

From the Library



We would like to thank the ANZAC committee for their donation of these wonderful new books to our school library. The books are very popular with

our students from one of our favourite Authors Andy Griffiths. These Andy Griffiths Books complete our collection of the 'Storey Treehouse' series. Also in the collection is a Peppa Pig book for our younger readers and two Pokemon handbooks. The books will be available for borrowing from Monday 29 August.



Enrolments for Silkstone



We are accepting enrolments for Prep 2017 and encourage 'out of catchment' families to get onto the waiting list quickly so they have a good chance of getting enrolled at Silkstone. Please call 3437 2111 to get your name on our waiting list now.



Early Years Health and Wellbeing

The Early Years Health & Wellbeing program is based within the school to support Prep children and their families. We provide support, advice and group work to all families. If your child is not progressing along with his or her peers or you are concerned about their behaviour or social and emotional wellbeing support is available. The program is voluntary, confidential and free. If you know anyone commencing Prep at Silkstone in 2017 and think they may need some support please let them know Early Years staff are here to work with them from Term 4 this year.

2016 Schedule

Early Years room X Block open **Monday, Tuesday and Thursday** 8:30am – 4:30pm phone Kim on 0437 228 791 or email knoble@redcross.org.au

Current Groups for 2016

Playgroup: Tuesday 9:00am – 11:00am

Play based activities covering the importance of play, early intervention; signs to look for, parenting, school readiness, social skills, reading, cooking, music and much more. Come in and take a look. Bring your little ones in for a play and enjoy meeting other parents from the school community. Morning tea provided.

Sports Afternoon: Thursday's 3:00 – 4:15 (Cont'd in Term 3) **All Children MUST be accompanied by an adult.**

Children will enjoy a light afternoon tea followed by some fun sports activities and games. Parent supervision and some participation required. FREE. No obligation to attend each week. It's all about movement and fun! Children participate in group games, races, treasure hunts and much more.

Volunteers Required:

We are always looking for more volunteers for classroom support. Days and times extremely flexible. Please let me know if you are interested.

Thank you
Kim Noble

Book Club

Book club order forms have been sent home with today's newsletter. All money and forms are to be returned to the Orange Box located at the office no later than Friday 9 September 2016.



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SILKSTONE STATE SCHOOL

Newsletter

25 August 2016

Term 3 Week 7

Mission Statement: We at Silkstone State School, in partnership with the community, aim to create an environment of active learners. We believe all children are capable of reaching their full potential. We commit to building resilient students who strive for excellence and become responsible, respectful citizens.

Principal's Report

Our students love Reading!

Every day now we hear from teachers and students about success in reading. As I wrote previously, we were really pleased with our recent NAPLAN results, especially in reading! However, nothing is more fulfilling as a teacher to hear stories directly from students or teachers about a particular student, Stylah in year 2 who has made awesome progress this term in 2A. Stylah's progress is the result of hard work on his part, really focussed teaching by staff at school and, I bet, good support at home where Stylah is encouraged to read every evening. There are many more stories like this across the school. On Facebook, we champion reading progress through our Reader of the Week posts. This week on Facebook we acknowledged the hard work being done by Bipan, Bailey and Nora, who are all giving 100% at school at the moment. Congratulations to all these students.

Independent Public Schools

Our department has recently invited 70 more schools to apply to become Independent Public Schools in 2017. An Independent Public School is still part of the State System and remains a Government School. However, Independent Public Schools do have a greater level of autonomy and independence (as the name suggests). Additional funding is made available to Independent Public Schools (approximately \$1/4 Million over 4 years). This funding would be used to support innovation and decision making that meets the needs of Silkstone Students. We have begun a conversation at Silkstone about applying to become an Independent Public School in 2017. I must stress however, that the decision to apply must be made with our community, not by any individual. At the P and C meeting on Tuesday evening, I outlined the benefits of becoming an Independent Public School and some of the challenges. I also provided each attendee with a package of information. **Early in term 4, I will be conducting an information session for parents to provide as wide an audience as possible with all the information needed, so that we are all informed about the implications of becoming an Independent Public School.** At the next P and C meeting, 25 October, all members present will be able to cast a vote on whether we should become an Independent Public School. Times and dates of the information session are yet to be confirmed. We encourage you all to attend.

Mike Sawbridge
Principal

From the Deputy

Attendance

We now have all year levels in the green zone with 90% or above attendance. Well done to all students and families who have worked hard on improving attendance and ensuring they are at school every day unless they have an acceptable reason. Remember, EVERY DAY COUNTS! Last week the Year 1's celebrated having the highest attendance in the school with a pancake breakfast on Thursday morning. It was great to see the Year 1 students and families enjoying the breakfast in the Year 1 area. The next pancake breakfast will be held on the last day of school and will be for the year level with the highest attendance for the remainder of this term. The winners of this breakfast will be announced on Week 10 assembly.

Year level	Attendance Rate
Prep	92.06%
Year 1	92.51%
Year 2	91.94%
Year 3	92%
Year 4	90%
Year 5	90.06%
Year 6	91.24%
Whole School	91%

A reminder for all parents/carers that if your child is absent from school it is essential to contact the school to notify of the reason for the absence, whether it is via phone call to the office (3437 2166) or a note to the teacher. The School Attendance Policy is available on the school website for more information.

Rewards Day

Rewards Day will be held on Thursday 15 September (last week of term). All students who have achieved a milestone since Week 10 of Term 2 (last term's Rewards Day), will be able to celebrate on Rewards Day. Students who have achieved Bronze in this time will also be recognised with a fun activity. Students who have achieved Silver and Gold in this time will have the opportunity to attend a magician performance in the hall and then participate in fun fair activities. Students who have achieved Gold will receive a pizza lunch and students who have already achieved Platinum well ahead of next term's target will be treated to a Platinum morning tea on Friday 16th September where parents/carers will also be invited to celebrate.

Sam Harvey
Deputy Principal

Silkstone State School
Molloy Street
Silkstone Qld 4304

Phone: 3437 2111
Absentee: 3437 2166
Fax: 3281 8059

E-mail:
the.principal@silkstonss.eq.edu.au
Web site:
www.silkstonss.eq.edu.au

Music Notes

BRASS - Monday 8am
Glee - Monday 8am
Senior Band - Tuesday 7.50 - 8.50am
String Ensemble - Thurs 7.50 - 8.50am
Harmonies - Wednesday 7.50am
Year 3 Choir - Wednesday 11.00am
Year 2 Choir - Tuesday 11:00am

Silkstone Instrumental Eisteddfod Results

Congratulations to all our children who competed at the eisteddfod last week! Not only did the children perform well, but once again their behaviour was wonderful and they were a shining light for our school! Thank you to Ms Lewis and Ms Hampson for all their hard work with our children and to the many parents and grandparents who came to watch their children perform.

String Ensemble - Gold Award
Senior Band - Silver Award
Beginner Strings - Gold Award

Variety Concert

Children in Years 2 & 3 Choirs, Glee, BRASS and Harmonies Choir who have had good attendance at practices will have brought home a letter about the upcoming concert on Thursday 15 September at 7pm in the hall. Please keep this letter handy as it contains all the information you will need. Tickets are on sale only at the hall - \$5 Adults, \$3 Children/concession, \$10 Family 2A & 2C. **A reminder that there is a practice on the Monday night 12 September at 6.30pm so we can practice our massed choir item with the Community choir.** All children will be required at that practice. Most children will be finished by 7pm. You are able to order a DVD (\$40) of the concert on the night. Cash and credit cards are accepted. No orders are taken at school office. DVD's will be delivered after the school holidays.

Linda Weatherhead
Music Teacher

Prep—3 News

As a whole school we have been focused on the effective teaching of Reading. From Prep to Year 6 our teachers are working together to cue students into what we are learning, why we are learning this and how we know when we are successful. We refer to this as learning intentions (what/why) and success criteria (how we know we are learning).

A Story of Learning from Prep.

In one of the Prep classrooms this past week, I sat down with the students while they were writing. Amelia in Prep D was able to tell me that she listens carefully for the sounds she can hear and writes the letters she knows make these sounds. Her confidence in herself as a writer was wonderful. Prep D children love writing and love to share what they have written with anyone who visits their classroom.

It is wonderful to see our students excited about learning, feeling in control of what they are learning and being aware of how they will know they are successful. Learning is something we can ALL celebrate!!

A Story of Learning from Year One.

Mia and Levi in 1D were reading independently picture books they had chosen for themselves. Both children asked to read to me. It was such a joy to see them read confidently and with expression. Mia mentioned that when she is reading she checks by asking herself 'Does it make sense?' and if it doesn't she tries a new strategy. Levi explained that he re-reads a sentence if it doesn't make sense until it sounds right.



Prep—3 News Con't

These children were both very proud of themselves. What an achievement, halfway through Year One and they are both managing to read with confidence and accuracy.

When children read for meaning and ask themselves 'Does this make sense' it helps them to notice when they make mistakes and supports them to repair their reading errors.

When your son/daughter comes home from school today, ask them what they are learning in reading and how they will know when they are successful.

How do we help our children become more literate?

Reading Activities/Ideas at Home: Children value reading through watching members of their family read and write every day. Encourage your child to read anytime, anywhere. Children often enjoy reading more if it is shared. Make time away from television and interruptions to read aloud with your child. Read in your home language if your first language is not English.

Encourage your child to read by sharing such activities as:

- reading signs and posters
- checking the television guide
- choosing a video
- using a recipe
- reading game rules
- reading the newspaper aloud together
- playing word games including crossword puzzles
- reading instructions
- looking at letterbox leaflets
- finding brands at the shops
- reading magazines, comics, poems and rhymes.



Remember the three Ps for new words: pause, prompt, praise.

That is, allow your child time to work out the word (pause), use clues taken from the context (prompt) and praise your child for trying. If necessary, however, simply tell your child the word. Talk to your child's classroom teacher or the principal for further help and advice.

Writing Ideas/Activities At Home: Read your child's writing or have him or her read the writing to you and comment on the positive aspects. For example, "I really like the way you've described this."

- Praise your child for having a go at writing words that are new and explain how to spell words which are causing difficulty.
- Read and talk about the writing that your child brings home from school.
- Praise your child for using neat and legible handwriting.
- To help develop spelling and vocabulary, play word games such as *I Spy*, *Scrabble*, *Boggle*, *Scattergories* and crosswords.
- Have your child label things that he or she designs or makes.
- Make a photo album or scrapbook with your child and have him or her write captions for the photos and pictures, or encourage your child to keep a diary of a special event, e.g. a holiday diary.

Kellie Stanton
Deputy Principal

From the sports Desk

Junior Sports Day: Tuesday 13 September

9am – 10.30am: Class rotational games
10.30: Prep Sprints
11.45: Year 3 Sprints and relays
Year 2 Sprints and relays
Year 1 sprints and relays

Calvin Hegvold
HPE Teacher

P&C Association

Our next P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday 25 October at 7pm in the staffroom. All welcome.

Parent Group Father's Day Stall

Due to the weather yesterday, we have postponed the Father's Day stall to Wednesday 31 August.

Spring Fair Meeting

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 7 September from 2-3pm**, in U block. Anyone interested in helping or having a stall please contact Serena or email silkstonespringfair@gmail.com. All welcome.

We are currently looking for people to bake for the cake stall and donate items for the raffles. If you can help please email or phone Serena.

Save The Date: Spring Fair 22 October 2016 8am-2pm

Our Spring Fair is being held on Saturday 22 October. We will be having carnival rides which include: The Sizzler, Swing Chairs, Cup and Saucer, A Giant Slide, Jumping Castles, Climbing Tower. A Side Show Alley with Show Bags, music performances, community organisations and much more! We will be selling prepaid armbands for \$27 prior to the Spring Fair and on the day they will be available for \$32. These armbands are for unlimited rides from 9am- 2pm. You can purchase these tickets before the fair from The Uniform shop, Outside School Hours Care, The School Disco, The Variety Concert by either cash or EFTPOS and by cash via the orange box which is located at the school office.

If you are interested in having a stall, volunteering or you need more information please email silkstonespringfair@gmail.com or contact Serena 0434 007 521.

School disco

This terms disco will be on **8 September 5-7pm** \$4 entry including a lucky door ticket, the theme will be **'What's your team'** so whether you support NRL, Netball, scouts, soccer, AFL, basketball, dance etc... come in your team colours. There will be raffle tickets available on the night for \$1 each. If you are able to help on the night or with donations for raffle prize please contact Serena. Donations can also be left at the office. Please note: Pre sale of Spring Fair armbands will be available via cash or EFTPOS at this event. (EFTPOS is only available for armband sales.) A sausage sizzle will be available from 4.30pm before the disco starts outside the hall. There will be a Sausage on bread \$2, popcorn \$1.50, poppers \$1, and water \$1.50. If you would like to help or have any donations please contact Claudean (School Chaplin).

Junior Sports Day

The parent group will be providing food from U Block at the Junior Sports Day on **Tuesday 13 September**, this will include mixed sandwiches, sausage rolls, milk drinks, tea and coffee, poppers, ice blocks and more. Volunteers are always welcome.

General Parent Group Meeting

There will be a meeting on Tuesday the **25 October from 2-3pm** in U Block. Look forward to seeing you there.

Serena Shepherd
President
0434 007 521

Coming Events

Tue 30 **Aug-2 Sept** Year 6 Camp Maroon Dam
Wed 31 Father's Day Stall

Thurs 1 **Sept** Principal's Morning Tea
Mon 5 Glee Performance (assembly)
Fri 9 Last payment day Pirates Show (Prep)
Tues 13 Junior Sports Day
Wed 14 Extra Curricular Photos
Pirates Show Prep Excursion
Variety Concert

Fri 11 **Nov** Last payment day Christmas excursion
Wed 16 Christmas Around the World Prep excursion

Money Window

Open Monday to Friday 8am - 11am (only)
EFTPOS is available

Direct Debit Payments

BSB: 064-417 Account Number:00091102
(Include child's name and what payment is for)

Uniform Shop

Terms 1 & 4 Monday 8-10am & Thursday 1.30-3.30pm
Terms 2 & 3 Thursday: 1.30-3.30 pm
(Cash and EFTPOS are accepted)

Assembly Time

Monday 2.30pm (weekly) - Whole School

Accompanying Handouts

- ⇒ Spring Fair
- ⇒ Book Club
- ⇒ School Safe Flier
- ⇒ 5A Teacher Information Letter
- ⇒ OptiMinds (selected Students)
- ⇒ Talk like a Pirate Day (prep Students)