Swimming Carnival

Last Friday Pentland State School students competed in the Dalrymple Small School Clusters’ swimming carnival at Greenvale. Students and staff travelled by bus to Greenvale Thursday afternoon, arriving in time to set up, eat and bust a few dance moves at the blue light disco.

Although Ravenswood, not Pentland, won overall, we had a lot of wins on the day with Althea being the age champion for 2009 girls.

Well done to all students who participated; you did us proud with your determination, stamina and amazing behaviour.
During the swimming carnival, students released a balloon for a ‘Day for Daniel’.

The objectives of ‘Day for Daniel’ are:

- To raise awareness about child safety and protection and to promote a safer community for children.
- To educate children regarding their personal safety and empower them to RECOGNISE, REACT and REPORT.
- To provide FREE safety and educational material.
- To honour the memory of Daniel Morcombe.
Term 4 is well underway and we are rapidly approaching the end of the school year.

**End of Year Assessment**

The students will be finishing off their class work and beginning assessments very shortly. Most of our diagnostic testing will begin in week seven. Please ensure your child/children are at school every day!

**Attendance**

Our current attendance rate is 92.9%! Our goal is 95% for the year. Keep up the great work; we are almost there!

**Swimming Carnival**

Congratulations to those students that participated in the Dalrymple Cluster Swimming Carnival. It was great to see students giving it 100%, even though we haven’t had any training! Congratulations to Althea on winning age champion. This Friday 6th November, Mathew will be representing the cluster team at the District Swimming Carnival in Charters Towers. Good luck Matty!

The Pentland State School P&C Association is very grateful to be the recipient of $2000.00, donated to us by the North Queensland Rural Family Support Service/Community Drought Program. This money will support our annual Presentation Night and end of year activities. A HUGE thank you to Jeanie and Clive Brook for your support this year.

**Reading Award**

Determining a winner on last term’s McGrath Family Scholarship Award was a difficult decision. Although all students tried their best, two students stood out above the rest, Bodhi and Sumah split the prize with each one receiving $50.00 to spend on their education. Well done!

Yours in learning

Laura Peagham
Mum was born in NSW and lived most of her childhood in the Eastern Suburbs. Her Father travelled for work and her Mother went with him. Mum was raised by her Aunt Maude who was an Inspector of Schools. Aunt Maude trained Mum as a Teacher and her first teaching jobs were in local primary schools around the Eastern Suburbs. This was in the early 1940’s during WW11.

After her marriage in 1947, Mum moved to Victoria and raised 5 children. She also went back to teaching and for many years taught Needlework (at Footscray Girls Secondary School) which subsequently became part of Domestic Science.

After remarrying in 1969, Mum became mother to 2 more children. She continued working and finished her teaching career at Doveton High School.

Mum had two great loves aside from her family. She often took disadvantaged girls under her wing and aside from teaching them how to sew, she also taught them basic hygiene and social skills.

Her other great love was reading and in her later years could always be found with a book by her side. In honour of this we would like to award one child each term who has most improved their reading skills with $100 to go towards their education needs.

Mum always said “Reading is knowledge.”

Pentland State School Staff and Students would like to thank Eileen McGrath for her generous donation towards the reading scholarship. This is a great incentive for the students to improve in their reading.

The term three recipients for the McGrath Family Scholarships are Bodhi and Sumah, for outstanding improvements in reading in term three.
We have had a wonderful first half of Term 4! Before we know it Christmas Holidays will be upon us! Our students have been busy finishing off assessments to prepare for the second half of Term 4. Assessment pieces that have been a focus include 3/4/5 Geography, P-6 English, P-6 Science, P-6 Art and a variety of P-6 Mathematics assessment pieces.

We have also introduced literacy rotations on a Friday morning which is a nice addition to our classroom timetable. During this time students are split into groups and rotate through three stations. The three stations focus on handwriting, spelling and reading. We have found this extra literacy block gives the students extra support in those areas. It is also delivered in a way that is engaging and interesting for our students.

Within the next few weeks we will begin Termly testing, where we will work with the students to see their improvement in reading, spelling and maths. Keep up the good work kids! You are all making fantastic progress in these areas!

Ella James

Classroom Teacher
09.10.15

Skie is Awesome. She does excellent work in Maths.
Sumah is awesome. She can work independently.

23.10.15

Angela is awesome. She always gets her work done.
Chelsea is awesome. She is trying hard to improve in English.

Calendar of Events

➢ 6th November – District Swimming
➢ 13th, 20th, 27th – School Swimming
➢ 21st/22nd – First Aide and Bronze Medallion training
➢ 28th November – Pentland Races

SCHOOL RULES

Be Safe
Be Respectful
Be an Active Learner.
On Thursday 8th October, Instrumental band students from Charters Towers State High School visited our school to perform a range of songs and teach the students about the different types of instruments and the sounds they make. The Pentland children really enjoyed listening to the songs and singing along to their favourites! Some well-known songs were performed, including, Call Me Maybe, Waltzing Matilda and Let it Go. It was wonderful for State High to showcase some of their talent and show primary students the possibilities available at high school. A huge thanks to the Musicians and teachers for including Pentland State School in your tour!
This week Pentland students were extremely lucky to have Lee Schmidt fly up from Brisbane to teach our students Dance. Lee is a qualified dance teacher and she spent two intense days with our students, teaching them how to hip hop and rock ‘n’ roll. The two day workshop involved practical and theory activities based around Dance. Our students had a fantastic two days and presented their learnings to teachers and parents yesterday afternoon at our Dance Extravaganza. We have some very talented students at our school!! Special mention to Chelsea and Mathew, and Althea and Josh, who worked exceptionally well as dance partners for the Rock ‘n’ Roll! Thank you to Lee for a fantastic two day workshop!! We look forward to having you back next year for round two!

Hip Hop basics. You need:-

a whole lot of ‘tude. (That’s ATTITUDE to you amateurs).
You also must know the basics of locking, breaking and popping (we’re not talking about locking doors, breaking bread or popping corn, here.) [However it would be possible, even probable, to pop a hip if some of us old timers try it.]
Flexibility, stamina and a sense of humour are a must.
Looking at how quick they have learned their moves, we could be seeing the newest Hip Hop dancers, or a new group to compete with Last for One, Massive Monkeys or our own home grown Justice Crew. Don’t be basic. If you want to be on fleek, watch this space.
This week’s Playgroup continued with the theme being Ice cream. We had a ball making our own cold rock Ice cream flavours, and enjoying the end results! We also made Ice cream cones from shaving cream! They were cool!! Check out our photos!

Our day included a visit from Bernie, from United Community Care, with apologies from Jeannie Brook, who have been regular visitors and helpers at playgroup this year. It has been wonderful to have them on board. Bernie was holding a session for any interested parents called ‘Stretch your way to a peaceful day’.

There were 5 adults who took part in the exercise.

We thank Jeannie and Bernie for the support they have given our school throughout the year and hope this can continue next year as well.

Playgroup will continue each week until Wednesday 2 December. Everyone is welcome to attend.
With an Inreach session last week in Charters Towers for our two students, our regular e Kindy sessions have now come to a close. The two students, Dallas and Alexis, will now transition to PREP, with our PREP open days being held over the next couple of weeks.

We have all enjoyed doing the Tuesday sessions, and hope we can continue next year as well. I know that the students have learnt a lot from these sessions, but more importantly, we have all had a lot of fun doing it!!

If you know of any students who are eligible for eKindy in 2016, please contact the school.
With the end of the year fast approaching, there is still so much happening at Pentland State School. Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, we will not be having our yearly Bunnings Sausage Sizzle fundraiser this year.

Bookfair will be held next week, starting Monday afternoon. Opening times will be displayed on the school gates. Come in and find your Christmas pressies early.

There will be a few tuckshops over the coming weeks. We will be catering for Speech Night on Wednesday 9th December. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Also we will be organising a school pool party on Thursday 10th December.

If anyone is interested in joining the P&C you are more than welcome to come and see me.

Deana Read

President
1. When in hearing range of the big decision-makers such as the premier and prime minister, take the opportunity to speak up for what you believe (JT’s NQ stadium request).

2. We are allocated a finite number of minutes on this earth. If you’ve got 80 minutes, don’t ease off at 79 because amazing things can happen in the last 10 seconds.

3. Most of life is spent trudging back and forth, making little progress. But interspersed throughout are moments of inspiration, of despair and of incredulity. Knowing they are there propels us forward.

4. Magic happens north of the NSW border; even more north of the Tropic of Capricorn.

5. When it’s looking increasingly likely you will fail, it’s the people beside you, with their commitment to mutual success and belief in you that make triumph possible.

6. When you are tired and frustrated, mistakes will be made. Accepting this will help you get back up on your feet.

7. Sometimes the opposition wins; be gracious in defeat.

8. Life lessons can come from the most unexpected place; even a footy game.
**Bacon, Spinach & Ricotta Turnovers**

**Ingredients**

- 175g packet rind less short cut bacon, chopped
- 250g packet frozen spinach, thawed
- 200g ricotta
- 2 sheets frozen puff pastry, just thawed
- 4 slices vintage cheddar, quartered (triangles)
- 1 egg, lightly whisked
- Mixed salad, to serve

**Method**

Preheat oven to 220ºC/200ºC fan-forced. Line two baking trays with baking paper. Cook bacon in a small frying pan over moderately high heat for 5 minutes or until crispy. Transfer to a bowl. Add spinach and ricotta; stir to combine. Season.

Cut each pastry sheet into quarters (triangles). Place spinach mixture on half of each of the pastry triangles, then top each with two cheddar triangles. Fold over pastry to enclose filling; crimp edges of pastry to seal. Brush with egg. Place on prepared trays; bake for 15 minutes or until golden. Serve with salad.

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**Chocolate Banoffee Pie**

**Ingredients**

- 100g chilled butter, chopped
- 1 1/4 cups plain flour
- 1/4 cup caster sugar
- 1 egg, at room temperature
- 397g can chocolate sweetened condensed milk
- 300ml thickened cream, whipped
- 2 bananas, sliced
- 50g dark chocolate, shaved
- 1/4 cup chocolate topping

**Method**

Process butter, flour and sugar in a food processor to make coarse crumbs. Add egg; process until just forms a ball (if it doesn't, add 1-2 teaspoons water; process). Wrap dough in plastic food wrap; chill for 1 hour.

Roll out dough between two sheets of baking paper until 3mm thick. Line a 22cm fluted tart pan with removable base with pastry; trim. Chill for 30 minutes.

Preheat oven to 200oC/ 180oC fan-forced. Line pastry with baking paper; cover base with dried beans, rice or pie weights. Bake for 10 minutes. Remove beans and paper. Bake for 10 minutes or until just coloured. Cool completely.

Spread pastry case with chocolate condensed milk. Top with whipped cream, banana and chocolate. Serve with topping.
Teacher: Give me an example of a coincidence?

Student: My mom and dad got married on the same date.

Q: What do you call a sleeping bull?
A: A bull-dozer.

Q: How do you fit more pigs on your farm?
A: Build a sty-scraper!

Q: What do you call a single vampire?
A: A bat-chelor.

Q: Why didn't the skeleton cross the road?
A: He didn't have the guts!

Q: Why are graveyards noisy?
A: Because of all the coffin!
Snapshot report

Under the agreement for 2015
Pentland State School received $5000.00

Our full 2015 agreement can be found here: www.pentlandss.eq.edu.au

Our school strategies are on track to meet or exceed our targets

During 2015, we have focused on maximising the benefits of this funding for our students. After reviewing our Great Results Guarantee agreement, it is clear that we are on track to meet or exceed our targeted student outcomes. We continue to implement our strategies to ensure that every student succeeds.

- Increase the percentage of students meeting NAPLAN national minimum standards in Year 3 reading to 100% in 2015
- Increase the percentage of Year 3 students in the Upper 2 Bands from 0% in 2014 to 50% in 2015

Strategies implemented include:

- Implement high yield strategies as reflected in Hattie’s Visible Learning: student expectations and ownership (1.44), repeated reading programs (0.67), staff professional development (0.51) and parent involvement (0.49)
- Implement pedagogical practices to improve reading skills based on research by Fountas & Pinnell that focuses upon the explicit teaching of reading for all students
- Develop Individual Learning Plans for students who are identified below the National minimum Standards for Reading.
- Build staff capacity to work with students who require targeted and intensive literacy intervention in Prep to Year 3
The Story

Vanessa Hankin, one of our Pentland community members is currently undergoing chemotherapy for breast cancer. She has been told that the treatment will probably take a year or more, including a mastectomy in the future.

Vanessa (age 28) is a single mother with three children; Bodhi (age 10), Skie (aged 5) and Brian (10 months). She is supported by her younger sister and her sister’s partner and by some close friends.

We, as a community, want to show our support and help to walk the journey with her. One way we can do that is by this shave and sponsorship.

The Challenge

I, Chappy Jarvis, am challenged to show my support for her by going bald (for the first time ever). Furthermore, as an incentive to increase funds raised, I am also willing to shave legs, arms and eyebrows as a visible show of support for the journey she is on. These are the funding levels I am looking for:

- $250  Shave my head
- $500  Shave my legs and head
- $1000 Shave my arms, legs and head
- $2000 Shave my eyebrows, arms, legs and head (all my visible hair)

The Event

The shave will take place on 28th November, 2015 at the Pentland Race Day. Opportunity will be available on the day for others who may also want to show their support by shaving their heads.

The Donations

Donations can be made at the Pentland Post Office. 100% of money raised will be donated. Donations will be made to the family unless the ‘Donate to Cancer Council Qld’ option is nominated. Donations to Cancer Council are Tax Deductible and receipts will be issued after the shave. Alternatively, donations to Cancer Council Qld can be made online by searching for the Shave4Vanessa group on the Cancer Council’s special website (doitforcancer.com.au).