FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It was great to see most of the students excited and ready to be engaged in the classroom on Monday. They have shown enthusiasm and commitment to their learning, which makes for a great educational environment at Warra.

We welcomed 2 new students at the beginning of term and hopefully they will settle into the school routine well. NAPLAN testing is in this term for Year 3. It is very important that students attend every day and participate in this testing. Students will still be getting exposure to these tests to familiarise them with what is expected in relation to filling out the tests and what questions to anticipate.

Progress reports and data books will commence next week, with the criteria set out below for students to be able to attend the rewards day at the end of term. This term it is a sleepover, with dinner and breakfast provided.

Today was a ‘Japanese Day’ with Mrs Taylor.

As yet, I have not been able to find a suitable replacement for an admin day, so the students will have me full time for the foreseeable future.

Regards

Judy Angel
REWARDS DAYS
Below are the expectations for rewards day this term. For Term 2 rewards day, the following criteria have been decided:
- Follow school rules - 2 yellow dots in the behaviour section of the data book (this is in line with our Responsible Behaviour Plan, which every family should have)
- Good behaviour at home
- >96% attendance at school (which means at least 50 days next term - as Term 2 is 11 weeks - 11 x 5 = 55; 55 - 3 (Anzac Day, Labour Day, Chinchilla Show Holiday) = 52. 96% of 52 = 50.)

ANZAC DAY
ANZAC Day is on Monday, 25th April. We would like as many students as possible to attend a wreath laying ceremony being held at the Warra Memorial Hall at 9am. This will be followed by morning tea. Please bring a plate to share.

TENNIS
Tennis continues this term for 10 weeks. Tennis lessons are on Wednesdays. Parent contribution will remain at $7.00 per lesson, with the school paying the remainder. This term the total parent cost will be $70 per student. This is optional, of course, but this is one of the few charges the school does pass onto the parents. Options are to pay in full or week by week. If you do not wish your child/ren to participate in tennis lessons, please let the school know.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
Student of the week will commence next week.

P&C MEETING
The next meeting is on Tuesday, 3rd May at 3.30pm.

SCHOOL BANKING
School banking is again on Tuesdays this year. Please ensure the bank books are at the school on this day.

BOOKCLUB
Bookclub orders are due back on the 29 April, please.

EVERY DAY COUNTS
As we continue the school year into Term 2, 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.

If 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

Online Flaming
By Catherine Gerhardt
Online flaming occurs when people start an online ‘flame war’ by deliberately stirring up trouble, start a fight and get a reaction online. This is common on multi-player gaming sites, chat rooms, message forums and social media sites such as Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp. Catherine Gerhardt gives practical tips for parents to recognise the signs and how to respond should your child be affected.

Flame wars have become a major online annoyance. When people start a flame war they are deliberately trying to stir up trouble, start a fight and get a reaction. Flaming is all too common on multi-player gaming sites, chat rooms, message forums and social media sites.

What parents can do:
Discuss with your children what they do online and who they communicate with – try your best to know which social media/gaming sites they are using. Know that they may have more than one account on any social media platform. One of my daughter’s friends has four Instagram accounts, each one carving out a unique social space.

Know passwords. Youth may feel this is an invasion of their ‘privacy’; however it is a key component of the responsibility that comes with the privilege of using the technology. In most cases parents have either supplied the device or pay the bills for usage – that means you have the responsibility and the right to control it. Mutual respect is required here, having password control does not give you permission to spy, and your child needs to know they are being monitored.

Start a conversation with your child about the importance of minimising the amount of personal information they give away. Many flamers prey on Internet users who seem vulnerable. If the flamer can find out any personal information about a target, then he or she will use it to cause that person additional distress.

Watch for signs of change in your child’s behaviour. If you notice that your child is spending more time online that usual, changes his or her group of good friends, stops spending time with them altogether, or seems withdrawn or depressed and uninterested in activities that he or she used to love, then there may be cause for concern.

Evaluate internal feelings. This is the best way to tell if one is being flamed. Feelings of anger, aggression, revenge or low mood after reading the text will probably indicate a flaming message.

Encourage the message “Do Not Respond” The best defence against a flaming comment is to ignore. Do not respond or engage in baiting messages.

Know the strategies. The best way to deal with a flamer is to ignore. From the moment the flaming becomes apparent do not respond. Many websites and forums will have options which empower the user in flaming situations. Use the blocking feature which should be integrated into their practices, and report the behaviour to an online moderator or webmaster. It is also critical that the target exit the site so they are not exposing themselves to more online flaming, and of course, let a trusted adult know about their experience.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon, 18 Apr</td>
<td>Principal’s Business Meeting - Toowoomba</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon, 25 Apr</td>
<td>ANZAC Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 2 May</td>
<td>Labour Day Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 18 May</td>
<td>Author visit - Brigalow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 19 May</td>
<td>Cluster meeting - Brigalow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 16 June</td>
<td>Writing PD - Mrs Angel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 17 June</td>
<td>Writing PD - Mrs Angel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 21 June</td>
<td>Reports out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 26 June</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 2/Rewards Day</td>
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</tbody>
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A YEAR FROM NOW YOU WILL WISH YOU HAD STARTED TODAY

1 or 2 days a week doesn’t seem much but…….

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If your child misses...</th>
<th>That equals...</th>
<th>Which is...</th>
<th>and over 13 years of schooling that's...</th>
<th>Which means the best your child might perform is...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 day per fortnight</td>
<td>20 Days per year</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>40 Days per year</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2.5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 days per week</td>
<td>80 Days per year</td>
<td>16 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 days per week</td>
<td>120 Days per year</td>
<td>24 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 8 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 4</td>
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