FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Our key priorities for 2013 are:

- Student attainment
- Continuous monitoring of student achievement
- High quality teaching practices
- Instructional leadership development

All of these are being addressed through school processes, such as the Professional Development being undertaken, PM benchmarking, PAT and other testing. Our high quality teaching practices are involving the Explicit Instruction agenda, with the Instructional leadership development being adopted through the Regional Improvement and Cluster Development Strategy, which involves a Pedagogical Coach being available to schools.

Every student has the ability to learn and should be able to demonstrate progress on an ongoing basis. A whole-school approach to improving student achievement means that the responsibility for every student’s achievement is shared by the school community. This shared responsibility and accountability requires:

- leadership and high expectations
- a commitment to continual cycles of inquiry and action to improve student achievement
- focussed teaching for all students.

The goal of continuous monitoring of student performance provides the teacher with information about student progress on discrete, short-term objectives. It enables us to adjust our instruction to review or re-teach concepts or skills immediately, rather than waiting until several topics are covered to find out that one or more students didn't learn a particular skill or concept.

High quality teaching practice is a key influence on student learning - a desired outcome and primary goal of higher educational institutions. Teachers strive to meet the principles of good practice in an effort to provide the best learning experience for their students.

Judy Angel

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations go to George Hayward, who has been awarded Student of the Week. Congratulations also to the following children who have received awards.

School Rule awards:

- Respect for Yourself – Kati Wright.
- Respect for Each Other – Hayden Taylor.

CROSS COUNTRY

Our school cross country will be on Thursday, 2nd May. This is to give the students enough practice. This is the third week of next term. District Cross Country is on the 10th of May at Chinchilla. If your child is interested in attending District level please encourage them to train regularly.

10 yrs 2 km
11 yrs 3 km

We are actively encouraging Students to increase their fitness at school.

PLAYGROUNDS

Today we had workmen in to replace the sand in the playgrounds and clean up around the fence line. Very soon the students will be able to use these facilities again.

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

Our “Jump Off” is scheduled for the 17th of June, with a morning of fun interactive activities. Sponsorship forms will be handed out next week ready for the Easter break. Our fundraising goal for the school this year is $100. Students will be skipping and putting together some outstanding routines ready for the Jump Off.

P&C MEETING

The AGM is on Thursday, 21st March, 2013 at 3.30pm. There will be no general meeting afterwards. All are welcome. Attached to this newsletter are applications for P&C Membership for 2013. Please complete and return to the school as soon as possible.

TUCKSHOP

There will be no tuckshop this Friday.

ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAM

As part of its ‘Bright Smiles, Bright Futures’ global oral health education program, the Colgate-Palmolive Company has provided student packs of toothbrush and toothpaste.

Did you know?

- In Australia tooth dental caries (decay) is five times more common than asthma
- Tooth decay is Australia’s most prevalent health problem
- Oral Health is linked to overall health – studies show links between gum disease and diabetes and rheumatoid arthritis.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The school has replaced the louvre windows in the staffroom and downstairs classrooms. If you are
interested in the old louvres, please contact the school. The frames for the windows are also available.

EVERY DAY COUNTS
As we reach the end of Term 1, parents are reminded of the importance of sending children to school every day. Being at school every day counts, with one day absent each week quickly adding up to two months of missed lessons in a year. Unless your child is ill, it is expected that your child will be at school learning every day of the school year. More information on the importance of regular school attendance is available at http://education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts/index.html

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SCHOOL HOLIDAYS AT YOUR LIBRARY
Drop in to any Western Downs Libraries branch and try our school holiday activities featuring “All Things Autumn.” Materials supplied.

Details and bookings at your local Library branch.