

Newsletter

Date 27 August, 2015

Issue 10

Halifax State School

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Important dates

28th August – Lower Herbert Lawn Bowls playoff

17th September – Mkd All Schools Touch Carnival

18th September – Last day Term 3

Our School Rules

- Courtesy
- Cooperation
- Commitment
- Consideration

THIS WEEKS FOCUS

YCDI – Resilience

SCHOOL RULE: Cooperation

Absent Letters and phone calls

If your child or children are absent from School, for any reason, could you please make sure you notify us as to the absence (either before or after) by making a phone call, sending a note with the reason or emailing

the.principal@halifaxss.eq.edu.au. Messages about absences due to illness, personal reasons, etc from School are important, as we need to ensure that our records are up to date.

Attendance

Attendance target 98% Currently sitting at 97 %



From The Principals Desk

Dear Parents

The small school with a big heart has had a few great moments over the last two weeks. We came second in Barnes Cup at 0.91 slightly behind first place with 0.92. Congratulations to Janae and Trenyce for making it into the Herbert River representational team. Great effort guys.

This week students participated in book week. Students in P-2 attended the Ingham Library and participated in activities. All students dressed up and awards given for best dressed. Lots of fun had by all.

Last week we add our second round of meetings with staff, students and parents for our School Strategic Plan, involving our Quadrennial School Review. We reviewed the current school plan and the five recommendations from the school improvement unit (SIU). I am very happy with the levels of participation and involvement and the direction the school is moving towards. Meetings for round two will happen next week.

We are currently in planning for term 3 camp in Cairns. More information will be provided when we complete our planning costs as this stage will be \$100 per student.

Donald Pritchard

READING

Reading with children

What children like:

- naming the things they know
- talking, singing and moving to music
- hearing words that rhyme
- making up their own stories and drawing the pictures
- listening to stories about themselves, families, friends and going to school
- reading alphabet and counting books
- helping to tell a story or song they know.

You can help your child grow into a strong reader.

How?

- point out signs, grocery packaging and other words and pictures when you shop
- help your child to draw and talk about the drawings they make
- make up actions to go with the words of songs
- as you read, run your finger under the words
- talk about the story and ask questions e.g. “What is the bird doing?”
- help your child find the first letter of their name in the book
- share eBooks and apps to help your child learn about sounds and letters in words
- keep books at your place to share with your child
- visit your local library regularly and borrow books.

This week's Behavioural Article

Children do as you do. Your child watches you to get clues on how to behave in the world. You're her role model, so use your own behaviour to guide her. What you do is often much more important than what you say. If you want your child to say 'please', say it yourself. If you don't want your child to raise her voice, speak quietly and gently yourself.

Show your child how you feel. Tell him honestly how his behaviour affects you. This will help him see his her own feelings in yours, like a mirror. This is called [empathy](#). By the age of three, children can show real empathy. So you might say, 'I'm getting upset because there is so much noise I can't talk on the phone'. When you start the sentence with 'I', it gives your child the chance to see things from your perspective.

Catch her being 'good'. This simply means that when your child is behaving in a way you like, you can give her some positive feedback. For example, 'Wow, you are playing so nicely. I really like the way you are keeping all the blocks on the table'. This works better than waiting for the blocks to come crashing to the floor before you take notice and bark, 'Hey, stop that'. This positive feedback is sometimes called '[descriptive praise](#)'. Try to say six positive comments (praise and encouragement) for every negative comment (criticisms and reprimands). The 6-1 ratio keeps things in balance. Remember that if children have a choice only between no attention or negative attention, they will seek out negative attention.

Get down to your child's level. Kneeling or squatting down next to children is a very powerful tool for communicating positively with them. Getting close allows you to tune in to what they might be feeling or thinking. It also helps them focus on what you are saying or asking for. If you are close to your child and have his attention, there is no need to make him look at you.

'I hear you.' Active listening is another tool for helping young children cope with their emotions. They tend to get frustrated a lot, especially if they can't express themselves well enough verbally. When you repeat back to them what you think they might be feeling, it helps to relieve some of their tension. It also makes them feel respected and comforted. It can diffuse many potential [temper tantrums](#).



Recent Events

NAIDOC Day

All students attended NAIDOC Day Celebrations at St Teresa's College at Abergowrie. Abergowrie students, staff and helpers demonstrated some of the traditional indigenous cultural activities to Halifax students who then attempted some of these activities.



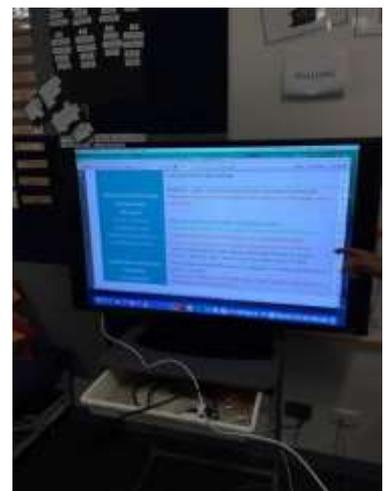
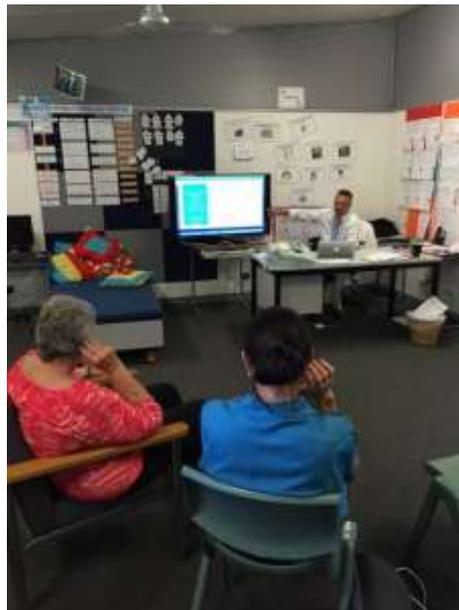
Book Week

This week was Book Week and students got to dress as their favourite book character. The P-2 students also travelled into the Ingham Library for a special session for Book Week.



School Review

Over the next couple of months teachers, students and parents will be contributing to the School Review. This is to be completed and presented to the Assistant Regional Director for their endorsement.



P & C Meeting— The next **General Meeting is Thursday, 10th September, 2.00pm** at the Halifax Community Centre.

Father's Day Raffle – Please ensure all Father's Day Raffle Tickets are returned by Friday, 4th September

Lucinda Markets Bake Stall – Please find a note regarding donations for the Bake Stall at the Lucinda Markets on Sunday, 13th September.

Tuckshop

Roster for Term 3

Date	Workers	Baker
31st August	Louise Jones Amanda Steven	Dallas Mallett
7th September	Louise Jones Michelle Thompson	Angela Wigg
14th September	Louise Jones Jimmy Thompson	Prachern Morley

St Patrick's Parish Ingham Sacramental Program

In fourth term St Patrick's Parish will be commencing the program for Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion for Catholic children in Grade 2. If you would like your child to take part, please phone Marcella at the Parish office 4776 2600 or email re@inghamcatholic.com by 2nd September, 2015 so that an invitation can be mailed to you to begin the journey towards the Lord's Table. If there is an older child who has not yet received the Sacraments and wishes to do so, please call or email the office as above.