**Principal’s Note**

Hello!

It’s lovely to be back on the island and to see the familiar happy faces!

Working at Belgian Gardens State School was a wonderful experience and gave me an insight into how another high performing school is run. In comparison I am very satisfied that our school engages in many of the same high yield strategies that produces quality outcomes for students. We can be proud of the fact that our improvement agenda stands up with the best in the region and, as a staff, we continue to strive to provide the excellence in educational outcomes for your children.

The region recognises that the work being done in this school is of high quality and across the current educational evidence-based best practices.

Congratulations to Caron Grey who was successful in winning a 12 month position with the region as a PEAAC (Principal Education Advisor – Australian Curriculum) in 2016. Caron has been a long serving member of this staff who has been a high quality teacher at this school for many years. In recent years she has taken on a leadership role and led a strong curriculum agenda. This has resulted in the region recognising her talents and offering her this substantial promotion.

Please join with me in congratulating Caron on her promotion. She is a valuable member of our staff who will be sadly missed.

Jo Sinclair-Jones
(PRINCIPAL)

---

**Food Garden Feast for the whole school!**

Recently, two Year 1, a Year 5 and a Year 6 student, helped by volunteer parents, got to harvest this season’s first produce from the school’s food garden. They then prepared a number of dishes that were tasted by all the students at lunchtime. The dishes included pesto made from basil grown in the garden, tasty home-style baked beans from the bean and tomato crops, and a lovely fresh salad with two types of lettuce, cucumber and tomato.

The school’s food garden was established five years ago and relies on school staff and parents volunteering to keep it going. Students have the opportunity to help in the garden before school and at lunchtime. Planting and weeding are the main activities, as well as feeding the worm farm with suitable rubbish collected from school lunches. The school’s Principal Mrs Sinclair-Jones would like everyone in the island community to know that they are welcome to join in this very rewarding activity. Simply contact the school office on 4758 2333.
Gold & Silver Awards

Gold & silver awards for Term 4, Week 2:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Gold</th>
<th>Silver</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Annabelle</td>
<td>Jemma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Blake</td>
<td>Nina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bailey</td>
<td>Zoe O-W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Lacey</td>
<td>Jaspa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Pepper</td>
<td>Trystahn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6H</td>
<td>Cassidy</td>
<td>Connor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6J</td>
<td>Tyler</td>
<td>Yayoi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gold & silver awards for Term 4, Week 3:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Gold</th>
<th>Silver</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Hayley</td>
<td>Javier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ryer</td>
<td>Maya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sasha</td>
<td>Nicholas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Alena</td>
<td>Jasmine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Tommy-Lee</td>
<td>Scarlett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6H</td>
<td>Jack L</td>
<td>Ryu-Li</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6J</td>
<td>Tamatoa</td>
<td>Zack</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PE Awards went to Dylan and Jamie.

Class of the week (week 2) was Year 3.

Positive Behaviour Learning (PBL)

Every week students are explicitly taught a behaviour expectation from our ‘Behaviour Matrix’ (find it in the Covered Play Area). Gotchas are given specifically targeting this behaviour.

This week’s behaviour is:

**Be Safe** —
use chairs safely

Class of the week (week 2) was Year 3.

AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

The results have now arrived for the annual Australian Mathematics Competition. Thousands of school students from 30 countries participated on July 30th this year. The eighteen children from our school who took part did exceedingly well. We congratulate in particular the recipients of the Credit Awards which went to Jesse (Year 3), Ned (Year 3), Molly (Year 4), Scarlett (Year 4), Arien (Year 5), Jack (Year 5) and Yayoi (Year 6).

Certificates of Proficiency were awarded to Year 4 students Pepper, Mark, Zach and Brock, as well as to Daisy, Christopher, Janey, Dylan and Ruby from Year 5, while Jaspa (Year 3) and Anika (Year 5) received Participation certificates. Well done, everybody!

FETE raises over $7600!!!

The numbers are finally crunched, all the bills are paid so we are proud to announce that our School Fete raised over **$7600**. This is a fantastic effort to all involved, but especially to Jody and Chrystal for co-ordinating the event. The feedback from the community was also heart warming—so lovely to be part of this wonderful island.

The P&C are committed to spending these funds, plus other monies, on getting the school’s WiFi updated and to fulfilling our goal of having a portable classroom laptop set. The Wireless Upgrade Project (WUP) is well underway and should be completed by the end of 2015. This project is being funded 50/50 with the department. Our school’s part will cost in excess of $13,000.
**Prep News**

What a great start to the swimming lessons with all the children being prepared with their gear and willing to participate. Thank you to parents, grandparents and carers who were responsible for this happening. It is amazing to see how much progress we are seeing with our swimming. Even the children who were unsure about getting in the pool have shown a very positive attitude to the lessons. It shows how important it is to have routine and that with persistence we can improve.

We have planned an excursion to the Post Office for next week. This will relate to our English unit on letter writing and will be a nice opportunity to take the children out of the school grounds and allow them to connect with other experiences. Please make sure you read and return the note regarding this excursion ASAP.

History this term includes looking at memorable events and commemorating. We will be talking about and sharing some events that are important to our families in this unit as part of our assessment. Each child will be asked to bring a special item or object to class and to tell the story behind it. We will do this in week 5 during the morning session like our show and tell time. Please help your child to be ready for this task. A note will follow with more detail soon.

We are starting to see good progress with our LEM sounds, sight words and readers this term and would like to ensure each child continues their progress and doesn’t regress. Daily practice is the best way to keep moving forward and lots of encouragement. The children are doing a great job but do need the support of parents at home to help consolidate this progress. Thank you to the parent helpers who regularly give their time to read with the children each morning. This is extremely beneficial and allows extra one on one time for those who may need assistance.

Please see me if there are any concerns for you or your child.

Julia Shafer

**Year 1 News**

We have been working towards our English task for this unit which is writing a procedure to tell *How to Make a Disgusting Sandwich*. This task relates to the book *The Lighthouse Keepers Lunch* so we are thinking what the seagulls would not like! Yesterday we made a healthy (salad) sandwich and wrote the procedure for this. We are also working on making a PowerPoint presentation to match the task.

In Maths we are consolidating our understanding of writing equations to match word problems, gathering and displaying data and understanding the concepts of chance before we complete assessments for the current Maths unit.

The students are working hard and are to be congratulated for their great efforts and achievements. It is also pleasing to see so many students well prepared for each day – rested and with everything they need - so thank you for your support with this.

We would still love your help with readers on Thursday (just changing them because we swim at 9:10) and Friday. Come along if you can help.

Jo T
**Year 2 News**

Welcome to Week 4! It’s great to see that all Year 2 students have remembered their togs and towels for the first two weeks of swimming. Please also ensure that your child has a swim shirt and brings their items in a waterproof bag.

As we head towards the middle of the Term, we have a few assessment pieces to complete for English and Maths. Attendance is absolutely vital during these times. If your child will be away, please email or call to let me know.

This week we are writing narratives and focusing on all the things that a narrative has: characters, dialogue, characters, a problem, a solution, a beginning, middle and end.

In Maths we are learning about multiplication and all the different ways it can be represented. We are also learning about how addition and subtraction facts are related.

Last week eleven out of twenty-seven students brought their homework in on time. Homework is due every Friday. If students forget on Friday it can be brought in on Monday morning. Students who haven’t brought their homework by Monday morning re-do the sheet at lunchtime. Completing homework on time is important as it teaches organisational skills and the homework reinforces concepts covered in class.

Delia Koelman

**Year 3/4 News**

**Library Books** – Please check your child has returned all outstanding library books and are returning their books weekly. This will make it easier for the end of year.

**Swimming** – Congratulations to all students (and parents) for remembering to bring their swimming equipment on Thursdays. Let’s keep it up.

**Homework** – As you would have noticed, homework has changed this term. Students now have a Maths and English task and write in their own spelling words. The square boxes on their spelling page are for parents/carers to sign after your child has read to you for 15 minutes each night.

Kerri-Anne McAtee & Jeremy Pullen

Students exploring different forces in Science
Year 5/6 News

Year 5/6 have been working hard investigating electricity this week. They have all built their own circuits and tested various insulators and conductors.

In Maths they have been exploring chance and data through the very popular ‘Spotted Cows’ game.

In English we are continuing our writing work, which has been centred around reading and analysing two texts about moon bears. Now, Year 5 students will be choosing one of the texts to write about in depth and Year 6 will be carefully comparing both. This is challenging work as students need to use precise vocabulary and communicate clearly that they understand how each author has made deliberate choices. One is a narrative text, the other is an informative brochure. They will be writing their first draft paragraphs about text structure and visual elements this week.

Term 4 is packed with assessments and activities that help the children to consolidate their learning and show off their knowledge, so they need to be at school every day, well rested and ready to learn. Missing any days puts them at a disadvantage, and missed lessons are difficult to catch up on properly.

Thanks to all those children who have brought their togs in and enjoyed the opportunity to improve their swimming skills during school time. We are so lucky to have such a fantastic pool available.

Please be sure to contact us if you have any concerns regarding your child’s progress.

Sharon Jupp and Martin Hammelswang
SPORTING SCHOOLS

This term our students are enjoying two activities as part of the Sporting Schools program funded by the Australian Sports Commission. They are Soccer on a Tuesday and Orienteering on a Wednesday. The first session was last week and the attendance was overwhelming. Over 70 students have signed up to learn Orienteering alone. Below you can see one of the groups taking instructions from coach AB Mohr and some of the new gear (controllers) purchased as part of the program.

Seven Steps to Writing Success

One of the great programs being used at Magnetic Island State School is ‘Seven Steps to Writing Success’. Implemented over a year ago, the program is focussed on helping your child write better. Authors use seven techniques to make their writing interesting. We have already focussed on Step 1: Plan for Success. The top tip in step 1 is that all stories have something in common—their story graph. Start with a bang, slowly build up the tension and end on a real high point.

This week we are practising Step 2: Sizzling starts. The key message is to start where the action is—not at the beginning of the day where nothing is happening. Begin when the volcano starts oozing lava rather than waking up that morning and eating breakfast. Here is an example from Craig in Year 6:

I was standing there in shock. I had seen the most disgusting thing ever, my eyes felt like they had melted, in front of me was…a demented chicken rolling around in my puppy’s slimy rotten poo.

There is a parent booklet that explains the program available from the class teachers.
DENTAL VAN

Contact them direct on 0417 630 119

The dental van has now arrived in the staff carpark and will be here from Tuesday to Friday until the end of term. Although originally scheduled to be on Magnetic Island in July, its arrival was delayed as it was required urgently in another location.

You may remember filling in dental forms for your child(ren) at the end of Term 2. These are still valid and have now been collected by the dental van staff who will commence check-up appointments this week.

Should you have any queries and need to contact the dental van, their direct mobile number is 0417630119.

SCHOOL BAGS for 2016

Last year the Magnetic Island State School P&C purchased backpack-type school bags that were navy with white contrasting piping and had the new school logo on them. These Spartan brand bags were found to be very practical, they came with a lifetime guarantee and cost $35 each.

This year the P&C is considering placing another order for the bags, but as we must request a minimum of 30 bags at a time, we need expressions of interest from parents.

If you would like to purchase one of these school bags for your child for next year, please contact the school office (either in person or by telephoning 4758 2333) so that you can be placed on the list. It would be much appreciated if you could do this before 3rd November, so that we can place the order if enough parents have responded.

Thank you!

PRE-LOVED SHOES WANTED!

Have you any closed-in shoes at home that are still in reasonable condition but your child has grown out of them? If you would like them to be put to good use, do please bring them into the school office. We are often looking for shoes to fit students who have come to school without suitable footwear, so more spare pairs on hand would be greatly appreciated!

Thank you, parents.
Private Swimming Lessons
Experienced swimming instructors seeking interest in private swimming lessons at the school pool. Baby classes also available. If you wish to learn more, call Anita on 0429 623 620.

CHILDREN’S HALLOWEEN DISCO
WHEN: Friday 30th October
WHERE: Arcadia Hotel
TIME: 6—8pm
ENTRY FEE: $5 per child
AGES: 4 to 12
WHAT: Prizes for best costumes
Dinner included
(Pluto pups & chips)

NEW DANCE CLASS
CLASSICAL BALLET
PREP TO YEAR 3: TUESDAY, 2.40pm to 3.30pm
YEARS 4 TO 6: MONDAY, 4.20pm to 5.20pm
Please call Amber on 0408 844 895 for further information

KID’S MUSIC THEATRE
New class. New instructor. New skills.
Thursdays at the Active Centre ....
2-2.45pm Ages 3 & 4
2.45-3.45pm Kindy & Yr 1
3.45-4.45pm Yr 2 to Yr 4
4.45-5.45pm Yr 5 to Yr 10
Contact: Jo Ford 0415 877 885