



# The Oakenden Buzz



## Oakenden State School

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**"01 April 2015"**

Next Fortnight		Forward Dates	
	Wed: Student Banking	01 May	Playgroup/Tuckshop
20 Apr	Term 2 Resumes	12 - 14 May	NAPLAN
25 Apr	Anzac Day	15 May	Playgroup
		19 May	ICAS - Digital Technologies

## *Raising the Bar*

*Working together to ensure that everyday in every classroom every student is learning and achieving.*



## *Every Day Counts at Oakenden*

*2014 Attendance  
94.38%*

*Target > 95%*

### PRINCIPAL NEWS

Dear Parents/ Caregivers,

Welcome to the last edition of the newsletter for this term. Congratulations to all on a successful start to the year. From all accounts, it has been a calm start to the year and from my observations, the students and staff have quickly and efficiently got back into routines. Further, every student has tasted success inside and outside the classroom. We truly are a small school doing big things; some highlights from term 1 were:

1. Taking out the Mackay Gardener Chess completion both teams and individually
2. Comprehensively winning the Sandy Creek Cross Country (doubling other teams scores)
3. Students being selected for Sarina and also Mackay netball representation
4. All students demonstrating measurable improvements inside the classroom

We may be a small school, however this clearly has not held us back from achieving success. Oakenden State School is a great example of what can be achieved if you have great staff, great parents and great students. Thank you for making me feel welcome during this first term, I am still incredibly humbled to be leading such a high performing school.

Term 2 will bring an opportunity to consolidate and build upon the foundations we have create during term1. During next term there will be an emphasis on explicitly teaching reading strategies (comprehension and decoding) and spelling strategies. These are two areas which have been identified as requiring some attention after the analysis of term1 results.

### LEXIA

Students are having great success with LEXIA! All students are seeing reliable measurable improvements every time they log on. CONGRATULATIONS to all students who received an award for their progress this term.



*"Educating the Whole Child in Preparation for the Future"*

"01 April 2015"

### **HOMEWORK CLUB**

Homework club is on in Term 2. Students will be supervised to complete homework from 2:30pm until 3:00pm Monday – Friday. In this time students can complete any written work (reading is to be completed at home).

### **FACEBOOK PAGE**

Please 'like' and visit our Facebook page. Our page is one way we try to keep parents up-to-date with events and information about our school. It is important to keep all posts positive and if you have any issues, please come to the school and discuss them with me or the staff member involved.

### **SUN PROTECTION POLICY**

Sun protection is ranked very highly at Oakenden School. Oakenden School is a registered "Sun Smart" school. The school policy is for all children to have effective headwear – in the form of a broad brimmed hat which is school issued.

Extract from Sun Protection Policy:

*The school policy is for all children to have effective headwear – in the form of a broad brimmed hat which is school issued.*

*A child playing in the sun must wear the school issue broad brimmed hat. The rule: - "no hat – no play in the sun" will be enforced.*

*UV creams – These are purchased by the school and positioned in class rooms and the office where children can use them just before lunch breaks to protect exposed skin areas.*

*In the summer months, consideration will be given to conducting regular Health and Physical Education lessons in the shade, especially on high risk days.*

*All children at outdoor swimming lessons are asked to wear a T-Shirt or similar sun protection clothing as well as applying sunscreen before the lesson.*

Shade trees are planted around the grounds offering shade areas for students to play and participate in sports activities. In 2006 a Shade Sail was erected over the assembly area and an undercover area is also available for school activities. A portable easily erected Shade Structure is utilised for all outdoor activities outside school grounds – i.e. sporting events, school excursions etc.

### **SARINA & MACKAY DISTRICT NETBALL TRIALS**

Hannah, Amity, Zoe and Abby were selected to represent Sarina and District at the Mackay District Carnival which was held on Thursday, 26 March at the Casey Avenue Netball Courts.

Congratulations goes to Amity who has been selected in the Mackay team and goes onto to compete in the Regional trials in Emerald.

### **THANKS FROM NICOLE & EZRA**

"Ezra and I want to thank everyone for the wonderful care package you sent us. It was greatly appreciated. We will certainly be drinking hot chocolate in our Oakenden mugs, eating yummy bikkies while watching movies. Thank you all for your support. See you all soon, Ezra and Nikki."

### **CROSS COUNTRY**

Cross Country was a hit (despite the heat), with our students taking out the shield yet again. Thank you to you as parents/caregivers for all your help and organisational skills, support and participation that you displayed on the day-without you we would not have been able to run the day as successfully. Further, congratulations to our place getters! I will be contacting these students families to schedule in some regular training. Also, there was discussion that perhaps next year we either run it beginning of term 2 or have a twilight cross country from 4- 6pm.



### **PREP—THE DAILY MERCURY MY FIRST YEARS**



The My First Year Feature lift out was in Last Wednesday's Daily Mercury. Our Preps looked absolutely handsome in their photo (contributed by our very own Mrs Chelsea Burgess).

### **BUNNINGS COLOUR-IN COMPETITION**

Bunnings Warehouse is giving students the chance to win one of three prizes valued at \$50. All you have to do is colour in the Easter picture sent home last week with students and return it to a Bunning Warehouse store by 6pm on Sunday 5th April. Winners will be announced on Monday 6th April.

### **TUCKSHOP / PLAYGROUP**

Our next Playgroup will be Friday 1st May. We welcome all families and friends with little children aged from 0 - 5 yrs to come along for a fun filled morning of planned activities including playdough, painting, craft, and much more. Playgroup begins at 9.00am and concludes at 11.00am.

The next tuckshop will be on Friday 1st May with Mrs Christensen for second break only, and will consist of the following:

Pies & Sausage Rolls	TBA
Flavoured Milk	\$1.00
Ice Creams	\$1.00



"01 April 2015"

## STUDENT WORK

### Don't Relocate Flying Foxes

I strongly believe that flying foxes must be protected. This is a hot discussion at Larissa Bay. People are not agreeing where to move the flying foxes or not. For example Rob Patterson said "the flying foxes are a menace." And Billy Jackson states "There is such diversity in this country and the people of Larissa Bay have amazing colonies of flying foxes right at their door steps."

Relocating flying foxes is unhealthy for the creatures and humans as well. It will spread a disease call ABL. If you try to relocate a flying fox you will get extremely sick and end up in hospital.

Animals have just as many rights as we do. I have interviewed a local resident Polly Parks who states, "Animals have rights to. We have a responsibility to share our environment with our furry friends." The flying foxes will be more stressed and will become noisy if we disturb them. How would you feel if you were relocated?

Flying foxes are good for the ecosystem. If they are relocated the native owls won't have anything to eat and will become extinct. Flying foxes also help maintain a healthy ecosystem as essential pollinators and seed dispersers.

I urge you to relocate flying foxes from Larissa Bay because it is unhealthy for the flying foxes and humans. Also, animals have rights too and is unfair on the flying foxes, finally, flying foxes help the ecosystem. If there are no flying foxes there will be no ecosystem and no owls.

Declan Christensen

## CAPTAINS REPORT

### "EVERYBODY DANCE NOW!"

Most of us kids went to the spectacular Chelona State School Disco. There was an amazing tuckshop consisting of Hot Chips, Frozen Yoghurt and HEAPS more. There was a dance floor marked off for the people who knew they had talent; including Mr Evans! If you were there, I am sure you will agree with me that Mr Evans is making the next appearance on Australia's Got Talent. He had the moves for the Nutbush down pat!

There was many games. Zoe guessed the amount of lollies in the jar; Seana and I won Knights and Cavaliers and Amity and I won the girls' dance off (I think I won due to a sympathy vote: P).

The disco lights flashed all over the place. They had music blaring in the background through massive speakers. Everyone was singing like no-one could hear them.

Thankyou Chelona State School; it was a truly awesome night.

## STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

### Last Fortnight's Achievers



#### Student Of The Week

is awarded to

Abby Matsen

For

**Demonstrating a strong  
dedication to achieving her  
academic goals.**



**Where** Oakenden State  
School

**Date** Thursday,  
2<sup>nd</sup> April 2015

**Time** 2:00pm- 2:30pm



**All Parents and Families  
are invited to attend!**

#### What's On:

**Easter Bonnet Parade**

**Prize for the best  
bonnet**

**EASTER EGG HUNT!!**

"01 April 2015"

### KEEP A WATCH ON OUR SCHOOL THESE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Parents and students can help take care of our school by reporting any suspicious after-hours activity to School Watch on 13 17 88. By keeping an eye out we can work together to create a safer school community and help to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in our school.

If you see something suspicious, please don't intervene. Call the School Watch number and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter.

## THIS SCHOOL IS PROTECTED BY



**1 LOOK 2 LISTEN 3 REPORT**

# 13 17 88

or phone your local police



**Queensland Government**



### SENSORY MOVIE DAY 26 April at 11:00am



Tickets are \$8.00 each  
Companion I.D Card Accepted  
Children 2yrs and under are free  
Birch Carroll & Coyle Mackay North Cinemas  
Grandview Drive, North Mackay QLD 4740  
For more information email or call Katie on:  
[sensorymovieday.mackay@hotmail.com](mailto:sensorymovieday.mackay@hotmail.com)  
0400843127

Face Painting starts at 10am thanks to Ink Kidz, spot prizes and every child receives an animal balloon at the end of the movie

Sensory Movie Day Mackay is an inclusive event for families with special needs.

Lighting on dim, sound lowered, volunteers at doors for those escape artists.

Children are free to move around, flap or stim.

This is a no judgment screening.

Refunds are available within the first 40mins.

No Diagnosis required, siblings and extended family are welcome.

FOR UPDATES LIKE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE:

[SENSORY MOVIE DAY MACKAY](#)

### Do you Have any Old Batteries Lying Around your House or Farm?



#### HOMEBUSH STATE SCHOOL

Homebush State School is going to start recycling batteries. If you have any that you don't need lying around your house, farm or friends house we would appreciate them.

- Truck, motorbike, boat, machinery or batteries that have the Lead Symbol Pb shown on them are recyclable
- NO AA, AAA, D, C, button, lithium, NiCd, NiMH and mercury are not lead Batteries.
- You can deliver them to the staff carpark next to the green ox ort if unable to deliver e would grealy come and collect them from you.
- Please contact 1 of the following people for more details:

Allyce	0411 255 953	Leigh	0418 592 922
Janis	0481 765	Chelsea	0419 792 145

Or Homebush State School on 49597 286  
1 or many would be greatly appreciated.

### FUNKEY BEAT - GUITAR LESSONS

Funkey Beat are willing to travel to Oakenden State School if you would like for your child to learn the Guitar. Please fill in the attached Enrolment Form and return to the school office.

**foster CARER**  
could you be one?

Foster carers are as different as the young lives they transform

Churches of Christ Care Pathways support their carers with training, advice and access to local resources to enable them to provide the best home environment for the children and young people in their care.

Contact us for a foster care information pack.

Churches of Christ Care Pathways  
4953 5097  
[carepathwaysqld.com.au](http://carepathwaysqld.com.au)