Monday
26 May, 2014
DIARY DATES
May
26 National Sorry Day
27 National Reconciliation Week (to June 3)
29 Gala Days
31 P&C Trivia Night
Starting at 7pm.
June
2-6 Evacuation Drill
5 Gala Day
12 Class Disco (Yr 2)
13 Athletics Day (Track P-Yr 2)
19 Athletics Day (Field 9-13yrs)
20 Athletics Day (Track Yr 3-7)
27 End of Term 2

REMINDEERS
READING CLUB
Tuesday morning 8.15am in Library.
STUDENT BANKING
Please note: Banking this Friday 30 May.
See inside for details.

Upcoming City District Trial dates:
19 May - Tennis (12yrs Boys & Girls)
6 June - Rugby Union (12yrs Boys)
19 June - Softball (12yrs girls)
4 & 5 August (if wet - 11 &12) - Track & Field (12yrs)
22 August - Cricket (11&12yrs boys)
9 Nov - Triathlon by direct entry to MN trial (12yrs)

“Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance you must keep moving.”
Albert Einstein

From the Principal’s Desk….

Social Skills
This week’s Social Skill lesson is ‘Feel It’. Mrs Stanley’s Year 1 class presented the lesson on assembly this week. This lesson reinforces the school rule. This lesson aims to help students develop awareness that all feelings are OK but sometimes we need to learn some helpful ways to overcome those that can make us worried, sad, angry or distressed. This skill also links with ‘Help Is At Hand’ which reinforces the importance of having a helpful network of friends and family to support.

NAIDOC Competition
We will be celebrating NAIDOC at the beginning of Term 3. We are inviting students to enter a competition for the occasion. The forms will be given out by the classroom teachers. The Prep to Year 2 students will be eligible for a colouring competition. The Year 3 – 7 students will be given the ‘rap’ writing competition form. Once collected, we will be sending them off for students. However, with NAIDOC coming up we would like to take a copy of the students’ entries before we send them away. In that way we will be able to have a wonderful display of student art and writing work, as well as a chance in the competition. Because they will be displayed at school, I would also encourage Yr 7 students to produce a piece that we could display and share at our school. Entries should be put in the NAIDOC box available at the library.

Community Spirit Awards
This is a great opportunity to acknowledge the generous work of many students, staff and parents within our school community. I encourage you to take a few moments to think of someone you know who has really contributed to the positive community culture within our school. Now that you have them in mind, simply access the nomination form from the website or find the nomination form from last week’s newsletter.

* Nomination forms on website
* Nominations due Friday 6 June
* Awards Special Assembly Monday 23 June at 2 pm (last week of Term 2)

Gala Days
Congratulations to our students for their efforts last week at soccer and netball Gala Days. The students thoroughly enjoyed their games and feedback from staff was that sportsmanship and behaviour was excellent. Keep up the great work New Farm. Thank you to Jim and Kara for volunteering to attend this week’s competition. It is a terrific help to the staff.
Athletics Permission to Participate

Athletics day permission notes will be sent home this week. They should be returned to the class teachers by Friday 6 June.

National Reconciliation Week 2014

May 27 to June 3

www.reconciliation.org.au/nrw

1. What is National Reconciliation Week?

Each year from 27 May to 3 June, National Reconciliation Week celebrates and builds on the respectful relationships shared by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians. The week-long celebration is an ideal opportunity for all Australians to explore ways to join the national reconciliation effort.

2. When did it begin?

The Week of Prayer for Reconciliation began in 1993 and was supported by Australia’s major religious groups. Three years later it evolved into National Reconciliation Week under the guidance of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation (now Reconciliation Australia).

3. What is the significance of 27 May and 3 June?

May 27 and June 3 are important dates in Australia’s history. May 27 marks the anniversary of the 1967 referendum when Australians voted to remove clauses in the Australian Constitution that discriminated against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The day before National Reconciliation Week, 26 May, is National Sorry Day, which was first held in Sydney in 1998 and is now commemorated nationally to remember and honour the Stolen Generations.

June 3 marks the historic 1992 Mabo decision in which the High Court of Australia recognised native title—the recognition that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ rights over their lands did survive British colonisation. 2012 marked the 20th anniversary of the Mabo decision and the 45th anniversary of the 1967 referendum. You can read more about these events in the fact sheets included in this kit.

4. What does ‘reconciliation’ mean in the context of National Reconciliation Week?

Reconciliation involves building positive, respectful relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians; enabling us to work together to close the gaps, and to achieve a shared sense of fairness and justice. The ultimate goal of reconciliation is to build strong and trusting relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians, as a foundation for success and to enhance our national wellbeing.

Closing the Gap describes the actions that schools, governments, businesses and the community can take to help achieve equality of life expectancy, education and employment for all Australians.

5. Why is National Reconciliation Week important?

National Reconciliation Week is an ideal time for organisations, schools, universities and workplaces to join the reconciliation conversation. It is a chance to work towards the goal of building respectful relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians, and to create a fair and equal society.

6. Who organises National Reconciliation Week?

National Reconciliation Week is organised by Reconciliation Australia; an independent, not-for-profit organisation established in 2000. It is the national organisation responsible for building and promoting reconciliation between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians. Reconciliation Australia also works with state reconciliation councils in New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, Western Australia and South Australia to organise local events and activities for National Reconciliation Week.

National Sorry Day 26 May

National Sorry Day is an annual day of commemoration and remembrance of all those who have been impacted by the government policies of forcible removal that have resulted in the Stolen Generation.

Sorry Day has been held annually on 26 May each year since 1998, and was born out of a key recommendation made by the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families in the Bringing them home Report that was tabled in Federal Parliament on 26 May 1997.

Tuckshop News

Tuckshop opens two days a week - Wednesdays and Fridays.

Online ordering

We have on-line ordering available for tuckshop. To register go to www.flexischools.com.au. We encourage you to use this website, it is quick and easy and orders can be done in advance to save that rush in the morning.

Wednesday Menu

We have lunch size pizzas and vegetarian pasta available on a Wednesday only. There is Ham & Pineapple ($3.50) or Cheese & Tomato ($3.00) pizzas available. Yoghurt, fruit and drinks are also available. On-line orders close at 8.00 am. Counter orders must be in before 9.00 am.

Friday Tuckshop

To avoid the long queues on Friday mornings you can order online. Cut off time is 8.00 am on Fridays. If you order over the counter, please have your order in before 9.00 am and make sure you have your child’s name and class clearly marked. All the meals, sandwiches, fruit, boiled eggs and popcorn are made fresh.

Tuckshop Roster - 30 May

Tuckshop—Michelle Gerrard, Rachael Nixon & Heidi Gerton
Counter (8.30 - 9.15 am) - Jim Posner & Natalie Watson
Baking - Susie Levy, Iris Stacey, Nancy Cowell, Sarah Millar, Jocelyn Parry & Cath Byrne Thank you to everyone who supports the tuckshop.

Terri-Anne and Jim
TRIVIA NIGHT NEWS

Trivia Night Raffle

A big thank you to those families that have already sold and returned their raffle tickets.

We currently have received $1160, which is only 58 booklets out of 280. There are some fantastic prizes to be won including 1st prize, an Apple iPad sponsored by Place.

We will be selling raffle tickets every afternoon this week from 2.45 pm. You will find us near the playground.

If you would like more booklets they are in the office next to the Trivia Night collection box. Thanks for your support. Karen Ridout.

Trivia Night Auction

On the night we will also be running a small Live Auction.

We currently have a Michael Huysse signed and framed photo (sponsored by Commonwealth Bank), a $300 voucher from Highgate Hill Veterinary Surgery, a Mercedes-Benz Kiddey Ride on Car kindly donated by Mercedes-Benz Brisbane and a 1 hour Flight Simulator Ride kindly donated by Virgin Australia. Karen Ridout. 0412 004 644

MADISON MADNESS FASHION SALE

Despite the early start the Madison Madness Fashion Sale had a steady turn - out and resulted in raising $5,833 for the school in addition to that Leanne Murphy raised $281 from home bake, plant and craft sales.

Thank you to mother and daughter Team - Sue and Kel of Madison Integrity for the clothes and invaluable fashion and styling advice.

I would like to thank all the Parents for their beautiful home baking and Leanne Boschen who as usual did a wonderful job in organising the stall.

Huge thanks also to the following:

Fiona Murcott for her invaluable help prior, during and after the sale.

Gillian Penrose for her help all morning and also loan of pop - up tents and mirrors.

Ske McKay and Judith Hunter for clothing re-circulation.

Jim Medland for organising the floats

Nancy Cowell of CEP for loan of Epfoos machine

Terry Kunde for alarm procedure induction.

The Tuckshop Team for fridge space .... and of course not forgetting the supportive parents who turned out and purchased items on the day - Thank you!

Cheers guys - you are all legends!

Katie Grundy

P&C UPDATE

Firstly, a big thanks to those who attended the P&C’s May General Meeting; however, we’d still like to see more fresh faces [and ideas] on the second Wednesday of every month!

Creative arts centre construction to start soon

Our long-awaited arts space under the hall has received final State Government approval and we have started the construction tendering process. All going well, the successful builder will commence on site next term.

New playgrounds

The new playground in front of the hall has been a resounding success and a great addition to the school. But the fun won’t stop there! The P&C recently financed the relocation of Fortitude Valley State School’s play fort. The near-new playground is currently being stored in our pool area while we determine a suitable final location.

Masterplan

The P&C is currently seeking funding from the State Government to realise the next stages of the school masterplan: redeveloped entrance to the oval with terraced seating (this will incorporate a new Hawthorne Street entrance and installation of the FVSS playground), and construction of a multi-storey building in the prep area to house additional classrooms (and to future-proof our fast-growing school).

Arts initiative

We recently held the first Arts Link presentation of 2014. The Box was a comedy about decision making for years one to three and by all accounts, it was a great success! There are two more Arts Link presentations to come: a workshop for year 6 and 7 students in term three, and a science show for years 4 to 7 in term four.

After-school sports

This successful program continues to attract excellent participation, with the term’s sports being tennis, soccer and touch football.

Lots more...

In addition to our focus on new extracurricular programs and capital works projects, the P&C continues its day-to-day support of teachers and students in the form of:

* $600 donation to each class for teachers to use on learning resources as they see fit
* Ongoing funding of the Artist-in-Residence program
* Annual Mathematics subscription
* Annual student participation fund
* Additional library resources (as well supporting the recent library upgrade)
* Softfall for the playground in front of the hall.

For the P&C to continue to achieve all of the above, we must consistently fundraise!

Madison Madness

We recently ran a pop-up boutique in partnership with local fashion business Madison Integrity. As a result of the hard work of a very small number of individuals (particularly organiser Katie Grundy) we raised almost $6,000 for the school. Excellent effort!

Trivia Night

Our night-of-nights is nearly upon us. This Saturday, record numbers of NFSS parents/carers and New Farm community members will descend upon the hall for some community fun. Thanks in advance to organisations: Kudu Leihgth, Skye McKay, Jenny Larson, Katrina Chiu, Karen Ridout, Gina Rahmel and Gillian Penrose, for what I’m sure will be another fabulous and successful night.

VECS

You will soon receive a Voluntary Education Contribution Scheme donation request in your mailbox. As we are in a non-fete year, we need all the support that we can get to continue to enhance your child/ren’s school.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to the P&C’s ongoing efforts. I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting!

Fiona Murcott

P&C President

Calmer Club for Calm and Happy Kids

Every Tuesday lunchtime from 1.30 to 1.50 pm

Children will be learning yoga techniques for healthy and supple bodies, and meditation techniques for healthy minds.

With Mrs Alcorn in the hall.

All students from Grade 1 to 7 welcome.
Respect Yourself   Respect Others   Respect Property

Social Skills

Feel it!

Focus:
“Feel It!” helps students understand that everyone feels anxious or worried from time to time and it's OK to feel that way. There are ways we can help overcome these feelings; to feel confident and brave. Coping strategies include: expressing feelings, helping others and remembering happy things.

Looks Like
- Students making friends and getting to know other people
- People working together so that everyone has a good time.

Sounds Like
- People talking about different positive situations that they experience each day.
- Students using “I” statements

Feels Like
- It is OK to feel nervous and worried

Assembly Social Skill Awards
Week 5 - “Same But Different”.
Congratulations to the following students:
3SR - Jai H
3/4W - Jack D
4R - Oscar S & Dongting L

Assembly Student Awards
Congratulations to the following students:
3SR - Sai K
3C - Saskia R & Frode S
3/4W - Jasmyn G
4/5F - Camille M & Jack M
6/7A - Cadyn F, Izayah P & Xander M
6/7B - Jett B

Congratulations to Years 5, 6 and 7 Chinese Cultural Performing Group!
Each year, in the first weekend of May, the Brisbane City Council sponsors a three day celebration called the Buddha Birthday Festival at Southbank, organised by Chung Tian Temple. Our school has been invited to perform at the Official Ceremony for 7 years.

This year, on 3 May, our Years 5, 6 and 7 Chinese Cultural Performing Group- consisting of 30 year 5 to 7 singers and 20 Year 6 and 7 dancers, performed a Taiwanese indigenous song called: “On the Mountain Top”. The students sacrificed several lunch breaks to practice and rehearse. This was a huge public performance for New Farm kids in front of thousands. Children were overwhelmingly excited and enjoyed the performance. Mrs. Chen choreographed the dance movements and Ms. Thacker conducted the choir. We heard wonderful positive feedback from both parents and students. Mrs. McGrath was invited as one the VIP guests among the celebrities to do the Bathing Buddha ritual.

Supporting the school community with local knowledge, trust, friendliness and professionalism
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