School Mission Statement
In a supportive partnership, provide for the development of each child the attitude, skills and knowledge needed to cope with the demands of living in our society.

Roll Up, Roll Up, Roll Up

Eden Bros Goodtime Circus rolled into town a couple of Wednesday’s ago, preparing for a show on Friday 15th March. The school oval was transformed into a farm with alpaca’s, goats, and a pony tethered around the fence and beside the undercover area. There were also a couple of monkeys. The students loved having the animals around. The alpaca’s were a huge hit with the students; especially when they tried to eat their lunches. The love of the alpaca’s continued until they started spitting at the kids; who quickly lost interest or kept their distance.

Unfortunately, due to staffing issues the show had to be drastically scaled down. The show did however go on, thanks to the generous gift of their time by Troy and Ray Hankin, who stepped in and after a quick briefing from the ringmaster, manned the music and managed the animals like seasoned professionals. Although a smaller show was presented, the children had a fantastic time patting the animals, joining in on the act and interacting with other children from both Pentland and Homestead communities.

A huge thank you to the P&C members and helpers for catering. The barbecue was delicious.

A massive thank you to Troy and Ray Hankin for giving up their time and front row seats to make sure the show could go on.
What a fantastic term!

**Cross Country and Swimming Carnivals**
I would like to congratulate the students on their fantastic behaviour and enthusiasm during our recent Dalrymple Cluster Swimming and Cross Country Carnivals in Charters Towers. All students gave 100% in their races and came home with many ribbons and medallions! Read on further to find out our age champions! A big thanks to the staff for sleeping over and your extra efforts over the two days.

**Reading Improvement**
This week, teachers have been conducting our termly reading assessments and I am very proud to say that every student in our school has improved since the beginning of the year. Congratulations to students, parents and staff – our hard work is paying off!

**NAPLAN Testing**
Next term in May, our year 3, 5 and 7 students will participate in NAPLAN testing for reading, writing, language conventions and mathematics. We have been busy practicing for the tests and providing those students with extra learning support to ensure their success.

**P&C Executive Members**
Thank you to all the parents and community members that attended our annual general meeting. I would like to welcome our new P&C executive members:

Angela Colyer – President
Mechelle Farfield – Secretary
Mishelle Hurren – Treasurer
Margaret Perry – Vice President
I look forward to working with you.

**Easter Holidays**
We begin our Easter Holidays on Friday 4th April and resume school on Tuesday 22nd April. Please have a relaxing, safe and enjoyable break.
Looking forward to term 2…..

Yours in learning
Laura Peagham
Week 9 already; wow, what a term! Our classroom has been busy, busy, busy! Here’s a run down of what we have been doing here at Pentland State School:

We have introduced the 7 steps in writing and have been spending 15-30 minutes on this everyday. The children are really enjoying the activities that 7 steps have to offer and we are starting to see a difference in the student’s story writing.

The children have started using ‘Mathletics’ which is an online mathematics website. Mathletics is an engaging way for the students to learn mathematics concepts and they can access this site both at school and home using their username and password. [http://www.mathletics.com.au/](http://www.mathletics.com.au/)

We have also started Reading Eggs again which is another fantastic resource. The children really enjoy accessing this website, [http://readingeggs.com.au/](http://readingeggs.com.au/), and they can also use it at home independently.

Technology is thriving in our classroom and is a great learning tool. We are very lucky to have such a great range of technology at out school!

As we are coming towards the end of term 1 we have started completing assessment tasks for every key learning area. The P-2 students have recently completed their science assessment on pollution in the Great Barrier Reef and the lifecycle of a turtle. All students from P-7 have just completed their health assessment on how to positively handle situations in life (good and bad), which has been helpful as it is relevant to their everyday lives. The students really connect to learning when it is relevant and useful in life. We love sharing stories / experiences in our classroom and using prior knowledge to help further learning opportunities.

Thanks for your support this term. All the best for the school holidays! We will see you all in term 2.

Ella James
Teacher
Hi, I’m Althea.
I have read a story called Giraffes Can’t Dance. The character is Gerald. He was a tall Giraffe. He was thin. Gerald was a bad dancer. This made him sad. When he danced it was wonderful. Thank you for listening.

Althea, Prep
Hi, I am Angela.


The name of the character I have chosen is Monkey.

Monkey felt happy and crazy on the adventure. After the adventure, he felt sleepy. It was a long day. Monkey was happy when he was swinging on the tree in the picture and he was smiling. Monkey looked crazy because he was chasing his tail. Monkey was sleeping after the big day; he was sleeping on Panda’s tummy.

I have felt happy when I got a kiss from my Mum. I felt sleepy when I got a story from my Dad.

Thank you for listening.

Angela

Year 1
Good Morning, my name is Kenyon.

The title of the book is Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day. The author is Judith Viorst and the illustrator is Ray Cruz. Alexander is the main character.

The second book is A Friend Like You. The author is Julia Hubery. The main character is Panda.

In Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day, Alexander is the main character and Anthony is also in the story. The story is set at Alexander’s house. He felt angry when he had gum in his hair. Because Alexander is angry, I don’t like him. The story is pretty good when he is angry. To improve the story I would make Alexander happy because he is always angry.

In the book A Friend Like You, the main character is Panda. Monkey is also in the story. The story is set in the lake and on the mountains. They went on an adventure. Monkey fell asleep on Panda. Panda felt excited when he had a new friend. He is friendly to Monkey. It is funny when the monkey falls into the lake. To improve the story Monkey should walk slowly with his friend instead of swinging.

I felt happy when I read A Friend Like You. Alexander made me feel giggly when he got gum in his hair. I did not like the part in the story when he was crying.

Thank you for listening.
Kenyon, Year 2.
Show & Tell

Thunder and Lightning

What is thunder? What is lightning?

Thunder is the noise made as electricity races from the cloud to the ground. Lightning is rain and ice bumping into each other formed in the top and bottom of the clouds.

Fun fact! The temperature of lightning can be 6 times hotter than the Sun.

Savannah, Year 3.
**Cool Jobs**

My cool job is a helicopter pilot. Helicopters make a loud noise when they fly. Helicopters can muster cattle, rescue people or can take people on tours. When I grow up I want to be a helicopter pilot. I want to rescue people.

Troy

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**Photo Memory – Kenyon**

This is a picture of me and mum. I have it beside my bed. I put the stickers on it.

I am in a girls dress in this picture because I had long hair.

I am in Pentland. I have long hair. We are going for a picnic out bush.
Greece — Show and Tell

Greece is the birthplace of one of the world’s oldest and most glorious civilizations. Come explore this country’s incredible mix of history, culture and dazzling landscapes!

**Size:** 50,949 square miles (131,957 square kilometres); slightly smaller than Alabama

**Population:** 10,760,136 as of July 2011

**Capital:** Athens

**Climate:** Temperate; hot, dry summers; mild, wet winters

**Official Language:** Greek

**Literacy:** 96%

**Currency:** The Euro

**Agriculture:** Wheat, corn, barley, sugar beets, olives, tomatoes, wine, tobacco, potatoes, beef, dairy

**Industries:** tourism, food and tobacco processing, textiles, chemicals, metal products, mining, petroleum

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Dolphins were once a common sight in the seas around Greece. The animals are featured in ancient art and on ancient coins and jewelry.

There are more than 2,000 Greek islands. Fewer than 200 are inhabited.

Greeks consume six gallons of olive oil per person each year.

Greece is the birthplace of one of the world’s oldest and most glorious civilizations. Come explore this country’s incredible mix of history, culture and dazzling landscapes!

**Official Name:** Hellenic Republic

**Size:** 50,949 square miles (131,957 square kilometers); slightly smaller than Alabama

**Population:** 10,760,136 as of July 2011

**Capital:** Athens

**Climate:** Temperate; hot, dry summers; mild, wet winters

**Official Language:** Greek

**Money:** The Euro

**Agriculture:** Wheat, corn, barley, sugar beets, olives, tomatoes, wine, tobacco, potatoes, beef, dairy

**Industries:** tourism, food and tobacco processing, textiles, chemicals, metal products, mining, petroleum

By Gracie

Year 7
Russia

Russia is the largest country in the world.

Capital: Moscow

Language: Russian.

Currency: Russian rouble

Climate: Cold winters; mild summers;

Products: Coal, gas, oil, chemicals, metals, timber, furs; vehicles, aircraft, weapons, machinery; beef, grain, beets

Russia has been a leader in literature, arts, and music.

A traditional Russian meal consists of fish, potatoes, vegetables and bread.

Russia is home to reindeer, wolves, bear, lynx, and the Siberian tiger.

Russian children have nine years of elementary education.

Interesting trivia

Russians don’t usually say "please" or "thank you".

Smiling for no reason makes Russians angry.

Russians never throw anything away. Ever.

Sushi is more popular in Russia than in Japan.

Kenyon, Year 2
Angela’s Show and Tell Jokes

Did you hear about the race between the lettuce and the tomato? The lettuce was a “head” and the tomato was trying to “ketchup”


Knock, knock. Who’s there? Althea Althea who? Althea (I’ll see) you later.

FOCUS ON LITERACY

Pentland State School has just purchased a “Levelled Literacy Intervention Kit” to improve and/or enhance student reading and writing.

Powerful early intervention can change the path of a child’s journey to literacy. Students who experience difficulty in the early years often fall further and further behind their peers and fail to fully benefit from the reading and writing instruction provided by the classroom teacher.

Levelled Literacy Intervention is a research-based system that is designed to prevent literacy difficulties, rather than correct long-term failure. It has been highly successful in achieving its goal of cutting across the path of literacy failure and bringing students to year-level performance in hundreds of schools. We are very excited about implementing the intervention program next term.
Step 2:  
Sizzling Starts 

SEVEN STEPS WRITING TIPS 
Series One

When writing, kids always want to start their stories at the beginning of the day, or the start of the week or even the first day of the school holidays.

Before:  
I leapt out of bed that morning and hurried to get dressed because today Dad was taking us to the zoo. I was really excited because they have this big monkey enclosure there and I was mad about monkeys. I also needed to get some really good photos for my Science project.

After:  
'Here,' I told my sister, 'hold my rucksack. I'm just going to get a bit closer to the monkey's cage.'  
A bit closer meant over the fence, past the sign that said 'No Entry' and right up to the wire.  
'You're monkey mad,' said my sister.  
Well, maybe I was. But I was also desperate for an 'A' in my latest Science project. A picture of a cute monkey, smiling right at the camera, would make all the difference, right?

TOP TIP:  
Start stories right where the action begins. Not in the morning, but at the zoo as the person sneaks up to the monkey's cage, shiny earrings dangling in the sun, just waiting to be grabbed by a quick sharp paw. Far more interesting!

ACTION ACTIVITY:  
Next time you are watching a movie with your kids, see how the movie begins with lots of action to grab your attention. Adventure movies (e.g. James Bond) are especially good at this.

© Jen McVeity, author and National Literacy Champion

Seven Steps to Writing Success 

The full Seven Steps program is available:  
www.sevenstepswriting.com  
Email: office@sevenstepswriting.com  
Phone: 61 3 9321 8439
Step 3: Tightening Tension

SEVEN STEPS WRITING TIPS

Series One

The tension scene comes just before the big climax ending. In movies this is the scene of the soccer final, the exciting car chase or the heroine fighting for her life in a raging river.

We all know Little Red Riding Hood’s classic tension scene. Red RH arrives at the cottage and the wolf is in bed in granny’s clothes. Red RH, (who obviously needs glasses!) says: ‘Oh, grandmother, what big ears you have!’
‘All the better to hear you with.’
‘Oh, grandmother, what big eyes you have!’
‘All the better to see you with.’
‘Oh, grandmother, what big hands you have!’
‘All the better to hold you with!’
‘Oh, grandmother, what big teeth you have!’
‘All the better to eat you with!’

See how the scene slowly builds up to be more and more dangerous - and thus frightening? We don’t start with the teeth, we start with the ears - and the wolf trying to coax Red RH to come nearer and nearer.

TOP TIP:
Emotion always takes time to build up. So in tension scenes, show kids how to start small and 'escalate' to a powerful climax.

ACTION ACTIVITY:
Read picture books with your kids and look for the tension scenes. Picture books are short, so it’s easy to find where the all-important tension builds before the ending.

© Jen McVeity, author and National Literacy Champion

Seven Steps to Writing Success

The full Seven Steps program is available: www.sevenstepswriting.com
Email: office@sevenstepswriting.com
Phone: 01 3 9321 8439
Cluster Swimming/Cross Country Carnival

During Week 8 of Term 1, Pentland State School students travelled to Charters Towers to attend the annual cluster Swimming Carnival and Cross Country along with Greenvale State School, Ravenswood State School and Homestead State School.

Greenvale State School hosted the Swimming Carnival on the Wednesday at the Charters Towers Swimming pool. All students from Pentland performed exceptionally and we are very proud of the effort all students put into their swimming. Congratulations to Althea and Selwyn for taking out age champion in swimming for their age group!! Great results!

At the completion of the swimming carnival all schools headed back to Central State School where we set up camp for the night in the school hall. The students were then introduced to Mr Brian Doyle a cartoon artist, who entertained the students all afternoon with jokes and tips on drawing cartoons. What a great way to wind down after an exhausting morning swimming! We all then had a lovely BBQ dinner and watched a movie before heading to bed.

The following morning Homestead State School hosted the Cross Country event at Central State School. Once again our students tried their hardest and represented Pentland with smiles and happy hearts. A big thank you to Mishelle Hurren for assisting me in the supporter’s tent with our students throughout the day. Our students supported each other in every race and we had a fantastic day! Congratulations to all students who raced and well done to those who came home with age champion medals - Althea, Sebastian and Selwyn.

Our students had a fantastic time at both events and now it’s time to start training for Athletics Day, which we are hosting in August!

Ella James
Discipline Audits

As part of an initiative to strengthen discipline in Queensland State schools, Discipline Audits will be conducted in every Queensland state school by November 2014. The purpose of the Discipline Audits is to provide quality feedback on how the school is ensuring a safe, supportive and disciplined learning environment and to inform school behaviour management planning processes.

During the audit, an independent, experienced school principal will visit the school to collect a range of data and information about school-wide programs and procedures, in the area of discipline.

Interviews will also be conducted with staff, students and parents to gather a range of perspectives on school strategies and practices in relation to behaviour management.

The Discipline Audit will usually take one to two days, depending on the school’s context and size. The school will receive the auditor’s report within 15 days and key findings will be discussed with the principal, the school’s leadership team and school staff.

The report’s Executive Summary and 5 page Profile will be made available to parents and caregivers on the school’s web site. The principal will work with the school community to include any recommendations in the school’s forward planning around strengthening discipline.

For further information about Discipline Audits, please contact your child’s school or visit the Education Queensland website.
On Wednesday the students did some Easter activities, making Easter bunny shaped baskets, Easter hats, Easter bingo, word finds, mazes and colouring in. During the morning they were joined in the classroom by the playgroup students for some fun dance activities. They danced to some classic nursery rhymes like Five Little Monkeys and Incy Wincy Spider, as well as some modern songs; Shimmy Shake and Squirrels in My Pants. Then we had a special visit from the Easter Bunny and all the students frantically raced around the school collecting eggs!
Dividing up the spoils from the Easter egg hunt.

Thanks to Mr Perks for raking up all the leaves and cleaning up our sandpit. It looks fabulous!
A huge thank you to Miss List and Mishelle Hurren for covering books from our new intervention kit! There are over a thousand to be covered!
Our very popular playgroup is continuing each Wednesday morning with regular attendance. The children look forward to their weekly day at school and are really enjoying the various activities. Once playgroup commences again in term 2, the weather should be kinder to us and we will be able to take advantage of our inviting shady outdoor garden area for more ‘outside activities’. Playgroup welcomes visitors at any time and it is wonderful to see some Dad’s and other visitors coming to try their hand at the challenging activities provided, and joining the school students and staff for morning tea.

Our grounds person, Don, has the sand pit looking very clean and tidy and the little ones are eager to see how many good roads they can make in the fine sand with their earthmoving equipment.

Playgroup is a school sponsored free activity and all children are welcome to attend each Wednesday morning from 9:00 till 10:30, and then social play from 10:30 to 11:00 with the school students. Morning tea follows.

Everyone is welcome.
Students had plenty of laughs and exercise this term in Active After School dance and swimming. During dance students learned a number of new dance moves, as well as songs. The last two weeks of dance saw the students making up their own dance moves to suit a chosen song; the result of which was impressive.

During Active After School swimming, students learned to refine their swimming strokes and breathing, with the tutelage of Tess Pemble and her willing helpers Ang Collyer and Dee Greenwood. Thanks ladies.

Active After School has now finished for this term. Next term students will be refining their athletics skills and participating in equestrian workouts called “Ready, Set, Trot”.

Ready Set Trot – Playground skills: increasing horse awareness through physical activity and horse related games, using the playfulness and imagination of children.

We are all looking forward to learning new skills and enhancing old ones.
Easter, what is it about?

We have two days of public holiday for it but do we know why?

Easter is one of the most important events in the Christian calendar. It is when we remember that Jesus died and on the third day rose again. We, as Christians, believe that His death and resurrection paid the price for our sin and allows us to come to God clean and fresh. Not because of what we have done but rather because God, through His son Jesus, did the work for us.

For most Australians, however, Easter tends to be simply a long weekend when we can go camping with our family and friends. That is OK, because family is important, but remember there is more to Easter than chocolate eggs and camping.

If you’re travelling this Easter please take care. I wish each and every family in the school a safe and relaxing Easter break and look forward to serving the school community again next term.

Chappy Jarvis

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**Calendar of Events**

- 4th - 22nd April – School Holidays
- 25th April – Anzac Day
- 6th May – Cross Country – Charters Towers
- 7th May - P&C Meeting
- 8th May - Art & Craft Workshop
- 9th May – Athletics Clinic – Charters Towers
- 13th – 15th May – NAPLAN
- 30th May – NQ Sports

**SCHOOL RULES**

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be an Active Learner.
Ginger Beef Patties with Lime Noodle Salad

- 100g vermicelli rice noodles
- ½ cup mint leaves
- 300g beef mince
- ¼ cup (60ml) oyster sauce
- 2 teaspoons finely grated ginger
- 2 teaspoons vegetable oil
- 150g snow peas, sliced and blanched
- 250g cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1 small red onion, thinly sliced
- 2 tablespoons fish sauce
- 2 ½ tablespoons lime juice
- 1 ½ tablespoon caster (superfine) sugar
- 1 small red chilli, chopped

Place the noodles in a bowl and cover with boiling water. Set aside for 5 minutes or until soft. Drain and run under cold water until cold. Set aside.

Chop half the mint leaves and place in a bowl with the mince, oyster sauce and ginger. Mix well to combine. Heat the oil in a non-stick frying pan over medium heat. Divide the mince mixture into six patties and cook for 2–3 minutes each side or until cooked through.

Place the noodles in a bowl with the snow pea, tomato, onion and remaining mint leaves and toss to combine. Add the patties to the salad. Combine the fish sauce, lime juice, sugar and chilli and pour over the noodles to serve.

Serves 2.

Yoghurt and Passion fruit Syrup Cake

- 150g butter, softened
- 1 cup (220g) caster (superfine) sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup thick Greek-style natural yoghurt
- 2 cups (300g) self-raising flour, sifted
- 1 cup (250ml) passionfruit pulp
- ½ cup (125ml) water
- ½ cup (110g) caster (superfine) sugar

Preheat the oven to 160ºC (320ºF). To make the passion fruit syrup, place passion fruit pulp, water and sugar in a small saucepan over medium heat and stir until sugar is dissolved. Bring to the boil, reduce the heat to low and cook for 10–15 minutes or until syrupy. Set aside.

Place the butter, sugar and vanilla in the bowl of an electric mixer and beat for 10–15 minutes or until pale and creamy. Add the eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Add yoghurt and beat until well combined. Fold through flour. Spoon mixture into a lightly greased 24cm bundt tin+ and bake for 35 minutes or until cooked when tested with a skewer. Remove cake from the tin and place on a serving plate. Spike all over with a thin skewer, drizzle cake with syrup and serve while still warm. Serves 8.
The teacher of the geography class was lecturing on map reading. After explaining about latitude, longitude, degrees and minutes the teacher asked, "Suppose I asked you to meet me for lunch at 23 degrees, 4 minutes north latitude and 45 degrees, 15 minutes east longitude...?"

After a confused silence, a voice volunteered, "I guess you'd be eating alone."

Q: What do you get from a pampered cow?
A: Spoiled milk.

Q: What do lawyers wear to court?
A: Lawsuits!

Q: What gets wetter the more it dries?
A: A towel.

Q: What did Bacon say to Tomato?
A: Lettuce get together!

Q. What do you get when you pour boiling water down a rabbit hole?
A. Hot cross bunnies.
Student Awards

Week 6  Savannah – for excellent writing with her Twits trick

Week 7  Angela – for working independently in class
          Jemma – for working independently in class

Week 8  Troy – excellent behaviour
          Jemma – excellent behaviour

Savannah – for being positive & keen at cross country and swimming

Week 9  Jemma – for always working hard
          Angela – for outstanding improvement in reading

Week 10 Selwyn – for sharing with a friend
          Kenyon – for good manners
          Sebastian – for always giving a helping hand

PCYC Charters are hosting cool activities to help add some colour to the holiday blues from Monday 07th to Friday 18th April. This is a great opportunity for parents to go shopping, get a hair cut, dine out or just catch up with friends while children are being entertained and looked after by qualified staff. Join in the fun.
HAPPY EASTER

from staff & students at Pentland State School