Banana State School Newsletter
Term 1 2016 Week 5

Principal’s News
Year 6 Parents and Carers
Our Year 6 students will be participating in a personal development program with Chappy Selma in 2016. This program is organised by Scripture Union Queensland.
This program will run throughout Semester 1 and will involve an excursion to the Capricorn Caves on Friday, March 18th and an overnight camp later in Term 2.
The P&C will make a contribution of $50 per head for each Year 6 student and this will mean that there will be a remaining cost of approximately $140 for each student to cover the cost of these events.
There are some permission notes attached to this newsletter for Year 6 students. Please fill these in and return to the school as soon as possible and definitely by the date indicated on the forms.
We will need some assistance with transport to and from the Capricorn Caves. The staff attending this excursion will be Chappy Selma and Miss Judy.
Parents who assist with transport are asked to make their own arrangements for the day elsewhere. Learning on the day will be led by Chappy Selma and Peter Bramhall from Scripture Union. Students will be working on personal growth and team building exercises.
If you have any questions, please contact Chappy Selma who works in our school every Friday.
There will be no other school camp arranged for students in 2016.

Student Council
Our Student Council met for the first time yesterday and they have made some decisions already. There will be a Student Council Disco on Thursday, March 17th from 5.30 – 8.30pm. This event will be organised by the Student Council, Miss Coombes, Mrs Butler and myself.
This will also be the celebration for students who achieve their learning goal in Term 1. All students who achieve their goal will receive a ‘Goal Card’, entitling them to free entry, a free sausage sizzle and a free drink at the disco. Of course, the disco is for all students, not just those who achieve their goals.
The students also decided to hold a Mothers’ Day Stall in Term 2 – which is good news for all the mums and grandmothers in our school community!

Cross Country
The Cross Country for Years 4-6 students will be held on March 24th at 8.00am.
This year, the Cross Country is not compulsory. Students are allowed to nominate to compete. All nominations are required by the day before, Wednesday March 23rd, so that the necessary paperwork can be arranged.
All students who participate will be competing for age championship and house points. We have a perpetual house trophy for the Cross Country.
The DV Cross Country will be held on the 15th April at Bauhinia SS – this is the first Friday of Term 2.
Only students in the correct age groups are able to compete at this level. I have told the students who is eligible to participate, please see me if you have any queries.
Students who travel to Bauhinia will need to have their own transport.

Gala Day
The Cricket Gala Day will be held at our school on the 11th of March, which is Friday in Week 7. The Years 4-6 students will all be participating in this event and every student will have an opportunity to play.
Games will commence for us at 9.15 and conclude at 2.00pm.
Students in P-3 will have normal classes and I will take the Year 3 students until 10.00am.
After 2.00pm, the Year 6 students will work with Chappy Selma and the Years 4-5 students will work with Mrs Butler in her classroom.
The P&C will be operating a tuckshop on the day selling steak burgers, sausages, sandwiches and cakes – all students of our school are welcome to purchase food in both breaks on Friday, March 11th. Please find a price list attached to this newsletter.

2016 Special Events:
11th March Cricket Gala Day at Banana SS
17th March Student Council Disco
19th March Year 6 Excursion
10 -12 May NAPLAN 2016

Mrs Elaine Pelling

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

Assessment:
It is well and truly the time during the term when assessment is being completed for the first unit of learning in English. Please ensure your child is at school in order to be up-to-date and to complete assessment tasks.

English:
Students from Prep, 1, and 2 should have all been practising their English speech in order to be prepared for their assessment. These speeches will be completed and assessed this week.

Prep and Yr One students will be talking about the book ‘The Bear’s Lunch.’ Yr 2 students will be talking about the books ‘Koala Lou’ and ‘We’re Going on a Bear hunt.’

Maths:
Assessment will be completed by the end of the week for Prep, Yr 1, Yr 2 and Yr 3 students. Yr 1 students have been working on making and recognising teen numbers. Yr 2 students have been working on addition and subtraction problems, number sentences and magic squares. Yr 3 students have been working on mental strategies to work out 2 digit addition and subtraction problems.

History:
In History students in Prep, Yr 1 and Yr 2 are looking at the sequence in which events happen. In class, we have had discussions about how people grow and change over time as they get older. Students in Prep, Yr 1 and Yr 2 will need to discuss 5 significant events that have happened in their own lives such as: walking for the first time, first words, a birthday party, a sibling being born, moving etc. It may be helpful for your child to look at some photos of when they were younger to come up with their events for their assessment. If it is possible, please send in some photos that your child may find helpful. I can photocopy them and send the original photos back home safely.

Spelling:
Spelling tests are always on Friday. Encourage your child to learn their words at home. It is a part of their homework. Each student in Yrs 1, 2 and 3 has their personal Word Wall which records the words they have learnt and have got correct over the term.

Week 3: Congratulations to Matilda and Kevin for getting all of their spelling words correct and moving up to the next level.

Week 4: Well done to Charlie M and Cooper for getting all of their words correct.

Well done to Jackson for learning all of his sight words, and moving onto the next level of sight words.

Students of the week:
Our students of the week for Week 3, (the 1st February until the 12th of February) included:
Prep: Charlie U
Year 1: Franklin
Year 2: Matilda
Year 3: Lucy
Well done to these students.

Our students of the week for week 4, included:
Prep: Charlie U and Jackson
Grade 1: Sherri
Grade 2: Sophie
Grade 3: Mia
Well done to these students. They have really put in the extra effort to do the right thing in the classroom, and are pushing to improve their learning.

Communication Books:
Good communication with parents is important. Please ensure all Communication Books are left in your child’s school bag at all times. That way, if either you or I need to write in it, it will be there. Please also check the Communication Book regularly to see if there are any messages for you. I will be using them regularly. I will write to you about things such as: academic results your child has achieved or things they may be struggling with, behaviour, and important class information. I will also check the Communication Books regularly for information you may have written to inform me about your child.

Miss Bethaney Coombes

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Mrs Butler’s News

Banana State School Rules

Year Six students have completed a writing task based on our three school rules – Be a Friend, Be Prepared and Be Respectful. Here is what some of them wrote. Our next newsletter will include the final three.

The reason why we follow these rules is so that we become a better person as we grow older.

Being a friend means making sure that no one is being left out of games and other fun stuff. If you are nice to other students then you will always have more than one friend. Having more than one friend means that there will always be someone there for you. Like I always say - a stranger is always a friend that you have not met.

Being prepared means that you are ready to learn. You should always be on time for class and be neatly dressed for school. You should always have a drink and go to the toilet before class so you don’t have to waste important learning time.

Being respectful means abiding by the school rules, listening to our fellow students and following our teachers’ rules and instructions at all times.

The school rules that we abide by are; be a friend, be prepared and be respectful. There is only one reason why they are our school rules - because they make us a better person.

By Shearia

2. Be nice to your friends.

Being prepared is important. You should be ready for class on time and have all your school equipment ready for the school year. Be school ready with a pencil, rubber and ruler. Always be ready for learning by having a drink and going to the toilet.

Be respectful to your fellow students. Give them a helping hand and look after your buddy. By Matthew

Assessment

This week students have been busy finishing off their English assessment and have commenced assessment in History and Science. Due to school finishing on the 24th March, we have an extremely busy 4 weeks ahead of us. Please do not compound this tight framework by arranging non urgent appointments for your child that can be scheduled for the school holidays.

Classroom Capers

I have been very impressed with the commitment to learning their spelling that the majority of students have taken, especially the Year 4 students. They have all gotten over their nerves regarding the transition to the upper classroom and have settled into the daily routines well. Don’t forget, if you have any concerns regarding your child, I am only too happy to listen to them. Remember, we share a common goal – your child’s education.

Gala Day – Cricket

All students in our class will have the opportunity to participate in the Cricket Gala Day being held on Friday of Week 7 here at Banana. Even though we have more than 16 students in our class, we are allowed to change our teams every time we play, therefore every student will get to participate. The Gala Day will go from 9:15 – 2:00 at which time my students will go back into the classroom for the last hour. Homework will need to be handed in as per usual, but spelling will be heard on Thursday of that week. The P & C will be operating a tuckshop on the day selling steak burgers, sausages, sandwiches and cakes.

The Last Word

“If you think education is expensive, try ignorance.” ~ Andy McIntyre

Mrs Kay Butler

What do these rules mean?

Be a Friend - If you are a friend to others they will be a friend to you. Friends help when you need it the most.

Be Prepared - Sharpen your pencils and be ready for class. You need all of the right equipment to be ready for learning and to get a better education.

Be Respectful - If you are respectful to other people then they will be respectful to you. You need to be respectful to all of the teachers because if you are respectful to the teachers they will be respectful to you!

By Gordon

When I think about my friends I think about valuable treasure. Friendships can break, but if you don’t want this to happen follow these simple rules:

1. Do not get jealous of your friends.

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which Banana State School is built, the Gangulu people.
P& C and Community News

The P&C is busy preparing for our upcoming functions; any assistance offered would be greatly appreciated.

Our first function will be catering for the Gala Cricket Day which is being held at our school on Friday, March 11th. We are providing morning tea and a Bar-B-Que lunch from 10am to 2pm. If you are able to lend a hand or donate any cakes, slices or sandwich fillers please let Leanne know.

The second function is ABBA BIN, this is a Field Day hosted by the Wilson family at the Four Mile Cattle Yards on Tuesday, March 15th. We are catering for 100 people for morning tea and a Bar-B-Que lunch from 8:30am till 3pm. I am asking the same if you are able to lend a hand on the day or for cooking donations.

The third function is our Annual Cent Sale on Sunday, March 20th. The doors will open at 9am for a start 10am it finishes just after lunch. We provide plates of food, tea, coffee and we will be selling soft drinks and water. I am asking if parents could either donate a couple of prizes or some cooking. If you are able to lend a hand on that day it would be appreciated.

As you can see we have a very busy time ahead and any assistance would be greatly appreciated. If you can assist with any of the above functions please contact Leanne on 0427009641 or see her at the school.

Then the fourth is “Having a Ball in the Buffel” on Saturday, April 16th.

Yesterday, 5 other parents and I held a meeting in regards to how the ball was coming together. Things are coming along well and we are having a get together at the old racecourse this Saturday @ 8 am to see how this event will come together on the night. Please spread the word that ticket bookings will be ready by the end of this week. So get your friends together and book a table for this year’s major fundraiser for the P&C.

Banana School AGM is on Wednesday, March 2nd commencing at 6pm. Please come along and see what our fundraising money goes towards. If you haven't returned your membership forms please do so, even if you do not want to be a member.

Just a reminder the only position that we are looking to fill is the Tuckshop Convenor - if two people would like to share that it is ok. But if we do not get one or two people, the Tuckshop will be closed. We will be holding a working Bee on Saturday the 5th of March at 8am just to do a tidy up of our school - many hands will make easy work.

Dollar Mite Banking is every Friday.

Mrs Leanne Stevens – P&C Secretary

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