From the Principal

Dear parents,

NAPLAN DATA returned:

Today, parents of students in grade 3 and 5 will receive their child’s individual NAPLAN results.

The school performed well overall with 100% of our grade 3 students reaching National Minimum Standards (NMS) in all areas (Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation and Numeracy) and 100% grade 5 students achieving NMS in Grammar and Punctuation and Numeracy, with 80% achieving NMS in Reading, Writing and Spelling.

In year 3, we have seen an increase in the number of students achieving results in the Upper Two Bands (U2B) in Reading, Writing and Spelling this year in comparison to last year’s results. In year 5, all areas, except Writing where the results remained the same as last year, there were more students in the U2B this year in comparison to last year.

Well done to all of our students and to the families who support their learning on a daily basis. NAPLAN is a point in time test, but the preparation is the whole of our school career. Thank you.

If you require assistance interpreting the information sent home today, please feel free to contact me and I can talk you through it.

AEDC Information Evening:

A few months back, a lady from LVRC visited our P&C meeting to discuss the Together44341 project team. This is a body that is working to link our communities with the postcode 4341 with the facilities and community support that is available to us in order to strengthen the achievement of our students and families as a whole.

There is an evening meeting on Wednesday 17th August (see attached flyer) where the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) data will be explained and broken down to see where the greatest level of support is required for our young people in our community.

You, as a member of our school community, are invited to attend this meeting to hear the information and develop a shared understanding about how this data will help move our young people forward in our community.

There is a limit of 10 attendees per school, so please let me know if you are intending on coming along so that I can ensure we don’t exceed our quota.

Thank you in advance for your interest in this area.
School focus:
The journey that our school has been on for the past few years has been around the explicit improvement in our Spelling results. As a school, we have invested heavily on the spelling program of Words Their Way and LEM Phonics. As a result of this targeted learning, we have seen some good results in our students understanding around spelling and in particular the rules concerning spelling. The school is continuing on this focus, keeping in mind the whole learning journey that takes place. Currently, our students are making great ground in Reading and we have over 59% of our students already over the regional benchmark that is expected for them by the end of the year!! This is great news, as we continue to work with the students not yet at regional benchmark, but can also extend those who have surpassed it through moving them through our explicit reading program STARS. Our student engagement is very positive and our very structured and routine learning environment is providing some excellent results.

Thanks needs to be extended to our dedicated staff and parent volunteers who make our ‘group work’ possible. I am not aware of any other school in our local area can provide literacy and numeracy rotation groups with no more than 5 or 6 children in a group, that explicitly targets the individual student level of learning. Well done to our great staff who make a great program work! The results are saying so!!

Public Holiday:
Next Monday (8th August) is our local Ekka Show Day holiday. There will be no school on this day.

Behaviour focus:
The students have been spoken to regarding three issues:

  Resilience – sometimes we cannot stop people from saying words that hurt our feelings, but in life, you will come across people like this all the time. Having the internal knowledge and strength to ignore some things is very important. You don’t ignore situations that cause you harm or are continuous. Those situations, you need to tell the teacher on duty please.

  Sportsmanship – we have a number of very competitive people in our school, and that is perfectly fine to be that way, but incredibly important that you are a good sport about it. Students were reminded to always play nicely with the respect for players of all levels. With only 22 of us here, if you are overly cocky about winning, or flog everyone every time you play, then rub it in their faces, they soon won’t want to play with you. Make even teams, play fairly and within the rules of a game and thank each other at the end of the game for playing. This is the information we are encouraging here at school.

  Hands off – it is not ok for students to be pulling and pushing each other, even if it is in a game situation. What starts out as both having ‘friendly competition’ is ending in one student being pushed or pulled just that little bit too hard. Please encourage all students to keep their hands, feet and bodies to themselves so that we have clean games with no argey-bargey.

Thank you for your support around these matters.

I will be out of the school next week from Wednesday. Mrs O’Sullivan will be acting principal in my place. Please direct any questions or concerns to her during this time via the school mobile (0476 807 423) or school phone (5466 7141).

Have a great fortnight,

Erika
News from the Junior Room

Dear Parents

Week 4 already and we have been counting down for the Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro! The students have been studying the history of the games, the Olympic flame and the Olympic rings. We have followed the Olympic Torch throughout Brazil and we have just learned about the Olympic mascot named Vinicius. It will be great if the students could watch the opening ceremony on 5th August, I am sure it will be a spectacular event. The Games will go through to the 21st August and the Paralympics follow on September 7th to 18th.

The students also celebrated National tree day last week and a fantastic environmental group donated extra Lily Pillies to add to our hedge line at the front of the school. The group is led by its founder Peter O’Brien, a local identity in the Gatton area, and owner of the smaller Shell service station in Gatton. Catherine, Libby and Evan are school students from around the area, and they volunteered their time to contribute and assist in the tree planting and money raising for this great group. The group also received the Pride of Australia medal last year. The Thornton students answered questions about the local native wildlife and plants and then planted their own trees.

The students are also working extremely well in all their subject areas.
Thank you once again for all your support,
Sandy O’Sullivan
LIBRARY NEWS:

**Book Club**
Issue 5 has been ordered. Thank you again to everyone who supports this scheme that allows us to have free purchases for our library from the reward points gained. Issue 6 will be available shortly.

**Library Lessons**
Our junior students have been looking at Nursery Rhymes this week. We were able to read our favourites together. We looked at nursery rhyme books from 1960 and compared the illustrations to the more modern books. It is fantastic to see the students excited about books and reading.

Our senior students discovered Morse Code. People can send messages by using short and long sounds that represent letters, numerals and other characters (dits and dahs). Written code uses dots and dashes to represent the dits and dahs. We discussed when Morse Code would be used in everyday life. They then had to do a code worksheet and work out how their names would be represented using Morse Code.

**Parent Riddle**

**Q** A container with no hinges, lock or key, yet a golden treasure lies within me. What am I?

**A** The Fireman was the only man in the room. The rest were women.
GERMAN NEWS—TIPP KICK

Jett Emmerson and Lachlan Litfin represented Thornton State School at the annual Lockyer Valley Tipp Kick Competition. The boys showed good sportsmanship and competed well on the day. Unfortunately they were unsuccessful on the day but congratulations go to the boys for their efforts.

Results:
1st Helidon (by a Golden Point in extra time)
2nd Mt Whitestone
3rd Glenore Grove
4th Tent Hill Lower.

NOTES TO BE RETURNED

Please ensure that the following notes are returned:

- Ball Games Tuckshop Orders - return on later then Friday 12th August
- Outstanding School Camp documentation - ASAP
- 2017 Prep Enrolment forms - ASAP

Thank you
Samantha Harch

P&C Meetings:

Next Meeting 16th August 2016
(Now change to the 3rd Tuesday of the month starting at 7:00pm)
ALL WELCOME
School Awards: Term 3 - Week 2 & 3

Junior:

Student of the Week: Joe Foxlee (2) & Phoebe Millard (3)
PE: Dylan Podham (2)
Music: Phoebe Millard (2)
History: Belle Roebig (2) & Darcy Kelly (3)
Science: Joe Foxlee (3)
Art: Isaiah Bould (2) & Rick Pollock (3)
Reading: Phoebe Millard (3)
Library: Paxton Woodward (2) & Isaiah Bould (3)
Bus: Paxton Woodward (2) & Belle Roebig (3)
Act of Kindness: Belle Roebig (2 & 3)

Senior:

Student of the Week: Charlotte Moss (2) & Damien Jones (3)
PE: Jada Phillips (2)
Music: Chad Pollock (2)
Math: Joanah Millard (2) & Jett Emmerson (3)
Art: Lachlan Litfin (2)
Spelling: Boe Millard (2) & Charlotte Moss (3)
Reading: Cheyanne Podham (2) & Penny Taber (3)
Library: Penny Taber (2) & Ashley Taber (3)
German: Lachlan Litfin (2)
**NTDL Photography Competition**

Have you taken an amazing photograph of mother nature at her best

Email in your entries or drop them off with your name, age and contact number

**Entries Close: 19th August**

Winner receives photo printed on canvas.

Email to: lockyertreeday@hotmail.com
OR Drop off entries at the Ian Rickuss MP Office
North St, Gatton

Winners and Finalists will be invited to NTDL awards night 27th August. Good Luck!

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**NTDL Youth Committee**

National Tree Day Lockyer
Sponsored by McLean Images
Visit the NTDL Facebook page for more information.

Winners receive NTDL medal and gift bag as well as winning photography printed on canvas.
Laidley District School Chaplaincy

Dessert & Coffee Night

Tues Aug 30th

6.00pm for 6.30pm at Laidley Cultural Centre

Guest Speaker: Katherine Raymont

Bookings

(07) 54668222 or (07) 54668922