NEWS FROM YEAR 4/5/6 CLASSROOM

It has been a very busy beginning for us this year! Despite this, the students of 4/5/6 are settling in really well and have well and truly embraced their learning topics for this term. This week’s newsletter feature is about our Science investigation. Year 4 and 5 students are exploring selected Dinosaurs of ancient Australia whilst our Year 6 students are exploring the impact of feral Animals on Australian Flora and Fauna. Did you know that Australia had its very own Raptor which scientists called the “Ozraptor” (carnivorous and scary like the Velociraptor on Jurassic Park)? There’s also another raptor called, funnily enough, “Australovenator”. Some students have suggested that if these types of dinosaurs were alive today, they might help solve Australia’s feral animal problem!

Well done and thanks to those students who have shared their research and ideas with other class members, the care and consideration has been wonderful to see!

Important Dates:

26 & 27 Feb – Principal Conference
13 March – P&C AGM
2 April – Rewards Day
3 April – Good Friday + Start of 2 week break.
16 May – Raise the Roof Big Bash Fundraiser

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Please find attached an update to the tuckshop menu. Product adjustments have caused the change.

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Hello everyone,

How fortunate have we been with the cyclone missing our area! While many communities further south have been hard hit, we have escaped unscathed. The vast majority of our students attended school.

Some concern was raised locally when Koumala School was closed. As this affected another community, I was not informed of this until after the cyclone, so was unable to preempt concern. Wayne Butler, the Regional Director of the Central Queensland Region, is the only person who is able to officially close a school. Until that time staff are to attend with business as usual, provided that safety is not put at risk. Should the school be directed to close, you will be notified directly. Your decision regarding the safety of your children during times such as these will be respected. Thanks to all parents who contacted the school to let us know where the children were. Legislation makes it important that we know. Additionally, school bus runs are managed by a separate company and as such will make their own decision.

The school office is open every school day. Carolyn Hoare mans the office from 8:00 – 3:00 every day except Friday when she finishes at 12:00pm. These are her allocated hours. Parents are most welcome to come into the office to attend to business, but we do ask that students are either escorted by a parent at that time, or come in after 8:30. This allows organization time for teaching teams. For convenience, school contact details and online banking details are in the bottom border of the newsletter.

A quick word of thanks to Darren and Glenn for attending to our damaged gate, and to Zach for moving those heavy pavers. Your kind actions are appreciated.

-- Roslyn Waldron (Principal)
Free ‘Student Advantage’ Microsoft Office 2013 Suite

Students can now download a free copy of the Microsoft Office 365 Suite. This suite provides students with a subscription to the full versions of Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and OneNote.

After downloading, students will have the latest Office suite at home, on their personal PC’s, Macs and other mobile devices (up to five in total).

Students should visit the Learning Place from their home device (http://education.qld.gov.au/learningplace/) student space, with the student’s school logon and password to access a step by step guide and the download link.

East Funnel Creek & Blue Mountain Conveyance Committee AGM (Bus Committee)
5.30pm Wed 4th March 2015
Sarina Range CWA Hall, Colston Park

We will be discussing the following:-
- Service Timetable
- Route Design
- Student Discipline
- Operator’s Report on Service

If you wish to contribute to this discussion, or have any feedback to provide, please either attend this meeting or contact Wendy King (Secretary) on Home 4950 4225, Mobile 0418 756 493 or E-mail marshking@activ8.net.au with details of the issue or your feedback.

Start collecting as many daily tokens as you can from the Daily Mercury between Saturday 14 February to Monday 16 March. Please drop them off at the office by Monday 16 March.
**Chaplaincy -- Student Wellbeing Support**

Have you had a chance to meet or connect with Chappie Di yet? Dianne Barnett is school chaplain and serves within the school on Monday and Tuesday each week. Di is here for all of our school community, especially our students. She is the friendly ear that students can turn to, the helping hand in the classroom, an active member of staff, student council coordinator, and a source of ‘not teacher’ support. Her work is highly valued at Swayneville.

School Chaplaincy is a highly regarded service across Australia and is supported in part by the Australian Government. The Sarina Local Chaplaincy Committee was held on Monday night. Our school is one of 7 schools in the area that come under their banner. They are a highly effective group of volunteers who have the dual role of local governance as well as local fundraising in order to fund the wages of our local Chaplains.

“We have a very generous and supportive community. It is very broadly based and ranges from Corporate Sponsors to local businesses, school P&C’s, churches and their members, service clubs and other organizations, cane farmers, cattlemen and the general public,” reported Mr Rod Ballard, the Chairman of the Sarina LCC, during the AGM. He continued to say, “As a committee it has long been our view that rather than just put our hands out for help, we try to contribute in some way to help those who support us, as well as serve our community in some way.”

Would you like to find a way to support Chaplaincy in our school and our local area? Some ways include:

Cattle 4 Kids | Bins 4 Kids (cane bin) | 10 for Kids | Donations

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**Awards**

**Year 4/5/6**
Certificates were awarded to the school leaders who attended the GRIP leadership conference and showed outstanding behaviour and effort.

**Year 3/4**
Hamish Alway: following the 4B rules.
Xavier Anson-Kissier: trying hard to get everything right.

**Year 1/2**
Louis Cauchi: great focus on handwriting & geography.
Aaliyah Keir: consistently contributing information to all discussions.

**Prep/1**
Aquelleah Kissier & Jorgen Jensen: showing respect & responsibility all week.

**Excellence in Japanese Awards**
Tim McFadzen & Hannah Alway.

**Bee Stamps**

**Queen Bee:** 1/2