



The Oakenden Buzz



Oakenden State School

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"02 March 2016"

Next Fortnight	Forward Dates
Wed: Student Banking & Coffee Van Visits	18 Mar Bullying No Way Day
02 Mar Safety Circus	25 Mar Good Friday Public Holiday
04 Mar Tuckshop	22 Apr Sandy Creek Cross Country
09 Mar District Netball Trials	26 Apr P&C Meeting - 2.45pm
09 Mar Playgroup	
11 Mar Bookclub Due	
15 Mar Mobile Library	

Raising the Bar

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



Every Day Counts at Oakenden

2015 Attendance
97.3%

Target > 95%

PRINCIPAL NEWS

Hi Team,

A small school doing **BIG** things! This goes without saying. Inside and outside of the classroom Oakenden State School continues to impress and showcase their skills. Just this past week Oakenden State School sent away two teams to participate in the Mackay/Whitsunday chess competition, with Oakenden 1 placing 1st and Oakenden 2 tied for 6th. Both teams played exceptionally well and demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship. The individual ranking (out of 80 participants) were: Abby 1st, Lachlan 2nd, Qwayla 16th, Seana 18th, Adam 27th, Payton 28th, Sophie 35th and Harley 36th. Furthermore, thank you to Mrs Bec for supervising and providing encouragement to our students throughout the day.



**ACADEMIC
ENGAGEMENT**

**WRITING – NUMERACY – SPELLING
CULTURE- COMMUNITY**

A major aspect of our strategic planning is developing the belief that our students can be successful. Having worked with students, families and the curriculum for the past year, my belief is that every child CAN and WILL achieve.

For me, this is not a value that I have had to change as my expectations have always been clear and students are well aware of this. According to John Hattie, the number one effect size in student achievement is 'belief'. Belief from the teacher that every child can improve. And belief from the student, that they themselves have the skills and ability to be successful. In my eyes, being successful is not about achieving the highest mark in the class. No, it is rather about measurably improving and showing academic and personal growth.

So how do we foster this sense of belief in a child? Celebrate. Celebrate with your child the small wins at home with their homework. Celebrate them having a good day at school. Celebrate and recognise the additional work they do at home. Together, through celebration we can create a culture of grit and belief.

TAKE THE LEAD

We were fortunate to have 3 individuals come to our school yesterday whom aspire to become leaders/ Principals for small schools. They spent the day at Oakenden learning and observing our school life in the classroom and the administration of running a small school and were super impressed with our newly created data room.



"Educating the Whole Child in Preparation for the Future"

“02 March 2016”

WRITING MODERNISATION

I have made contact with the Sandy Creek Cluster (Chelona, Homebush and Dundula) regarding the possibility of having moderation between our schools in 2016. Writing is a main priority at Oakenden and will be at the forefront of our moderation.

Moderation is helpful because:

- it enables teachers to share and compare their judgements about student work and engage in professional dialogue
- develops common understandings of standards and expectations of student work and deepens understandings
- curriculum knowledge
- builds teacher confidence in making judgements
- ensures comparability and validity of reported results
- builds confidence with students, parents and the school community that judgements are accurate and professional

YEAR 3 - 6 CLASSROOM NEWS with Mrs McFaul

We have recently run basic reading, comprehension and writing tasks to check our movement and growth over the term. This is to see if our teaching is working and where we may need to go over missing concepts. We have been so proud of the gains and growth in each students' sample. A highlight of the writing is definitely the pride and ownership our students have over their work. Happy writers are great writers.

Mr Evans and I had to opportunity to go and listen to a great facilitator of writing on Monday. We have so many ideas to implement in our school based writing programs. One of the main themes in the seminar was practise. For our kids to be great writers and enjoy writing is practise. Daily writing and reading makes a better writer. Reading everything from the shopping list to TV guide to Fishing monthly will extend our vocabulary and exposure to different text types. By our student writing small pieces on a daily basis regardless of purpose gives them confidence and knowledge that writing is a life skill.

Please feel free to contact me Mondays and Tuesdays at school if you have any questions, concerns or conversations about learning or your student. ☺

BOOKCLUB

Please find attached Issue 2, 2016 Scholastic Bookclub Forms. Please return all orders before 11th March.

FAREWELL

As I compile this newsletter, I know it will be the last one I prepare for Oakenden State School. I have absolutely loved the last 6 years at Oakenden SS and have become quite attached to this small school doing BIG things. As I move onto Homebush, I would like to personally thank the families, staff and most of all, the smiling faces of the students greeting me 'Good Morning Mrs Moren' and making me feel like part of an awesome team. I will sorely miss you all. *Cheers, Michelle Moren*

TUCKSHOP/PLAYGROUP

The next playgroup will be on Wednesday, 9th March. We welcome all families and friends with little children aged from 0 - 5 years to come along for a fun filled morning of planned activities. It also provides a support network for parents & caregivers. Playgroup begins at 9.00am and concludes at 11.00am.

The next tuckshop will be Friday **4th March** with Mrs Christensen for second break only, and will consist of the following:

Party Pies/Party Sausage Rolls: 4 for \$2.00
Flavoured Milk \$1.00
Pikelets \$0.50



STUDENT WORK

Dirt bike riding is awesome because you get to practice for a race. When you dirt bike ride, you get to do unreal tricks like a lazyboy. A lazyboy is when you lay down on your dirt bike mid-air. Also, you get to make lots of new friends when you race dirt bikes. The best part about dirt bike riding is getting trophies. 1st gets the biggest trophy and 3rd gets the smallest trophy. Everybody should get into dirt bike riding, it is awesome! Trophies, friends and a lazyboy! What more could you want?

By Harley McSweeney.

SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Last Friday, Phil Wilson from Mackay Regional Office came to our school to present our 2016 school captains with their leadership badges and a certificate from Mr Jim Pearce (Member for Mirani). We wish them well in their position and know they will make Oakenden SS proud.



GRIP LEADERSHIP

On Tuesday the 23rd of February our school captains went to GRIP Leadership. Grip Leadership involves all the year six leaders in the Mackay district coming together to discuss how to be effective leaders. We played games like Spot the Difference to help us to realise if someone seems different. We watched a play from a bullying situation (Abby Matsen was the star) to learn how to say Bye-bye to bullying. They also showed us a movie clips so we could see what qualities a leader should have. After that we played another game to teach us the Traffic Light Leadership where we learnt what should be stopped, what should be slowed and what we should go forward with. In the end, our school captains had a great time and it was a great experience. This will definitely help us to become more effective leaders.

By Abby and Declan

