

From the Deputy Prep - Year 1

PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS!

Learning to read and write can be a complex task. Great teachers know that to support students to master this complex task, students need to be enthusiastic, engaged and taught to be persistent. Teachers also know that students need many opportunities to grow their skills in different ways. One of the ways that students can be supported to read and write is to develop their phonological awareness.

Phonological awareness is being able to hear and play with the smaller sounds within words. This is one of the building blocks we use when learning to speak, read and write. Authors know that young children enjoy books that rhyme (e.g. *The Cat In The Hat*), books with **alliteration** (e.g. *The big bad bear* ...) and books with animal sounds (e.g. cock-a-doodle-do) and other sounds (e.g. whoosh, whoosh, whoosh). You may have noticed that your children join in with you if you read these sorts of books to them.

Phonological awareness helps children to break down words into parts in order to be able to read and write them. Eventually the student needs to be able to hear the smallest sounds within words (phonemes). We may have the students clap their name to hear the parts, e.g. Ma-ri-a has 3 claps. Being able to break words into their sound chunks help when writing too eg: I want to write shop so we can break the words into parts **sh-o-p** and then work out which letters we use to represent each sound.

Some ways you can help your child to develop phonological awareness at home:

- Choose some library books with **rhyming words**, **alliteration**, sounds of **animals** and other things, and **poems** / nursery rhymes.
- Say the rhymes with your child. After a few times, pause just before the rhyming word and see if your child can say it.
- Make up silly words that rhyme with your child's name, e.g. *Sam, bram, tam-tam.*
- Sometimes ask if 2 words rhyme, e.g. *Do cat and fat rhyme? Do dog and cat rhyme?*
- Say words and get your child to pick the word that does not rhyme. *cat, hat, dog, sat*
- Put 2 word chunks together. *What word is made if you put hot and dog together?*
- Take away a sound. *What word would you have if you take b away from bat?*

A LEARNING STORY FROM PREP

In Prep C, students have been learning about nursery rhymes and investigating sounds and listening for rhyming words. The class worked with Mr Frahm to create their own version of 'Incy Wincy Spider' and came up with new rhyming words for the nursery rhyme. They then created their own shared class big book with illustrations to share their version with each other. Zoe was very excited to share her contribution and explained 'we all got to make new rhyming words for our book'.

A LEARNING STORY FROM YEAR ONE

In 1E, students are explicitly taught how to use chunking and segmenting to attempt to read and write unknown or unfamiliar words. Sapphiere used her knowledge of sound and letter relationships to work out which words have an 'l' sound at the start, middle or end of words. Sapphiere then demonstrated the difference between a range of sounds and talked about which letters made different sounds. When asked how this knowledge helps, Sapphiere said 'When I am reading I can get my mouth ready for the sound'.

Kellie Stanton - Deputy Principal



From the Deputy Year 5 - 6

NAPLAN

Next week our Year 3 and 5 students will be participating in the NAPLAN assessments.

NAPLAN is the measure through which governments, education authorities, schools, teachers and parents can determine whether or not young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. They also provide schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and what areas need to be improved.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process; they do not replace the extensive ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student's performance.

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students have already been learning through the school curriculum. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the test formats and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

Help your child prepare for NAPLAN by reassuring them that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and reminding them on the day to simply try their best.

	Tuesday 9 May 2017	Wednesday 10 May 2017	Thursday 11 May 2017
Year 3	Language conventions 40 minutes Writing 40 minutes	Reading 45 minutes	Numeracy 45 minutes
Year 5	Language conventions 40 minutes Writing 40 minutes	Reading 50 minutes	Numeracy 50 minutes

On the mornings of the NAPLAN assessments, we would like to offer our Year 3 & Year 5 students a complimentary breakfast at 8am in the hall on each morning of the tests (Tuesday 9 May, Wednesday 10th May and Thursday 11 May). We look forward to seeing you there!

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

This year we will be hosting a Biggest Morning Tea on Thursday 25 May to raise funds for the Cancer Council. More information will follow to outline the details of the event and opportunities to donate.

Shannyn Taylor - Deputy Principal



From the Deputy Year 2-3

Last week I visited a number of our Year 2 and Year 3 classrooms and was excited to see so many students focused on Being an Active Learner. In 3C, students were reading a familiar story - Cinderella - and were discussing the traditional plot elements of a Fairy Tale. In 3B, students were experimenting with story innovations - changing an element of a known Fairy Tale. One group had changed the *Three Little Pigs* by having a Big Bad Pig and Three Little Wolves. Later this term Year 3 students will write their own Fairy Tale.



In Year 2, students are learning about informational texts. They have been reading books and watching documentaries that contain lots of information about insects and mini-beasts. In 2E, students were gathering information about Ants they had learned from watching a short video and writing notes on a graphic organiser. The students have been learning to take notes and record facts as they prepare to create their own information text later in the term.

Kandice Hutson - Deputy Principal



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SILKSTONE STATE SCHOOL

Newsletter

4 May 2017 Term 2 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.

Principal's Report

Next week, students in year 3 and 5 sit the annual NAPLAN test in Literacy and Numeracy. Our Deputy Principal has written about NAPLAN and arrangements for the tests further on in this newsletter. The message from me is that while the tests are important and provide us with information about your child's progress, they are only part of the overall story about how children are progressing and therefore, students and families should not see NAPLAN as a stressful experience.

Thank you to parents who have responded so graciously to our request to wait under the Admin building between 2pm and 3pm. We really appreciate your cooperation with this. Again, the reason we have made this request is to ensure students can learn in a quiet environment right up until 3pm.

Students of the Month

Last week we congratulated and acknowledge the behaviour of more than 70 students at our monthly Principal's Morning Tea. This award goes to students who consistently demonstrate our 4 expectations of being safe, responsible, respectful active learners. Also, thank you to all the parents and extended family members who attend. These mornings have become a real highlight of our school calendar.

Attendance matters at school - every day counts.

Year to date attendance rates for each year level:
Prep: 93% Year 1: 93% Year 2: 94%
Year 3: 93% Year 4: 93% Year 5: 91%
Year 6: 88%

There will be a pancake morning tea on Thursday 18 May for the 2 highest attending year levels in the first half of term 2.

While most of these figures are quite encouraging, there is clearly room for improvement in year 6. It is also encouraging that the number of unexplained absences has reduced significantly. This is partly due of course to our new SMS absence notification system.

Have you been watching the 2017 Masterchef series which started this week. It's just been fabulous to see our very own Ms. Emily Ko (Year 2 Teacher) on the show. Congratulations to Emily on her achievements! Go Ms. Ko!

Have a great fortnight everyone
Mike Sawbridge
Principal

Book Club

A reminder that Book Club & is due **tomorrow Friday 5 May**. Please hand your orders along with payment to the office by close of business.



Pie Drive & Cookie Dough



Pie drive & Cookie Dough order forms have gone home. Orders along with correct cash in an envelope are to be returned by **Thursday 18 May** to the orange box in the office. Orders will be delivered on Tuesday 6 June and can be collected from Chares Kinne Hall. Please ensure your child's name is clearly marked on the envelope and the Pie and Cookie Dough Order Forms.



Contact/Emergency Information

Quite often we need to contact parents in emergency situations. This is not possible if emergency contact details are out of date. Please advise us immediately if:

- ✓ you change your address, telephone numbers or email address
- ✓ there is a change in your preferred emergency contact people
- ✓ any significant changes occur with regard to your child's health
- ✓ you feel we should know of any other factors that relate to your child e.g. custody.

We recently implemented the same day notifications that are sent as a text message. If you have not received a text message recently, please let the office ladies know. A few problems have now been ironed out with this system and it now seems to be working well. Thank you for your understanding.



Music Notes

BRASS Monday 8am
 Senior Band Tuesday 7.50 - 8.50am
 Girls Choir Tuesday 11am
 Harmonies Wednesday 7.50am
 String Ensemble Thursday 7.50 - 8.50am

Anzac Services



Thank you to our Year 6 Harmonies Choir children who participated in the Anzac Services at school and at Cameron Park and especially well done to Zeke and Fletcher for your lovely song, "On The Hill" (you brought a tear to many an eye)

and Aaliyah who helped lead the hymns at the Cameron Park service. It's not easy to get up and sing in front of such large crowds. Well done!

Creative Generation Competition

Children in **BRASS, Girls Choir(Silkstone Sistas!) and Harmonies Choir** will have brought home a letter today regarding the Creative Generation heat being held in our hall on Thursday 18 May. Please read all the necessary information, complete the required forms and return to the Music Room or the office. No money is required. Parents have been contacted should their child not have attended enough practices to be invited to perform. Please contact me if you have an questions.

Ipswich Junior Eisteddfod

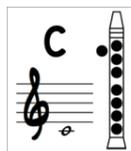
Children in **BRASS and Harmonies Choirs, String Ensemble and Senior Band** will have received a letter today regarding the upcoming eisteddfod. This is the only eisteddfod where bus money will be required to be paid. Please complete the form and return to the office (not the Music Room) with money. Parents have been contacted should their child not have attended enough practices to be invited to perform. Please contact me if you have an questions.

Music Uniform

Children will need to be in full Music Uniform (except BRASS) for the eisteddfod. Please ensure that your child's uniform is organized before the day of the eisteddfod. Black socks must be worn and they must cover the ankles (**not** sockettes).

District String Camp

Children in **String Ensemble** will have brought home a letter today regarding their upcoming 2 day workshop in June. Please return all forms and money to the office (not the Music Room).



Congratulations

Cassidy and Aaliyah in Year 6 who were successful in their audition for R.I.S.E. - the Rural Ipswich and Springfield Music Excellence Camp to be held in June.

Linda Weatherhead
 Music Teacher

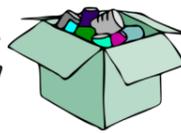
MUSIC MATTERS!



Lost Property

Lost property is placed in the lost property box at the Office. All lost property is sorted and the named articles are returned to the owners. If you can, come to the office and check for your child's items.

Please mark each of your child's belongings, whether books, lunch boxes, pencils or clothing, clearly with their name: e.g. *Tom Jones*. This not only assists us in returning found items to their rightful owners, but can also avoid disputes over ownership.



Any lost property not collected at the end of each term is taken to a local charity.

Report Cards

Report cards will be emailed home on **Friday 23rd June** in Week 10. Please ensure we have your correct email address or you will not receive your child/rens report card.



P & C Association

The next P&C General meeting will be held on Tuesday 23 May at 7pm in the staffroom. All welcome.

Amy Hollier
 President

Parent Group

Thank you to all the helpers for our annual Mother's Day Stall. We had an excellent turn out.

Our next event is the "State of Origin NRL Meal Deal Day" on 31 May 2017! To celebrate our Mighty Maroons or your Favourite Blues we will be having a special meal deal lunch!



Celebrate with a supporter box! Meat Pie, Bag of Chips, Piece of Fruit, Supporter Cupcake and Fruit Popper \$7 large (full size) or \$5 small (snack size - small pie, small cup cake, small juice). Order forms will be available from the office from Monday 15 May and orders are required to be returned to the orange box in the office no later than **Thursday 25 May 2017**.

Our next Parent Group meeting is Tuesday 23 May at 1.30pm in U Block (behind Year 1 building). We are starting a little earlier to update and brain storm for our Spring Fair 2017. All parents are welcome to attend and your ideas are most welcome. See you all there.

Nichole Coad



From the Chaplain

Hi Silkstone Parents and Friends! My name is Claudean and I am the School Chaplain (or Chappy as students call me). My role is to provide support to students, parents, caregivers and staff in partnership with SU Queensland. I practice mindfulness with the children in small groups. I have recently relocated to X Block (behind the Prep classrooms). I am available for a chat Monday's, Thursday's and Friday's within school hours.



We offer programs to students to build resilience and social skills, mindfulness and calming techniques and our most popular program Breakfast Club on Monday's and Friday's each week. As this program is non-for-profit, we are always looking for donations for our breakfast club. Tinned spaghetti, cereal and non-perishables are very welcome and can be dropped into your child's classroom or office.

I am often around the school seeing students and can be contacted by calling the office or email me directly at claudeanu@chappy.org.au I look forward to seeing you!
 Claudean Uamaki-Mu
 Chaplain

A friendly reminder the following payments are due by next

Payments

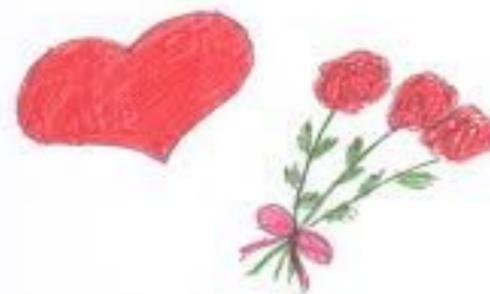
week. The Payment window is open everyday from 8am—11am. We accept Cash & EFTPOS

Prep Old McDonalds Farm Payment of \$8.50 is due by next **Wednesday 10 May**.

Year 5 Camp Payment of \$235.00 is due by next **Friday 12 May**.

Mother's Day

Wishing all Mother's in our Silkstone community a wonderful Mother's Day next Sunday 14 May.



Coming Events

Mon 8 May	Prep - Year 2 Assembly 2.30pm start
Tue 9- Fri 12	Year 3 & 5 NAPLAN
Wed 10	\$8.50 Payment due for Old MacDonalds Farm (Prep)
Mon 15	Whole School Assembly 2.15pm start
Wed 17	Old MacDonalds Farm (Prep)
Thur 18	Creative Generation (BRASS, Girls Choir & Harmonies Choir) Pie Drive & Cookie Dough orders due
Fri 19	Ipswich Show Holiday
Mon 22	Year 3-6 Assembly 2.15pm start
Wed 24	Ipswich Junior Eisteddfod - Band & Ensemble
Thur 25	Ipswich Junior Eisteddfod - Harmonies Choir Australia Biggest Morning Tea
Fri 26	Ipswich Junior Eisteddfod - BRASS Boys
Mon 29	Prep—Year 3 Assembly 2.15pm start
Mon 29- 31	Year 5 Camp Currumundi
Mon 5 June	Year 4 -6 Assembly 2.15pm start
Tue 6	Pie Drive & Cookie Dough Delivery
Wed 7-8	District String Comp - Silkstone SS
Mon 12	\$235 Payment due for Year 5 Camp Whole School Assembly 2.15pm start
Mon 12-15	2 day Beginner & Continuing Band Comp
Fri 16	Senior Sports Day
Mon 19-Wed 21	Honours Band Camp Mt Crosby
Wed 21	\$300 Payment due for Sports Camp
Fri 23	Report Cards emailed home Last Day Term 2
Mon 10 July	First Day Term 3
Fri 14	\$235 Payment due for Year 6 Camp
Mon 24 -Thur 27	Sports Development Camp
Fri 28	\$5 Payment due for Circular Rhythm
Wed 2-4 August	Year 6 Camp Currumundi
Tue 4	\$18 Payment due for Going on a Bear Hunt
Tue 8	Circular Rhythm (Prep - Year 6)
Mon 14-17	Silkstone Instrumental Eisteddfod
Thur 17	Going on a Bear Hunt (Prep)
Fri 8 Sep	\$7 Payment due for Pirates Show (Prep)
Thur 14	Evening Variety Concert Pirates Show (Prep)
Fri 15	Last Day Term 3
Mon 2 Oct	Queens Birthday Public Holiday
Tue 3	First Day Term 4

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)

Accompanying Handouts

⇒ Hearing Screening Letter
 ⇒ Various Music Letters