Sanson’s Slate

It is very hard to believe that we are already in the back half of Term 1! We are now well and truly into the routine of learning, and have school sport for Years 5-6, Swimming, NAPLAN Preparation and the completion of our first round of assessment.

Class Structure and Staffing

Last week we finally secured an additional teacher to alleviate the high class numbers in our Year 2 and Year 3 cohorts. You will be aware that we have now split the Year 2/3 class and have evened the classes out in careful consultation with the classroom teachers and support staff. Ideally, we would have had the 19th class running from the beginning of the year. The change has only occurred now as we have had to wait for Day 8 funding to be finalised by the department. The flow on effect of the time that this takes means that Human Resourcing can’t be finalised without solid finance. Denison State School has had to purchase a teacher as the 19th teacher was not in our final allocation. The alternative would have been 18 classes with a composite in each year level from Year 2 to Year 5. We believe that creating an additional Year 3 class was the least disruptive option.

It is with great pleasure that we welcome Mrs Rebecca O’Grady to Denison State School as our new Year 3 Teacher. We have been very fortunate to have Mrs O’Grady join our team as she comes to us highly regarded and with a wealth of experience in effective teaching and learning. I know that you will join me in welcoming Rebecca to Denison State School.

This week we will welcome Mrs Teagan Ryan as our new Acting Principal of Special Education Services. Mrs Ryan comes to us from Emerald North State School, where she was the HOSES, and will be replacing Mrs Sedgwick who has been promoted to the Guidance Officer role for our cluster. We are excited that Mrs Sedgwick will continue her great work at Denison State School on Wednesdays and Thursdays, in her capacity as Guidance Officer. Please join me in welcoming Teagan to Denison State School and wishing Marrietta Sedgwick all the best in her new role as Guidance Officer.

Investment 4 Success

As you may be aware, the Queensland Government has injected funds into primary schools to guarantee better outcomes for our students. The plan for Denison will be discussed at our next P&C meeting. Essentially, the plan is to use the funding to; increase support staff through the purchase of Speech Language Therapy, Teacher Aide time and Master Teacher; reduce class sizes through the purchase of an additional teacher; and release teachers to more effectively plan and cater for the needs of their students. This will improve the quality of teaching in every classroom, every day. This year the I4S funds total $150,000.

Learning/Behaviour Focus- Following Instructions

Our new learning focus is Following Instructions. This follows on nicely from “Have A Go” which was the last focus, and is a great refresher as we approach the end of the term (when tired minds make bad choices!). The simple steps we are using to reinforce this to the students are listed below. The bold phrases are ones teachers will use in classrooms, and playgrounds.

- Listen carefully- so you know what you need to do. **Be clear on what you are to do.**
- Clarify if you are not sure (after you have had a go). **Be clear on where the help is.**
- First Time is the best time- re-direction should not be needed. **Be quick to respond.**

Make every day count in 2016

Make 2016 the year when your child doesn’t miss a day of school. Research shows that students who have good patterns of attendance are more likely to achieve at school. If students aren’t at school or don’t stay the whole day, they are missing valuable lessons. Check out the Every Day Counts videos live on DETE TV. http://www.youtube.com/DETQuesland

Making Every Day Count at Denison—Attendance, on the whole has been good for students so far. In terms of ways I would like to improve our attendance data, and there are a few ways that parents can help:
- Ensure every absence is legitimate- not wanting to come to school is not a reason to stay home. We will help transition reluctant students to class for successful days.
- Make sure all absences are accounted for, by writing a note to your teacher, emailing the school or a phone call. Where possible, school holidays are the time for trips away. In the event that students have to be away ,work can not be supplied – the teachers are responsible for the learning of students at school. Holidays more than 10 school days require an exemption signed by the Principal.

Overall, we are hoping to improve our attendance by an average of 4 days per child- which will allow more learning, and better achievement. I really appreciate your help with this. This year we will have awards each term for students with wonderful attendance.

I hope that you have a lovely week!

Troy Sanson
Acting Principal

Date Claimers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Contact信息</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar 7th</td>
<td>Arts Council—Michael Salmon</td>
<td>Phone: 49807 333 Fax: 49876 058</td>
<td><a href="http://www.denisonss.qld.edu.au">www.denisonss.qld.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 9th</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 10th</td>
<td>5A Parade Item</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 11th</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 17th</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 23rd</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival 4,5 and 6</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
Term 1 is half way over, where is the year going?? We are as busy as grasshoppers in spring in all Prep classes at the moment. Just a quick reminder, it has been quite hot so a sun safe hat and water bottle are essential for a comfortable school day for your child.

We would like to give a HUGE Thank You to all the parents that are supporting their children to be independent in the mornings. We are beginning to see growth with their independence throughout the school day and the students are developing a sense of pride in their own abilities. We are very pleased with our class rates of attendance; remember a day of school missed is not only missed learning opportunities but also lost chances for social, emotional and independence development.

Lastly, we are starting to put together class portfolios that will display our students amazing works from over this last term. If you have not purchased a portfolio for your child, they can be purchased from the school office. There are still some Prep students with unpaid fees. We ask that you please see Admin about these so they are able to access the class resources funded through the Resource Scheme.

Have a wonderful week!

Regards, Mrs Katelyn Poole & Mrs Sam Patterson

Year 2

Wow! Week 6 already! During Maths lessons we have been looking at the volume of shapes and working hard at identifying and locating places on a map using latitude and longitude as well as explaining reasons for diversity. In science, students have been practising being explicit in their explanation on how to do things. Over the coming weeks students will begin to write their short stories for English. The Student Leadership Group recently attended a leadership day at Fairbairn Dam. It was great to see them participating with other student leaders, learning about the importance of working together, having a plan and being an example to others around them. 6A are working well with Mrs Esmond and we look forward to having her with us until Mrs Wade’s return. We wish her a speedy and full recovery.

Regards, Miss Simone Bourne & Miss Lauren Laws

Year 3

Welcome to our new Year 3 staff member, Mrs O’Grady. She has eagerly got straight into teaching 3C. We look forward to getting to know her and having her as part of the Denison State School community.

Thank you to the parents of our AGP students who attended the information session. Your children will value your support and interest to their learning.

READ! READ! READ! Before school started this year, all teachers in the region attended a reading conference. All classes have been promoting reading and our new reading strategies. We have seen students becoming more interested in books, particularly non-fiction. Before reading a text, encourage that your child predicts what they will read about, “I think this text will be about... because...” You could even tell them what you think the book will be about. It doesn’t even have to be a book, maybe it’s a newspaper article, a poster, the blurb to DVD, the writing on a cereal packet. “The more that you read, the more places you’ll go”. Dr Seuss.

Regards, Mr Joel Davis, Miss Elyse Douglas, Miss Rebecca O’Grady

Year 4

It is difficult to believe we have reached week 6 already! Learning is well and truly underway with students working hard to complete tasks.

Thank you to those parents who attended our AGP meeting last week. If you still have any questions about this programme, or anything at all regarding your child’s learning, please don’t hesitate to get in contact.

On another note, it is so important for students to be at school every day to optimise their learning. However, if your child has been away for any reason, please make sure that a note of explanation (or a phone call) is provided.

Finally, as the end of term is swiftly approaching, we ask that student portfolios be brought in so that they can be returned to you at the end of term filled with samples of your child’s work. It is wonderful, as teachers and parents, to look back over everything that has been completed at the end of each term. The students also feel a great sense of pride in seeing how far they have progressed. A huge thank you to those parents who have brought in their portfolios already.

Regards, Mrs Diane Waine-Barclay, Mrs Lisa McHugh and Miss Nikita Maiden and Mrs Jane McColl

Year 5

The term is well and truly under way. It is great to see most students bringing a healthy brain break but it would be even better to see all students bringing one in. Across the year 5 cohort it has become evident that the students recall of their multiplication facts is not as efficient as it should be. Any extra practice will benefit them greatly. Also, as it is quite hot at the moment, students are reminded to bring along a water bottle and their hats to school every day. Parent teacher notes will be coming home shortly. Please fill these in and return them ASAP to secure a time that suits both you and your classroom teacher.

Regards, Mrs Leigh Robinson, Miss Rachael Wedmaier and Mr Wade Thompson
Hello everyone,

On February 29th, I will be taking on the role of Guidance Officer for several schools in the Emerald District for the remainder of the year. Tegan Ryan from Emerald North Sate School will be taking my place here at Denison in the HoSES role. I will continue to work at Denison on Wednesdays and Thursdays, so will still be a part of the school community. I will also be working closely with Tegan to ensure a smooth transition of management of the SEP across the Denison Cluster. Tegan has been visiting Denison this week to become familiar with students and staff.

Clancy Conlon will also be continuing working in our school this year as the Speech Language Pathologist. Clancy will be working at Denison for two days a week.

I really like this week's healthy eating tip from Nutrition Australia. Replacing packets of chips with rice crackers is a great alternative for a snack.

Kind Regards,
Marietta Sedgwick

From the Deputy Principal

AGP Program
Thank you to our families who attended the Achievement Growth Program Meetings held in each year last week. Teachers provided parents with resources that can be of assistance at home to continue to extend your children. If you were unable to attend, please contact your class teacher to receive these resources.

Attendance
It is great to see such a great attendance rate for the start of the school year! Below are the attendance rates for the end of Week 3 and Week 5 for each cohort. Each week, I will update the attendance rate for each cohort to see if we are maintaining our high attendance percentages! Unfortunately there are a few year levels that have decreased in %. If your child is away, please ensure you ring the office or contact your classroom teacher.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Attendance % Week 3</th>
<th>Attendance % Week 5</th>
<th>Increase/Decrease</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>95.1%</td>
<td>95.3%</td>
<td>↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>97.3%</td>
<td>96.5%</td>
<td>↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>97.7%</td>
<td>96.9%</td>
<td>↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>95.2%</td>
<td>94.6%</td>
<td>↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>94.1%</td>
<td>94.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>94.6%</td>
<td>94.9%</td>
<td>↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>96.7%</td>
<td>95.0%</td>
<td>↓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student Leader Badge Ceremony
Last week we celebrated our Student Leaders in a ceremony on Parade. Thank you to Mayor Maguire and Mr Peter Dowling, BMA, for their attendance at our special ceremony. All student leaders looked extremely proud to be receiving their badges and certificates. As a staff, we are also very proud of them.

Book Fair
A massive thank you needs to go to our wonderful P&C who have spent tireless hours organising and manning Book Fair last week. Mrs Heslin and Mrs Self have chosen a very vast variety of new books for our library.

Early arrival at school
Please be aware that arrival at school before 8.00am is not permitted. A teacher is on duty in the Senior Undercover Area from 8.15-8.30am but not before. If your child is riding or walking to school, please monitor what time they are leaving, as some students are arriving at school well before 8.00am.

Nikita Vaughan
Acting Deputy Principal

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Special Education News

Hello everyone.

On February 29th, I will be taking on the role of Guidance Officer for several schools in the Emerald District for the remainder of the year. Tegan Ryan from Emerald North Sate School will be taking my place here at Denison in the HoSES role. I will continue to work at Denison on Wednesdays and Thursdays, so will still be a part of the school community. I will also be working closely with Tegan to ensure a smooth transition of management of the SEP across the Denison Cluster. Tegan has been visiting Denison this week to become familiar with students and staff.

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I really like this week’s healthy eating tip from Nutrition Australia. Replacing packets of chips with rice crackers is a great alternative for a snack.

Kind Regards, Marietta Sedgwick

HOSES

Healthy eating tip:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Save on Snacks</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>rice crackers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>small pack potato chips</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58.9/kg vs 314.00/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less total fat 0.9g vs 3.9g</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less saturated (bad) fat 1.5g vs 14.8g</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less sodium (salt) 610mg vs. 639mg per 100g</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9 to 10 Session
Prep A
Prep/1C
2A
2B
3A
3B
4A
4B
5A
5B
5C

10 to 11 Session
Prep B
1A
1B
2A
2C
3A
3C
4A
4B
6A
6B
Book Signing
11:15
Library News

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:-
- Gum Nut Reader after 25 ten minutes (250 minutes)-Yellow Sheet
- Possum Reader after 50 ten minutes (500 minutes)-Pink Sheet
- Sunflower Reader after 100 ten minutes (1000 minutes)-Blue Sheet
- Gem Fossicker Reader after 200 ten minutes (2000 minutes)-Light Green Sheet
- Red Claw Reader after 300 ten minutes (3000 minutes)-Red Sheet
- Paperbark 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 mhesl5@eq.edu.au.

Happy Reading
Maree Heslin and Jean Self

Music News

Well we have reached halfway through Term 1! Well done everyone! I have had a lovely 2 weeks of listening to the talented Denison sing their way through assessment and I have been so impressed! It takes a lot of confidence to stand in front of 25 people and do something that isn’t always an ‘everyday’ thing and THEN remember pitch, rhythm, give eye contact and open your mouth! I am so proud! We have started Dance this week and the Preps and Grade 1s will be learning to do the ‘Heel and Toe Polka’ and some instructional dances that look at different directions, positions and overall fun moves! The Grade 2-6s are looking at dances from around the world. I have combined Latin dancing, looking at versions of the Salsa, Conga and Cha Cha, German slap dancing and Bollywood from India. I am really looking forward to this unit and although we only have a short amount of time, the students I am sure will love it too!

Yours in Music and Denison State School talent,
Monique Podolak

PE and Sport News

Sports Trials
Congratulations to Tamsyn B in her selection in CH Basketball, Sonny SP and Jason L for their selection in Emerald District Soccer.

District Rugby League Trials
Good luck to all the boys and girls in these upcoming trials.

Reminders
Cross Country is being held in Week 9 as it is now Week 6 we encourage you to start your training and practice.

Stay active!!
Miss L

A Note from Your School Photographer

School photos are almost upon us again! The school has engaged MSP Photography to create your school photographic records for this year and you are invited to purchase prints of your child.

On photo day, every student will be photographed regardless of whether you are purchasing or not. Your child will bring home a personalised order envelope from the photographers. Please take care to read and follow all the instructions carefully. This will ensure your order is processed smoothly and efficiently and will help you to avoid any late fees.

For those of you ordering online, you will notice a new, improved version this year. Please take care to follow the instructions carefully and ensure you log onto www.msp.com.au to enter your child’s shootkey.

Additional order envelopes are available from the school office for separated, blended families and grandparents. You need to collect these on or before photo day and give it to the photographer on photoday. Be sure to write “Mum’s order” or “Dad’s order” on top of your envelope.

To order a sibling or friends photo, please collect Sibling and Friends Order Envelope from the school office on or before photo day, or order it online at least 24 hours in advance. Please note: Sibling photos are only for siblings within the school

If your child has been photographed in a special group (ie sports team or leadership team), order envelopes will be available in the weeks following photoday. Please watch this newsletter for information when they will be available.

As school staff are unable to help with photography enquiries or payments, please direct your questions and comments directly to MSP Photography by phoning 4921 3355.

Thank you for your co-operation and we look forward to a great photoday.

Keep smiling!!!
Awards for the week ending 19th February 2016

Prep A  Jaylah J
Her fabulous book work! Jaylah works very hard to keep her work at an outstanding standard. She takes pride in her work and never rushes. Well done Jaylah!

Prep B  Jake Q
You being a kind and considerate classmate. You are a wonderful worker and a helpful class friend. We are happy you are in our class.

Prep/1C  Sean C
Working hard on his flick the switch task.

1A  Talan P
Your excellent effort in Journal Writing. Well done!

1B  Cameron R
The effort put into your work this week. Well done for having a go and not giving up.

2A  Mariam O
Being consistently organised for work and always giving her best effort.

2B  Isabella W
Always displaying maturity in the classroom and for participating in our class discussions with enthusiasm.

2/3  Darcy W
Being a positive role-model; you are persistence, resilient and always willing to get along with anyone. Keep it up!

3A  Cody B
His growing independence and initiative. Cody is getting in and having a go and putting in 100% effort 100% of the time.

3B  Kaleija T
Kaleija’s persuasive Sizzling Start. You have included very convincing words that even had me believing chips are better than chocolate.

4A  Bailey F
Your massive effort make good behaviour choices in class. Great to see you modelling appropriate behaviours to your peers.

4B  Erika T
Your beautiful neat bookwork and for always using your manners. You are a great role model to others!

4C  Jessica C
The fantastic sentence writing skills you have been presenting. You have been including great sentence starters and noun groups. Well done!

5A  Lani F
Your kind and helpful attitude in class. Lani is always willing to give assistance where needed. Thank you Lani!

5B  Gabi W
Her high level of effort in all learning tasks. Gabi is a friendly and well mannered class member of 5B.

5C  Cameron S
His extremely neat bookwork and always putting in a huge effort in class.

6A  Trinity S
Your enthusiastic participation in maths lessons this week. Your persistence in learning about adding and subtracting fractions has helped your confidence to grow!

6B  Ethan E
Your enthusiasm and effort at using latitude and longitude to accurately locate and describe places on a map. Well done!
Get involved in the School Banking program
Denison State School is excited to offer the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program to all students. The rewards available during 2016 are:
- Flying Snake Tail
- Wildlife Writer Set
- Mud Splat Handball
- Outback Pat Bag Tag
- Backtrack Eraser Pen
- Jump and Skip Rope
- Bush Fly Fan
- Wriggly Glow Worm
School Banking day is Wednesday. Each week you need to put your bank book with your money into the commonwealth banking satchel in your classroom.
If you would like to know more about School Banking, please ask for a 2016 School Banking program information pack from the school office.

Uniform Shop News
Hope everyone received there Pre-Order form for the School Jacket and Vest. If you haven’t and would like to order there is spare forms at the office as well as at the uniform shop.
These items are not a compulsory Uniform item, but are an option for families to purchase, as they have the embroidered school logo on them. Some samples sizes are available for viewing within the Uniform Shop during normal operating times.
Please note the School Jacket & Vest are not held in stock. Therefore, only pre-ordered and paid for orders will be delivered.
Orders required by Friday 11th March 2016, no late orders

Central Highlands Festival of Bands 2016

Lyrics Competition – Cash Prizes
For entry details please contact James Raschke on James_Raschke@rk.catholic.edu.au or collect an entry package from the Marist College Emerald Office.
Entries Close Friday March 4, 2016