

The Informer



From the Principal Tim Farrell

10th June, 2009

EDITION 9

Musical Morning of Madness

Congratulations to all students who, under Mrs McLennan's leadership, presented a show worthy of an encore, to a large audience of parents, grandparents and friends on 28 May. The choirs sang beautifully and the band played with energy and enthusiasm. Thanks to Mrs Mac for her continued energy and enthusiasm. Thank you to Mr Ross and Robert Luton (Year 6B) for their roles as Master of Ceremonies and to the volunteer parents and friends who served food and sold raffle tickets. It was a 'memorable morning of magic'!

Showcase Awards for Excellence in Schools - Regional Winner

It is with much pride that I announce our recent regional showcase victory at a special ceremony held at The Gap SHS on 2 June. From a highly competitive field of nine, our submission, "Music – the Virginia Way" impressed the judges and was awarded the top prize in the 'Excellence in Innovation category'. Mrs McLennan has built an impressive instrumental music program which includes whole families (parents and grandparents) and it is this innovation that has seen outstanding learning outcomes for our students. Our submission will be considered for the State Finals held later in the year.

Athletics Carnival

Our annual athletics carnival will be held tomorrow on our school oval. The program of events was sent home last week (a copy can be found at our school's website). Please note that students in Prep – Year 2 may leave after second break with a parent. Discus and 800m events will not be carried out on the day.

Report Cards

Report Cards will be distributed to parents on Wednesday 24 June. Parent teacher interviews were held during Term 2, however, if you would like to talk further about your child's progress, please make an appointment with your child's teacher. Please note that Year 2 reports will be distributed after the June vacation to match up with Year 2 Net validation processes. Preparatory Year digital portfolios will be shared with parents after the June vacation period as well.

H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza) – students returning from Victoria

With the escalation of H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza) in Victoria, the seven-day time-out period for school students and children in early childhood education and care centres has been expanded to include those coming to Queensland from Victoria.

| What's happening in the month of: | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| June | |
| 10 th | - School Photos - ICAS Science Competition - 7.30pm IMSC meeting |
| 11 th | Sports Day |
| 15 th – 18 th | Honours Music Camp |
| 17 th | - Prep Information Night 6.30-7.30pm - Swimming Club Meeting 7pm |
| 19 th | Last day of winter sport |
| 23 rd | ICAS Spelling competition |
| 24 th | - Reports Sent home - Disco - P&C Meeting 7pm |
| 26 th | Last day of term |
| July | |
| 13 th -17 th | Yr 7 Canberra Trip |
| 14 th | School Returns |

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The expansion of the seven-day time-out period to include Victoria aims to help protect Queensland students against the spread of Human Swine Influenza. It means students returning from visits to Victoria will now face the same expectations for time-out as students arriving in Queensland from the United States of America, Canada, Panama and Japan, who are asked to observe a seven-day time-out before entering a Queensland school. The new guidelines were announced last Wednesday 3 June. If your child is returning from Victoria, or planning a visit to Victoria in the near future, please contact the school to discuss ways we can minimise the impact on their schooling.

Our teachers will provide students with enough work and direction so they can continue their studies from home for the five days of school they could miss. The best way all of us can help prevent the spread of infection this flu season is by ensuring that everyone in your household, and at school, practises good hygiene including:

- coughing or sneezing into tissues
- disposing of used tissues immediately after use
- washing hands frequently with liquid soap or alcohol-based gel
- washing hands prior to and after touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

For important information for parents and carers about the time-out period and how schools are responding to H1N1 Influenza A (Human Swine Influenza), visit the Department of Education and Training website at www.deta.qld.gov.au

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Emergency Procedures

Unfortunately it is a fact of life that serious incidents occur from time to time. Hopefully we will have the good fortune to never need to put into practice emergency evacuation or lockdown procedures due to a real life situation. Even though we wish this to be the case it is prudent for us to practice these procedures with our school community members. Practice increases the communities awareness of the correct procedures to use and enables us to problem solve any hiccups that the practices may showup. This in turn decreases the likelihood of panic and trauma whilst assisting the movement of our community to safety. If you happen to be at Virginia State School during an emergency evacuation (identified by the continuous sounding of the bell or hand siren) you will need to evacuate the buildings and make your way to the school oval. School staff will assist by leading the students to safety and an Evacuation Route Map is posted near the door of each room. If you happen to hear "I like Aeroplane Jelly" it is the signal for the school to be placed in lockdown. All members of the school community must move to the nearest room (children outside of rooms to be directed into nearest room by staff), close and lock doors and windows and sit away/out of sight from windows. For more detailed information about these procedure, please check the posters located near each room door.

Well done

Congratulations to Slade, Sharni and Matthew S from 6B for some excellent work over the past few weeks. Congratulations to Lucy and Ryan who have won the Officeworks colouring in competition. Well done also to our contestants in the ICAS Science Competition on Wednesday, it certainly was a challenge to our participants and we look forward to see how they went in the near future.

NAIDOC Week

This week we celebrated NAIDOC week (due to it actually falling on the holidays). We were very lucky to have Mr Duncan Johnson work with our students and impart his knowledge of traditional art as our children gained an understanding of how traditional art is performed and the meaning of the various symbols etc. that are used to tell stories and pass on information. Students have also had the opportunity to participate in traditional games and complete entries into the NAIDOC Week competitions. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Duncan for his work as well as to congratulate our students on their efforts throughout the activities. It is always very pleasing to receive compliments about our students from guests that come into our school.

School Disco

As Term 2 draws quickly to a close we are fortunate to have many wonderful opportunities to celebrate our achievements, display our skills and come together as a community. One such occasion is the School Disco. This terms disco is being held on Wednesday 24 June, with Prep to Yr 4 attending 4.30-6.00pm and Yr 5 to Yr 7 attending from 6.30-8.00pm. Tickets for the disco will be on sale for \$5.00. Tickets will go on sale Monday 15 June on the bitumen area just outside the office. To ensure student safety all students will be required to remain inside of the assembly hall unless they are being accompanied to the toilet by one of our volunteers. Students will not be allowed free movement to and from the hall so parents will need to ensure students have their money etc. with them when they arrive. Students will only be permitted to leave when they are "claimed" by their parent. We will be setting up an area in the covered games area for parents to sit back and relax, have a chat with other members of the school community and enjoy a cup of coffee.

To help us ensure the evening goes smoothly and the safety of students is carefully monitored we are requesting parents to assist us. A separate letter has been included in the Informer requesting help so please consider nominating and returning the proforma to the office as soon as possible. We thank you in anticipation of your help.

Wayne Moore
A/Deputy Principal

Absence Line – 3621 6260

Please make sure you provide the reason for your child's absence on the absence line. Phone calls with no explanation will be recorded as unexplained.

KOREAN STUDENT VISIT

Virginia State School is hosting a tour group of 15 Korean students (aged 8 to 13) for 4 weeks from 21 July to 15 August 2009. The students will attend Virginia on normal school days, taking part in our usual class routines, then learning English in the afternoon. We believe that to host overseas groups gives our community an insight to other cultures, and is of great benefit to all involved.

The tour organiser is seeking families who are willing to host these students for 4 weeks. Families are paid \$200 per week per student and must be able to provide a bed, meals and washing for the student, as well as daily travel to and from Virginia SS. If you are interested in applying to be a host family, please contact Sue or Peter on 02 95878348 or 0411021838.

TERM 2 STUDENT INVOICES REMINDER

If you haven't forwarded your payment for Term 2 please do so immediately. This invoice asks for payment of the Term Resource Scheme of \$15 per student, plus any other activities that are planned for your child's class in Term 2. For those families who have chosen to pay the annual amount, you will only receive an invoice for any excursion or activity that is organised. Students in Years 5 to 7 are reminded that to participate in interschool sport, payment towards the resource scheme must be received.

STUDENT STATIONERY

If your child needs to replenish their school supplies in preparation for Term 3 and 4 Northgate News holds listings of the 2009 stationery requirements of all our year levels and provide a 20% discount off the normal prices on any products from these lists throughout the year. Northgate News is located on the corner of Ridge Street and Northgate Road, Northgate.

PAYMENT & NOTICES INFORMATION

ALL CASH & CHEQUE PAYMENTS (IN NAMED ENVELOPES) & NOTICES MUST BE RETURNED TO YOUR CHILD'S CLASS TEACHER – NOT THE OFFICE.

This is to reduce congestion in the foyer at peak times.

LEFTOVERS

Did you send yummy goodies in for the Musical Morning of Madness? We still have some un-named containers in the office waiting to be collected. Please call the office to check if your containers are here.

LIBRARY NEWS



As Term 2 draws to a close this week will be the last week students can borrow books. All library books are due back by Friday 19 June 2009. Could parents please ensure their children return their books by this date.

MUSIC NEWS

MMM

Many thanks to all of our Virginia Families for your fabulous support on Thursday 28 May for our Music Morning of Madness. What a great morning we had. I was so proud of all of the students and staff for their hard work getting all of the items ready, and your support helped raise over \$500 for the Cancer Foundation and over \$1000 for the school. Raffle and morning tea donations were fantastic, as was the great help from parents cooking, setting up, selling, shopping, etc. Once again, I can proudly boast of the incredible support that is given by our school community! Thanks Virginia!

Creative Generation

By the time you read this, our 30 students, 2 teachers and 1 parent will have rehearsed and performed their little hearts out with the Creative Generation team for the last 4 months. We have had the pleasure of singing with the rest of the 1200 mass choir, hundreds of dancers, lead vocalists and international artists. What an experience. The event, performed at Boondall Entertainment Centre on June 6 will be televised by Channel 10 in October. Many thanks to all of those parents who assisted with transport and supervision. Extra thanks to Mrs Knight and Mrs Ritchie for the pleasure of their company during all of the rehearsals and performances.

REHEARSALS

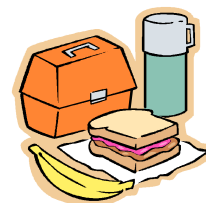
NO Concert Band rehearsal on Thu 11 June (Sports Day)

Stage band rehearsal is on Fri 12 June.



TUCKSHOP ROSTER

| Monday | Wednesday | Friday |
|--|---|--|
| | 27 May Karen Phillips Kathy Eastlake | 29 May Jo Dixon Debbie Lumsden Helen Andrew |
| 1 June Iona Broadley Leanne Ferris | 3 June Judy Rowley Suzanne Lister Julie Melton | 5 June Kathy Eastlake Debbie Lumsden Christine Coleman Annabel Florence |
| 8 June PUBLIC HOLIDAY | 10 June Nora Hodges Kathy Eastlake HELP NEEDED | 12 June Fleur Horsfall Debbie Lumsden Helen Andrews |



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|--|--|---|
| <p>YMCA</p> <p>32663159 0400099656</p> <p>OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE NEWS</p> | | |
| <p>'Playing Safe and Having Fun'</p> | | |
| <p>IMPORTANT MESSAGES FROM THE COORDINATOR...</p> <p>HI AND WELCOME TO THE YMCA. OUR PROGRAMS THAT WE RUN ARE FOR EVERYONE, WITH ALL IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS COMING FROM THE CHILDREN IT IS TRULY THE CHILDRENS SERVICE. IF YOUR INTERESTED IN COMING DROP ON IN AND HAVE A LOOK. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU.</p> | <p>COMING UP AT OSHC...</p> <p>WE WILL BE EXPERIMENTING WITH CREATIVE AND MESSY ART AND ALSO TAKING PART IN LOTS OF EXCITING SPORTING ACTIVITIES</p> <p>HOLIDAY CLUB FOR JUNE JULY HOLIDAYS</p> | <p>JOIN US THIS WEEK FOR...</p> <p>15TH JUNE BRACELET MAKING SOCCER</p> <p>16TH JUNE PLAYDOUGH MAKING TOUCH</p> <p>17TH JUNE WALLPAINTING</p> <p>CRICKET</p> <p>18TH JUNE HAND BALL AFL</p> <p>19TH JUNE CLAY DUSTER HOCKEY</p> |
| <p>YMCA We build strong PEOPLE strong FAMILIES strong COMMUNITIES</p> | | |

MISSING JUMPER

1 Senior hooded jumper is missing. It is named Calen Melton. Please check your children's jumpers. If found please call Julie on 0410327846.

CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Catholic R.E. classes are being conducted at the school during the time allotted for Religious Education. Parents interested in their children receiving Catholic Instructions, as well as reception of the Sacraments should send a note to the office, to enable their children to attend the classes.