

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which Banana State School is built, the Gangulu people.
Miss Rynne’s News

Term 1 2018 is here!

English
This term in English students are exploring narrative texts! We know that narratives have a purpose to entertain us and a structure of beginning, middle and end. Prep have been working hard to retell the stories we have read, discussing their likes, dislikes, personal connections and feelings. Year 1 have had the task of understanding the purpose and structure of narratives, while Year 2 learn to express a preference for a character. We look forward to the parent open day, where you will get the chance to read some of the students’ amazing narratives!

Literacy Goals
This term, P-2 students will be working towards a literacy goal. All students are aware of their goal. These goals will be worked on in class, and also as homework. It was great to see the students’ dedication and commitment to their goals last year, and I look forward to working with them to achieve success with their goals this year also! If you wish to know and discuss your child’s literacy goals, please feel free to come and have a chat.

Reading
I have been so impressed with all students from Prep to Year 2, regarding their reading. All students are putting in an incredible amount of effort into their reading groups each morning. As parents, please assist me to encourage a love of reading! Whether it’s the home reader or favourite books at home, read every day!

Science
We have had a few exciting weeks in P-3 science this term! All students are focusing on biological sciences and are exploring the needs, lifecycles and observable features of living things. In week one, we discussed having a class pet. For a few days I was quite nervous students would turn up with guinea pigs, frogs and kittens. In week two, we all created our own grass heads! We have had to think about the needs of our class pet, in order for them to live. Here are a few quotes from P-3 students on how we have managed to get our grass heads to grow!

Our grass heads are good. We give them heaps of water and dirt. Frederick

We gave them soil, which is their food. We make sure we give them water. Eli

We put them out in the sun, they need the sun to live. Ella

We keep them inside sometimes, so they have shelter and won’t get knocked over. Dawson.

We keep them in an open space, so they have fresh air. We don’t want to put them in a cupboard. William.

Once again, please don’t hesitate to come and have a chat throughout the term if you have any concerns.

Miss Jessica Rynne

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Mrs Butler’s News
Welcome
Our class would like to extend a warm welcome to Savanna Lamb - Darcy and her family to our school. Savanna is in Year 6. We hope you enjoy your time with us and make some great friendships Savanna.

HPE – Prep/Yr 1
I am enjoying my time with the Prep and Year 1 students immensely. Angelo, Dawson, Frederick and Matilda have shown no signs of shyness when telling the class a little bit, ok, a lot about themselves during our lessons. They have also been busy demonstrating how to move and play safely in different settings. The Year 1 students are developing the object-control skills of rolling, catching, pat bouncing and throwing through active participation in activities, games and movement challenges. They will also learn how to apply rules and fair play practices.

Grade 3 English
Cooper, Shanae, Charlie and McKennon have settled in very quickly to life in the upper classrooms. I am very proud of the way they are committing themselves to staying on task and completing set work. They have been busy continuing to learn about persuasive writing and if you come along to our open morning next week you will be able to preview some of their work. A big congratulations goes to Charlie who has achieved 100% in her spelling so far this year. Way to go Charlie!

Year 6 Shirts
An order form will be attached to the newsletter for students wishing to order their Yr 6 shirt. There is no limit to the amount that you purchase. The cost of the shirt is $37.50

Science
While the Year 4s are learning about weathering and erosion, the Year 5 students are learning about outer space and our Year 6’s are learning about extreme weather. We are very lucky to have Mrs Haley to help support the Year 4 girls in their learning and to bring in some interesting rocks for everyone to look at. Thank you Mrs Haley.

Digital Technology
I will be teaching the Years 4/5/6 students about a range of digital systems including a range of peripheral devices and how to create a digital solution (an interactive guessing game) using a visual programming language. Sounds daunting doesn’t it! I can guarantee that we will have heaps of fun learning how to do this.

Maths
The Year 6 students have spent their time so far learning to:

- identify and describe properties of prime and composite numbers, and select and apply mental and written strategies to problems involving all four operations
- order and compare fractions with related denominators, add and subtract fractions with related denominators, calculate the fraction of a given quantity, and solve problems involving the addition and subtraction of fractions

This week they are learning to represent the probability of outcomes as a fraction or decimal and conduct chance experiments.

Banana Gems Behaviour Level – Bronze
There are many ways that students can attain their Bronze Award this term. The school expectations that I will be looking out for in particular in the classroom this week are entering and exiting the classroom in an orderly manner, raising your hand to speak and don’t talk over the top of each other or the teacher. To some students this comes easy, but others will have to work very hard to achieve any one of these expectations. Good luck everyone!

The Arts
In this unit students in Years 5 and 6 respond to, choreograph and perform dance that uses symmetry as a stimulus to communicate a theme. They will work collaboratively to perform dances for an audience, demonstrating technical and expressive skills.

Spelling
Congratulations to Dale, Callum, Clayton, Alice and Charlie who achieved 100% accuracy in last week’s spelling test. Well done everyone!

Kay Butler

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**P& C and Community News**

The P&C would like to congratulate our Year 6 students on their elected positions as School Leaders and Student Council. You all should be very proud of yourselves for such magnificent speeches last week on parade.

The P&C AGM is being held on Monday February 19th commencing at 6pm in the library. This will be followed by a general meeting.

Agenda for P&C meeting:
Tuckshop and maybe changing the day
Fundraising and catering
Looking into a new uniform supplier
Mowing
So come along bring your ideas as our P&C is important to our school.

Please send your membership forms back if you haven't yet already.

Our Cent Sale is getting closer and is being held on Sunday 18th March. The doors will open at 9:30am for a 10:30am start. If you can donate prizes, cooking or are able to lend a hand it would be greatly appreciated contact Leanne, Rachel or Karen.

Also don't forget we know have all the sizes in the school uniforms available.

The Stationary Cupboard has supplies if children run low in class.

Tuckshop is on Thursday.

**STUDENT 2018 UPDATE FORMS**

Thank you to those families who returned their forms so quickly, however we are still waiting on a couple of students to return their permission forms. Life Ed is tomorrow and this is included on the permission forms so it is important that these be returned tomorrow.

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<td>Pancake Day &amp; Open Morning</td>
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<td>Swimming Commences Yrs 2 – 6 P&amp;C AGM – 6:00pm Library</td>
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