Welcome to Week 4! It has been a great start to the year, with students and teachers getting right down to the core business of learning. I have enjoyed my time visiting classes and seeing what goes on “at the coal face” of our school!

Student Enrolments
We have confirmed the enrolments of 497 students for the start of 2017. The big news at the moment is of course that we have expanded from 19 classes in 2016 to 22 classes in 2017.

Learning Focus
Every few weeks, I will provide some goals around learning behaviours to our students, as a challenge for them to improve in areas that have high impact on their learning. These behaviours will always be about the things we can never be too good at so it is appropriate for everyone to practice. The focus is on “having a go – straight away”. This behaviour helps your child by:

- Maximising the time they spend on tasks (increasing total learning time)
- Encourages starting first, then problem solving (as opposed to “I can’t do this!”)
- The use of the term “Have a go” is used on purpose to be an enabler.
- Re-enforcing the message that complying with instructions will allow smooth learning for your child and for others.

Parent Parking and Road Safety
Parents please note the following road safety messages:

- Use of the Cap SDE Car Park as a drop off/pick up point is not allowed. This is reserved for staff at the CDSE and DSS campus.
- Please be careful when using the “Stop Drop and Go” area on Gray St. Cars that are waiting in line, but obstructing the roadway for traffic may be fined as this is an infringement. Police have spoken to some parents about this, so I thought it pertinent to make all families aware.
- Students are not to walk through the staff parking areas (near the hall or basketball court). All pedestrian traffic is to use the gates near Admin, or Gladstone St through Cap SDE.

As always, we thank all our parents for their patience, the end of the school day is a busy time, and student safety is everyone’s business.

Parenting help: Triple P positive parenting
Triple P has lots of different ways parents and carers of kids and teenagers can get free support. All families are different, so if you’re looking for a little bit of help or a lot, or something in between, you can register for seminars and groups or arrange one-on-one support.

Parent Teacher Information Sessions
Thank you to everyone for attending our Parent Teacher Information Sessions. During the information session teachers will have talked about everything from routines to curriculum, to pedagogy and assessment. Also, as a part of the school’s Improvement Agenda in 2017, teachers will be working hard to improve the numbers of students achieving high results in Literacy and Numeracy. The particulars of what this means for curriculum delivery and how parents can support children at home will have been shared at this time. The relationship between home, school and the student can be a very powerful one in ensuring success for each child. I hope that you have a lovely week.

Troy Sanson
Principal

Sanson’s Slate

Mobbs Manifest
Over the last weeks the teaching of phonics has again made its way into the popular press. At Denison State School our phonics program is informed by the Australian Curriculum which is interpreted in the classroom through various listening, speaking and written activities. Students start school with a mainly speaking and listening communication system so it takes a number of years of learning involving listening, talking, reading, spelling and writing to move into more of a written communication system. When children start school we focus on clear articulation of sounds and an awareness of how we physically produce these as single sounds, blending into larger chunks of sounds, syllables, words and then as correctly intonated sentences which may be phrased in many ways for example as a statement or a question. A simple way to test your ability to hear single sounds in words is by identifying how many sounds are in your name. M_O_BB_S has 4 sounds. A_M_A_N_D_A has 6 sounds but the first and last /a/ are not recognisable vowels sounds because they are unstressed and don’t sound like the /a/sound we learn from the alphabet. To ‘warm up’ your learner to phonics play sounds games like moving or swapping sounds around. Chop off the first sound of a word ‘bus’ becomes ‘us’; or mix the starts around ‘fish and chips’ can become ‘chif and fips’. Verbal rhyming games and alliteration (a string of words with the same initial sound – ‘five fat fish’) are common language features in stories for younger children and are another great way to play with sounds to develop student agility to listen for, identify, sequence and move sounds around.

Amanda Mobbs
Deputy Principal

Date Claimers

13th Feb P&C Meeting
13th Feb Trials for CH/CAP Swimming
13th Feb Trials for CH Basketball
16th Feb Trials for Emerald District Soccer
17th Feb 3B Parade Performance
20th-24th Feb Bookfair
3rd March Clean up Australia—Denison
8th & 9th Mar School Photos

Email: admin@denisonss.eq.edu.au
Website: www.denisonss.qld.edu.au
Phone: 49807 333 Fax: 49876 058
P.O. Box 1475
16 Gray Street
EMERALD Qld 4720
DENISON STATE SCHOOL
Welcome to Week 4! Thank you to all the parents that came along to the Parent Information Session, we enjoyed sharing what we do here at school. For those that couldn’t make it, we sent home an information sheet. If you have any questions in regards to this please feel free to see your class teacher. Over the last three weeks we have been looking at procedural texts. We have read, followed and drafted our own. Over the next fortnight students will be assessed on their procedural writing before we begin our next unit on narratives. In Math we continue to focus on number. We have looked at part-part-wholes, fact families, number stories and adding a string of numbers efficiently. This week we will introducing the split strategy for addition. In History we have been investigating how changes in technology have affected our lives and in Science we have started looking at why plant materials are chosen for an object. We hope you have a lovely fortnight!

Racheal Tulloch, Caitlin Ritchie, Lisa McAlpine

Year 6

Year 6 have made a great start to the year. Congratulations to 6A on their wonderful attendance and homework completion, they have certainly set the standard for the year. All students have been working hard learning about short stories, practicing sizzling starts and working with fractions in maths. Students have started investigating different forms of diversity in Geography and changes to states of matter in Science. Please remember that students have swimming on Thursday’s for this term and need to remember to bring toggs, sun shirt, towel and slip on shoes. Thank you to those parents who welcomed our immersion team. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child.

Miss Pauline Dunn, Mrs Kelly Thomas, Mrs Megan Brown & Mr Braedon Reis

Year 3

Welcome to Week 4 and what an exciting time we have had already! Thank you to those parents who attended our Parent Information Session on Friday afternoon. We hope that you found the session informative. If you were not able to attend, we will send home a copy of our PowerPoint presentation so that you can get all the information required.

We are well and truly underway with our units and we are beginning to prepare for assessments in some subjects. In English, we are busily reading Charlotte’s Web and learning about procedural texts. Our assessment for this will be an oral presentation, pretending to be a character from the book and writing a procedure about how to do something. In class we have written ‘How to spin a web’ and ‘How to catch a fly’. In Maths, we have been having so much fun playing chance games and describing the likelihood and probability of things happening. In Geography, we are learning all about Australia’s states, territories and capital cities and compass points. In Science, we are investigating living, non-living and once-living things. We begin our Digital Technology journey this term and we will start to investigate the world of coding. In class, we will start using the website [https://code.org/]. As of next week, students will be encouraged to play around with this website at home as part of their homework. It is not a requirement, but would be very beneficial for them as we are all on a very steep learning curve with coding! Code.org has become our homework tool! Yours in education,

Mrs Vaughan, Ms Laws and Mr Saxby

Year Prep

Hello and welcome to week 4! A big thank you to all the parents that came to our information session last week. This week we have been exploring the number 3 and the letter Aa. Students have been busy at work making astronauts and different representations of the number 3. Please make sure that your student resource scheme has been paid as we will be using our text books from next week. If you have not paid your child’s fees they will not be able to use the resources. A reminder; insulated lunchboxes do not go in the fridge. Please ensure your child’s lunchbox has an ice brick in it to keep it cold. We would like to thank you again for your ongoing support so far this year. Enjoy your week.

Mrs Poole, Miss Finch, Miss Potter and Miss Marslen

Year 1

Year One students are settling in nicely to the school routines and they are continuing to be immersed in their learning. It is good to see our whole school behaviour focuses being used by the students and we are continuing to work on our in class focus.

Thank you to those parents who attended our Information Afternoon on Tuesday. If you need any further clarification about any topics discussed, please make an appointment to see your child’s teacher.

A few reminders:

Please pay the resource scheme to the office so that your child can be allocated their text book.

Please bring in portfolios or purchase from the office for $6

Homework folders are to be brought to school every day. Students will have sight words updated at various times throughout the week. Notes are sent home in homework folders.

Hats are to be brought to school every day.

Thank you to the Parent Helpers that have provided assistance this term. You are always greatly appreciated.

Miss Maiden, Miss Bourne, Mrs Belford

Year 4

Welcome to week 4. Thanks to all the parents who attended the Parent Information afternoon last Wednesday. This was just a chance for us to tell you a little about what we do in Grade Four, and a chance for parents to ask questions. If you missed this and still have some questions please send us a note or come in to see us.

Two weeks have passed since the last newsletter and we now know our students well. Initial testing is mostly completed and serious learning has begun. In English this year we will be consolidating learning about Parts of Speech in the English language, such as nouns, verbs, adjective, noun groups, verb groups and articles. We will also practice how to add speech to our writing. For the first half of this term we are looking at the narrative, “The Twits”, and the assessment will involve the students adding a new chapter to the story.

In maths students are learning how to multiply 2 digit numbers by 1 digit numbers using the grid method. This, of course, is just one method to multiply numbers, but it is a method we are focussing on at the moment. We are also learning how to divide using algorithms (short division).

Overall, the Grade Four children are settling in really well and are a fabulous group.

Regards Jane McColl, Lisa McHugh, Brooke Raine, Diane Barclay

Year 5

Thank you parents and caregivers for assisting your child to make a smooth transition into Year 5. Being organised with school equipment and a healthy lunch certainly makes it easier for your child.

We are well and truly engaged in our new units for this year. We are learning about British colonies that settled in Australia, adaptations for plants and animals, fantasy stories, healthy eating and factors, multiples, categorical and numerical data. Being quick and correct in recalling the multiplication and division facts is very important in year 5. It’s a good idea to set some time aside each week to practise these.

Swimming – all classes have been to their first lesson. Please encourage your child to pack their bag on Monday night so that it’s ready to go for our lessons on Tuesday. Every child must wear a rashie or shirt in the pool and it’s a good idea to have thongs to wear to and from the pool.

Swimming Helpers – If there are any more parents who can help on a Tuesday with the Year 5 swimming lessons, your assistance would be greatly appreciated. Please either let Miss L know or contact the office.

Parent Information Session – Thank you to the parents that were able to make it to our Parent Information Session. I hope you have a better understanding about what will be happening this year in Year 5. Communication with your child’s teacher is very important so please contact us if you have any questions.

Mrs Robinson, Miss Wedmaier and Mrs Wade
Student Support Services
Introducing the Team
This week I would like to introduce the Student Support Services Team at Denison State School. We are located in GLA 1 and provide support to a range of students including those who have additional needs to those who are working above year level.

HOSES
Sharon Morris: I am the Head of Special Education Services at Denison and also support the following schools: Emerald, Rolleston, Gindie and Orion. At Denison, I oversee and co-ordinate the support provided to students across the school and case manage students from Prep to Year 4. I work closely with external and support personnel such as Autism Queensland, the Autism Coach, Occupational Therapists and Speech Language Pathologists.

Support Teachers
Shelley Herwin and Linda Tucker are teacher aides who facilitate resources for identified students. I work at Denison on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Elle Sleeman: Speech Language Pathologist
I visit Denison State School every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, with.

Guidance Officer
Marietta Sedgwick: As a Guidance Officer, I am available to students and families who wish to seek assistance and support relating to personal and educational issues. I offer counselling services as part of my role. Ideally, counselling is short term and is directly linked to the student’s ability to engage in learning. When counselling is judged likely to be long term or involve other members of a family, it is appropriate for me to consider referring the student to another agency.

I can help with educational and personal matters/issues such as: bullying; grief and loss; family and peer relationships; self-esteem; stress; study habits and skills; time management; behaviour; anger; coping strategies…..there are many issues you might wish to seek assistance with.

I visit Denison State School every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Instrumental Music
Welcome back to another busy year for the Instrumental Music Program. This year, students will have the opportunity to perform at several school and community events including parade, end of year concert, Central Highlands Festival of Bands and the Central Highlands Eisteddford to name a few.

Please remember to pay your invoice and return all paperwork as soon as possible so that your child can take their instrument home (school instruments). If your child is new to the program this year, please ensure that you purchase the equipment on the equipment list assap (we do not have a music shop in the district so you will need to order from Mackay/Rockhampton etc.). It is also important to name all equipment as books etc. are often left behind and can not be returned to their owners if not clearly named.

As I work across six schools I find the best form of communication to be email. If you have any questions or would like to follow up on your child’s progress throughout the year please email me at

Elle Sleeman - Speech Pathologist.

Performing Arts
Denison students are singing their way the first part of this term and having a blast! It is so nice to hear so much singing in classes, at lunch times and at Parades! I hope you all get some impromptu performances as well at home! All grade 1-6 students have a bank of songs to choose from for their upcoming singing assessment and will choose to sing a solo or duet for their performance. We have been singing everything from Taylor Swift, The Blues Brothers, The Doobie Brothers, Justice Crew, Frozen and Annie songs. We have covered Rock’n’Roll, Soul, Pop, Country, Swing and Musical Theatre to name a few! All students can bring in a USB to have music to practice with from me; rehearse in the classroom at lunchtimes or can look for their chosen songs on You Tube at home. I have also suggested that students perform for someone at home so they can gain confidence before their final assessment. Prep students are working hard at learning their rhythms, call and response singing games and moving in time with different songs. They are also learning the ‘Denison Prayer’ and the ‘Australian National Anthem’, so please rehearse with them at home.

The Denison Prayer is….

Students of Denison every day,
Asking God to help us stay,
Focused on learning while sharing with friends,
Looking back in happiness as each day ends.

The students have also been learning ‘The Anzac’ by Adam Brand for our school Anzac Day Ceremony. It is a beautiful Australian ballad about an ANZAC soldier. Another song the students have been learning is a rap I changed the words to about Denison State School last year. The students will sing this while they perform the dance I have choreographed for them for their Dance unit this term starting in week 6.

Please feel free to have a sing at Parade and don’t be shy to come and say hello.

Yours in Music and DSS talent,
Monique Podolak

Speech Language
Speech pathology services in the school have been focused on our preps so far. I have been screening prep students in order to best support them learn and communicate in the classroom. It has been lovely getting to know all the new faces.

Elle Sleeman - Speech Pathologist.

Clean Up Australia Day - Denison
On Friday 3 March 2017 we will be cleaning up Denison State School as part of Clean Up Australia Day.

Mrs McColl will give each class an area of the school to clean. Remember – if we always put our rubbish in the correct place this will be a very easy job.

Clean Up Australia Day—Emerald
Clean Up Australia Day is to be held on this Sunday 5th March 2017. Registration is from 7.00am on the Sunday and will be at the park behind the Library (Borilla Street). Anyone interested in attending please bring along a hat, safe shoes, water, sunscreen and gloves.

Mrs McColl and The Green Team
Volunteers NEEDED for Tuckshop

We are chasing some helpers to help Leanne in the tuckshop. If you can help for any amount of time it would be greatly appreciated. We do rely on volunteers to help in the tuckshop so that we can operate efficiently.

If you can spare 1 hour or 3 hours or any time at all, it will make a big difference. We can do daily, weekly, fortnightly or monthly. Any time would be appreciated. Jobs that you can help with is making sandwiches, wraps, tacos, toasted sandwiches, piklets, putting hot food into bags, making hotdogs etc.

Sensational Borrowers Awards:
Prep A, Prep B, Prep C, 2B, 5B and 6A

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS
The Uniform Shop will be open:
Monday’s from 8.30—9.30am
And
Thursday’s from 3.00-3.30pm
Orders can also be placed online by visiting www.ouronlinecanteen.com.au. These orders will be processed either on the Monday or Thursday after your order is placed. It can be either delivered to your child via the teacher or can be collected from the uniform shop during opening hours.
Welcome back to 2017.

Happy Reading
Maree Haselin and Jean Self

Deno Readers

Bearded Dragon           Hayden J, Benjamin L
Gem Fossicker             Jackson B
Red Claw                  Candence B, Holli W
Wattle                    Adam G
Paperbark Tree            Sophie I
Governor Denison          Jake N, Talan P, Amy

Emerald District Netball Trials

Last Thursday afternoon, Mrs Vaughan went with a group of 7 girls who competed in the Emerald District Netball Trials for selection into the CH Netball Team. All girls played extremely well in the very hot conditions.
Students who participated were; Regan, Ondrea, Gabi, Samantha, Lauren, Lucy and Amber.

The following students made it into Possibles and Probables;
U/11 - Regan, Gabi, Samantha and Ondrea
U/12 - Lucy and Amber

We were very lucky to have 4/7 students selected into this team. What a great effort girls! Regan, Gabi, Samantha and Lucy were all selected in their respective categories. These girls will now represent the Emerald District at the Central Highlands Trials on Friday 3rd March. Well done to all girls who participated. Good luck to the girls at the next level.

Nikita Vaughan
Netball Coach

News from the Library

DENO READERS: HERE’S HOW IT WORKS
At Denison our read at home program is called “Deno Readers”. The purpose of “Deno Readers” is to encourage students to read regularly so that they develop confidence and a love of reading.
*BEGINNING READERS READ AND/OR ARE READ TO FOR 10 MINUTES, AT A TIME THAT SUITS EACH DAY.
*A PARENT/CAREGIVER DATES AND INITIALS THE APPROPRIATE SPACE: ONE SIGNATURE PER DAY IS THE MAXIMUM FOR BEGINNING READERS.
*INDEPENDENT READERS MAY COUNT AS MANY 10 MINUTES AS THEY READ, e.g. 6 LINES IF THEY READ FOR AN HOUR.
*WHEN THE DENO READER HAS COMPLETED THEIR CURRENT SHEET HE/SHE RETURNS THE RECORD SHEET TO THE DENISON SS LIBRARY AND MOVES UP TO THE NEXT LEVEL.
*CERTIFICATES ARE ISSUED TO STUDENTS ON PARADE AS THEY ACHIEVE EACH LEVEL. AN INCENTIVE PRIZE IS ISSUED ONLY WHEN THE STUDENTS ACHIEVE THE FINAL LEVEL OF THE “GOVERNOR DENISON READING AWARD”.

THE LEVELS ARE AS FOLLOWS:
• Snail Reader after 100 ten minutes (1000 minutes)—Yellow Sheet
• Possum Reader after 200 ten minutes (2000 minutes)—Blue Sheet
• Red Claw Reader after 300 ten minutes (3000 minutes)—Red Sheet
• Rainbow Reader after 400 ten minutes (4000 minutes)—Dark Green Sheet
• Wattle Reader after 500 ten minutes (5000 minutes)—Brown Sheet
• Bearded Dragon Reader after 700 ten minutes (7000 minutes)—Orange Sheet

Governor Denison Reading Award after 1000 ten minutes (10000 minutes)—White Sheet

Should you have any queries about the Deno Reader Program please do not hesitate to email me mheslin@eq.edu.au.

Happy Reading
Maree Haselin and Jean Self

Book Fair is a fun and exciting time for the students to get excited about reading and raise money for our School Library!!

Where: Denison Library
When: 20th—24th February
Who: Everyone!!

Student will be browsing & creating a Wish List on Monday & Tuesday
Books can be purchased Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
1st Lunch (11.15-11.45)
2nd Lunch (1.20—1.45pm)
After school (3pm – 3.30pm)

We have EFTPOS available for your convenience.

To make this event a success we need lots of parent helpers to sell the books, tidy the shelves or help our little ones with their choices. Its fun & very easy!
If you are able to give some time please message Anita on 0430349743

Thanks in advance! Denison P&C Committee

studentabsence@denisonss.eq.edu.au
**Prep A**  Tonkra A  
His outstanding effort. Tonkra has been making wonderful behaviour choices and has put in 110% during rotations. Super Job Tonkra!!

**Prep B**  Sasha N  
Her fantastic behaviour and exceptional effort in all class activities.

**Prep C**  Parker D  
His bravery and resilience when settling into Prep.

**Prep D**  
For helping to take care of our room and being a kind friend to everyone in our class.

**1A**  Amber C  
Being a super hard worker and helping others. You are a fantastic student!

**1B**  Bella S  
Your constant hard work and effort you put into everything you do. You are a superstar! 

**1C**  Thomas B  
The diligent manner in which you approach all classroom tasks. Your persistence shows in your success. Well done Thomas.

**2A**  Harvey T-S  
Always showing whole body listening on the carpet. Well done!

**2B**  Kelsey L  
Contributing her ideas and opinions during a Maths lesson. Well done, keep it up!

**2C**  Chloe W  
Excellent effort and creative words used in her writing all week.

**2D**  
Consistently helping others, trying your best when writing and being a friendly classmate. Keep up the fantastic effort, Baylee!

**3A**  Baylee K  
Your beautiful manners and effort put into school work. Well done!

**3B**  Phoebe S  
Your beautiful manners and effort put into school work. Well done!

**3C**  Mariam O  
Being a super star in every aspect of her learning. Well done Mariam.

**4A**  Darcy W  
For our constant attention to instruction and willingness to give everything a go. You are a superstar!

**4B**  Tamati M  
His positive behaviour choices. Tamati is listening carefully to instructions and is beginning tasks straight away. Keep it up, Tamati!

**4C**  Ava S  
You are always listening well and following instructions precisely. This is assisting you to become an efficient learner.

**5A**  Flynn C  
Demonstrating outstanding behaviour in class. You are always ready to learn and you are a great role model to your peers.

**5B**  Liam L  
His high levels of enthusiasm during Rapid Recall Routines this week! Keep up the great work Liam.

**5C**  Jaxon G  
Your great attitude towards learning and excelling in everything you do! Great job!

**6A**  Jemma-Lee B  
Your positive start to the year at Denison. You always show enthusiasm in class and participate well in all activities. Keep up the great work!

**6B**  Carla P  
The huge effort and improvement you have shown in editing your own work. Keep up the great work!

**6C**  Kelly H  
Her positive attitude towards all learning tasks. Kelly also follows classroom rules and expectations at all times. Keep it up!

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**Prep A**  Marley U  
Her positive disposition to learning. Marley always tries activities and does so with a smile. Well done Marley.

**Prep B**  Blaise E  
Constantly contributing to class discussions and giving 100% effort in all her school work.

**Prep C**  Madison J  
Her wonderful whole body listening.

**Prep D**  Hunter E  
Working extremely hard in all activities and making it all the way to Super Student. Great job Hunter!

**1A**  Adam S  
Always being a whole body listener and following instructions carefully. Keep it up!

**1B**  Myles N  
Your politeness and respectfulness. You are a positive member to our class!

**1C**  Taylah S  
Her persistence during maths tasks this week. You should be proud of the effort you made to improve focus. Keep it up, Taylah!

**2A**  Henry W  
The amazing effort you put into our History lesson this week. You finished your writing quickly and it was neat! Keep it up!

**2B**  Ryan T  
Always showing whole body listening during every class activity. Well done Ryan!

**2C**  Benjamin L  
Excellent work in our maths lessons this week and for always being a helpful and kind classmate. Great Work Ben!

**3A**  Lane W  
Always trying your best at any given task! You are an asset to our class! Keep up the great work!

**3B**  Jack K  
Always having your hand up in class ready to answer questions! Sensational work!

**3C**  Ethan Y  
A great week in class and trying his best!!! Fantastic job Ethan!

**4A**  Tyler H  
Your focus in class and attention to your work. Keep it up!

**4B**  Chelsea A  
Her contributions to class discussion. Chelsea is always willing to volunteer responses and demonstrates enthusiasm for learning. Well done, Chelsea.

**4C**  Tuliena T  
Producing and presenting work of a high standard. Your handwriting is always neat and legible.

**5A**  Jada B  
Her ability to treat everyone with kindness and respect. She is a pleasure to have in 5B!

**5B**  Kobe Y  
Contributing fantastic ideas during a science discussion. You were highly involved. Keep up the awesome effort, Kobe!

**5C**  Harmoni B  
Your positive learning choices in class. You always give everything your best effort. Keep up the great work!

**6A**  Cooper B  
The great effort you have put into learning your spelling words. The results really show how hard you have worked. Keep it up!

**6B**  Jayden K  
His diligent approach to all learning tasks, his friendly nature and have-a-go attitude. Keep up the hard work Jayden!
PE and Sport News

The new AUSTRALIAN HPE CURRICULUM

Why does Miss L teach PE?

Term 1, 2017 marks the commencement of the delivery of the new Australian Health and Physical Education Curriculum at Denison State School. This is fantastic news and I look forward to rolling out the new/adapted units of physical education movement and learning across all of the year levels.

An example of the new curriculum can be seen in Year 3 where in term 1 all year 3 students are required to participate in the Scoot Scoot unit of learning.

This unit requires students to develop and practise scooter riding skills through various activities and challenges! Awesome!

Students will:
- Examine safety, equipment and routines when riding a scooter in different environments.
- Develop and practise the scooter riding skills of balancing, breaking and cornering.
- Examine movement concepts and apply the elements of effort, time, space and the relationships of objects to scooter riding.
- Investigate solutions to scooter challenges through trial and evaluation.
- Participate in the hands on lessons with our local Police as they teach our Year 3 classes to demonstrate the road safety rules and requirements as they apply to the riding of scooters on public roads, footpaths, skate parks and similar environments.

Health and Physical Education (HPE) is such an important and valuable Key Learning Area! Why is this so?

A physically educated student is a young person who is physically capable. They understand how to take care of their body. They learn to value their body and how to keep it strong throughout their lifetime. They learn how to move it efficiently, how to protect it from environmental threats, how to provide it with quality performance fuel by eating healthy on most days and how to keep their own ‘one life’ body in optimal shape, so they may live a long and disease free quality of life.

But wait— there is more! ……students also learn to manage their emotions in different contexts, learn to work individually, with a partner, small groups and large teams; they learn to solve problems and physical challenges by applying rules and strategies, develop self-confidence, experience success and learn new ways to improve on their skills; they experience the need for cooperation, sharing and inclusion and much, much more.

The physically literate child is exposed to this lifelong learning vehicle for the development of children’s physical, social and emotional well-being. Learning to play any game involves a range of cognition including perception, problem solving, decision-making and responding to cues within a changing environment. Games provide opportunities for groups of students to collaboratively problem solve in addition to providing social interaction from which meaningful and lasting learning emerges.

We are educating students to function in a society where lack of physical activity is a major contributor to the many prevalent health issues. There is no better teaching and learning vehicle to assist the next generation with skills to combat issues such as bullying, self-confidence, obesity, peer pressure, depression and fundamental movement skills than through quality physical education.

The primary years are vital for instilling good habits and values toward physical activity. As educators we need to ensure we are engaging our students and encouraging them to value and enjoy PE. This will help students see the connections between the benefits of participating in physical activity and the positive impact this has on their own lives.

I am confident and passionate about my important role here at Denison State School and the learning of all the students I teach. I value the element of fun as a major contributor to a child’s learning ability and I promise all parents/carers that your child will feel valued, confident and happy to be in my PE lessons. Consistently participating in both national and international HPE professional development courses keeps me well informed of the current high quality pedagogy required in physical education beyond the teaching of games. As I am not perfect I love to learn how I can improve every day.

PE contributes to improved holistic health and therefore improving life expectancy, decreasing morbidity and providing a better quality of life for Australians. Who doesn’t want that for their child?

GOOD LUCK TO ALL THOSE STUDENTS WHO WILL BE INVOLVED IN SPORTS TRIALS COMING UP SOON! Forms are coming.

Good luck to all the students who are trialling for the following teams.
- CH/CAP Swimming on Feb 13th.
- CH Basketball trials on Feb 12th.
- Emerald District trials for Netball were held last Thursday on Feb 9th. Congratulations to the following girls who have been successfully selected into the District Netball team. Regan.B, Gabi.W, Samantha.D and Lucy.K.
- Emerald District Soccer on Feb 16th, Morton Park.
- Emerald District Rugby Union on Feb 23rd, McIndoe Park.
- Emerald District Rugby Union on March 2nd, Morton Park.
- Emerald District Touch Football March 9th, Touch Fields.
- CH Netball March 3rd.
- CH Soccer March 10th.
- CH Rugby Union and Tennis March 14th.
- CH Rugby League, March 17th.

Stay active!!

Yours in sport,
Miss L

EMERALD INTERMEDIATE BAND

When: Mondays 5.30-6.30pm (Starts 13th Feb)

Where: Emerald Town Band Hall - 61 Roberts St.

Rehearsals are held every Monday with the exception of school holidays. Students must have been playing their instruments a minimum of 1-2 years before joining or have complete approximately song 100 in their Standard of Excellence or Tradition of Excellence book. Please bring your own instrument or drumsticks, a display, folder for storing sheet music, pencil and 2 cloth/leather picks. Stands are provided. A water bottle is recommended.

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