Welcome to this edition – Into week 3 and we are well and truly ‘neck deep’ in the term. Our teachers are working tirelessly to provide students with a variety of learning opportunities and engagement activities. I am continually amazed by the great things happening in our classrooms and the ‘can do’ attitude by our students. All these things point to one thing and that is “great learning”. Well done Aitkenvale State School!

School Expectation – Over the last week we have contacted a couple of parents explaining their child has made poor choices and will need some time off to reflect in the form of suspension. Please remind your children there is a clear expectation of no swearing or physical violence in our school and there will be consequences for any such action. Calling names and bullying will also face stiff consequences. Please explain to your children of the importance of following school expectations and all students have an obligation to be SAFE, RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE and be ACHIEVERS. As Principal, I do understand there may be parent concerns about suspending students however our school has very high expectations with behaviour and learning. Our students have done a fantastic job in setting these expectations and they are all clear about what it means to hit, swear or continually disrupt learning at our school.

New PREP Class - As our school grows and more classes are needed and this year we have had a large intake of PREP students. This being the case we decided to keep all PREP numbers low and have made a 4th PREP class which has begun this week in H block. Thanks to all parents for your acceptance of our new PREP class, PREP JP, and well done to the JP kids for settling in so well.

New Path – Last week a concrete path was finally installed through the rainforest. This will now provide a safer and drier pathway to the rest of the school for our PREP students. Thanks to all students and their families for their patience while the works took place.

PARTNERSHIPS ARE ESSENTIAL - It is well known that when home-based educational objectives clash with school-based objectives, the student normally resolves the conflict by rejecting the school. Research sends out a very clear message about the importance of partnerships in education. When parents express confidence in the school and teachers, and are involved in some way, their children are more likely to be happier and perform better academically.

At Aitkenvale State School we actively seek partnerships with our parents. This is done deliberately, because once forged, these partnerships have been found to result in;

* greater understanding by parents of their child’s schooling,
* greater understanding by teachers of the students and their unique needs,
* better communication and understanding between home and school,
* higher pupil morale and confidence,
* increased academic performance,
* increased goodwill and mutual esteem between parents and ‘their’ school.
Conscientious parents all around the world are concerned about the education of their children. They want them to get the most they can from their schooling and to grow up as happy, caring and useful citizens. They also know that the school cannot do this on its own; they need strong parental partnerships. Partnerships are the ‘educational glue’ which assists children to have a happy and productive time at school.

Strong partnerships are essential, however, we must keep in mind there may be issues from time to time that need resolving and arguing with teachers or support staff in front of children only serves to erode the educational fabric of our school. Parents that display unacceptable behaviour or are aggressive toward teachers will be directed to the Principal where the problem will be discussed and a solution found.

THIS WEEKS PROVERB – “A HOUSE DIVIDED CANNOT STAND !! ”

Thanks for reading and “GO THE FIRE” - Mr B - Principal

**EVENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent Information Sessions</td>
<td>9 February</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swimming Wk 6-10</td>
<td>27 February</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interhouse Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>24 February</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arts Council</td>
<td>01 March</td>
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<td>Last day of Term 1</td>
<td>31 March</td>
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**Library News**

**BOOKS**

Over the past two weeks the library has closed for student borrowing while we upgrade our computer system. During this time, we have also discarded a lot of books – especially Non-Fiction. These information books become out of date quickly; some of our books were over 20 years old and offered little relevant information. Students will notice a big change to this area in particular.

**DONATIONS**

Thank you to all the wonderful staff and families for the book donations. We should have them out on the shelves in the next few months.

Happy reading
Lisa Pridmore
Library Teacher Aide.

**MUSIC**

Welcome back to music! It’s so great to see so many exited students for our music lessons.

The music program has changed this year for classroom lessons and Instrumental. Please take note of these changes.

- Miss Blatch: Wed, Thurs, Friday
- Strings: Wednesdays
- Woodwind: Miss Belford - Mondays
- Percussion: Mr Brunskill - Mondays

More information regarding the instrumental program, and our Junior and senior choirs will be available next week. Students are to become familiar with their timetable over the next few weeks. For equipment requirements, students will find out more from their instrumental teacher in their lessons.

Yours in Music,
Miss Blatch

**PLEASE NOTE**

**PARADE** – Our next parade will be on Friday 10 February, 2017. Parade will commence at 8:30am. We look forward to your attendance.

**SCHOOL TIMES** – Please remember that school starts at 8:20am and finishes at 2:35pm. Please ensure your children arrive and are collected on time.

**ABSENTEE NOTIFICATIONS** – Did you know that you can now notify the school of a student’s absence via email? Simply send an email to: absent@aitkenvaless.eq.edu.au giving us the name of the student, their class, the dates they will be absent and the reason for their absence. Alternatively you should ring the office on: 4421 2333 to notify us of any student absences.

**SCHOOL GATES** – Our school gates will now be locked from 9:00am. Access to school grounds will only be via the administration entrance.
STUDENT OF THE WEEK

PDM  Jeremy H.
PKH  Roxanne P.
PJH  Christopher K.
PJP  Kevin S.
1CT  Talea M.
1EP  Jumilin M.
1KF  Ruby C.
2KB  Tia B.
2DP  Abdullah A.
2JH  Ruby W.
3NC  Dar’a P.
3DL  Loraligh B.
3KH  Caitden R.
4CM  Angel J.
4KM  Leo P.
4LS  Kaelob R.
5AD  Rhys P.
5TH  Sebastian R.
5/6JB  Trinity G.
6DC  Mara B.
6OS  Aiden M.
EALD 1  Gloria J.
EALD 2  Simon S.
EALD 3  Aden A.  Ahmed K.
EALD 4  Isse A.

Interhouse Swimming Carnival
Aitkenvale State School Pool
Friday 24th of February 2017
Session one  9.00am-10.15am  year 4, 5 and 6
Session two  11.30am-12.45pm  year 2 and 3
Session three  1.30pm-2.30pm  year prep and 1
Please make sure all your children’s belongings are clearly named.
If you are available to help out as a timekeeper for session one and session two please contact Mr Doran at the school on PH 44212333.

STUDENT BANKING

Student banking starts back next week.
Banking day is Monday. Please hand bank books to the office.
Jodi Turnbull
Banking Coordinator

PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS - Thursday 9 February 2017

We are inviting all parents and caregivers to attend an information session with their child’s classroom teacher, in this session topics such as curriculum, expectations, procedures and programs will be discussed. This is not an opportunity to discuss individual children’s needs; we encourage you to make an appointment with your child’s teacher to discuss any issues.

Each teacher/cohort will present a 30min presentation consecutively over a 2 hour period. The timetable for each teacher/cohort will run as follows:
Session 1  3:00PM
Session 2  3:45PM
Session 3  4:30PM

The break in between will allow for 5 min of questions and time to move from one session to the next. Running the sessions this way will allow you to attend more than one child’s information sessions on the one night. The sessions will be held in your child’s classroom. We hope to see you all there.

Please phone the school office on 44 212 33 if you have any questions or concerns.
SCHOOL KIDS BONUS IS FINISHED!!!
Do you have children at School now or starting Prep in 2018?
Are they involved in Sport or The Arts?
Did you struggle with Back to School costs this year?
Do you have an expensive school trip to pay for?

PREPARE NOW TO RELIEVE 2018 BACK TO SCHOOL STRESS!!!

Would you like $500 to help pay for school uniforms, books, sporting fees and equipment, music lessons, camps and excursions, or even a laptop? Saver Plus can match your savings for education costs dollar for dollar, up to $500. Wouldn’t it be great to take control of your financial situation and learn new skills on how to budget and save? Allow me to introduce you to the

Saver Plus Program!!

To be eligible you need to:

- have a Health Care Card or Pension Concession Card
- have a child at school now or starting next year, or be attending vocational study yourself
- have some form of household income from work, for example your partner or yourself may have part time, casual, full time or seasonal employment, can also be child minding, ironing or mowing a lawn
- have not received matched funds from completing Saver Plus already

For further information please contact:
Nikki Storey, Saver Plus Coordinator
Call OR SMS your name to - 0418 201 533

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is funded by the Australian Government

HOMEWORK CLUB IS COMING!

Thursday Afternoons from 2:40pm-3:30pm
Starting Thursday 17 February

If you'd like your child to attend we have 30 places available.
To make the process fair and equitable places will be allocated via Expression of Interest.
When considering if Homework Club is right for your child please be aware that your child is required to attend EVERY week and that your child’s place will be forfeited due to two unexplained absences or late pick ups.
Please ask at the Office for a form.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE FRIDAY 10th February

Claire Aitken (Chappy Claire)
School Chaplain (Thursday and Friday)
Aitkenvale State School

TUCKSHOP

Welcome back to school for 2017.

This week on Thursday and Friday we will be selling freshly popped popcorn from our brand new machine for $1.00 bag. YUM!!!

Don’t forget you are able to order through Flexischools as well as paperbags and over the counter. We also have EFTPOS for your convenience.

Thanks for supporting
Belinda and Paula
A Big Congratulations to our new School Leaders, who will be inducted into leadership on Parade this Friday.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Captains:</th>
<th>Cultural Captains:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lily G.</td>
<td>Nasra M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mia M.</td>
<td>Ruby B.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Vice Captains:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bella I.</td>
<td>Edward S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soe Blu M.</td>
<td>Larnisha C.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Black House Captains:</th>
<th>Rowe House Captains:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lily T.(C)</td>
<td>Beverly S.(C)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Raishunda A. (VC)</td>
<td>Gracelyn B. (VC)</td>
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<th>Towns House Captains:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Patrick B.(C)</td>
<td>Aiden K.(C)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brooke D. (VC)</td>
<td>Farhan A. (VC)</td>
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