

Message from the Deputy Principals'

P-3

Since Day 1 of school in 2016 we have been very impressed with all of our students and how well they have settled into learning routines. Every day reading instruction occurs in every classroom. Teachers are working hard to build a love of reading in their classrooms and supporting all students to choose material that they love to read during independent reading time. It has been wonderful listening to students share their favourite reading materials (eg: novels, picture books, comic books, joke books, poetry, factual texts, etc) with their friends and adults in the room.

Helping your child read is very important because reading is the foundation for all learning.

- ♦ Children who are good readers get off to a good start in school.
- ♦ Children who are confident about reading have a positive attitude towards learning.
- ♦ Children who read with their families develop a love of reading that lasts a lifetime.

As a parent, you play an important role in helping your child to learn. Simple ways you can help your child with reading at home include;

- * Once is not enough! Read favourite books many times and practice favourite parts together.
- * Take turns 'I read to you, now you read to me'.

- * Talk, talk, talk! Talk about the book, ask questions, talk about the words, compare with what you already know, think about the character's feelings, talk about the pictures and your opinions of the text.

- * Gently correct your child when they are reading. Ask them 'Did that make sense?', 'Did it sound right?', 'Did it look right?'. Children will often guess at words and may need help to use pictures to support meaning, think about the sounds that letters will make, read left to right and ask questions about the text.

Kellie Stanton

Year 4-6

Firstly I would like to thank all the staff, students and parents for the warm welcome into the Silkstone State School Community. This has made a positive start to a promising year and I am looking forward to being part of a wonderful team.

I have had the opportunity to spend some time in the year 4-6 classes and see the amazing work our teachers do to provide quality education for our students. The children have settled into the classes and have shown that they are ready to learn. Our school expectations of; Be Safe; Be Respectful; Be Responsible and Be an Active Learner are very strong within the classrooms and we want to continue this momentum.

I look forward to working closely with you all and thank you in advance for your support in helping our children succeed in 2016.

Rob Neho

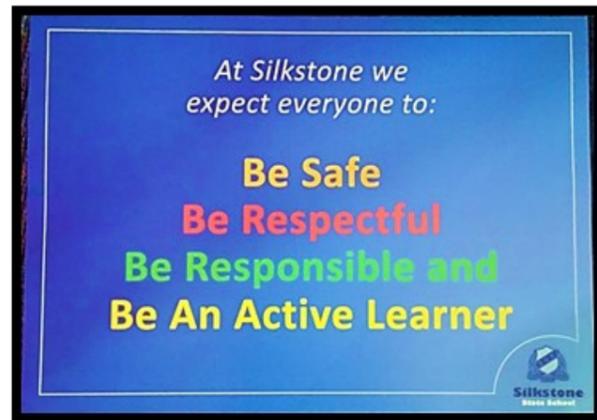
Message from the Deputy Principals' cont.

Positive Behaviour for Learning

This year the PBL Sticker System has been introduced as a way of positively rewarding students who are showing the school's expectations of being safe, being respectful, being responsible and being an active learner. Students from Prep-Year 6 have all received their own sticker book and every afternoon teachers have been handing out stickers specifically for students who have excelled at the expectations that day. Please note that this has replaced the points system which does not operate at Silkstone anymore.

Prize draws will begin on assembly next week (Monday 15th February) and continue fortnightly. There will be a draw for each year level and winners of the prize draw will be able to select their own prize from the prize table. We will then hold a major draw in the final week this term. All students should be aiming to reach Bronze level (25 stickers) by the end of this term in order to attend the Rewards Day. After students have reached Bronze level they will work towards Silver (50 stickers), Gold (75 stickers) and Platinum (100 stickers).

Sam Harvey



Book Club

Book Club money and orders are due on Monday 15 February. Please return all money and orders to the Orange Box. Late orders will not be accepted.



Uniform Shop

This term The Uniform Shop is open every Monday morning 8am-10am and Thursday afternoon 1.30pm-3.30pm. If you are unable to come to the shop during these hours, please contact the office for a price list/order form which, once completed, can be returned to the office with payment (cash only) or contact details for credit card payments (please do not write your card details on the order form, we will contact you.) We will then fill your order when we are open next and can deliver the uniforms to your child's class if you wish.

For all the classes who will have swimming for PE this term, the uniform shop stocks a range of swimming caps (compulsory) from \$5.50 up to \$10.00. We also have a limited number of navy rashies available for \$10.00 as well as swimming/sports bags to keep all your gear in. Melissa Alexander - Uniform Shop Coordinator

Dogs on School Grounds

For the safety and wellbeing of our students, parents are reminded that dogs are not allowed on our school grounds. It would be appreciated if parents could please follow this directive.



SILKSTONE STATE SCHOOL

Newsletter

11 February 2016 Term 1 Week 3

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.

Inside this issue:

Principal's Report	1
Music Notes	2
From the Sports Desk	
Student Banking	
P&C Association	3
Step into School - Playgroup	
Coming Events	
Message from the Deputy Principals'	4
Uniform Shop	
Book Club	
Dogs on School Grounds	

Principal's Report

A warm welcome to all our families and particularly to our new families. This year, the number of students attending Silkstone State School has grown to 833! We thank you all for choosing this lovely school. As Principal, I am excited to begin the school year and look forward to a long and productive association with the school.

We are focussing on three main areas this year:

Number 1 – Reading! Our staff are working really hard to ensure your children's reading needs are being met. One of the important parts of this is regular assessment of students' reading skills and comprehension. Teachers will be doing this every day from week 5 and making sure the reading lesson targets the individual needs of each and every student. This assessment is done between 11.45 and 12.00 noon. While individual students are being assessed, the remainder of the class will be enjoying some independent reading time. Students are encouraged to bring to school books and magazines they love to read at home.

Number 2 – Student Behaviour! Most of our students do the right things most of the time. We have high expectations for student behaviour and most of you will now know that we have a new way of acknowledging high standards of behaviour through our new sticker system. When students reach certain milestones, they are eligible to attend reward days. We also have prize draws on assembly, the first of which was held this week. It was wonderful to see students who have been so well behaved acknowledged on this assembly. I also look forward to our first Principal's Morning Tea on February 25th to celebrate our Students of the Month.

Of course, there will be consequences for children who do the wrong thing. These are outlined in our Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students.

Number 3 – Attendance! This is simple, isn't it? The more children attend school, the more opportunities they have to learn. When students miss days, they miss learning opportunities. We want your children here every day to work and learn.



This year we have welcomed some new staff to school. We have two new Deputy Principals, Ms Harvey and Mr Neho. They are already doing some great work in school and many of you will have already met them. I know you will make all our new teachers and staff members feel very welcome in the Silkstone Community.

As always in 2016, you will see me out and about in the mornings before school, so if you want to say 'hi' and have a chat, please do so. If you wish to make an appointment to see me, please do so through the office.

I look forward to a great 2016.

Warm regards
Mike Sawbridge
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 (Week 3 start)
Glee - Monday 8am (Week 4 start)
Senior Band - Tuesday 7.50 - 8.50am (Week 3 start)
String Ensemble - Wed 7.50 - 8.50am (Week 3 start)
Harmonies - Wednesday 7.50am (Week 2 start)
Year 3 Choir - Wednesday 11.00am (Week 3 start)

Welcome to another year of fun music making at Silkstone SS. Below is information for our instrumental groups and choirs starting for the year. **Please take time to read your newsletter each fortnight as it will keep you updated and indicate if letters for your child's music involvement have been sent home.**

Beginner Instrumental Children

Children tested and selected at the end of 2015 will begin their lessons in Week 2. Letters have been sent home with details. There are a few outstanding Enrolment and Student Resource Forms. *Please note that children will be unable to begin their lessons until these forms have been returned.*



Continuing Instrumental Children

Children continuing with their instrument began lessons in Week 2 and their **Band or String Ensemble this week**. There are a few outstanding Enrolment and Student Resource Forms. *Please note that children will be unable to begin their lessons until these forms have been returned.*

Should your child be new to Silkstone in 2016 and you are interested in the Instrumental Program, please come and see me in the Music Room.

What's the commitment if my child joins a choir?

Harmonies Choir, BRASS and Glee choirs practice once a week before school and the Year 2 and new Year 3 choirs will practise in a lunch hour once a week. We have events planned throughout the year for the children to perform at. Letters will come home for all activities. Before completing the permission forms for involvement, parents and children are asked to understand the commitments for the year and that "dropping out" is not appreciated. Children are not invited to sing at events if their attendance to practices has been poor. Also, regular very late arrival at practices will also put children at risk of not being invited to perform.

Harmonies Choir

Harmonies Choir started last week. We are working towards Anzac Day and the Ipswich Junior Eisteddfod in May. Letters were sent home in Week 1 with your child.

B.R.A.S.S.S – Boys Rock at Silkstone State School.

BRASS boys' choir is open to any boys in Years 3 – 6. We practise Monday mornings at 8am in the Music Room, beginning with a game with Mrs McCann. We will be working towards the Ipswich Junior Eisteddfod in May and other events later in the year.

Any interested boys will have brought home a letter in Week 1. Should you wish your son to join BRASS, please complete the permission form and return to the Music Room.

Year 3 and Year 2 Choirs

Interested children will have brought home a letter in Week 1. Year 2 Choir will begin in Term 2.

Music Notes cont.

Free Music T-Shirts

Some parents have kindly donated some Music Shirts to the school. If you are interested in obtaining one of these shirts, please see me in the Music Room.

Glee

Glee is a predominantly dancing group for girls in year 4 – 6 with some singing opportunities. Girls interested in joining Glee will have brought home a letter today, with practices starting in Week 5 on Monday mornings at 8am. Glee will be run by Miss Leyland and Miss Hamilton this year.

Linda Weatherhead
Music Teacher

From the Sports Desk

Welcome to another exciting year of sport at Silkstone State School.

Sports Development Classes 4S, 5S & 6S Monday Afternoon Training commenced on Monday 1 February from 3.10 - 4pm meeting at the outdoor gym and then finishing at the pool.

HPE for Years 4 - 6 in Term 1 will be swimming. To comply with safety regulations we need at least one parent from each class to assist with swimming lessons as a spotter. The only children permitted in the pool area during class lessons are children from the class who are timetabled to swim (no toddlers). Students must wear a swimming cap and no jewellery in the water. Swimming caps are available from the uniform shop. Girls are encouraged to wear one-piece togs. If a student cannot participate in the lesson due to illness or injury, please let the HPE teacher or class teacher know by way of a note or a phone call to the school.



Calvin Hegvold
HPE Teacher

Student Banking

Student banking envelopes are being sent home with today's newsletter to the children in Prep to Year 3. If you would like your child to bank each Friday you will need to open an account at the Commonwealth Bank. Please fill out the paper work enclosed in the envelope and return it to school or alternatively go to the bank and open an account. Student banking will commence tomorrow. If any other children would like to do school banking you can collect a banking envelope from the office.



This year School Banking is running a wild Grand Prize competition. You will have the chance to win a family trip to Australia Zoo. Simply make 15 or more School Banking deposits by the end of Term 3 2016 and you will automatically receive an entry into the competition. If you would like more information regarding student banking, please see one of the ladies at the office or phone 3437 2111.

P&C Association

Our next P&C meeting is on Tuesday 23 February. We will commence with our Annual General Meeting then follow with a General Meeting. The meeting will start at 7pm in the staffroom. All welcome.

Parent Group

We hope that you have all had a great start to 2016. At Silkstone we strive to create an environment where staff and parents work together to achieve the best outcomes for our children.

The Parent Group is a sub-committee of the Parents & Citizens Association and is a great way to be involved in the school community.

It functions with a President, Vice-President, Secretary and an Assistant Secretary.

We are responsible for co-ordinating fundraising throughout our school such as Discos, Stalls, Spring Fair, Free Dress and Ice Cream Days and more.

These fundraising events not only raise money but offer our students opportunities to develop valuable life skills and our teachers and staff are very supportive of these events. All money raised goes into the P&C general account and allocated throughout the school after discussions at the P&C meetings.

We meet at 2pm on the 4th Tuesday of each month during the school term, in U Block (located at the top of the Bob Lawrie Oval). Afternoon-tea is supplied and we have a small play area for the children.

Whether or not you've been involved in committees in the past, we hope you consider getting involved in one of the Parent committees at Silkstone. You will help us as we continue to work towards making your child's school experience as exciting and memorable as possible. Please contact 0434007521 if you require any further information.

Next Meeting

Our next Parent Group meeting is on **Tuesday 23 February in U Block from 1.30pm-3pm**. This will be an Annual General Meeting followed by a General Meeting. New members are always welcome and refreshments are also provided.

Looking forward to a fantastic year and seeing you at our school events.

Serena Shepherd
Parent Group President

Step into School - Playgroup

Playgroup is open to all families in the Ipswich community with children from 0-4 years of age. If you are interested in attending playgroup or would like more information, please contact Melissa on 0456 682 868. Starting date will be advertised in upcoming newsletters.

Coming Events

Mon 15 **Feb** Book Club orders and money due
Tues 23 Parent Group AGM & Meeting U Block 1.30-3pm
AGM & P & C Meeting Staffroom 7pm
Thurs 25 Principal's Morning Tea

Tue 1-2 **Mar** Year 6 Leadership Camp

Wed 20-21 **Apr** School Class Photos

Mon 25-28 **July** Sports Development Camp

Mon 29 **Aug-2 Sept** Year 6 Camp Maroon Dam

Wed 14 **Sept** Extra Curricular Photos

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 Times

Monday 2.30pm (weekly) - Whole School
Wednesday 2.30-3pm (Weeks 4, 6 & 8) - Years 4, 5 & 6
Friday 11.45am (Weeks 4, 6 & 8) - Years Prep, 1, 2 & 3

Accompanying Handouts

- ⇒ Year 1 Welcome Letter
- ⇒ Prep E Welcome Letter & Oral Language Letter
- ⇒ Book Club
- ⇒ Year 6 T-Shirt Letter
- ⇒ Banking Envelopes (Prep to Year 3)
- ⇒ Grasshopper soccer
- ⇒ Parent Group Flyer
- ⇒ Year 6 Leadership Camp Letter
- ⇒ Dental Clinic flyer (Prep to Year 3)
- ⇒ Year 1 Evergreen Theatre Incursion
- ⇒ Year 1D flyer re class resources still needed
- ⇒ 2A Welcome Letter & Homework Information
- ⇒ Year 2 Welcome Letter
- ⇒ Year 3 Welcome Letter
- ⇒ Glee Letter