From the Principal

Dear Parents,

Congratulations to Emma S and Bree D who last week represented the Capricornia Zone at the State Athletics titles. Both girls achieved personal bests and really enjoyed the experience.

2017

I know that the end of the year seems a long way away, but to assist us with planning for staff for 2017, would you notify the office if your children will not be returning to Emerald State School in 2017? A big ‘thank you’ to those parents who have already done this. Also, if you want certain things considered by us when we place your child in a class in 2017, please complete the form emailed out a couple of weeks ago and return to the school office by Monday 7th November 2016. This is greatly appreciated.

Our class composition for 2017 at this stage will be:
Predicted numbers for 2017 are 318. Classes are looking like 2 of each year level PREP to Year 3 and then the following:

- Year 4 - 28 students
- Year 4/5 –14 Yr 4 11 Yr 5
- Year 5 – 28 students
- Year 5/6 –6 Yr 5 and 19 Yr 6
- Year 6- 28 students

As our camps are planned to all occur in the same week, the plan would be to still do straight year level camps.

Staffing 2017

On Friday we were told that Mrs Angela Jeston has received her transfer to Mackay. Mrs Renee Christie will take up the position of local relieving teacher based at Emerald State School for 2017. Mr Tim Deffner from Moranbah has been transferred into our school and Mrs Katelyn Priddle from Comet will be returning to our staff in 2017.

QSR

Earlier this week you would have received a small survey seeking your thoughts around some of the points that were raised through our School Opinion Survey and in the audit earlier in the year. This information will inform our next school strategic plan for the next 4 years.

Overall, our parent school opinion survey is 90% satisfaction and above except for the following areas which we want to know more information about:

- Student behaviour is well managed at this school – 83.9%
- The school gives my child opportunities to do interesting things – 87.1%
- The school asks for my input. – 87.1%
- The school keeps me well informed. – 83.9%

Great State. Great Opportunity.
Positive Behaviour for Learning

Over the next weeks we will be focusing on Feelings, Resilient Thoughts and Let’s be Resilient. There are a range of resources, including the You Can Do It program in the library. Some Game Factory activities will be loaded onto the EdStudio with books available from Rhonda or Lauren.

Feelings: Students will be able to

- identify and use words to describe different feelings
- recognise their own feelings including physical symptoms of when they feel extremely angry, sad and worried
- recognise the different feelings of others

Resilient Thoughts: Students will be able to

- use a “Taking Risks” way of thinking rather than a “Needing to be Perfect” way of thinking when faced with new and challenging work.
- an “I can do it” approach rather than an “I can’t do it” when faced with new and challenging work/situations
- resilient thinking that will help them to stay calm or calm down when losing in a game or when doing difficult school work

Let’s be Resilient: Students will be able to

- identify situations that can happen at school and at home that can lead them to feeling very angry, down or worried.
- describe what it means to be “resilient”.
- identify a range of resilience skills and thinking strategies to stay calm in stressful situations they might encounter.
- self-assess the qualities of resilience, and identify one or more they want to use more often.

Facilities

Over the next couple of weeks the following facility upgrades will occur:

- Replace all mechanical fans, (20), located on the upper rooms of C Block
- Remove pavers and replace with concrete slab, 6 m2 (approx), south-western corner of Arts Block, with finished plain concrete 100mm thick
- 2 trees near G Block, removed as on roof
- Replacement of the vinyl in H Block (scheduled for 28-29 Nov)

We are also investigating some issues with the three trees near the School Lane drop off zone. One of the fig trees has already died due to age and must be removed. We have also been alerted to some major safety concerns regarding the health of the really big old fig tree, most likely also due to its age. It has already dropped one large limb. This area has been cordoned off. Would you please ask your children, when waiting for you, to stay towards the P & C shed and not under the tree.

Thank you for your assistance.

Disco

Thanks everyone for all your help at the school disco last Friday night. The year 6 class and school leaders did a fantastic job organising the dances and games. The highlight of the night was the teachers and parents dancing the ‘Macarena’ with the students.

Rhonda Jones
Office News

SWIMMING Consent Notes & Payment
Please be reminded that these are due in by noon on Friday 4\textsuperscript{th} November. Please contact the school if you have any problems concerning this. Children WILL NOT be permitted to swim until their consent note is received.

Please have your payment to the office by 12pm.

Prep 2016 Parents
Your child’s enrolment will automatically roll into Year One at Emerald SS. No need to re-enrol them.

PREP 2017 - ORIENTATION DAYS
An email has been sent to our 2017 Prep families today regarding these days which will be on Monday 28\textsuperscript{th} November and Tuesday 29\textsuperscript{th} November.

Note: Your child will only attend one of these days. Please keep an eye out for the email and contact the school if you don’t receive one.

Tuckshop Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>November</th>
<th>Volunteer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 1</td>
<td>Annie S</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 2</td>
<td>Jess G</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 3</td>
<td>Chantal C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 4</td>
<td>Widelyn, Jasmin</td>
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<td>Tues 8</td>
<td>Glen J</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 9</td>
<td>Jackie V</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 10</td>
<td>Leith G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 11</td>
<td>Kellie W, Cassie S</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Cleaners’ Cup
Week 3 - 4B & Miss Thomas
Week 4 - 2B & Miss Cahill

P & C Thumbs Up
Week 2 – Karen B (apologies for omission in last newsletter !)
Week 3 – Paul R
Week 4 – Jasmin L

Student of the Week

WEEK 3
Chasmine - Prep B
Lalita S - 1A
Bella H - 1B
No permission to publish - 2A
Harrison B - 2B
Rhys C - 4A
Riley Mc - 4B
Brant - 4B
Liam A - 5A
Reeve C - 5B
Lily H - 6A
No permission to publish - 6B

WEEK 4
Zahlie W - Prep A
No permission to publish - Prep B
Cooper J - 1A
No permission to publish - 1B
No permission to publish 2A
Kobi W - 2B
No permission to publish - 3A
Grace C - 3B
Bailey - 4A
Lachlan G – 4A
Mave B - 4B
Jack H – 4B
Mae L - 5A
I No permission to publish - 5B
Will C - 6B
Abby R - 6B

A big

Thank you!

from the Emerald State School Staff
to the P & C for this great support in 2016

P & C Projects completed in 2016

- $10,000 committed to camps
- Assistance for 6 students for Representative Sport
- Assistance for 6 parents to attend camps
- Creation of a Facebook page, in co-operation with ESS
- Created a Volunteer Award program similar to ‘Thumbs up’ for the students
- New community notice board (paid for in 2015)
- Support the Dollarmite Student Banking Program
- New water cooling system in the parade area and Prep building (paid for in 2015)
- Removal of trees
- Upgrade to garden
- New port racks for Prep
- Moved sandpit and planted new gardens around sandpit
- New turf for the grass area
- Plans and all testing completed for the new extension on Prep to 1 building to create an outside learning area
- A grant has been applied for the extension as mentioned above
- Purchase of 2 x ESS ‘Bali flags’ (paid for in 2015)
- Blinds for Year 3 (paid for in 2015) and Year 4 building
- New furniture for the area outside tuckshop
- Built in storage for Year 5A, 5B and 6 classrooms
- This was with the assistance of a grant from Community Gambling Fund
- 7 Easels for classrooms
- $12,500 for the support of the EOY Circus program
- New entrance signs and signage for the front of tuckshop
- Continued support to the computer and fridge upgrades program
- New complete sets of dictionaries for class use.
Hello everyone,

This week, we are looking at the final two strategies for developing resilience in our children, as advised by Andrew Fuller (Fellow of the Department of Psychiatry and the Department of Learning and Educational Development at the University of Melbourne [http://andrewfuller.com.au/]) from his 10 Resilience Hints for Families publication.

Strategies 9 and 10 are:

**No. 9. Know how to Argue**
Families that work well know how to argue. It seems strange to say this because we all have the sense those families that work well don’t have conflicts. The family is really where we learn to resolve disputes fairly. The way that parents teach children to resolve differences of opinion with their brothers and sisters provides the basis for sharing, negotiating and problem solving in the world beyond the family. While differences of opinion should be allowed to be expressed, children also need to learn that they will not be able to win at all costs.

**No 10. Parents are reliably unpredictable**
With young children it is important to provide consistency and predictability. This allows them to feel sure of you. After a while though, a bit of unpredictability can go a long way. To many children, most parents are about as predictable as a washing machine cycle. It is important to have structure and consistency, but it is also useful to act in ways that your children wouldn’t expect. This keeps them interested in learning from you, or least wondering what you are up to.

Perhaps the most important feature of parents in healthy families is that they realise that all of the above is desirable but not always possible, and so they look at how to promote good functioning while not wasting energy on blaming themselves for the times when things don’t quite work out as they had planned.

Regards
Marietta Sedgwick, Guidance Officer, Denison, Tieri, Anakie, Alpha and Emerald State Schools  Base school phone 07 49807333, Email msedg1@eq.edu.au

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**Track and Field State Trials**
Congratulations to Bree D (long jump 4.13m. PB by 6cm) and Emma S (discus 28.60m. PB by 5m). These girls made our school proud as they trained, not in a team, but by themselves. They kept all training appointments, worked hard on feedback and improved amazingly.

**Interschool Afterschool Netball**
I’m very proud of the students in our school who are participating in the Interschool netball. It may be social, but they are playing with enthusiasm and effort. We have many players who have not played netball before, but are working and participating to an amazing level.

Next week, Thursday 3rd November, is our last week. The Best and Fairest player from each team, who has been chosen by the opposition coach, will be receiving a certificate. There are no finals and no overall winners. The interschool games have been about playing with your friends, enjoying friendships and hopefully adding skills to our personal basket.

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**Swimming**
School swimming!! Yay! Just reminding everyone that we will have the whole school going swimming in the last two weeks of school. If you have a child in Prep to Year 3, they will be taking the bus to the pool. Children in year 4 to year 6 will be walking to the pool. Our swimming lessons will culminate in a swimming carnival on the last Thursday (8th December) of term 4. We will have a junior carnival and a senior carnival. We had many great reports about the swimming program last year and our aim is to have yet another successful time in the water. This year we will not have the whole pool to ourselves during our swimming lessons as we did last year. We will be practising our sharing skills with some other schools.
Forms have gone home re costs.
Have a great and active fortnight

Jill Ryan