Central Downs Ball Games Carnival

Thank you to all of our wonderful parents for supporting the school and students at last week’s ball games carnival.

The marquees on the oval certainly made the weather more bearable, thankfully!

Our students again proved themselves to be wonderful ambassadors for our school, participating to the best of their ability and being very well behaved.

Nobby Markets

Nobby SS had a presence at the markets again last weekend. We sold 5 books of raffle tickets, sold more trash and treasure to help support our charity donation and spoke to the community about Nobby State School learning programs.

December will be our final market day of the year. We are still in need of senior students and some parents to help out with the stall. If you are able to spare a few hours, please let the office know.

Pre Prep Transition days

Next year we will have 9 new prep students. These students have been spending time here at school, while involved in the pre prep transition program. The final day will be next Wednesday 12th November, which will be the second full day for the pre preps.

Unexplained Attendance Letters

One recommendation to come out of our discipline audit was the need to chase up unexplained absences. Unexplained absences are in fact a breach of the law, and as such, we need to ensure that we are receiving an explanation from parents for every absence.

Currently, the school records student absences that are not explained as 'unexplained'. If parents then ring/email/text to explain the absence, we will make a note in the student’s file and the absence will be changed to reflect the explanation.

You may have noticed that each student’s report card has a section at the end indicating the number of days absent, and the number of unexplained absences. It is important that the unexplained number be low, as it may be queried at some stage, later in the student’s life, by other educational institutions or potential employers.

It has been recommend that letters are sent home to families of students who currently have absences in our system as unexplained. We will be sending these letters via email.

If you receive one of these letters, please either:

1. Print, fill out the required section and return it to the school at your earliest convenience,
2. Explain, for each absence, the reason the student was away from school, in a return email.

Remembrance Day

Next Tuesday is Remembrance Day. We will hold a small service for our students, parents and the community at 11:00am. All community members are welcome to attend. This service will be held at the memorial gates at the front entrance to the school.

Junior Room News

- Congratulations to our Clifton Country Week colouring-in competition winners - Frankie 3rd, Darcy 2nd.
- Our school display also earned us third place. A very BIG thank you to Miss Jacqui, Wendy Noller and Cheryl Grogan for putting the display up for us.
- The next few weeks will be about making sure we have consolidated all of our learning for this year. There will be lots of testing and finishing off in Maths and English.
- In English we are concentrating on ‘Procedure’ – how to do things. At home- cooking, craft activities and playing board games are good to promote understanding of procedures.
- Geography is well underway this term. All the children seem to really enjoy it. We are looking at ‘The World’ – the 7 continents, important names and locations like Equator, North and South Pole, Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, the oceans, etc. please look at maps and atlases at home with them and of course – if you haven’t been annoyed to already – use GOOGLE MAPS or GOOGLE EARTH to have a ‘look around’. Many hours of fun and learning can be had on these sites (great on the iPad if you have one).
- SLEEP OVER. What a big week it was! The children seemed to have a ball and we hope the adults who joined us also did. We all had fun and lots of learning opportunities making our meal of lasagne and salad. Of course the games are always fun. Thank you to everyone for your $2 contribution to the meal and help with serving the meal, running the games and cooking and sorting our breakfast. Special thanks to Tim Noller and Brett Torcetti for sleeping over and cooking – can’t do it without you boys!
Congratulations to the 19 students whose attendance is above our goal of 95%.
Special mention goes to Ruby Noller, who has not missed a day of school AT ALL!!

Parents and caregivers must send children to school every school day under Queensland law unless there is an acceptable reason such as:

- illness
- doing work experience
- competing in school sporting events

If your child is going to be absent from school, you must let the school know why the absence has occurred within two school days of their return. If possible, it is best to advise the school beforehand.

Avoid keeping your child away from school for reasons such as:

- birthdays
- shopping
- visiting family and friends
- if they sleep in
- looking after other children
- minor check ups or care, such as haircuts.

Routine medical or other health appointments should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays.

Below is our school attendance so far for 2014.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>94.5%</td>
<td>94.4%</td>
<td>89.1%</td>
<td>88.9%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Our discipline audit this week was a very positive experience. Ray Pearce, whose ‘normal’ position is Principal, Buderim Mountain State School, was very impressed with many things we do here at Nobby.

In particular, he said that a strong culture of respect and caring relationships was evident in the school environment.

He was very impressed with the senior room student’s ‘Weekly Progress Report,’ to the point where he wanted a copy because he had never seen that before, and wanted to share the idea with other schools.

He said that the high expectations we placed on students were very clear, and understood by all. Mr Pearce also indicated that if not for our strong focus on learning, our supportive environment and behaviour management would not be as strong.

Overall, it made staff feel extremely proud of the way we provide a safe and supportive learning environment for all of our students, and reiterated the fact that our community feels supported by the school.

We will soon receive official documents indicating our overall achievements, as well as some recommendations.