Hello everyone,

NAPLAN results were in the news this week, with Queensland being the most improved state since NAPLAN began. Not a bad claim to fame, but what really counts is the experience and learnings of your child. Individual NAPLAN reports were sent home yesterday.

Over the last few weeks, many families have been touching base with classroom teachers and discussing the progress and learning needs of their child/ren. Thankyou so much for investing your time to partner with us!

(FYI - Formally scheduled parent teacher interviews have proven not to be the most effective for our community. So, if at any time there is something that you would like to discuss with your child’s teacher, please make an appointment through the office. Teachers will prioritise the time.)

The survey regarding ICTs in the school and how to progress this forward, were very interesting reading. From the children’s point of view they indicate that they do access computers for learning with the average rating being a 3 – 4 out of the possible 5. Their responses to ‘What is the most annoying things about computers?’ were the issues that we expected to see eg. freezing, forgetting log ons, time to boot up etc. They also indicated quite strongly that an ipad or a tablet would be their choice of device. A few said they prefer a computer.

Family / adult responses were very interesting & have given me a clear direction on where to go next. I have taken on board the notion that most families would not agree with devices going between home and school for the primary school age group, due to the increased possibility of damage, theft etc. The response to the question, “Do you think your child has sufficient access to computers at this school?” was strong in the 4 - 5 category, as was the response to the question regarding the importance of ICTs as part of learning. What I have also heard is that as we forward plan the 1:1 ratio is important, ease of access for children is an area to work on, and that our parent (and teachers!) definitely want eBalance. ☺ .. oh, yes! And keep the cost down please.

-- Roslyn Waldron (Principal)

Who Influences Me?

Year 5/6 have been learning about, “Who influences me?” and the importance of the people in their lives. Of course, when asked the question who influences them the most, our teachers were the first response! Then came mum, dad, family and friends. (No bribery was needed!) Students have started their first assessment task creating concepts maps on what makes you, you? We have had class discussions about student’s personal qualities and what makes them unique. Here is an example of our concept maps and the groups that influence them today.

Important Dates:
5 August – Future Leaders’ Eco Challenge (selected students Y6)
6 August – Sarina Show
10 August – P&C Meeting @ 5pm in the library
18 August – Senior’s Morning Tea – Year 1/2 involvement
19, 20, 21 August – Blue Mountain Campdraft / Major School Fundraiser.
25, 26 August – School Review
9 September – School Disco
13 September – Rural Safety for Children excursion Year 3/4
12 – 16 September – Year 5/6 camp
Our Learning Objectives: 1. Reading and writing must make sense! 2. Student know what they know, and know what they need to know next!

SWAYNEVILLE STATE SCHOOL

Swayneville Swag

Greenland Branch Results of International Competition

Branch International School Competition - GREENLAND: Judged on Thursday 16th June by Mrs Catherine Mian (Sarina Branch). 71 entries in total were entered from schools.

Results are as follows:-

Prep Colouring In
1st Lizzie Carey Swayneville State School
2nd Karlie Dunbar
3rd Marley Maylata

Year 1 Colouring In
1st Reina McFadzen Clarke Creek State School
2nd Lara Hart
3rd Jameson Keir Swayneville State School

Year 2 Colouring In
1st Aqueelah Kissier
2nd Hayley Howorth
3rd Olivia Hauwert

Year 3 Flags
1st Shania Craig
2nd Dallas Robertson
3rd Charlie Carey

Year 4 Flora & Fauna
1st Fletcher McFadzen
2nd Bodhi Rowe-Bailey
3rd Hamish Alway

Year 5 Tourism
1st Ty Soutter Clarke Creek State School

Year 6 Computer
1st Mick Allgood
2nd Tom Wallace

The first place winners have now been sent to Division for judging.

Camp Draft Fever – Donation Drive

Donating items are another great way of supporting our Campdraft Fundraiser. So, there is now a class competitions to determine which class has the best basket! Yes, class prizes are available. Each class has a campdraft basket in their room. Suggested items for donation are on a rip-off-tag so that a range of different items are provided. When the item is purchased please have your child put it into their basket. Every little bit helps!

P/1
Y1/2
Y3/4
Y5/6

Linking Libraries

Research skills are the skills of asking questions and finding answers. Life is full of questions. Most of us spend time each day asking questions and finding the answers to them. Some questions are easily answered. But others are more difficult, and you may need help in finding the answers.

Research involves locating and retrieving information—answers to questions—and then working with or communicating that information. You may use the results of your research to help make a decision, or you may communicate your research results to others (for example, turning in a research paper to your teacher or presenting facts about your favourite sports team in your blog). Once you learn where to go or whom to ask to get answers to your questions, you have developed skills that you can use all your life. Research skills are useful in school, in your career, and in many everyday situations. Developing good research skills can help you find information of all kinds more quickly and efficiently.

Use this excellent resource available through the Mackay Regional Council Library website

http://www.worldbookonline.com/student/howtoresearch?what_are_research_skills

Troy McShannan: Branch Coordinator Sarina Library
The **eKindy program** is a comprehensive ‘at home’ kindergarten program for children in the year before Prep. The program is supported by a qualified early childhood teacher and covers 15 hours of Kindergarten for 40 weeks a year (school terms only). The program aligns with the **early years learning framework** and the **Queensland kindergarten learning guideline**.

In 2017, a child will be eligible for eKindy if
- They are born by June 30 2017
- The child or a parent is an Australian citizen/permanent resident
- The family/child fits one of the legislated eligibility categories – Distance (live at least 16 km from the nearest early childhood service), Medical or Travelling/itinerant.

The waiting list for the 2017 program is now open. If you are aware of any children in our community who are interested in taking part in the eKindy program in 2017, a waiting list form is available through the school office.

More information can be found about eKindy through the following link: [https://brisbanesde.eq.edu.au/Supportandresources/Formsanddocuments/Documents/eKindy/ekindy-waiting-list.pdf](https://brisbanesde.eq.edu.au/Supportandresources/Formsanddocuments/Documents/eKindy/ekindy-waiting-list.pdf)

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**Is your child starting school in 2017?**

An invitation to participate in a research project.

When children start school they experience a lot of changes. We now understand that at the same time, parents also experience changes as their child starts formal schooling. This research project is interested in interviewing parents about the changes that they experience and the adjustments that they need to make as their child starts school.

If you are interested in volunteering to be part of this research project, please contact the researcher -
Grant Webb: email - grantawebb@bigpond.com or phone 0402409535

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