Hello Everyone,

Assessments are in full swing, as the term builds up to the highlights of the school year. The weather may have tired us, but teaching and learning is still the focus here at Swayneville, and will be right up to the last day of term.

Next week, week 8 is the final week of homework with week 9 being allocated for catch-up. To that end, all library books and readers will need to be returned by Friday next week, so that stocktake can be taken and … we can put into circulation the 120 new home readers that the school has purchased. 😊 It only a small amount of what needs to be replaced, but it is a good start.

The school is working on revising the now outdated Responsible Behaviour Plan. This document needs to be updated after a school review / every four years to ensure legislative currency. A draft is being placed on the website if you are interested in reading it and responding (email is fine). The major change is around the name of our process – School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) is now known as Positive Behaviour For Learning (PBL). This document is currently being reviewed by staff and P&C, with the plan to have it fully actionable for the start of 2017. It will be current until the end of 2020.

School uniforms are available through Lollypop Lane in Sarina, but the school does carry a few second hand uniforms which proves very handy from time to time. If your children have grown through their uniforms, and you would like to pass them on, leaving them at the school as part of the second hand stock would be much appreciated.

-- Roslyn Waldron (Principal)

Important Dates:

28 November – Orientation Day Year 6 transition
30 November – Leadership Speeches for school leaders 2017, 1:40 in the undercover area.
2 December – Year 6 Graduation Dinner 6:00pm start.
5 December – Swimming Carnival
7 December – Presentation Night
8 December – Rewards Day
9 December – final day of term.

Survival Science

Prep 1 have been particularly enjoying their “Survival Science” unit this term. The have discussed how they can meet their needs when camping in the bush. Some were very disappointed when Mrs. Dunn informed them that a Caravan, T.V and fridge weren’t essential items that could be included on their list of needs when camping. Other were quite practical discussing how they could catch fish, trap animals or whittle a spear. Where to from here? The children are going to design and construct a container that can be used to insulate their food while they are camping. The children have produced some wonderful artwork around camping out which can viewed in the Prep 1 room if you’re interested.
**Swimming Carnival – 5 December**

The 2016 Swimming Carnival is fast approaching and is scheduled for Monday the 5th of December. All costs have been already covered as part of the Swimming Program.

For those unfamiliar with the arrangements the following may be of help:

1. All children arrive at school as per usual.
2. The Junior School Carnival (P – 2*) is undertaken in the morning from 9:30am until 11:30am.
3. After roll marking, the (P – 2*) children are bused to the Sarina Pool.
4. The upper grades (Y3 – 6) will be bused down to the pool soon after 10:30am. This way they still have learning time and are not in the sun for the full day.
5. A shared lunch between 11:15 – 12:00pm is catered for by the P&C. Order information will sent home at a later time.
6. Junior students return to school for the afternoon (for the same reasons as above). The Senior Carnival then runs from 12:00pm till 2:30pm.
7. At 2:30pm, the senior students are bused back to school in time for the finish of the day, and the usual afterschool buses.
8. The school leaders, teachers and teacher aides help Mr Campbell run the carnival. Family is most welcome to come, watch and cheer for Jackson and Donahue.

There will be a range of competitive races with freestyle races for the whole school, and breaststroke and backstroke races for the senior school. There will also be a range of fun novelty events which will allow all students to have fun and participate and enjoy an awesome day in the pool. The school P&C will be selling food on the day and we would greatly appreciate any parent helpers for various roles on the day. We at Swayneville are looking forward to seeing as many parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts here to support the students on this great sporting occasion. Regrettably, we ask that High School Students who may be finished for the year, are not to be in attendance.

Yours in sport,
Mr Joel Campbell | HPE Teacher.

* = There are several students, who due to the nature of the midyear starting point for schooling, will be in Senior rather than the Junior Carnival. Students born 2008 or up will be in the Senior Carnival. Those students will be placed with the Year 3/4 class for the day.

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**Food For Thought**

**Parenting stress – and why you deserve a break!**

Sometimes it seems like the demands and stresses of parenting just keep building up! But there are things you can do to get life back under control.

Think about what makes you feel stressed each day. If you lower this everyday stress, it will be easier to deal calmly with your children. It will also make it easier to cope with those unexpected things, like illness.

For some parents it just seems like there is too much to do each day. You might need to make some changes to your lifestyle. Talk to your partner about ways to change your routine or share the workload.

Call on friends and family you trust if you want some extra help. Everyone needs a little support now and then so there’s no reason to feel guilty about asking them to mind the kids or to have a coffee with you.

For other parents, the hour after everyone comes home from school and work is the most stressful part of the day. Put a good routine in place where each person knows what they need to do. This will help your evenings to run smoothly.

Finally, you should always take some time for yourself to relax or do something you enjoy. Even 30 minutes a day can be enough to help you feel refreshed. Regular exercise and a healthy lifestyle help too.

-- Chappie Di
The school has applied for a grant through the White’s Rural Community Grants. Our hope to secure funding for Artist In Residence for Rewards Day next year. There is a people’s choice grant award that may assist in getting us the funding. Would you please vote for our application? It would be very much appreciated.