08/09/2016

Key to Success this fortnight: Resilience

From the Principal - Mr David Hillhouse

Action Packed Fortnight

While writing this fortnight’s newsletter I was reflecting on all of the great events that have occurred across the school over the past few weeks.

- Grandparent’s Day
- Bookweek
- School Disco
- The Math’s Team Challenge
- USHS Concert Band and Sandy Strait Band performance
- Father’s Day Stall
- Pre-Prep Program
- Year 3/4 Gala Day
- Prep Father’s Day BBQ
- Wide Bay Athletics

Our students are immersed in so many great learning opportunities and it has been an absolute pleasure to see how engaged our students have been in all of these events. I would like to thank all of our staff and P&C for the enormous amount of time and effort they have all put into the above events. A big thank you also must go out to our Sandy Strait Community for supporting all of these celebrations. We really appreciate your support.

Teacher Aide Day

At a special whole school assembly today our students and staff recognised the very special contribution our teacher aides and office staff make at our school. I want to extend my thanks to all of our teacher aides and office staff for the vital role they play in teaching and learning at Sandy Strait State School.
Learn to Swim

During term 2 parents were asked to respond to a survey about expanding our ‘learn to swim’ program. Due to the overwhelming positive support of this expansion we will be providing ‘learn to swim’ lessons for all students in years 1-4 during term 4 this year. Our main concern with the expansion of our program was the increased cost to our families. Thanks to the generous support of our P&C we will be subsidising the cost of our swim lessons to keep the cost below $50 per student. The cost will cover 8 swim lessons over a two week period including bus transportation to and from the pool. At this stage our year 1 and 2 students will be swimming from the 16th – 25th of November and our year 3 and 4 students from the 28th November – 6th December. Further information will be distributed early next term.

Parent Teacher Interviews

All teachers will be conducting interviews during the last two weeks of this term. Each child will have received a note from their teacher with the allocated times for interviews over this two week period. If you are unable to make your appointment during the allocated times please contact your child’s classroom teacher to make an alternative time. We believe that it is essential that every family participate in our parent teacher interviews.

Thank you for a wonderful Term

I would like to take this time to thank you all for your support this term. It has been a very busy and productive time for us here at Sandy Strait. Thank you to all families who have volunteered time in classrooms, the tuckshop or helping with P&C events such as our Disco or Fathers Day Stall. Also, a big thank you to staff for their commitment and dedication throughout the term. I feel privileged to work alongside such a high quality teaching and learning team.

Finally I would like to thank our students for demonstrating persistence, organisation, confidence, getting along and resilience over the course of the term. I would like to wish all our school community a safe and enjoyable break and look forward to welcoming students and staff back to school after the holidays. School will resume on Tuesday the 4th of October.

Parent Teacher Interview

Over the next two weeks teachers will be offering parent teacher interviews to discuss student progress. I would encourage you to take this opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher as parents often have information to share that assists teachers in working with their child. The partnership between parents and teachers is invaluable in providing student, parents and teachers information that ensures success in expectations of learning, behaviour and social interactions. If the times offered are unsuitable for you please contact your child’s teacher to make an alternative time. If you are unable to attend on the day you selected please contact the school so the teacher is made aware you won’t be attending.

RIBBIT

We have many incentives and activities to support our students in both learning and behaviour and one of these are our RIBBIT rewards sessions for students who show exemplary behaviour throughout the term. Students who achieve level 1 and 2 will be provided with a sausage sizzle on Friday 16th as a way of recognising their efforts in following rules and expectations at school during the term. Congratulations to those students who have achieved level 1 or 2 in behaviour.

High School Students will visit Prep

On Friday the year 11 Childcare students from Urangan High will be visiting to read stories to the Prep students. Once again the high school students need to have ‘real’ students to allow them to practice their skills on and this time their task is reading to engage and entertain young children.

Last term the Preps went across to the High School to be part of small group games and enjoyed the activities that the high school students prepared for them and this time we are looking forward to have them entertaining the Preppies with reading stories.

Road Safety

There have been some reports of students crossing Robert Street without using the crossing. There have been incidents where parents and students are rushing and in the heat of the moment students have run across the road to a waiting car. This causes stress and danger for children and other drivers alike. Please discuss the importance of crossing the street safely with your child and that they must use the crossing.

A huge Thank you

As we head to the end of term 3 I would like to take the opportunity to thank parents and carers for the support they have given teachers and students and school personnel over the term.

It has been a very busy term with Book week, Grandparents day, NAIDOC week, class excursions, school photos, Father’s Day, Gala days and P & C organised activities as well as the usual classroom activities related to students learning. Many of these activities have required extra effort and support by you to make them successful so on behalf of the teachers, thank you for your support, time and effort during term 3.

News from Lost Property

Please take the time to look through the lost property cupboard—as the contents of this cupboard will be removed over the school holidays.
Even More on GRIT

GRIT refers to that combination of emotional resilience and persistence. It is according to psychologist Angela Duckworth, the best predictor of success; even better than IQ.

In our recent newsletters, we have been focusing on GRIT and what we can do to help our students become grittier.

This week is: Be a nudge.

No one wants to be that parent, the one who pushes their child every step of the way. But it’s OK to let your kids know that you expect them to do their best and to create a structure that will help them do it. Remember, someone else’s best isn’t always yours.”

Teach It:

Simply sharing what the expectations are, is the first step. But when your child is learning any new skill, athletic, musical, or otherwise, nudging also means scheduling—and insisting on—practice times. “I haven’t yet heard of a kid who is completely self-winding,” Duckworth says. There’s nothing wrong with setting aside a daily practice time. Your child will probably still whine about it, but if you’re consistent, the complaints should decrease over time, and your child may even begin to appreciate the benefits later on (OK, maybe much later on!).

Year 5 & 6 GALA Day

Close on the heels of the Year 3 & 4 GALA day is the Year 5 & 6 GALA day. This event kicks off this Friday. The Gala day sports on offer include: Girls and Boys Basketball, Mixed Soccer, Oz Tag, and Mixed Newcombe Ball. Our school will host Boys Basketball and Newcombe Ball. We expect close to 300 visitors from other schools on Friday.

The P&C will be holding a sausage sizzle (sausages $2.00) throughout the day as well for those students participating in the Gala Day.

2017 Student Leadership

This week our Year 5 students were formally invited to consider applying for a student leadership position for 2017. The students were reminded that the leadership roles are ones of honour and responsibility. All leaders will be expected to display positive leadership skills and uphold school values and beliefs in the classroom, playground and all school related activities. Applications close Friday 7th October 2016.

USHS & SSSS School Combined Band Performance

The whole school were fortunate to be entertained by the USHS school band during a concert last Thursday. The 50 piece band had students and teachers dancing in their seats. A highlight of the concert was when our own Sandy Strait band members joined the USHS performers on stage to perform. A big thank you to instrumental teacher and concert conductor Mr Brindley and the USHS students for giving up their time to perform for us. If your child is keen to learn an instrument and would like to join our instrumental program for 2017 please contact the school.

Holiday Ideas

This is our last newsletter before we have our spring holiday break so here are a few things you could encourage your children to do if they complain they are bored during the holiday period.

- Fly a kite
- Climb a tree
- Feed the ducks in a pond
- Skip stones across a pond (but look out for the ducks)
- Learn something new
- Attend a Bunnings Kids Workshop
- Attend the Fraser Coast Library School Holiday Program. Activities include: LEGO challenge, mini Olympics, balloon sculpting make your own 3D wooden flying bird
- Attend the Secrets of the Cardboard Rocket Show: Pialba Place will host the Cosmodome Secrets of the Cardboard Rocket Show during the Spring school holiday break. The shows will run from Monday 19th September to Saturday 24th September. Four free shows will be held each day at 10am, 11am, 12noon and 1pm.
- Attend the Sunday in the Park: Ride the trains and join in the festive fun, jumping castle, face painting. Where: Queens Park Maryborough
- Participate in the Fraser Coast Duck Race: Fundraising event, buy a duck and race to win When: 26th September Time: 2:30pm Where: Westside Water Park
- Watch the Johnny the Jester Magic Show: Kids of all ages love this show especially the magical python When: 26th September to 1st October Time: Two shows daily 10:30am and 12:30pm Where: Pialba Place Cost: Free
- Go to the Alice in Wonderland Live Show: Lewis Carroll’s classic Alice in Wonderland comes to life on stage When: 28th September Time: 11am to 12noon Where: Brogo Theatre Cost: all tickets $34.90 | U1 FREE.

News from Chaplain

Wow, this term has flown, we all will be thinking about Christmas next.

Over the past few weeks the school has participated in Operation Christmas Child. It has been tremendous to see how this project has:-
- Impacted students world view,
- How they have become literate in issues related to aid and development,
- Being a part of working together with overseas missions organisation and
- Being aware that they are having an impact in the world and making differences to lives of children who live in poverty.

The students watch a DVD and see the joy that opening a shoebox filled with gifts brings to a child in poverty. It has been a great way to teach them about giving with joy and love, and knowing they have made a difference in a child’s life.

Cheers Chappy
News from P&C

We wish to thank all students, parents, and teachers for making the school disco such a fantastic night! We hope all students had a great time. A special thanks also to those parents and staff who volunteered their time. It was greatly appreciated!

The Father’s Day stall was a great success this year. We hope all our Dad’s had a lovely day and enjoyed their gifts! Thank you to those volunteers who gave up their time to help out!

On Sunday, 23 October, 2016 we are holding a Professional Family Portrait Fundraiser. The cost of the portrait sitting is $20 and you will receive a 10 x 13 inch family portrait and keyring. Please see flyer for more information.

Thanks again to our school community for their ongoing support of the P&C Association.

Kylie Dinte
P&C President

News from the Librarian—Ms Melanie Mills

Thanks again for your support of our recent Book Fair. The re-orders are on their way—the Book Fair company was waiting for other fairs to finish to complete our order (they feel it only fair that everyone receives their special order at the same time. 😊)

On another note, all student loans are due back at school by next Wednesday, so they too can have a well-earned break! Next term, we will be trialling send overdue messages via text message.

Melanie Mills, Teacher-Librarian

News from the Tuckshop—Mrs Heidi Sulzenbacher

Please see Heidi at Tuckshop, if you have any spare time to assist. It can be an one hour to a couple of hours. All help is greatly appreciated.

Heidi Sulzenbacher
Tuckshop Convenor

News from Helping Hands—OSHC

Hi, to all the families of Sandy Strait State school,

School holidays are fast approaching and we have an amazing school holiday program for these holidays, please pop down and see me in the school hall.

If you have not been involved in any of the helping hands programs you will need to come and get an enrolment pack and I will be happy to give you a quote for the holidays. Numbers are limited with our excursions, so get your forms back! I hope to see some new faces and all our old friends.

If you need any more info, give me a call on 0439730544 or pop in and see me in the hall.

Kind regards
Jade Middleton
Co-ordinator
Helping Hands Sandy Strait State School
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Ph: Penny 4128 4888

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**Howard State School Twilight Fete**  
**Friday September 9th**  
**From 5pm to 8pm**  
**Unlimited Ride Band prepurchased $20**  
(includes Jumping Castle, Rock Wall, Slide, Bungee Run & Laser Tag)  
**Michael Weeks performing live**  
**Food Stalls, Face Painting, Show bags & Glitter Tattoos**

Loads of fun and activities for the whole family, be sure to come along!

*Stall Holders Welcome... Site fee from $10*  
If you would like to promote your own business or sell your home made crafts be sure to come along and book a site.  
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