Sanson’s Slate

Regional Shield
Congratulations to our students who played in the Regional Shield in Rockhampton at the start of this term. A big thanks goes to Miss Wedmaier and Mrs Vaughan as coaches of our respective teams, and the parent helpers, managers and transporters to the games in Rockhampton. Well done everyone, and thank you for the way you did our school proud.

Attendance
At the commencement of term 3 parents are reminded of the importance of sending children to school every day. Being at school every day counts, with one day absent each week quickly adding up to two months of missed lessons in a year. Unless your child is ill, it is expected that your child will be at school learning every day of the school year. More information on the importance of regular school attendance is available at http://education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts/index.html

Same Day Absence Notification
The safety and wellbeing of students are the highest priorities for the Department of Education and Training and for the Queensland Government. The Managing Student Absence and Enforcing Enrolment and Attendance at State Schools and Roll Marking in State Schools procedures have been updated to require same day notification for unexplained absences. Also, when a student in out-of-home care is identified as missing from school, the school is to notify the caregiver without delay (either manually or electronically). At Denison State School, parents/caregivers will receive a text message if a student is not present at 9:00am roll marking. I urge all parents and carers to make contact with the school if your child will be absent, late or attending an appointment during the day. This can by popping into the office, by phoning 49807333 or using our new absence email—see below.

Denison State School Review
We’re having a school review from Tuesday the 2nd of August to Thursday the 4th of August. Community feedback is welcome, so come and have your say and support the school from 2:30pm to 3:00pm on the 2nd of August or from 3:00pm to 3:30pm on the 3rd of August. Feedback remains confidential. Please let the office know if you wish to attend at this time so that we can let the reviewers know. For more information please contact the office or visit the Department of Education and Training website: schoolreviews.eq.edu.au.

Sunday Funday
A big thank you to the P&C and parent and teacher volunteers who helped to make Sunday Funday the success that it was. It was great to see families enjoying some relaxed outdoor time at our school. Thank you also to our adopt-a-cop Kat and Emerald Emergency Services staff for providing an opportunity for children to see the tools of the trade up close.

Have a fabulous week!

Troy Sanson
Principal

From the Deputy Principal
At Denison we have made numeracy and reading our key areas for improvement. While our numeracy team is doing a great job of skilling Mums and Dads in learning about maths I will continue to share information about how we LEARN TO READ. Some theory...

We know now that the brain uses two important modules during reading. The auditory module is in the front of the brain and is responsible for phonemic awareness (awareness of sounds). It has two subcomponents; a pronunciation area containing all the words we know how to speak and a phoneme area containing small units of sound that make up words. Phonemic awareness is knowing the words we speak are made up of small units of sound that can be manipulated to make new words.

This is why sound games exploring rhyme, playing with words by cutting sounds off, adding new sounds, jumbling the order of sounds and listening for chunks of sound (_at, _end, _ing, _og & so on) are so important. In the back of the brain is the visual module, responsible for graphemic awareness (what words/sounds look like). It has two subcomponents; a word form area containing images of whole words and a letter shape area containing letter formations. Graphemic awareness is knowing that whole words are made up of different shaped letters. In handwriting students identify ‘tall, body and tail’ letters. When looking at words students become familiar with the shape and length of the word. This becomes one of the strategies that also supports spelling.

There are two principal circuits used to read words, an upper circuit and a lower circuit. The upper circuit is involved with decoding words. The lower circuit provides direct access to the brain’s word bank. When children first begin to read they rely heavily on decoding words. As readers mature and recognise more words, they use the lower circuit to read, because this is faster and more efficient. This is why we focus heavily on letter sound knowledge and sight words in early years teaching. If students have an effective bank of ‘sight words’ they are able to read fluently earlier. To support this as a school we use specific junior reading books that have many of the key ‘sight words’ in the text. This builds skill as well as encouraging students to see themselves as successful readers. Next time you drop into a classroom or help with homework see if you can recognise these activities.

Happy Learning!

Amanda Mobbs
Deputy Principal

Date Claimers
5th Aug 5B Parade Performance
17th - 19th Aug Year 4 Camp
26th Aug Book Week Parade
27 Aug Multicultural Festival Dance Performance
6th - 8th Sept Eisteddfod
Year 6

The year 6 classroom mix:

Maths: Our first maths unit is quickly coming to an end, with our in class test occurring during week 3. This unit has focused on creating factor trees, identifying square and triangular numbers, prime and composite numbers and solving word problems. Students have particularly enjoyed creating factor trees and calculating from large original numbers. The next maths unit will commence at the start of week 4.

Science: It’s been a natural disaster focus in science this term. We are currently working on developing our knowledge of earthquakes, volcanoes, cyclones and droughts. With these natural disasters, students have examined how to create a ‘disaster preparation kit’, keeping in mind that different disasters require some different materials in the kit.

English: Students are currently examining historical letters. This includes language features used to convey ideas about historical contexts, people, relationships, issues and events. Students have also been working hard to ensure that their writing samples are containing expressive elements, which has engaged many students to challenge their peers for the most expressive language used. Students continue to develop vocabulary knowledge through the application of STRIVE. Students are encouraged to be using our STRIVE focus words in the many conversations that they engage in throughout the day. Be sure to ask your student to use the STRIVE words in a sentence with matching actions!

Geography: Students have been learning about Australia’s connections to other places through trade, tourism, migration and aid. These connections have encouraged classroom conversations about individual student experiences, as well as the effects that these connections have on Australia.

Our camp is fast approaching, please remember that payments and permission forms are required, along with other completed paperwork including medical details, to ensure that all information is gathered prior to our camp week. If you have any concerns relating to camp, please contact your class teacher.

Regards, Miss Pauline Dunn and Mrs Tegan Ryan

Prep/1

Thank you to the Wonderful parents who volunteered to help out at the Sunday Funday Face Painting Stall. It was certainly a fantastic turn out and we raised a lot of money for the P&C. This term in English the Preps are focusing on rhyming so if you are reading story books with them at home please discuss this. The more practice we have hearing and identifying the rhyme the better. In year 1 we are looking at characters in books and their character traits. The children will use this to create a new character for a story. Just a reminder to parents to return portfolios so we can start to get them ready for the end of term.

Regards, Miss Amanda Potter

Year 1

As the term is flying by students are busily getting ready to start assessment in Math and English. Thank you to all parents who volunteered at the Sunday Funday and helped lock up Miss Bourne! It was great to see so much support from families! Students are continuing to learn about what daily life was like in the past in History, making Healthy eating choices in Health and landscapes in Science.

Regards, Miss Simone Bourne & Mrs Lauren Laws

Year 3

Sunday Funday was a blast! Thank you to the Year 3 parents who volunteered their time. The day wouldn’t have run so smoothly without your helping hands.

In Science we have started learning how to measure temperature in degrees Celsius using a thermometer. Parents, you can help your children investigate temperatures at home. How hot is Mum’s coffee? What is my temperature? What is hotter? What’s the coldest thing in your house? How do you know that? Remember to record using the degrees Celsius symbol.

For Math we have been learning a variety of strategies to answer multiplication facts and writing the different ways you can ask multiplication questions. Strategies such as drawing an array or groups, skip counting, repeated addition, fact family triangle, number line and multiples of 10 could be useful when answering tricky times tables.

Regards, Mr Joel Davis, Mrs Elyse de Weaver, Miss Nikita Maiden

Year 4

We are well into the swing of Term Three, with assessment happening in English and Maths to coincide with the end of our first units’ work.

Students have been finding it interesting to read poems and analyse them in terms of poetic techniques, investigating how poets use these techniques to create humour and amusement for their chosen audience. Ask your child about neologisms, spoonerisms and puns (to name just a few) and see what they have to say; they may be able to give you some interesting examples.

Something else you might like to talk to your child about is their individual Maths goal for this term. The students are well aware of their goals as they have them placed on their desks and in the back of their homework books. Throughout the term students will be given opportunities to show evidence of their proficiency through Maths RRRs, consolidation lessons and homework. Their goals will also be included in their portfolios at the end of term.

The year 4s are heading off to camp in Week 6! Everyone is super excited to be camping over for two nights at Camp Fairbairn and to participate in all the fun and educational activities that have been planned. Just a reminder that notes are due back on Monday. Please make sure that you read the ‘What to Bring’ list (which will be sent home in the next week) very carefully and ensure that all items are labelled clearly.

Regards, Mrs Diane Waine-Barclay, Mrs Lisa McHugh and Mrs Brooke Raine and Mrs Jane McColl

Year 2

Where is this term going! We will be going on our excursion very shortly (Monday Week 6) and we are all very excited to visit Camp Fairbairn. In preparation for this, please ensure you have read your yellow excursion note and if you have any question, please ensure you ask your teacher sooner rather than later. It should be a great day! We have been busy cooking up a storm as we learn how to read and follow procedural texts and write our very own. In Math we are finishing up our fractions unit and moving straight into learning many representations for numbers to 1000. Our mealworms are growing in Science so pop in and have a look as they progress through the life stages. We are also growing plants so we can compare the life stages of animals and plants. It is very fascinating for the students. In History, we continue to look at significant places in the Emerald community and why these places should be persevered for the future. Have a great fortnight!

Regards, Miss Amanda Poolman, Miss Rachael Williamson and Miss Rachael Tulloch
Greetings from the HOSES

My name is Sharon Morris and I am the new Head of Special Education Services (HOSES) at Denison State School. Previously, I was HOSES for the Longreach Cluster where I worked in primary and secondary schools including School of Distance Education. Teaching has been my lifelong passion and I understand the impact a teacher can have on the life of a child.

I have enjoyed a wonderful start at Denison State School. From my very first visit, I sensed that this was a positive and caring learning environment where expectations are high and all students are supported. The school community has been very welcoming, making my transition to a new school so much easier.

I look forward to supporting the students at Denison State School, helping them to become the best they can be! Building strong relationships is an important part of this, so if you would like to arrange a meeting with me to discuss your child’s needs, please contact the school office so this can be arranged.

Best wishes,
Sharon Morris
A/HOSES

Library News

We are beginning to count down the weeks until our Book Week Celebrations. Book week will be celebrated at Denison from the 22nd August until the 26th August. The culminating event of the week will be the Bookweek Book Character Parade on Friday 26th August. Mrs Self and I are busily planning our costumes and we look forward to seeing the students dressed as their favourite Book Characters. This year acclaimed author Shaun Tan has created a Book Week Theme Poster which truly captures the Bookweek Theme of “Australia! Story Country”. As part of our Book Week celebrations students in Years 3 to Year 6 will have the opportunity to colour this complex and spectacular poster. Our Prep to Year 2 students will have the opportunity to colour in the Budgie Badge poster. Prizes will be awarded to the best entry in each of the year levels. Whilst all students will be given a poster, the poster colouring in activity will not be an in-class activity and if the students wish to enter the competition they will need to complete their entries at home and return them to the library. The posters will be given to students in their library lessons this week.

Should you have any questions regarding Bookweek or Bookweek activities please feel free to email me on mhesl5@eq.edu.au

Happy Reading
Maree Haslin and Jean Self

Deno Readers
Possum  Cody B, Paul T, Archer L, Cody B
Sunflower  Cooper R, Mia Roberts
Gem Fossicker  Cooper G
Paperbark Tree  Lachlan H
Governor William Denison  James H

Performing arts news

This term is flying with events all over the place! The Sunday Funday was great for the Eisteddfod Choirs to have their first performance for this term. Well done! The Grade 2-6 Choir students and Band students also had a great time last week at the Festival of Band’s 3 sessions of workshops and then a big concert on Saturday night at Emerald Town Hall to showcase all of their hard work. What a wonderful concert! The Multicultural Festival on the 27th of August is also getting closer and all students who received an ‘A’ during their dance unit with me in Term 1 will receive an invite to perform. Rehearsals will start next week and notes will also come home next week.

Finally, Eisteddfod on the 6th-8th of September is also creeping closer and students doing solos and duets have been starting to perform for their classes. Please keep up your child’s practice at home and the Eisteddfod Program will be available to you at the office for $2 from the 8th of August so you can see when your child is performing.

I hope you’re all enjoying the beloved melodies from the Recorder.

Upcoming Parade Performance dates.....

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Yours in Dance and DSS talent, Monique
DENISON TOUCH FOOTBALL TEAMS
What an awesome start for our Touch Teams first game last week. Great to see so many kids having a go and having fun while learning something new! Come down and watch sometime on a Wednesday afternoon at the Touch fields from 4.30-5.30pm and cheer them on. Thank you volunteer coaches for your time and support of our students!

RUGBY LEAGUE AND NETBALL REGIONAL SHIELD THANK YOU
Again a big thank you to Miss Wedmaier and Mrs Vaughan for once again providing the opportunity and preparation training for our students to participate in the Regional Shield Netball and Rugby League competition this term. Our students did their best on a very wet weekend in Rocky!

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART
Did you know each year Heart Foundation Jump Rope attracts over 400,000 school kids, in over 2,300 schools around the country? The Heart Foundation has given Australian schools enough rope to stretch from Sydney to Perth! Heart Foundation Jump Rope for Heart is all about teaching school children how to keep fit and healthy. Conducted by school teachers, children learn rope-jumping activities in PE to improve their heart and lung fitness, coordination, endurance, confidence and team skills! These skills also help to extend their physical abilities in other activities.

Students who participate in Heart Foundation Jump Rope for Heart have lots of fun with their peers. At the same time, they are learning about helping to save Australian lives by asking family and friends to sponsor them for being a part of this fun program.

Denison State School is going to be a part of this fantastic program in 2016 and Miss Lawrence will be organising the Jump off event on Wednesday the 30th August during school time. The Yr 4-6 students will be performing from 9-11am and the P-3’s between 11.45am-1.20pm.

Sponsorship forms will be given out to encourage students to raise funds online for the Heart Foundation for their participation. Funds raised by students participating in Jump Rope for Heart will be able to receive great prizes and rewards! In addition 10% of the total school monies raised will be returned to DSS to support our student programs at school.

Thank you in advance for supporting the Heart Foundation and the fight against cardiovascular disease. JRHF is a great way to reinforce to our students the importance of a lifelong healthy active lifestyle. On the JUMP OFF day come to the school and see how terrific the students at Denison can jump rope! Thanking you, and happy fundraising! Stay tuned for more information.

CH TRACK AND FIELD CARNIVAL
Well done to Erika.T, Gabi.W, Nat.M, Noah.C, Tayne.V, Jade.M, Katie.R, Trinity.S, Jaidyn.C, Meisha.G and Tiarrrie-Lee.F. They represented Emerald District Track and Field team last week in the CH track and Field trials held at Marist. All students did their best in their events and a special congratulations to the students who were successful in their selection into the CH Track and Field team. They will travel to Rockhampton in week 7 for the chance to make the CAP Athletics team!! WE WISH THEM LUCK!!!

Yours in Sport
Miss L

SCHOOL BANKING PROGRAM
Congratulations to the following students who have earned Dollarmite tokens through the School Banking program and are now ready to redeem these tokens for a fantastic reward item and receive their Certificate.

Silver Certificate: Ethan C
Outstanding Certificate: Kayla D

If you haven’t already, please complete your reward card coupon and return it, along with your 10 tokens, on the next School Banking day and the item will be ordered for you.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR GUIDANCE COUNCILLOR
Hello everyone,
Several parents have recently raised concerns with me regarding their child’s resilience. Over the coming weeks, I will be giving some tips on how, as parents and educators, we can support the development of resilience in our children and students.

Dr Lyn O’Grady, community psychologist and Kids Matter’s National Project Manager, defines resilience as characteristics we might expect to see in a child that is coping well with what life throws at them in general. A resilient child will be able to:

- use positive self-talk for encouragement
- capably express their feelings and thoughts, including sadness, anger and worry
- not hide away from strong feelings
- have helpful, age-appropriate strategies to manage their emotions if they are upset
- rearrange their plans to work around an unexpected situation
- use a trial-and-error approach in their daily life
- remain hopeful and keep on trying if something doesn’t work out
- know when to stop trying if they decide the effort is not worthwhile
- actively ask for help if they need it.

Further information around resilience can be found at https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/health-and-community/enewsletter/building-resilienceCOPE-stress

Children learn and take cues from the adults around them, so it is important for all of us to be mindful of how we approach stressful situations and to demonstrate the positive skills required to resolve challenges.

Regards,
Marietta Sedgwick
Guidance Officer
Denison, Tieri, Anakie, Alpha and Emerald State Schools
Base school phone 07 49807333
Email msedg1@eq.edu.au

THANK YOU
We would like to thank everyone for supporting Chelsea’s Cut for Cancer. We raised a total of $5700 to be donated directly to the Cancer Council Qld. Thank you, from the Carroll Family
**Student of the Week Awards for the week ending 22nd July 2016**

**Prep A** Jairus H
- His commitment to learning. Jairus is always finding new ways to express his knowledge and understanding.

**Prep B** Aliah W
- Your amazing effort displayed when completing all tasks. You are showing the school behaviour focus by speaking nicely and listening to others.

**Prep/1C** Kaleb D
- His hard work with Crack the Code lessons. He uses his sound lines to help him spell words.

**1A** Abigail C
- Always being a friendly and helpful class member. Keep it up!

**1B** Lachlan H
- Your wonderful listening skills and manners displayed in class. Well done!

**2A** Savelio F
- Savelio’s improved reading comprehension. He is thinking about what he is reading and answering questions correctly.

**2B** Cody M
- Your tremendous effort you have shown this week in all areas of your class work and becoming more responsible in class!

**2C** Julian F
- Always using positive and polite words. You are a great role model to others. Well Done!

**3A** Heidi S
- Always using positive words and speaking politely to others. Heidi always uses her best manners.

**3B** Chaise H
- Chaise’s multiplication questions. You asked a variety of questions to match a number fact, inclusive of multiplication vocabulary.

**3C** Summer T
- Achieving 100% on your 7 times tables pre-test. Awesome work! Enjoy learning the extension facts.

**4A** Dylan M
- Your ongoing focus and effort with all set tasks. You always work to the best of your ability. Keep up the awesome work.

**4B** Charlotte S
- An excellent transition to Term 3. Her behaviour and work ethic has been exceptional! Well Done!

**4C** Cameron R
- Cameron came up with some great alliteration this week.

**5A** Carla P
- Actively participating in Year 5 Problem Solving Groups. You worked together with your partner to use the most efficient strategy.

**5B** Cooper B
- Always listening to his friends when they are speaking to him. Cooper is a pleasure to have in our class.

**5C** Jack B
- His hard work when calculating totals with money. Jack will always have the correct change.

**6A** Jazmin M
- Your excellent determination when working on equivalent fractions, decimals and percentages. Well Done!

**6B** Hana D
- Your determination and persistence when doing a HUGE BODMAS equation. You followed the steps and solved the problem. Awesome work!

**Student of the Week Awards for the week ending 29th July 2016**

**Prep A** Derek G
- His friendly nature. Derek is a great friend and always speaks in a considerate and polite way.

**Prep B** Ishika BM
- The persistence and effort you have shown in your writing tasks. You have produced some fantastic writing this week. Keep up the great work.

**Prep/1C** Monique L
- Her hard work with practicing her sight words and using them in her reading.

**1A** Henry W
- Your excellent effort in listening and following instructions straight away this week. It’s great to see!

**1B** Harvey T
- Making excellent behaviour choices in class by always following class and school rules.

**2A** Yishan G
- Yishan’s great explanations in Maths when working with fractions. She explains how and why she gets her answers.

**2B** Kiana G
- Your persistent effort to always be organised, ready to listen and demonstrate a positive attitude towards your classmates! Well done!

**2C** Klaire S
- The amazing effort you put into your maths assessment. That hard work has earned you an A!!

**3A** Beau T
- His focus and dedication when completing and participating in our multiplication fair. Beau worked independently and to the best of his ability.

**3B** Sebastian B
- Sebastian’s decoding skills to read unknown words and find the missing letter in words. You are showing big improvements!

**3C** Maddie M
- Always staying on task and being a positive role model to others. Keep it up!

**4A** Hayley G
- The super effort you have made to be organised in class—you are trying to get ready and start your work quickly. Well done!

**4B** Tristen C
- His efforts to independently proofread and edit his work. It is fantastic to see Tristen improving the quality of his writing without being prompted.

**4C** Takoda M
- Completing neat and accurate work that shows a solid understanding of fraction concepts covered.

**5A** Flynn H
- Your persistence to calculate change. You accurately showed your working out when regrouping. Keep up the effort!

**5B** Ethan C
- His improved accuracy when calculating change. Ethan has been effectively using subtraction algorithms with regrouping. Well done!

**6A** Jade M
- Your excellent use of expressive language skills during our writing tasks. Well done!

**6B** Deegan S
- Your willingness to ref a touch game at lunch. Your sense of fair play in making the teams even, gave all students an opportunity to succeed. Great job!
Last week members of our Numeracy Capability Team hosted three Parent Information sessions. We were thrilled to have 36 parents attend over the 3 days! Participants engaged in a variety of activities which they could do at home with their children. An overview of the Australian Curriculum – Mathematics was provided with an emphasis on the Proficiency Strands (understanding, fluency, problem solving and reasoning). This linked nicely with the showcase of our ‘Flick The Switch’ tasks which our students complete 2-3 times per week. Parents enjoyed completing an example Flick The Switch task from Prep – ‘I went to the farm. Behind the barn door, there were 12 legs. What animals could there be?’ We had some very interesting combinations including – 12 x 1 legged chickens. For the extension task (Two more animals went into the barn, how many legs are there now?) – a clever parent response was ‘Still 12, as the new animals are legless lizards!’.

During the sessions, we also discussed common misunderstandings children have in maths as well as how to identify and address these misunderstandings. It was wonderful to see our parents having fun with their whiteboards, showing their working out to solve problems, as well as creating fact families using cups and milk bottle lids. Parents also used iPads to experience several apps which were highlighted during the session – Subitize Tree, King of Maths and School A-Z.

At the conclusion of each session, parents were given their homework tasks. Each homework response will go into the draw to win a fabulous ‘Maths Prize’ pack. Further details are on our school Facebook page.

The aim of our information sessions was to share with parents simple activities they could do at home with their children, as well as to increase parent enjoyment and confidence in maths. From information we collected prior to, and after each session, parent confidence certainly increased as a result of our sessions.

We look forward to presenting a Yrs 3-6 Parent Information session later in the term.

Yours in education,
Mrs Kate Poole, Mrs Lauren Laws and Miss Trish Noy