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

GREAT RESULTS GUARANTEE
I’m very pleased to report that our teachers are already working on the strategies outlined in our Improvement agenda to address our Great Results Guarantee around reading. Whilst our Guarantee is still awaiting sign off from the Director General of Education, we are implementing strategies to improve student outcomes in reading. Our “All Hands On Deck” intervention programs are in full swing and I have witnessed the engagement from these groups.
As parents you can support the work we are doing by encouraging reading as a fun activity. Some tips for encouraging emerging readers are:

• Choosing a quiet time to enjoy a story.
• Letting your child hold the book.
• Pointing to the words as you read them.
• Allowing time for discussions before you turn the page. Use the pictures to help tell the story. Ask “what do you think will happen next?”
• Letting your child read the story to your afterwards. This could be from memory or through the pictures- this is ok.
• Reading all the time, print is all around us- signs, labels at the supermarket, cereal boxes etc.
• Encouraging your child to read everything but make reading fun!

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.
VISITOR SIGN IN AT OFFICE
A reminder to all the wonderful volunteers, both community members and parents that support our children at school it is a requirement to sign in as a visitor at the school office on arrival, and to sign out on departure. Visitor badges will be provided to identify you as a sanctioned visitor to our school.

STAR STUDENT BEHAVIOURS
Nerang State School’s Star Student behaviours are: Being a Learner; Being Respectful; Being Responsible; Being Safe and Being Friendly.
A huge thank you is extended to Jacinda Washington, mother of Jerome, for her artistic interruptions of these behaviours which have not only brightened up the front of the tuckshop, but are there as a constant reminder to the students of the behaviours which are valued as being important to our school.

Each fortnight, a Star Student behaviour is selected and a lesson is explicitly taught around this behaviour. For the next fortnight Being Respectful by using Polite Language will be constantly reinforced. A poster is displayed in each classroom. Members of the Student Council presented a short skit on assembly to illustrate what Being Respectful could look like in the playground. It would be greatly appreciated if all our parents/carers could reinforce the concept of Being Respectful at home and in particular for the next fortnight Using Polite Language.

STUDENT COUNCIL
We have a wonderful group of School Captains and Student Leaders who form our Student Council. This group of children has come up with an idea to recognise children who are seen demonstrating Star Student behaviours in the playground.
Their award is called: Tag! You’re Amazing! If a student receives one of these awards they will put the award into a box in the library and for those children who have been recognised 3 times by being given a Tag! You’re Amazing award they will receive a special reward at the end of term.

HOW TO BE A STRONG PARTNER IN YOUR CHILD’S EDUCATION
As a parent your involvement is absolutely critical for your child’s success at school. Following are 5 tips to help you, help your child succeed. Another 5 will be in the next fortnight’s newsletter.

1. Stress being on time and attendance! Research shows that school attendance is the single most important factor in your child’s school success. Is your child on track to achieve 95% attendance for Term 1?

2. Prioritize schoolwork. Stress that school and homework comes before friends or sports. Limit or restrict TV, computer, videogames, phone use during school nights. Set high expectations that you expect your child to do their schoolwork and to do it to the best of their ability.

3. Set high educational aspirations for your child. Be involved from the get go! Know what’s going on in your child’s classroom/school. Monitor your child’s school progress. Read the school newsletters, volunteer, show up to school events, and answer each communication.

4. Partner with the teacher. Show up to every parent teacher interview, parent information session. Call for an appointment if you see your child struggling. Maintain ongoing communication with the teacher and the school. Stay connected! Don’t let that report card surprise you. Know how your child is doing.

5. Show daily interest. Create daily rituals such as in the car drive home, during the family meal or every night before your child goes to bed to discuss school. Ask: “What did you do in school?” not “How did you do?” Don’t let a day go by that you don’t talk about what happened in your child’s classroom and what he’s learning.

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.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY
We have a group of children in the school who are dedicated to making a difference to the world’s environment; these children belong to the Enviro Club. The Enviro Club organised Clean Up the School on Friday as their contribution to Clean Up Australia Day. Thank you Enviro Club.
REPORTING PROCESSES 2014
At Nerang State School we believe that all 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term One</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February</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>April</td>
<td>• Benchmark Testing</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Face to face interview with parents/carer to discuss student progress, strengths and weaknesses in Literacy, Numeracy and Social Developments</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term Two</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>• Students in Years 3,5,7 participate in NAPLAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</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>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>• Informal interviews when/if requested</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>• “Brag Week” class presentations to highlight students’ work if a social action has not already been held</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>• Students in Years 3,5,7 receive results of NAPLAN testing</td>
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</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 4</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>• Benchmark Testing</td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>• Formal written report distributed</td>
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SWIMMING
Swimming lessons for Years 1-4 start on Tuesday 18 March. Swimming is part of the curriculum and children are expected to participate. Please see the office immediately if you have not seen the notice regarding swimming. The cut-off date for payment Friday 7 March cannot be extended as the number of swimming coaches has to be finalised (ratio is one swim coach to 9 children.

Dates to Remember:
Bike Safety Year 4A & 4B Thursday 13 March
Swimming Years 1 – 4 Tuesday 18 – Friday 21 March & Tuesday 25 – Friday 28 March
Bravehearts Ditto Show Prep – Year 3 Friday 21 March

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.
## EXCURSION REMINDERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excursion</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Payment Due Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Swimming Lessons Years 1 – 4</td>
<td>Tuesday – Friday 18 – 21 March 25 – 28 March</td>
<td>$45.00</td>
<td>Friday 7 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bravehearts Prep – Year 3</td>
<td>Friday 21 March</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
<td>Friday 14 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bike Safety Year 4A &amp; 4B</td>
<td>Thursday 13 March</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td>Wednesday 12 March</td>
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## 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>Viarri K-P</th>
<th>Prep Blue</th>
<th>Leyonte B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep Blue</td>
<td>Nate P</td>
<td>Prep Blue</td>
<td>Isla-Mia T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P1/A</td>
<td>Carter R</td>
<td>P1/A</td>
<td>Kirra E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>Kirra G</td>
<td>1A</td>
<td>Jade G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>Reef H</td>
<td>1B</td>
<td>Sophie H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2A</td>
<td>Kristy L</td>
<td>2A</td>
<td>Josh L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2A</td>
<td>Daniel K</td>
<td>2B</td>
<td>Allista B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B</td>
<td>Georgia S-F</td>
<td>3A</td>
<td>Iyrie H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B</td>
<td>Riva-Lee H</td>
<td>3B</td>
<td>Joshua H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B</td>
<td>Aaron N</td>
<td>3B</td>
<td>Dahlia C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4A</td>
<td>Kaid W</td>
<td>3/4A</td>
<td>Lou Lou H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4A</td>
<td>Percy E</td>
<td>4A</td>
<td>Connor B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4B</td>
<td>Alise P</td>
<td>4B</td>
<td>Rubin W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4B</td>
<td>Jackson P</td>
<td>4B</td>
<td>Hannah M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5A</td>
<td>Cheyann E</td>
<td>5A</td>
<td>Sam H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5A</td>
<td>Cherise L-C</td>
<td>5A</td>
<td>Ryan H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Rosie M</td>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Ethan C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Paris K</td>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Quannah-leigh A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/7A</td>
<td>Allie B</td>
<td>7A</td>
<td>Sam H</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
P & C MEETING
P & C Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 18 March at 6.30pm in the Administration block staffroom. Everyone is welcome. P & C Meetings are a wonderful way to be involved and know what is happening in your school.

P & C COMMITTEE
Last month we held our P & C Annual General Meeting. We would like to congratulate our new committee members on their appointment.
President: Carol Randall
Vice President: Dale Powell
Secretary: Steve Bell
Treasurer: Anne Panitz

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.

ROBINA STATE HIGH SCHOOL – YEAR 7 2015 ENROLMENT INFORMATION NIGHT
Robina SHS welcomes Year 7 students in 2015. We warmly invite interested parents to join us for an enrolment information session on Thursday 6 March. This session will provide an overview of our school, our curriculum, our specialised programs and our approach to Junior Secondary Education.
Date: Thursday 6 March, 2014
Time: 5.30 pm – 7.00 pm
At: RSHS Performing Arts Complex
For more information, please contact our office on 5562 3444 or visit our website at www.robinashs.eq.edu.au

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.
PROBLEM SOLVING - POLYA’S METHOD OF PROBLEM SOLVING

There are many different ways people have described systematic problem solving methods but the simplest and most elegant was developed by the Hungarian mathematician George Polya. It can be applied to all sorts of problem solving situations but your child is being explicitly taught how to use it when solving maths problems. The method involves 4 steps -

1. **See**
2. **Plan**
3. **Do**
4. **Check**

- **See** - Read the problem carefully. Re-read to make sure you understand the problem and what it is asking.
- Can you draw a picture or diagram to help you understand the problem?
- Can you restate the problem in your own words?
- What information is not needed?
- Underline the important information. Circle what you have to do eg. ‘How many…’ ‘What is the difference …’

- **Plan** - Is the problem similar to one I have solved before? What did I do last time?
- Can I use a strategy I have used on a similar problem?

  - Estimate and check
  - Solve a simpler problem
  - Draw a picture, diagram
  - Write a number sentence
  - Make an organized list, graph or table

- **Do** - Implementing the solution is usually easier than devising the plan
- Be patient – most problems are not solved quickly nor on the first attempt
- If a plan does not work immediately, be persistent
- Do not let yourself get discouraged
- If one strategy isn’t working, try a different one.

- **Check** - This part is crucial. Does your answer seem probable? Does your answer make sense?
- Did you answer all of the questions? Did you answer in the language of the question e.g. in centimetres/minutes/name of the person
- What did you learn by doing this?
- Could you have done this problem another way – maybe even an easier way?

Ask your child about what they have been learning with the SEE, PLAN, DO CHECK method!!