Important Dates:
8 August – P&C meeting @ 1:00 pm library. Camp Draft on agenda.
8 August – Curriculum meeting
14 August – Music Avia
15, 16, 17 August – Camp Draft
21 August – School Discipline Audit
21 August – Guest appearance choir & rock pop @ Senior Week celebrations
24 August – Optiminds

Hello everyone,
The children returned from the Sarina Show full of stories about their activities. I hope you were able to drop in and see our school display. This year Swayneville State School placed third, and our banner is now proudly displayed in the office, next to our Rock Pop Mime win. 😊

Optiminds has started up, with Mrs Hall (supported by Miss Stark) gathering momentum at a fantastic rate so that they can be ready in time. It is really wonderful to see the talents of our teachers and students combine to prepare for this creative problem solving challenge. The Optiminds event is on Sunday 24 August in Mackay.

During parade last week, students were reminded that bringing toys and play equipment from home was not to happen as there are plentiful resources available. A reminder was also issued regarding the appropriate storage of ipods and other value electronic devices during the school day. The office is the safest place to leave them.

Parent of our younger students could we ask for your assistance please? Wee little accidents happen, and we endeavor to discretely help your child by cleaning up and sending them home in clean spare clothes. Unfortunately these borrowed items are not being washed and returned, and we have none left. If your child has been sent home in one of our borrowed sets, could you please return them asap? Also, as a good practice that takes minimal effort, please put a spare set of undies, short/skirt and socks in a plastic bag at the bottom of their port. Saves a lot of hassle if the need arises! Thanks for your help.

--- Mrs Roslyn Waldron (Principal)

The first few weeks of this term saw the 1 / 2 class busy exploring poetry. They spent time investigating rhythm and rhyme so that they could write their own poetry and publish it.

The Very Blue Thingamajig

The very blue thingamajig
was sparkly blue and big
and with his twisty, twirly
tail he went to jail
and with his yellow, waxy
wings he went on the swings
but with his hideously, hard
horns that were red he
scratched his head in bed.

Jack Clark

They have now progressed into character descriptions, exploring the language that is used to make a character come alive. The children are adding descriptive words to their nouns to create their own unique characters. Week three saw us creating art pieces, which explored our creativity, for the Sarina Show.
A Day With A Scientist

The Sarina cluster schools were gifted with a grant by Education Queensland for limited year 6/7 students to have A Day With A Scientist. “Ryan and I were chosen to go, and we went to Alligator Creek State School and meet Dr Peter Eastwell, “said Claire.

Ryan’s favourite part of the day was the explosion at the start of the day,” grinned Ryan. “It was an exploding coke bottle using liquid nitrogen. We put the liquid nitrogen into the coke bottle, screwed the lid on, then went to the oval. When out there, we put the bottle into hot water, and watched as it exploded into pieces.”

“All day people were asking about what had made the noise, but we were too busy experimenting how fast flus and diseases spread at parties,” Claire said seriously, while Ryan smiled cheekily. 😊

Dental Health Week: 4 – 11 August

To celebrate Dental Health Week 2014 Smiles 4 Everyone would like to offer all local school children aged 4 to 17 a FREE check up including x-rays for the month of August.
We can also check to see if your children are eligible to receive up to $1000 worth of dental treatment through Medicare!
Call on 4943 1243 to make an appointment.
Tips for Parents to Manage Technology’s Dark Side
Part 1

Technology is not a bad thing. It is just what it gives access to that is the problem. Critical issues such as cyberbullying, the misuse of social networking, video game addiction, depression and pornography can result from the misuse of technology. Parent must play a significant role in teaching their child to use technology safely. Schools have a part to play too – but what happens in the home is crucial to helping children understand the possible dangers and to keep children safe.

During the parent and community meetings held at Carmila and Sarina, Brad Huddleston and Sgt Nigel Dalton presented some suggestions which parents may wish to consider and adapt to their particular home environment. Both Brad and Nigel were upfront in the opinion that parents may find conflict arises with their child when implementing the suggestions – but parenting is tough and the parent needs to show their child that they love them whilst teaching them to be disciplined. Their prime responsibility is to be a parent and not a friend.

Here are some of Brad’s and Nigel’s strategies for parents to use:

Strategy 1: Young people need about 9 hours of sleep per night (this may vary up to 12 hours for very young children). The sleep needs to be uninterrupted and be in a darkened room. There must be no technology present – and this includes computers and mobile phones. Bedrooms are for sleeping. Young people who use the phone to wake them up in the morning should be provided with an alarm clock – they cost about $10. Music (through earphones etc) must also be removed at night. Listening to music may help get young people to get to sleep but it seems to delay (or even interrupt) the REM (Rapid Eye Movement) sleep we all need if we are to awaken refreshed.

Strategy 2: Some parents provide a facility in their home where all mobile technological devices can be charged and securely stored at night. This could be in a suitably modified cupboard with appropriate charging points, cords, power boards etc. It was recommended that parents show the way by also storing and charging their mobile devices in this cupboard at night. ......

Awards

Rock, Pop, Mime performers were presented with certificates.
Yr 6/7.
Claire Perna & Georgia Beveridge- outstanding focus on learning.
Yr 4/5.
Dylan Collins-Kulikov-working well on his Murray River project.
Courtney Perna-working well and using strategies in reading groups.
Yr 2/3.
Hamish Alway-excelled in learning about money.
Bodhi Rowe-Bailey-incrediable effort in group art work.
Yr 1/2.
Jordannah Moren-great leadership skills.
Abbey Smyth-taking turns in sharing.
Prep.
Henry Vonhoff-great work with his "or" words.
Zander Palmer-working well with rhyming words.

Bee Stamps.
Donohue - 168, Jackson-185.
Queen Bee.
4/5