Welcome to our e Newsletter for 2014
Welcome to our e-newsletter for Nerang State School. Our e-newsletter will be published fortnightly; and aims to provide a wide range of interesting updates and items of interest for our school community.
A hard copy of our e-newsletter is also available on request from the school office.

From the Administration Team

It is hard to believe that we are into the eighth week of Term 1. Holidays will be on us before we know it. The next three weeks will be extremely busy with Swimming, Bravehearts, Parent Teacher Interviews and our first school disco for the year. This week I would like to congratulate three of our senior boys Jai, Klese and Zeda who have been invited to join the Keebra Park Rugby League Elite Development Group.

NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY
This Wednesday 19 March was National Ride2School Day. The school has recognised this day and students were encouraged on Friday’s assembly to take part. All children who participated by riding their bike/scooter/skateboard to school and wearing a helmet will receive a certificate.

SWIMMING LESSONS
Swimming lessons started on Tuesday 18 March for Years 1 – 4, there will be 8 lessons in total. Thank you for allowing your child this valuable activity and thank you to all parents/carers who have volunteered their support to walk the students to and from the pool. A ratio of one adult to five students per class is required and this can only be achieved with the wonderful help of parents/carers.
Please note that because of Bravehearts, Ditto Show on Friday 21 March, swimming will be cancelled on this day. The last day of swimming will be Tuesday 1 April. Please make this amendment to the timetable sent home.

BRAVEHEARTS
The Bravehearts team will present their Ditto Show on Friday at 12:00pm to Years Prep-3. The important messages of this program are about personal safety, private body parts and knowing when you feel uncomfortable. This program is an absolutely vital for all our boys and girls and all parents /carers are invited to attend. The show lasts about 45 minutes.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Parent teacher interviews will be offered in Weeks 9 and 10. Please look for a letter from your child’s teacher informing you of dates and times available to discuss your child’s progress, strengths and weaknesses in Literacy, Numeracy and Social Developments.
HOUSE CAPTAINS
On last Friday’s assembly House Captains for 2014 were named and received their badge. Congratulations go to the following students who we know will lead their house with great house spirit and sportsmanship.
BROWN – Adam C, Jordan A, Jessica G, Crystal D
COOPER – Adam R, Yasmin F, Cam R, Zara M
PAIGE – Guilian G, Dakota M, Faith T, Jessica G

OUR STEPHANIE ALEXANDER KITCHEN GARDEN NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT
Sadly we say goodbye to Leonie Hile and Gretchen Durbridge, our stalwart Kitchen/Garden facilitators. Leonie has moved away from the Gold Coast and has been successful in securing work opportunities closer to home, whilst Gretchen has decided to explore other opportunities. I’m sure you will join with me in thanking these ladies for many hours of work that they have completed to make our Kitchen/Garden program successful to date.

Now that we are without these wonderful people we are currently working on a new model for how the Kitchen/Garden will continue from Term 2 and beyond. For any model to be successful we will need to draw on the support of our wider community. If you are able to lend us your services to supplement the adults available for either gardening or cooking we need to hear from you. Please email your availability to Mrs Donna Gosling, at the.principal@nerangss.eq.edu.au.

Stay tuned for an update on our new view of the program moving forward.

NAPLAN
During the month of May, students from all state and non-state schools across Australia participate in testing under the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN).

The national tests assess the skills of all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. These tests provide an important measure of how all students are performing against national standards. NAPLAN was developed collaboratively by the Australian Government, state and territory governments and non-state school sectors. These tests replace the previous state and territory based tests conducted prior to 2008.

Teachers from Years 3, 5 and 7 are currently preparing our students for this process. One of the areas that we work hard on in supporting and preparing our students for is the actual test conditions on the day. This can be new for many students and we want to ensure that they are comfortable with the process in front of them. Results are made available later in the year when each child who has sat the test will receive an individual report.

The dates for NAPLAN testing are: Tuesday 13 May, Wednesday 14 May and Thursday 15 May. If your child is in Year 3, 5, 7 please try to avoid making any doctor’s appointments etc or taking holidays over these dates.

FRIDAY 21ST MARCH TAKE A STAND TOGETHER – BULLYING NO WAY
What is bullying?
The National Safe Schools Framework defines bullying as repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons. Cyberbullying refers to bullying through information and communication technologies, e.g. the internet or mobile devices. Conflicts or fights between equals and single incidents are not defined as bullying. Bullying of any form or for any reason can have long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders. In short, bullying is a repeated pattern of harmful verbal, physical or social behaviour which involves the misuse of power. Cyberbullying is bullying through the internet or mobile devices.

Is every conflict between students bullying?
Not all aggressive or harmful behaviour between people is bullying. While conflicts and aggressive behaviour need to be addressed, it is important to be clear when these behaviours are not actually bullying. The definition of bullying has three critical aspects - a repeated pattern, the misuse of power within relationships, and behaviour which causes harm; all three aspects need to be present in order for behaviour to be called bullying.

What approaches to bullying are effective?
Schools that are responsive to students’ needs and have a whole-school approach to optimising student wellbeing experience lower levels of bullying. This includes the explicit teaching and modelling of positive values and wellbeing through Social and Emotional Learning curriculum and pastoral care.
Effective school responses to bullying incidents are:
- solution-focused
- relationship-based
- at the school level, the class level, the student level, and
- based on strong links between parents and schools.

Students who bully others need to understand that their behaviour is not acceptable and to learn more appropriate ways to behave and to solve conflicts. School staff may also need to address the underlying causes for the bullying. Staff and other students need to be taught what to do if they witness bullying happening. Effective approaches to student bullying include restorative practices, conflict management, equalising power imbalances amongst students, and social skills development. More than one method of addressing bullying may be needed as no single approach is appropriate or effective in all circumstances or for all people.

What doesn’t work when dealing with bullying?
Short-term ‘solutions’ alone, like punishing the student doing the bullying, do not improve the relationships and social factors which allow the bullying to happen. Although the bullying may stop in the short-term, unless these factors are addressed, it is very likely to reoccur or become covert (hidden). Punishment as the only intervention is not effective in preventing bullying. Interventions need to be matched to the particular circumstance of the bullying. No single approach to bullying is appropriate or effective in all circumstances or for all people. If the school’s response to bullying further dis-empowers students who have been bullied or fosters a negative school culture, this can make the situation worse.

Nerang State School has a Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students which outlines the positive and consequential strategies implemented at our school. We encourage you to go to the Bullying No Way website for further strategies and news facts. Our school will recognise the National Day of Action Against Bullying. Every class will have a lesson on bullying this week and every student will be given an orange wristband with an anti-bullying slogan to wear home on Friday. On last Friday’s assembly 6A and 6B gave a most entertaining anti-bullying presentation. Thank you Year 6. Our school has zero tolerance to bullying. We also stress to the students that we are a TELLING school, if your child is being bullied they must tell someone.

REPORTING PROCESSES 2014
At Nerang State School we believe that all are students can and will learn.

We aim:
• to provide opportunities for all students to acquire the fundamental literacy, numeracy and citizenship skills.
• to know where each student is at academically, socially and physically and provide programs leading to learning outcomes consistent with the student’s potential.
• evaluate and report on the progress of each student’s knowledge, skills, efforts and attitudes using a variety of approaches.

The table below summarises the school’s REPORTING PROCESSES for 2014. The summary highlights that the school uses a variety of reporting approaches at regular intervals to ensure you are well informed of your child’s progress.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term One</th>
<th>February</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Orientation sessions to meet parents/cares and give details about the new year level – Week 3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Benchmark Testing</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Face to face interview with parents/carers to discuss student progress, strengths and weaknesses in Literacy, Numeracy and Social Developments</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Term Two</th>
<th>May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Term Two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Students in Years 3,5,7 participate in NAPLAN</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Benchmark testing</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Formal written report distributed – teacher or parent/carer may request interview</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th>August</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Informal interviews when/if requested</td>
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<td></td>
<td>“Brag Week” class presentations to highlight students’ work if a social action has not already been held</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Students in Years 3,5,7 receive results of NAPLAN testing</td>
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<tr>
<th>Term 4</th>
<th>November</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Benchmark Testing</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Formal written report distributed</td>
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RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOUR PLAN – Our Best Always
In line with the school’s Responsible Behaviour Plan, all classes will offer a Rewards Day at the end of this term. If your child has demonstrated Star Student qualities throughout the term, Being a Learner, Being Respectful, Being Responsible, Being Safe, Being Friendly, they will be invited to attend a Rewards Day activity. An invitation will be sent home to all children who are eligible to attend.
Students who have not demonstrated Star Student behaviours and who have more than 2 Work Groups are not eligible to attend Rewards Day. These children will be supervised in another class while their own class participates in a fun activity. Their exclusion from the fun activity will hopefully motivate them to work harder towards being invited next term. A letter will be sent home informing you if your child has not been included.
Rewards Day is another strategy to help achieve and maintain a safe, supportive and disciplined learning environment for all our students.

HOW TO BE A STRONG PARTNER IN YOUR CHILD’S EDUCATION (continued from last fortnight)
As a parent your involvement is absolutely critical for your child’s success at school. Following are another 5 tips to help you, help your child succeed.

6. Support your child’s school activity participation. Kids who feel connected to their school are more likely to have better grades. Encourage your child to participate in school activities that match his/her interests such as football, the chess club, band, dance and then cheer him/her on.

7. Applaud effort! Acknowledge hard work and persistence not just the grade or the outcome. Use specific praise about a task so your child knows what he did right to help stretch his inner motivation. The single greatest correlation to success in life is not the child’s grade but his persistence. Emphasize the effort!

8. Be a role model. Read in front of your kids. Check out books from the library. Talk about the importance of education. Have books available so your kids see that reading is important. Let your kids see that you aren’t derailed by a mistake, and problem solve to work things through. Be an example of hard work and persistence so your child has a model to copy.

9. Pass on high educational aspirations. Be clear that you value learning and why education is crucial. Your child must understand it is important to work hard and how his effort will pay off later. From an early age talk to your child about his future education plans in “when” not “if” term: “When you graduate from high school…” and “When you go to uni…”

10. Get help so your child succeeds! If your child is struggling with his learning don’t wait to get help. Call the school and talk to the teacher, administration team. Your goal is to create the best plan to help your child’s learning steadily progress and reduce frustrations so he feels successful. Don’t give up!

Have a great fortnight,
Donna Gosling and Ros Whybird

FROM THE OFFICE

PAYMENTS
All Student Resource Levies are now due. Payments can be made at the school administration office on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings from 8.00am to 10.30am.

CENTREPAY OPTION
Nerang State School encourages the use of the Centrelink Centrepay option. Centrepay is a free direct bill-paying service offered to customers receiving Centrelink payments. Through Centrepay you can choose to pay bills by having a regular amount deducted from your payments and transferred electronically to the school account. These payments can then be credited to your students account to pay for their Student Resource Levy, camps/excursion and other related fees. Please ask at the school office for further information.
STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS
Congratulations to our entire Student of the Week Award recipients. Keep up the great work!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep Blue</th>
<th>Prep Blue</th>
<th>Prep Blue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Matthew W</td>
<td>Silas M</td>
<td>Sonja B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Koby S</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>P/1A</td>
<td>1B</td>
<td>3A</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lachlan E-T</td>
<td>Taylor S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>Michael T</td>
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<td>3A</td>
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<tr>
<td>3A</td>
<td>Bella H</td>
<td>Manuel H</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
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<td>4A</td>
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<tr>
<td>4A</td>
<td>Jackson L</td>
<td>Jessica S</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4B</td>
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<tr>
<td>4B</td>
<td>Dominic G</td>
<td>Christy S</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Madison O</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dictionary Definition</th>
<th>Student: Friendly Definition</th>
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<tr>
<td>Attention: the act or state of attending through applying the mind to an object of sense or thought</td>
<td>If someone is looking or listening carefully and with interest, they are paying attention.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disgusting: to cause to feel disgust; be sickening, repulsive, or very disgusting</td>
<td>If something is disgusting, it is really yucky and it makes you feel sick.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fragile: easily broken, damaged or destroyed</td>
<td>If someone or something is fragile, it is easy to break.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gratitude: a feeling of thankful appreciation for favours or benefits received</td>
<td>If you have gratitude, you are happy and want to say thanks.</td>
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S.T.R.I.V.E. – Structured Tier 2 Robust Instruction of Vocabulary Experiences
Did you know that vocabulary is the strongest predictor of reading success? It is vital that we have a wide range of vocabulary because if we have to hunt for meaning, then we lose our train of thought.

S.T.R.I.V.E. is a method our teachers are using to explicitly teach vocabulary to our students. Teachers are identifying and teaching ‘Tier 2’ words to extend our students’ vocabulary. ‘Tier 2’ words are not too easy and not too hard – they are Goldilocks’s words – just right!!!

The success of this method of instruction is the repeated exposure the students have to the word. Students need 6-14 exposures to a new word to learn the word while students with learning difficulties need 40 exposures to a new word.

Students are given a ‘friendly definition’ of the word; create an action that represents the meaning (mnemonic); given teacher examples of using the word; engage in numerous activities to increase their interaction with the word; and create their own examples of using the word.
TERM 1 SCHOOL DISCO
The P & C will be holding a school disco on Thursday 3 April with an Easter theme. Times are Junior school (Prep – Yr 3) from 4.30 – 6.00pm and Senior school (Yrs 4 – 7) from 6.00 – 7.30pm. Entry cost is $5.00 with an optional Meal Deal for an additional $5.00 which includes a drink, pizza and a treat. Parents are to drop their child/ren to the door and then collect them from the door at the correct finish time. Please see the attached flyer.

ORAL HEALTH CENTRE
Students in all grades have been provided with an offer of oral health care examination card to take home. If your child is currently enrolled or are new to the school and did not receive an examination card and would like to arrange for your child to receive oral health care please contact the Oral Health Call Centre 1300 300 850. Monday to Friday 8.00 am – 4.30 pm Excluding Public Holidays.
If your child requires disability access please identify this requirement with the Call Centre Operator.

NERANG PCYC
We would like to help those in need!
Many rural and regional communities have been affected by drought. This has affected the families in communities, farmers, small businesses, farm hands and irrigators.
We would like to help by running a canned food drive. Any donation of canned food would be greatly appreciated and will go to those in need in drought-affected communities.
Please drop any donations into the PCYC Before and After School Care building at Nerang State School.
Thank you,
Michelle, Kate, Ally and Keiu. Nerang PCYC

SCHOOL HOLIDAY SURVIVOR CAMP (8-13 YEAR OLDS)
15-17 April 2014
Location: Camp Lake Fire, Maroon Dam
Activities include: Fishing in electric powered boats, canoeing, abseiling, boat tube rides, archery & open fire cooking.
All registrations are through the Events section at www.sportstuition.com.au
For further details, contact Steve Wilkes on 0403154510.

SCHOOLS HOLIDAY SAILING CAMP @ SOUTHPORT YACHT CLUB
From Monday 14th to Wednesday 16th April, 2014 Southport Yacht Club will hold our annual Easter School Holiday Sailing Camp, from 9am to 3pm each day.
Under close supervision, children will have the opportunity to learn to sail in the sheltered waters of the Broadwater at our Club’s Hollywell Sail Training Facility, 1 Marina Crescent, Hollywell. Morning tea, lunch and laughter will be provided!
If you require any further information on our Easter School Holiday Sailing Camp or to enrol for the camp please visit our website: www.southportyachtclub.com.au, or if you would like for me to mail you some flyers to distribute to your students, please contact the Hollywell Sailing office on 07 5537 7030.

SEEKING NON ANXIOUS CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS - GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY
At Griffith University we are conducting an exciting study investigating anxiety disorders in Children and Adolescents. To help us understand how anxiety develop in youth we need to learn from children and adolescents who are not fearful or anxious. We are seeking parents and their non-anxious children and adolescents (7 - 17 years) to participate in our study.
To thank you for your time and involvement in the study we will give you gift vouchers to the value of $50. To find out more about this project, please contact Dr Ella Milliner and Dr Lara Farrell on (07) 567 88317 or email e.milliner@griffith.edu.au

FROM THE TUCKSHOP/UNIFORM SHOP

FROM THE COMMUNITY
MOVIES IN THE PARK – COUNTRY PARADISE PARKLANDS
Free family movie night.
ICE AGE – This movie is rated PG (88 minutes)
When: Friday 28 March. Movie starts at 7.00pm
Where: Country Paradise Parklands, 231 Beaudesert Nerang Road, Nerang
Food and drinks available for purchase, live music and entertainment from 5.00pm.
If weather is uncertain, phone 5581 7016 or visit facebook.com/cityofgoldcoast for cancellation advice.
For more free movies locations across the city, visit cityofgoldcoast.com.au/moviesinthepark.

Merrimac State High School is pleased to offer scholarships for students in Year 7 and 8 - 2015.
Scholarships may be awarded for high achievement in: academic performance, sports, instrumental music,
dance, drama and singing.
Applications are available from Merrimac SHS Admin or online - www.merrimacshs.eq.edu.au
Applications Close 30 April, 2014

Merrimac State High School Enrolment Information Evening 2015 will be on Tuesday 20 May, 2014 in the school library.
Starting times are as follows:
Students entering Year 7 in 2015 at 5.30pm
Students entering Year 8 in 2015 at 6.30pm
All prospective students and parents are welcome to attend this information evening. Staff will be on hand to provide information on enrolment, curriculum and facilities.
Enrolment packs will be available from Merrimac SHS Admin or @www.merrimacshs.eq.edu.au
CONTACT US
SCHOOL INFORMATION
Darling Court, Mermaid Waters 4218
Q SUPERCENTRE, P/064 5670 064 4218
P 07 5595 8666  F 07 5595 8600
theprincipal@merrimacshs.eq.edu.au
SCHOOL DISCO

Thursday 3rd April

EASTER THEME

Juniors (prep-year 3)
4.30-6.00pm

Seniors (years 4-7)
6.00-7.30pm
Entry Cost $5.00
Optional Meal Deal $5.00 (drink, pizza, treat)

(Parents are to drop their students to the door and collect from the door)
To all our Parents/Caregivers we would like to invite you to the Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 Easter Hat Parade Thursday 3rd April 9.15am in the Hall

Please bring in a plate of food for the children to share after the parade

Please make your child’s hat at home and bring it on the day

Happy Easter!
Gold Coast Indoor Sport
Junior Netball
Come and Try!

FREE Every Friday Afternoon in March 4-6pm

All Levels From Beginners Welcome!
Applications For Team Coaches Encouraged

Want to get your son or daughter involved in Indoor Netball?

Individual and Team Registrations Welcome

Cost:
FREE for ALL of March
$35 per team
($5 per player)

Where:
9 Dominions Rd,
Ashmore

When:
Friday afternoons between 4 and 6pm during the school term

Gold Coast Indoor Sport
9 Dominions Rd, Ashmore

5539 3766