From the Principal’s Desk....

**Great Results Guarantee**

Our guarantee document is nearing completion, and a number of actions are in place to begin expending these additional funds in order to support students. The first step in this is supporting a number of Year 3 students by participating in Project 600 to support improved reading achievement. Year 3 teachers are also currently working on plans to support students who are at risk of not meeting National Minimum Standards in NAPLAN testing. Teachers will in some cases be requesting that parents come in for a quick chat to explain what is being done to support your children, and also to see how you can support these students at home.

**Year 5/6/7 Camp**

With our campers setting off on March 17, we have only a month left to ensure all students are prepared for what will be a great camp! Students are required to have made full payment for the camp by March 10. Whilst we are still a week or so off finalising the actual camp cost, all students are required to pay an additional $100 towards the camp by Friday February 28. By the end of the week a note will go home to students explaining what students will need to take on camp, and also requesting the additional $100 payment. Thanks very much to our P and C Association, who has put $2500 towards our camp, which equates to a $50 reduction per student. A reminder also, that students who display poor behaviour leading up to camp may not be allowed to attend, and in the event of a suspension, will be unable to attend.

**Parent Helpers**

Our small but loyal band of regular P and C volunteers often struggle with manning Breakfast Club, Meal Deals and the range of other fundraisers we hold. After a discussion with the P and C last night, the idea of rostering on a class a week to help out was mentioned. This means that each term, we need at least two parents from each class to commit to Breakfast Club, or Meal Deals. This is not a huge amount to ask, so if you have some time to spare, please return the form and let us know when you can help out!

**Josh Arnold Visit**

By now you would have heard that we have Josh Arnold from ‘Small Town Culture’ visiting us to create a music video clip to showcase our school and students. Josh has today worked with students to create lyrics for our song, and also auditioned singers for the clip. Josh will visit again in Week 6 to finalise lyrics, record some audio and video before heading into the studio to create our video clip. Have a look at [www.smalltownculture.com](http://www.smalltownculture.com) to see some of the work Josh has done with other schools!
I urge every parent to ensure their child is equipped for their swimming lesson each week. Statistics show that more drownings per capita occur in rural areas compared to coastal areas. Here is an article outlining six reasons why your child should learn to swim.

1. **Swimming teaches children essential safety and skills that may one day save their life.** Royal Life Saving Society Australia launched the National Drowning Report on 21st September 2011. Alarminglly, 315 people drowned in the past year. This is the highest number of drowning deaths since 2003. Although there has been a decrease of drowning deaths in the 0-5 year age group, the fact that children are still drowning is unacceptable. It breaks my heart to think that 42 children drowned in the past year.

2. **It builds confidence as they accomplish skills and continues to provide further challenges.** Learning to swim is one of life’s milestones, like riding a bike or learning to read it is great for self-esteem and gives children a real sense of achievement.

3. **Encourages independence and develops coordination skills.** While as parents and guardians we must always ensure children are supervised in and around water, their sense of independence increases as their swimming skills improve. Coordination is also improved benefitting them with other sports they might like to try.

4. **Swimming is a healthy form of exercise that is low impact and provides a full body workout.** We’ve all read the statistics regarding child obesity being on the increase. Swimming is a great way to ensure your kids get healthy exercise that they enjoy.

5. **Provides opportunities for social engagement with peers.** There’s nothing quite like hanging out in the pool with your friends. Imagination comes into play with water games, and healthy competition through paddling and swimming races are both enjoyable and educational.

6. **It’s a fantastic opportunity to bond with your child.** It’s a wonderful way to form a connection through physical contact, building trust and the sensation of water on the body. Swimming is a fun and enjoyable activity that the whole family can participate in.

So my advice is don’t waste another minute, enroll your children into swimming lessons and open up a whole new world for them. Give them the skills they need to help them to stay safe.


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**Students of the Week**

**Week Beginning 17/02/14**

Prep A Samuel Davis  
Prep 1 Monique Devine  
Year 1 Isabella Richards  
Year 2 Deon Schouten  
Year 2/3 Shakira McCoy  
Year 3 Mathew Little  
Year 3/4 Jesse and Flynn  
Year 4/5 Destiny Holley  
Year 5/6 Detiny and Nicole  
Year 6/7 Nash Kennedy

**Week Beginning 17/02/14**

Prep A Kaedeen Asses  
Prep 1 Gracie Fraser-Burns  
Year 1 Spencer Kummerow  
Year 2 Ruby Fraser-Burns  
Year 2/3 Esther Davies  
Year 3 Azaria Leleca  
Year 3/4 Harley and Brock  
Year 4/5 Clay Usher  
Year 5/6 Philip and Brock  
Year 6/7 Harry Springall

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**What’s On?**

**MEAL DEAL**

Wednesday 26/02/14  
**Spaghetti Bolognaise and Ice Block**  
$5
Prep A and Prep 1B have had a great start to the year. We have been busily learning about words and letters. Every day, we start off with our sight words and the names of our letters. We have also been learning to find our home box on the Thrass chart (like /f/ as in jam for Jayarna). Learning to write our name has been tricky, but we are getting much better.

In Maths, we have been busily counting forwards and backwards and learning about numbers. This week we will find out about subitising collections up to five. This is where we know how many things are in a collection without counting them.

The highlight for our week was when we planted our seeds in Science. This week we will learn about what a plant needs, so that our seeds get the best care and they grow big and strong.

In Technology, we are exploring cubby making so that we can build our own cubby for a toy or pet.

Miss Connors and Mrs Springal are very pleased with how the classes are settling in and working so hard.

Super effort Prep A and Prep 1 B!
Charleville Junior Rugby League would like to welcome all past members and new to the 2014 season.

Sign on day is a new online procedure and will be held on Saturday 22 February 2014 at the Charleville Neighbourhood Centre - 9:00am to 11:00 am for Under 6 - Under 14 players.

Please note the following:

- Payment is $45 and must be paid in full at Registration - no exceptions
- New Registrations require a copy of the child's birth certificate - Registration Forms will not be accepted without the birth certificate - we can copy it on the day if needed
- A medical form will need to be completed at Registration - please bring your Medicare Card with you
- Children who turn 5 years of age in 2014 are entitled to Register and attend training but cannot play a game until the day they turn 5 - no exceptions

We look forward to a new and exciting year in Junior Rugby League with new faces, new teams and a few surprises along the way. Please call me on 0428 543 567 if you have any questions.

Helen Walker
(Secretary)