UPCOMING EVENTS

NEW ASSEMBLY TIMES:
Every Monday:
Prep–Year 2: 1:50pm-2:10pm;
Years 3-6: 2:20pm—2:40pm.

Term 1:

Week 5 February, 2017
Tue 21  P & C Meeting (3:30pm—4:30pm)

Week 6 February, 2017

Week 7 March, 2017
Thu 9  Brainstorm Productions: Being Brave—Prep-Year 6 (School funded—no charge to parents/guardians)
Fri 10  Senior Cross Country (9:00am—10:45am) - All Welcome
Year 3 Incursion: STARLAB (user pays)

Week 8 March, 2017
Mon 13  Easter Raffle Tickets Sent Home
Fri 17  National Day Against Bullying
Fri 17  Junior Cross Country (9:00am—10:45am) - All Welcome

Week 9 March, 2017
Tues 21  Harmony Day
P & C Meeting (AGM) (3:30pm—4:30pm)
Fri 24  Disco (P&C)

Week 10 March, 2017
Tues 28  Year 5 Leadership Day (at school)
Wed 29  End of Term Celebrations
Prep-Year 2 (9:00am—9:45am)
Years 3-6 (10:00am—10:45am)
Wed 29  End of Term Reward Activities (Middle Session)
Parent Teacher Interviews (3:00pm-7:00pm)
Thu 30  Years 5&6 Enrichment Day (at school)
Fri 31  Easter Hat and Crazy Hat Parade/Celebration (P-2) - All Welcome
Easter Raffle drawn
LAST DAY OF TERM

TERM 2 COMMENCES: 18 April, 2017

FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

This is the first edition of our Newsletter that will be sent electronically through emailing the link to our website home to parents/carers. Our system draws email addresses from people listed under our parent tab. We will send notes home each time a Newsletter is produced this term, so that if you do not receive it, you can let us know so that we can check the details on our system. Our Newsletters are available on our website each fortnight and this is the link that will be emailed home. If other members of the family would like to access the Newsletter it is simply a matter of accessing the website. We will continue to print a small number of Newsletters for those not able to access this online. Please call at the office if you would like a hard copy.

With Day 8 over and our staffing being finalised last week, we can move forward confidently into the year. Thank you to all of our families who supported class changes in the first few weeks. This now means that our class sizes are reasonable and we still have some room for growth over the year. Our final numbers were 659 at Day 8, but these numbers have already altered with families moving into the area and some moving on.

Positive Behaviour 4 Learning (PBL):
Waterford State School works within the framework of PBL which simply means that we have identified our 4 expectations and use this language to explicitly teach expected behaviours within the context of the school. This year students will also have lessons from the ‘You Can Do It (YCDI) program which introduces 5 characters to help them remember what is required to enact the school’s four expectations:

At Waterford WE Show respect, are respOnsible, Make safe choic-es and arE learners: We are AWESOME!

At Waterford we are LEARNERS:
Reading@Waterford:

Our core focus will continue to be on reading and we have engaged a reading specialist, Mrs Linda Boyle to work with our Head of Curriculum, Engagement teacher and staff to provide targeted instruction, intervention and enrichment opportunities for our young people. Please refer to the HOC information outlining Reading for All at Waterford in 2017. If ever your child/ren claim not to have any homework, please encourage them to take some time to read. It is also wonderful, no matter what their age, to have others read to them. If we all model that reading is an essential skill used in all parts of our life and also for enjoyment and access to technology, we encourage positive attitudes to learning to read and reading to learn.
FROM THE PRINCIPAL continued...

School Assemblies:
Our assemblies this year are both on a Monday afternoon and we encourage parents/carers to attend when possible. Prep-Year 2—1:50pm-2:10pm and Years 3-6—2:20pm-2:40pm. At our assemblies we acknowledge students of the week and one class shares their thoughts through a presentation about our focus expectation of the week:

**Be Respectful, Be Responsible; Be Safe or Be a Learner.**

At Waterford we are SAFE:

Snakes on school grounds:
We continue to see snakes moving around our grounds as they look for food. The children and staff have become very good at keeping their eyes out and reporting so that we are able to put plans in place to keep children away from areas that we know they are in. If we have a sighting, we call for a snake catcher to come and attempt to extract the slippery little suckers but they are very clever and we don’t always have success. As you move around the grounds please be aware and move away if you see one, they really are more scared of us then we are of them (not too sure about that though!!!). Thank you for your support with this, as it is something that we have little control over other than being vigilant and staying way from identified areas.

Student Footwear:
We have noticed that a number of students are wearing the shoes with rollers in them that enables them to skate on their heels (Heelies). These are quite dangerous in the school environment and we ask parents/carers to choose footwear more appropriate for school or remove the rollers. Our Dress Code identifies: ‘Enclosed black school shoes or black joggers/sports shoes with laces or Velcro suitable for daily physical activity. * Due to Workplace, Health and Safety, canvas shoes are not acceptable.’ Again, we appreciate your support with this as we work together to ensure that we minimise injury due to unsuitable footwear and stay SAFE.

Welcome BBQ:
A big thank you to everyone who attended our Welcome BBQ and meet the teacher evening last week. It was wonderful to see so many parents/carers here and have some time to catch up for a chat. If you were unable to attend the evening and would like more information about what is happening in the classroom, please do not hesitate to contact your child/rens’ teacher/s.

Parent/Teacher Interviews:
Parent/Teacher interviews will be held Wednesday, March 29 from 3:00pm—7:00pm and bookings for these this year will be completed online. More info on this in later Newsletters.

Kind regards,
Linda Knight

Deputy Principal Year 3—Year 6:

At Waterford we are SAFE: Being Brave performance by Brainstorm Productions
On **Thursday 9 March**, Brainstorm Productions will be presenting their student wellbeing program ‘Being Brave’ for all year levels. At Waterford we value building resilience in our students and therefore the school will pay for all students to attend the performance. A permission slip will be coming home soon. Please sign and return to your child’s class teacher so they can participate in this FREE performance.
Being Brave is a live theatre production which will help students accept change, deal with their emotions and bounce back when things go wrong. The production is inspirational and empowering, providing kids with strategies such as good communication and positive self-talk, to help make them more resilient and able to navigate life’s storms.

Being Brave is part of our student wellbeing curriculum and the program has been developed in consultation with teachers, psychologists, as well as real-life student experiences. The methodology of the program is safe, supportive and nonjudgmental and designed to provide students with positive and useful tools they can use in their everyday lives.

More than 350,000 Australian students have already benefited from Brainstorm Productions multi award-winning educational theatre programs over the past twelve months. Their programs cater to the specific wellbeing needs of students, helping to create a healthy and harmonious school environment. If you would like to know more about Brainstorm Productions, visit their website at www.brainstormproductions.edu.au

From the Head of Curriculum:

READING FOR ALL @ Waterford SS

In 2016, and again in 2017, our priority at Waterford is all about reading. To support our focus last year, we implemented a teaching model that had teams of teachers working across year levels to improve reading outcomes for ALL of our students. The model involved grouping students with similar needs that had been identified through a common assessment. This allowed teachers to provide effective, focussed and comprehensive teaching programs. The model was implemented in Years 2 and 4 last year. This year the model has been expanded and on Monday we saw the implementation of the “Reading for All” model in Years 1 to 5. Next week, Year 6 will come on board and later in the year our Preps will also begin implementation of this model.

The model involves students working with a particular classroom teacher, during a specified reading time, to provide explicit teaching of skills and concepts relevant to the needs within the group. Each year level is also supported by additional staff – a Reading Specialist, Engagement Teachers, teachers from the Special Education program, and teacher aides.

Reading times across the school:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4 &amp; 5</th>
<th>Year 6</th>
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</thead>
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All students within the year level are grouped based on similar needs. This may mean that your child visits another teacher for the allocated reading time. Student groupings are flexible and may change based on the progress made by individual children. An additional note will come home next week identifying the teacher your child will be working with during the specified reading time. Home reading provides an opportunity for students to practice their reading skills and is an integral element of the program. We thank you for your continued support in creating successful and confident readers at Waterford.
From the Librarian:
The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

During 2017, students in Year 3-6 are invited to participate in ICAS testing. ICAS is a skills-based assessment which recognises and rewards student achievement in a number of subject areas. ICAS is unique, being the most comprehensive generally available suite of academic assessments for primary school students.

Costing per subject is as follows:
- Writing - $19.80
- Spelling - $13.20
- English - $9.90
- Mathematics - $9.90

If you would like your child to be involved, please register your interest by emailing Miss Ringland, including your child’s name, class and the subject area/s your child would like to participate in – cring10@eq.edu.au

For further information about ICAS testing please visit the website – https://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/dates-and-fees.asp

Tennis Lessons:
Tennis lessons are run by Mr Brad Murphy who has been a professional tennis coach for 37 years. Lessons will be available every Wednesday from 7:30am at the schools tennis courts for a cost of $12 per lesson (payable each week). All equipment will be provided, all ages welcome. Please contact Mr Brad Murphy (T.P.A.A. & A.T.P.C.A. qualified) on 32723762, 0414494123 or bradkatemurphy@hotmail.com for more information.

School Banking:
If you wish for your child to participate in the Commonwealth School Banking program through the school, please sign up for an account at www.commbank.com.au. School banking is collected every Thursday via our volunteer bankers.

Logan City Rugby Union Sign On: