Principal’s Message

**Curriculum**

**P-2** – Welcome to week 3, the days are slipping by very quickly. The children are all working well towards completing the different curriculum units before reports are written.

I would like to draw your attention to a couple of things about homework. It is expected that the children return their homework to school every day so that it can be looked at. We also need to see an adult signature next to the reading that should take place every night. If there is no signature then we assume that the reading has not taken place. The benefits of children reading, even just for 5 minutes every night, are well documented. It is a wonderful way for them to practice fluency with punctuation and expression, word attack skills and comprehension of what they have read. They also see that you are interested in listening to them, which makes it become an important activity to them. The spelling practice is also important. All they need to do is say and sound the word, orally spell the word, write the word, say the word again before checking to see if it is spelt correctly. This is the same procedure that we use at school so the children should be well practiced with it. For some children, there is also the learning of the popcorn words for Prep and the Miaow Magic 300 words lists for Year 1 and some Year 2’s. These words make up 70% of the words that are read in general books; therefore if your children know them automatically, reading becomes a more enjoyable task as they will just know most of the words. If you can ensure that your children complete their homework, the benefits will be great.

**Year 3-6** – We are now entering week 3 of the term. Students are working on new units in English (persuasion and traditional stories), Mathematics (fractions and decimals), Science (terra firma), Technology (my preferred learning space) as well as continuing in Geography and History. Some students are still finishing off assessments at lunch time and as homework from last term. Please contact the school to discuss in more detail.

**Behaviour**

Our focus for the last week has been keeping our hands and feet to ourselves. We explored some body awareness on Friday by touching different body parts together such as our fingers, hips, elbows, and knees. We also used the phrase, I am uncomfortable with this, please stop, as a way to let others know when something is happening that we don’t like. It was good to see students respecting each other while undertaking this exercise.

Over the next two weeks I will be contacting each parent to undertake a quick survey about the processes in the school. This will either be a face to face or phone conversation and should only take a few minutes to complete. The school is working around creating shared understanding of our behaviour processes for all staff, students and parents. If you want more information please contact the office to discuss.
**Bus Run**
Currently the school and the local bus company are gauging how many students in the next five years will be utilising the bus service. Due to this we are looking for all community members who will require the bus service in the future, for both primary and high school to contact Hamblin bus services or Leyburn State School.

**Attendance**
Parents please be aware that you are to contact the school as soon as possible when your child is away. The school will also endeavour to contact parents on the day of a child’s absence.
Our attendance is down to 90.5% for the year. Sadly with is a drop below last term and last year. As we make our way into winter please keep in mind that everyday does count for your child’s education.

**Karara Writers Visit**
On Wednesday 4th of May, the year 3-6 classroom has been given the opportunity to attend a visiting writer, Phil Kettle, at Karara State School. The students will be entertained and engaged in how to construct a book as well as how the components all fit together. Please make sure to return the permission slip before Friday 29th of April.

**Amateur Astronomer Night**
On the 5th of May the school is lucky enough to have an Astronomer come to the school and talk to the community about the night sky. The astronomer, Peter Marples, will be at the school from 6.00pm – 8.00pm with students and community members having the opportunity to view some of our solar system’s planets and other night time phenomena. If you have a telescope then bring it along for a chat and a chance to see the solar system around us.

**Sport**
This term there are a number of different sporting events and activities being undertaken. We will be hosting our inter-house athletics carnival, attending Gala Days for year 3-6 (on May 20th and May 27th), and under 8’s day for prep- 2 (May 27th) students. Due to this there will be various activities during HPE, at lunch, before school and on Friday afternoons to prepare students for these events.

**ANZAC Day**
Last Friday we held a small service here at the school with the students, staff and some community members. The students did a great job with presenting at the ceremony. Ethan (MC), Caitlen (Flag Barer), Luke (Sound) and Laine (Wreath Layer) did a great job of running the ceremony. Our year 6 students also presented two poems, For the Fallen and In Flanders Fields.

On Monday it was great to see so many students in attendance for the ANZAC ceremony. Once again our students did the school proud with representing the school by presenting, lowering and raising the flags, honouring our ANZACs and being well behaved during the ceremony. Thank you to the RSL for organising the event and allowing us to march and to the CWA for the delicious morning tea afterwards.

**NAPLAN**
NAPLAN will be held on the 10th, 11th and 12th of May for students in year 3 and 5. This is an important time for the student and the school as it allows us another avenue to gauge the success of our programs and teaching at a whole school, class and individual level. Please start conversations with children about this to reduce anxiety levels as it can be quite stressful for some students.

**Community Forum Feedback Sheet**
At present we have not received any feedback sheets to the school. Please take the time to fill in attached sheets and return them to the school so we know what we are doing well, what we could do better and any other things we need to consider.

**High School Principal Visit**
On May the 5th at 11.30am the principal from Clifton State High School will be visiting the school to talk to the year 6 students about next year. Students will spend some time with the principal giving them an opportunity to discuss next year, the expectations of the school and have any questions they have answered. This is another way our cluster of schools works together to deliver better outcomes for your children.

**Playgroup**
Playgroup learnt the letter H. They also did some tracing and cutting out of numbers between 1 – 8.

Next week we will be doing our Mothers’ Day craft activities.

Don’t forget to bring along your protective clothing for outdoor activities.

New members are welcome to come and enjoy. Please bring morning tea for your children to have during their break. All community members are welcome to attend playgroup. Each Wednesday from 9.00am – 11.00am. If you would like more information please contact the school office.
School Banking
School banking will occur on a Thursday. Please place all banking in the school box in the office no later than 9.00am Thursday.

Sam Gilmore
Teaching Principal

Students of the Week

14th April, 2016

Congratulations: Havanna for completing 6 smiley faces in her contract. Laine for outstanding behaviour.

21st April, 2016

Congratulations: Mach for showing more resilience when things don’t go the way he would like. Krystal for showing great resilience in letting things roll around her and being calm and strong like water. Jackson for consistent effort in all educational areas.

Mathletics

14th April, 2016


21st April, 2016

Congratulations: Laine, Jacob, Kirra, Nathan and Hope
Congratulations: Josh for Magic 100 words.

Central Downs Cross Country

Congratulations: Anton, Bryce and Mitchell (absent) on their great effort in the Central Downs Cross Country.
If you are wishing to purchase uniforms, please see one of the P&C committee Members for assistance.

Hats - $15.00, Shirts - $25.00 and Jackets $35.00

Belinda Smith
President
Leyburn State School P&C Association

For community groups who wish to include notices within the school newsletter, please have them typed and emailed to the school at or ahall319@eq.edu.au by 12.00 Noon the Tuesday prior.

The Leyburn Post Office is now online.

- Online banking
- Withdrawals and deposits for most banks
- Billpay is available which is a quick and easy way to pay bills.
- Gift Cards are available
- Mobile Phones and Wi Fi devices
- All new gift lines available
- Selected gift lines now on sale

Why not call in and check out our wonderful range at your local Post Office or call 4695 0148

CWA MEETING

The next QCWA Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 3rd May, 2016 at 9.00am
All Welcome

For Hall Bookings please contact:
Christine: 4695 0186 or Mary: 46950125

Junior Netball

Would you like to play Netball?
Come and join us now.
Yes we have started, but No it is not too late to still join.
Fixtures recommence Saturday 16th April & Continue for Terms 2 & 3, with Grand Final day Sept 3rd.
For information see our Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/warwicknetball/ or contact Lou Bunch warwicknetball@bigpond.com or 0407 734 380
NETBALL – a great team sport for children to enjoy, learn and grow with.
Clifton Catholic Debutante Ball

Flowergirls / Pageboys: Parents of Year 3 or Year 4 children are advised that the Clifton Debutante Ball will be held on FRIDAY MAY 20. If you are interested in being a part of the Ball this year please contact Helen Gillam (46973571) or Hilary O’Leary (46959199) by March 11. Night time is best to call.
Please be aware that it may incur costs of up to $200 (for dress, shoes, photos, hire of suit etc). If there are Year 10 / 11 girls wishing to be debutantes please contact the above numbers.