



LONG FLAT SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY NEWS

FLAT CHAT

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Week 4 Term 4 Tuesday 29th October 2013

Success through Innovation

Dear Parents and Community Members,

NAPLAN

What great swimmers we have! Last week, we started our swimming program as most readers of our newsletter would know. I was totally amazed by our students' effort in the pool. Children all around the pool in various groups were trying hard. I was particularly impressed by many older students who were able to do lap after lap of different strokes. Well done boys and girls.

A big thank you to the parents who have volunteered to come along each week and help out with the swimming. It is great to have you with us and I know the students benefit immensely by being in small groups because of this.

Current Educational Research

In most occupations these days, ongoing learning is a big part if you want to stay ahead of the game. This is quite true in teaching too. There are always new things to learn and research to be aware of.

A recent study, published in the *Review of Economics and Statistics*, reports that the effort put forth by parents (reading stories aloud, meeting with teachers) has a huge impact on their children's educational achievement.

With this in mind, we would like to remind parents who did not attend the mid year parent/teacher meetings that staff are available to discuss your child's progress this term. Please contact the school if you would like to have a meeting with the teacher to find out how well your child is progressing.

As mentioned last week, our NAPLAN results have been sent home. If any parent would like to discuss their child's results further or find out more information about their progress, please contact the school ASAP and we would be glad to have a discussion around these things.

Great News

Congratulations to three of our students who have gained positions in the Enrichment Class at Wauchope HS in 2014. We are sure the HS teachers will be impressed with your performance, just like they were impressed with your recent results here at Long Flat.



Well done to: Kirsty, Isaac, Zara.

Chinese Whispers

Have you ever heard about the game of Chinese Whispers? I bet you have.

Since our NAPLAN results have arrived, I thought I'd shed some light on this area in regard to our school. If we don't share some information with our community, then it is possible that some poorly informed person could say things that misrepresent the truth. A bit like playing Chinese Whispers, I guess.

So, here are the FACTS about our school performance in NAPLAN during the past four years. Our student growth (or improvement) from Years 3 to 5 has been in the top 5 schools in our district EVERY year in at least English or Maths, sometimes both. We have also been there for spelling and grammar.

In addition to this outstanding achievement, our school (Year 5) has also performed ABOVE

state average EVERY YEAR from 2010 to 2013 in BOTH English and Mathematics. Now you have the facts, you can tell somebody how great your child's school is today.

Starting School Meeting for parents of 2014 Kinder students

On Thursday 14th November, from 9.30—10.30a.m. there will be a meeting for all parents who have a child starting Kinder in 2014. A wide variety of things will be discussed, so we would really value your attendance on this day.

At 10.30a.m. we would like to invite you to remain at school and join us with a morning tea to celebrate and acknowledge all the fabulous work parent volunteers do for our school.

Parent Helpers Morning Tea

On Thursday 14th November, we would like to invite all parents, relatives and community members to our school for a morning tea, if you have worked as a volunteer for our school during 2014. This is our way of saying thank you for making that extra contribution to support our students during this year.

Surveys, Surveys, Surveys

It is that time of the year again when the school is required to survey parents to seek feedback for how well we are conducting things at school. Three surveys were sent home with last week's newsletter. We would appreciate it if these could be returned by Friday 1st November. The surveys are anonymous in that you do not need to put your name on them.

Canteen on Swimming Days

The P & C would like to inform parents and students that there will be no canteen on swimming days. Some of the parents who volunteer to do canteen will be helping out at swimming.

Swimming Scheme

Our swimming program started last Friday. This will be on each Friday from Week 3 to 7. Then in Week 8, the students will go every day.

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to be a part of this program. On Fridays, the students will leave for the pool at approximately 11.40a.m.

At Wauchope, they will have access to the pool for approximately an hour and a half. (12:15 - 1.45). Students will arrive back at school in time for going home. If any parent wishes to pick their child up on any swimming day, please be aware that NO child will be left at the pool unsupervised.

Yummy Year 6 Fundraiser

Our ice cream in a cone days were quite popular with our students last term. The year 6 students will have a few more of these on Mondays of weeks 3 to 5. If you would like an ice cream on these days, please bring \$1.00 with you.

Regards, Mr P Mason

P&C News

Thank you to all the parents who attended the P & C Meeting last night.

COMING EVENTS

Thurs 31st Oct	Kinder Orientation
Friday 1st Nov	Surf Life Safety Talk Swimming Scheme
Thurs 7th Nov	Kinder Orientation
Friday 8th Nov	Swimming Scheme
Thurs 14th Nov	Kinder Orientation 2014 Kinder Parents Talk Parent helpers morn tea.
Fri 13th Dec	Community Xmas Tree
Tues 17th Dec	Final Assembly
Wed 18th Dec	Last day 2014 for students
Fri 20th Dec	Last day 2013 for teachers

CANTEEN ROSTER

Friday 1st Nov	Swimming
Monday 4th Nov	Lynette
Monday 11th Nov	Arleen
Monday 18th Nov	Helen



P&C Fundraiser

The P&C will be selling 2014 calendars using photos of your child/ren. The calendars have a month to a page. Multiple copies are available—they'll make a great Christmas present for all the family. School and public holidays will be clearly marked for easy recognition.

Orders and money must be back by Fri 22nd Nov.

Name of family _____

No of copies _____ Amount enclosed \$ _____ (\$5 each)

Community Christmas Tree

Friday 13th December 2013

BBQ begins at 5.30p.m.

Concert begins at 6.30p.m.

Our Christmas Tree celebrations will be held on Friday 13th December at the school under the large covered area. The night will begin with a BBQ prepared by the P & C, then followed by performances from the students of Long Flat PS and Long Flat preschool.

Santa will be coming along at 8pm, so please be sure to let Santa know you will be coming so that he can stock his big bag full of goodies for the students.



Donate a Gift

This year we are collecting gifts to be given to charity for under privileged children. If you would like to donate, please send your wrapped new present (labelled with "boy or girl & age" into school by Friday 13th December.

Thank you for your donation.

