From the Principal's Desk

Athletics Carnival
As you are all no doubt aware by now, the athletics carnival has been scheduled for this Thursday, 9th June. Thanks to some last minute efforts, we were able to source an athletics coach through our government grant and all students received 2 athletics sessions from a qualified and experienced coach. I would like to acknowledge our coach Dan’s efforts and determination to get the accreditation required to run the program and thank him on behalf of Coowonga State School. Please return permission and transport forms by tomorrow.

Premier’s Reading Challenge
We have now officially enrolled all students in the annual Premier’s Reading Challenge. This is an added incentive to encourage students to read at home and for parents to read with, and to, their children. The books that are read at school can also be included in the final tally. The targets are very easy. We would pass these targets in no time with the amount of books we read at school. We must however not forget the objective; that is to get children reading at home.
As the challenge runs for 3 months, we will hold records here at school. If you would like a record form at home we can supply one and we can join the records together. We are going to set extra incentives for individuals and the school as a whole. We are just running our ideas past committees at the moment to determine the best incentives. One that has received very solid support so far is that if the school as a whole group can read 1000 books, then we will provide a lunch for students. 1000 books may seem a huge amount but when looked at more closely, the books that are read at school alone would most likely reach this target. We will let you know of more incentives in the coming days.

NAIDOC grant
We are currently in the process of organising our annual NAIDOC celebration. I am happy to announce that we applied for and received a $1000 grant that will pay for the Indigenous dancers for the day, as well as Art and Craft supplies. It will be celebrated in Term 3. I am trying to link our NAIDOC Day with an official opening of our ‘still not quite complete’ Yarning Circle so a date of our celebration is TBA.

ICTs
In our Annual Improvement Plan, we identified a key focus for this school was to improve our use and access of ICTs. The first part was to ensure that we had the resources necessary. Stage 1 of our plan is now complete and we have just installed 8 new/ replacement computers. These, together with existing computers and laptops means we now have 1:1 computer access for the students at Coowonga.
Stage 2 is to update our connections and servers which will be happening any day now.
Stage 3 is to improve the use of ICTs in our day to day curriculum. We do not believe in using computers just because they are there. We ensure computers and other technology are used if it improves the learning experience of the students. Students do however have access to 3 very effective educational resources (see below).

Reading Eggs. Studyladder. Coowonga Edstudio
All students at Coowonga are enrolled in The Coowonga Edstudio, Reading Eggs and Studyladder. These are outstanding educational resources that can be used in reading and maths rotations at school, as fast finisher’s activities and just for some educational fun at home. They are closed sites which means they are very safe to use. Some of the other benefits are

- I am able to customise the activities for classes and individuals,
- I receive a very detailed report on each child’s progress from Studyladder and Reading Eggs.
- Students receive instant feedback from the Studyladder and Reading Eggs programs.

Dates to Remember

Playgroup
Every Thursday from 9-10:30am
Note: There is no playgroup this Thursday 9th June due to Athletics Carnival.

Athletics Carnival
Thursday 9th June

Yeppoon Show Public Holiday
Friday 17th June

School Parade
Parade is held at 2:45pm every Friday. Please feel free to come along and hear messages.
Certificates and awards are also presented during this time.

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- Students receive instant feedback from the Studyladder and Reading Eggs programs.
• Students are awarded points that go towards virtual shops and certificates that are presented on parade from Studyladder and Reading Eggs
• The Edstudio is a virtual classroom which provides links and information related to class activities. It also includes things such as the curriculum outcomes, unit objectives, assessment tasks etc.

Students do not have to access these at home, but if your child is ever bored and looking for something to do, there are 3 fun resources at their disposal. All they need is their password or key which all students should know but can easily be provided by us again. We will send home a laminated card with access directions to all 3 sites in the coming days.

Andrew Orr
Principal

**Just a reminder that our classroom is cold so please ensure students bring a jumper to school.**

**Playgroup**

There will be no playgroup this Thursday due to the Athletics carnival at Farnborough.

Chappy Deb

**Junior History visit to the Heritage Village**
Free Microsoft Office 2016 for students and school staff
All Queensland state school students and staff can now download multiple free copies of Microsoft Office 2016 to their personal home computers and mobile devices. Students and staff will need to use their school email address to sign in. Microsoft Office 2016 is available for personal devices only, not devices owned by the department or part of a school network. The Office subscription lasts for as long as the student is studying at a Queensland state school, or the staff member is employed by the department.

Headlice
Parents please continue to check your child’s hair each week for headlice. For treatment advice, consult your local pharmacist or hairdresser.

Lunches
Lunch is an important part of our day at Coowonga and impacts greatly on how students function for the remainder of the day. We would like to encourage parents to please take into consideration what they are packing in their children's lunch boxes.

Attendance
School attendance and student achievement are directly related.
Attendance at school every day is absolutely necessary in ensuring your child has the opportunity to engage in quality education. Every day counts! If your child is unable to attend school parents are asked to phone or email the school with details of the absence.

School starts at 9:00am and finishes at 3:00pm! Just a little bit late doesn’t seem that much but..................

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Missing just......</th>
<th>That equals.....</th>
<th>Which is......</th>
<th>Over 13 years of schooling that’s.....</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 minutes per day</td>
<td>50 minutes per week</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 Weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly Half a Year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bell Times
Congratulations to those students who continually make an effort to arrive at school on time.

Please note the bell times:
8:50am—School warning bell
This gives the students time to go to the toilet and get ready for the day.
8:55am—School commencement
Students are expected to be in the class for roll call.
9:00am
Any students that arrive after the roll has been called, without a note, will be written down as unexplained late.

We respect and acknowledge the traditional owners of this land, the Darramukal people, of elders past and present. We also acknowledge the contributions of Aboriginal Australians and non-Aboriginal Australians to the education of all children and people in this country, we all live in and share together – Australia.

Telephone Enquiries: 4934 4192
Email enquiries: the.principal@coowongass.eq.edu.au. Visit our school website at www.coowongass.eq.edu.au to view the latest newsletter, more photos and other school related events.

Community Notices
Please note: the following notices may be included in the school’s Newsletter, they are published in good faith and do not necessarily have the school’s endorsement.

CAR BOOT SALE - BOOK YOUR SITE NOW: Saturday 11th June 7am - 11am. Anglican Parish of Keppel Car Park, 18 Housden Place, Taranganba. Only $15 a site or $25 for two. Bric a brac, loads of treasures and a sausage sizzle - Something for everyone. Come and grab a bargain from the great variety of stalls. To book your site please phone Lyndall on 0418 392 303.
Savvy Kids – Savvy Friends
Enlightened kids build stronger friendships

What to expect
This program is held over three days with each session running for two hours.

The program will cover the following topics:

Day 1: Expression of Self - expression of feeling, team building

Day 2: Feelings - developing an understanding of feelings, team building

Day 3: Friendship & Bullying - empower and build self-esteem & confidence

Who should attend?
This program caters to primary school aged children – 6 to 12 year olds

Date and location:

For 6-8 year olds
Date: Tuesday, 28 June, 2016 to Thursday, 30 June, 2016
Time: 9.30 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.

For 9-12 year olds
Date: Tuesday, 5 July, 2016 to Thursday, 7 July, 2016
Time: 9.30 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.

Venue: Umbrella Network, 254 Eldon Street, North Rockhampton
RSVP: Tuesday, 21 June, 2016 on 1300 523 985
Cost: $15 per child per day - Please register to secure your place

Please bring your own snack for morning or afternoon tea and a bottle of water.

To register or for more info: 1300 523 985 or registrations@centacare.net

Presenter: Faye Schneider