FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Last week I attended Writing workshop in Toowoomba. We learnt how to start at the basics and build student capability from there. This will be implemented into the classroom with short writing sessions in the mornings. On Friday we had our own Athletics Day. All students competed and tried very hard. This gave them some practice and the confidence to compete in our Cluster day.

On Wednesday this week, we competed in our combined Small Schools Athletics Day. It was great to see and hear from others about our well behaved students and how they had a go. We did not win any trophies but we can be proud of how the students conducted themselves on the day.

I think the highlight was the parent race!
Thanks to the P&C who did tuckshop yesterday - there were plenty of complements about the food. Well done.

Regards

Judy Angel

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
The following students were nominated by their peers for awards.
Student of the Week has been awarded to Michael Wright.
Our school rule awards are:
Respect - Harley Rhodes
Being Safe - Cody Poulsen

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

PREP ENROLMENTS
Warra State School is now taking enrolments for Prep 2017. If your child turns 5 by June 30th, 2017, they are eligible to commence Prep next year.
If your child is born between 1st July 2011 and 30th June 2012, please drop into our office to collect an enrolment pack. Also, please contact the school for an interview time. Enrolment forms need to be completed and given to the school plus the interview needs to be conducted BEFORE your child can commence Prep.
For the next 2 terms (Term 3 and 4), a Pre-prep program is anticipated to be operating for those students who are enrolled for 2017.

ATTENDANCE
It is great to see that attendance has improved this term.
At the moment, attendance is at 99.6%. This is fantastic!
Let's continue this throughout the rest of the term.

EVERY DAY COUNTS
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

SCHOOL REVIEW
The school will be audited this term, held from 11-Aug-16 to 12-Aug-16. The review will be conducted in a collaborative manner by a team of experienced educators appointed by the School Improvement Unit. This will enable us to have a clear direction for our Quadrennial School Review.

SCHOOL OPINION SURVEY
Don't forget to complete your School Opinion Survey.
School computers are available and we are on hand to answer any questions you may have.
Survey queries or requests for translations can be directed to Judy Angel on telephone 07 46681144 or email principal@warrass.eq.edu.au.
WHEN KIDS BEND THE TRUTH

By Michael Grose

Children often bend the truth to suit themselves. They sometimes tell fibs to escape punishment or avoid being caught when misbehaviour occurs. Some kids fantasise about their exploits to make themselves appear bigger, more daring or more exciting than they really are. These children often think that they are not much good and so invent a few tales to make themselves seem more interesting. Of course, some children fantasise purely because it is fun to stretch the truth a little. It is more fun to run away from ‘a ferocious man-eating tiger’ than be scared of the next-door neighbour’s moggie.

As a rule of thumb, step back and try to identify the purpose of a child’s untruths. This indicates to parents how they should deal with the behaviour.

Escaping negative consequences

Eight-year-old Pamela spilt a container of milk on the kitchen floor. She panicked, replaced the empty container in the refrigerator and went off to her bedroom to read. When her mother saw the mess, she asked Pamela if she knew what had happened. The child denied any knowledge of it. ‘What milk do you mean, Mum?’ said Pamela, with an innocent look on her face. Her mother, knowing immediately that her daughter was responsible, asked her to help to clean up the mess. Avoiding a scene, she made sure that her daughter didn’t escape the consequence of cleaning up the mess that she had made.

A matter of trust

Thirteen-year-old Britta was refused permission to visit an older friend after school, as her mother thought the friend unsuitable company for her daughter. Resenting her mother’s interference Britta frequently visited her older friend. When her mother asked her where she was going after school she would lie and tell her that she was visiting a friend that her mother approved of. Eventually her mother found out through an acquaintance that Britta had been lying to her about her visits. She confronted her daughter with the truth. Her mother dealt with the matter of the illicit visits. She was not permitted to go out after school for two weeks. This was an appropriate consequence that matched the misbehaviour. She dealt with the matter of lying separately; pointing out that it was difficult to trust her daughter when she didn’t tell the truth.

Fantasising

Some children continually exaggerate to make everything appear bigger or better than in real life. In this way they appear more exciting or interesting than they think they are. This is a sign of discouragement. It is best to go along with these children’s tales, although you should let them know that you are aware of the truth without bursting their bubble. It is fine to exaggerate, but they should never be too far away from reality. Persistent fantasisers often need plenty of encouragement. Let them know that they are OK as they are. Fantasising and telling tall tales may be fun but they don’t need to fantasise to build themselves up. Youngest children in the family often tell whoppers in an effort to make themselves seem important in the eyes of older siblings.

Imaginary friends

Some children will use imaginary friends to avoid doing things they don’t want to do. ‘Mr. Bear says I don’t have to go bed.’ If it only happens once in a while then it’s a bit of fun. It can become wearing if it’s a continuous avoidance strategy. If that’s the case, try the direct approach. ‘Mr. Bear could be right. But I’m your mum and I know it’s bedtime. Mr. Bear can join you if he likes.’

Don’t overreact

Be careful not to overreact when children tell lies. It is better to recognise the child’s goal and act in a way that prevents the behaviour from achieving its purpose. There is little point moralising about the evils of lying. Children know that they should be good; they don’t need to be reminded all the time. Children will continue behaviours that serve a purpose, regardless of whether the actions are morally good or bad. It is more useful to ensure that lying doesn’t achieve its goal and to encourage children at every conceivable occasion.

DATES

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<td>Thur 11 Aug</td>
<td>SUI Audit</td>
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<td>Fri 12 Aug</td>
<td>SUI Audit</td>
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<td>Tue 16 Aug</td>
<td>PBM Toowoomba</td>
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<td>Wed 17 Aug</td>
<td>Data Literacy Roadshow</td>
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<td>Thur 18 Aug</td>
<td>Cluster Meeting - Chinchilla SS</td>
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<td>Mon 22 Aug</td>
<td>Cluster Science Day - Warra</td>
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<td>Thur 1 Sept</td>
<td>PLC Moderation</td>
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<td>Tue 6 Sept</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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<td>Tue 13 Sept</td>
<td>Rewards Day</td>
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<td>Fri 16 Sept</td>
<td>Last Day of School</td>
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It’s not whether you get knocked down, it’s whether you GET UP. - Vince Lombardi