Hello everyone,

The Department of Education and training has announced that soon all schools in Queensland will be given the requisite software to be able to SMS parents. This, together with the Qschools App (usage endorsed by P&C at recent meeting) are going to be key tools to help with the timeliness of parent/school communications, and school attendance follow through.

Of course, the first thing that we are going to bump into is the mobile phone coverage issues that are very much a part of living around the Sarina Range Area, but as the Qschools App links with the school website, between the two of them messages should get out as needed. Currently, the delegated school staff are still learning how all this operates and will roll out, but we will get there. In the interim, could you please download the free Qschools App and set Swayneville as a favourite. It is possible to have more than one favourite eg. Swayneville + Sarina High. Each school operates independently, but are accessible through the one app.

In keeping with our school improvement agenda –
1. Effective pedagogical practices
2. Students showing relative gain.

Swayneville’s teachers will be taken off class during the last week of term to be given planning time with myself. Our task in rolling out the Australian Curriculum, aligning curriculum with assessment and differentiating for grades and individuals requires significant expertise, data analysis and time. All classes will still have a full set of learning objectives for the day.

Rewards Day is nearly here!! Don’t be tempted to have a four day weekend. Friday is still a school day, but Swayneville has a tremendous day planned to Reward those great behaviours. Reef Guardian representatives will be out to teach us how to keep the reef safe. Aboriginal Elders will be taking activities to enhance our understandings and appreciation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, and then there will be the games room (numeracy games actually, but don’t tell the kids!) All cross-curriculum work, but just delivered with FUN being emphasised.

There will be homework reward activities next week too!

-- Roslyn Waldron (Principal)

Yr. 3/4 -- Building a bridge over troubled waters

The students of Yr. 3/4 have been working diligently to get their assessment tasks and tests completed for this term. Along with Mathematics and English tests, they have needed to complete History, Science and Health assessments.

In Science, students are putting the finishing touches to bridges that they have designed and constructed. The bridges will then be tested to see if they will withstand an extreme weather event e.g. a flash flood. Their designs are amazing and the willingness of the students to co-operate in their small groups has been impressive. They have also enjoyed presenting their PowerPoints about one type of extreme weather.

It has been a long standing tradition that students from Swayneville School compete in the yearly C.W.A School’s competition. The 3/4 students have completed their interesting and colourful posters about Greenland and we hope to hear about some prize winners soon.

Important Dates:
17 June – “Menu Moments” tuckshop order
23 June – Show Holiday
24 June – Reward Day + Report Cards issued. NO tuckshop
11 July – Term 3 commences
1 August – Pupil Free Day
16 May - 26 August – Premier’s Reading Challenge

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

952 Sarina Marlborough Road
Sarina Qld 4737
Phone: (07) 4956 4530
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Principal: Mrs Roslyn Waldron

Email: principal@swayneviss.eq.edu.au
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Banking Details: 064711 00090098 (Com. Bank)
Blue Mountain Campdraft 2016

Just a reminder to everyone that the Blue Mountain Campdraft is fast approaching. This year the Campdraft will be on the 19th, 20th and 21st of August. It is held at the Blue Mountain Campdraft Grounds, “Strathdale”, Blue Mountain Rd Sarina, approximately 25 mins from school over the Sarina Range.

For our new families who may be unaware, the catering for this event is the major school fundraiser for the year. Our school runs the canteen and provides all meals for competitors and spectators from Friday night through to Sunday afternoon. Over the last few years we have raised over $15 000 for our school. There are many ways in which you can support this event and our school.

1. Providing a hot meal for Friday night.
2. Provide baking for sweets and desserts.
3. Rostering on to work a shift at the event.
4. Donate goods to help with the catering. (Last year we had donations of items ranging from cartons of soft drink to BBQ sauce and coffee. These donations really helped to increase our profits.)

Work Roster.

To make it easier and for things to run smoothly we need at least 8 crews of approximately 8 people rostered over the weekend. Due to the high quality of food and reasonable prices last year we had most of the 300 competitors and spectators eat all their meals at our canteen. This means that the more people we can roster on to help, the lighter the load. Each crew would need people to cook the bbq, prep and serve food.

There are camping facilities on site for those of you that may like to camp the night, with toilets and hot showers available. Those of us that have camped each year have had a great time and the children enjoyed the weekend as well. It’s a great social event and one that greatly benefits our school financially.

The success of this event really does rely on the dedication and team work of our school community and I hope everyone will be able to get behind it and support our school. If you could please indicate how you may be able to assist with the catering event and return to school it would be much appreciated. We encourage you to seek help from family and friends as many hands make light work. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions and if you would like to donate items.

Many thanks,
Melanie Hamblin
PH:49504203 MOB:0499638710 email: strathdale@hamblin.com.au

Food For Thought

Helicopter parents – why kids should take risks

Helicopter parents hover over every aspect of their child’s life. They may feel the need to make sure their child does not face any risk or failure. Yet children learn by taking risks.

But this can be confusing for parents – how can you tell if you are just being protective or if you have gone too far?

Take, for example, a child who is learning to climb a tree. A helicopter parent will anxiously hover around telling the child to “be careful”.

Then there are parents who get too involved in their child’s activities. They might do their child’s homework or argue with teachers over poor grades.

Kids need to learn to do things for themselves. And they need to learn by taking some risks and making mistakes. If they aren’t given these chances, when will they grow up? It can get to the point where kids become so reliant on their parents doing things for them that they can’t make decisions for themselves.

The bottom line is, be aware of what you’re doing. Eventually you will learn to be more relaxed about how you monitor your child. You will get used to keeping an eye on your kids while also giving them space to grow.

-- Chappie Di

Friday 17th June - *Menu Moments*

Choice of Spaghetti Bolognaise OR Chicken and fried rice Both meals include a slice of garlic bread Cost: $4.50

Order slip will be sent home next Monday. Please return by Wednesday morning.

Ice blocks, poppers, yoghurt, sweets available to order or purchase on Friday.

Friday 24th June - No Tuckshop

FREE DRESS DAY

Friday this week.

Gold Coin Donation towards student council.

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Cane trains on the move again

Cane trains are on the move again around the Sarina district ahead of the start of this year’s crushing season.

Crushing is set to start at Wilmar Sugar’s Plane Creek Mill on Tuesday 14 June. Now is a great time for parents to talk to their children about staying safe around cane trains.

Cane trains operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week during the crushing season. Although cane trains don’t travel at high speeds they weigh about 1000 tonnes, which means they take a long time to stop after brakes are applied.

Even if a loco driver sees someone or something on the train tracks ahead, he or she may not be able to stop in time to avoid hitting it.

A locomotive can weigh up to 40 tonnes - about the same as a humpback whale. Cane bins usually weigh between four and six tonnes - about the same as an elephant. That means a fully laden cane tram is about the same as a humpback whale towing ’50 roller-skating elephants - not something you want to have hit you!

That’s why it is so important to stay away from cane railway tracks and always give way to cane trains.

Wilmar Sugar’s cane train safety mascot, Sam, helps teach young people how to stay safe during the crushing season. Sam’s key messages to young people are that they should:

1. Keep off cane trains and their bins;
2. Keep clear of cane railway tracks;
3. Stay off cane railway bridges;
4. Stay safe at cane railway crossings.

Plane Creek Mill’s crushing season is expected to run from June to November.

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