“It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge”

Albert Einstein

I love the above quote from Albert Einstein—extraordinary physicist and brilliant thinker! It speaks of a true love of teaching and its power to influence students for the better and to improve and grow as people. This is what truly amazing teachers do. It is this idea of ‘awakening’ learners that drives the great teachers to spend long hours researching, marking, meticulously planning, analysing data and putting their heart and soul into their classes in order to bring students out of their shells so that they can share in the liveliness of what learning communities can be. And it is great teachers who when everything is in its place and the learning that they so passionately inspire seems all but done for the day, return to their homes and think to themselves, “How can I make tomorrow even better?” These teachers are great teachers. These are Wheatlands teachers.

Thank you Mrs Brimblecombe, Miss Sullivan, Miss Hubbard, Mrs Meikle, Mrs Anderson, Miss Goschnick, Mr Miller and Mr Reynolds for all the brilliant work you do for the children of Wheatlands State School.

World Teachers’ Day, is celebrated in more than 100 countries worldwide and was established by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in 1994 to celebrate the role of teachers in society.

News arising from the last P&C meeting

At the last P&C meeting, our school’s Responsible Behaviour Plan and Student Resource Scheme were reviewed and ratified by the attendees and executive. You should have already received information about the Student Resource Scheme for 2015 and the Responsible Behaviour Plan will be updated on the website in the next week. Thanks again to the P&C executive, members, parents and friends of Wheatlands State School who organised and helped at the Comedy Night. Don’t forget about the current mango fundraiser which closes today.

Very Interesting…

In August 2014, students and staff in Queensland state schools downloaded the equivalent of 106TB (terabytes) of information from the internet. This is equivalent to:

- 128 million Word documents
- 76 million photos
- 32 million MP3 (music) files
- 24,548 DVD movies

Parenting Ideas: Insights for this edition is about having fun with your kids at home. Entitled, “Oh, so serious!” it contains some good old fashioned fun ideas for building a happy family.

Attendance for 2014

Year 3-4 have taken the lead!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Prep-1</th>
<th>Year 1-2</th>
<th>Year 3-4</th>
<th>Year 5-7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>92.74%↑</td>
<td>94.68%↓</td>
<td>94.88%↑</td>
<td>92.31%↓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please ensure you contact the office or send a note to explain any absences.

Joel Batson—Principal

School Behaviour Focus

Week 33—Positive support/self esteem

Week 34—Communication
**Prep—1 Class News**

Over the past few weeks I completed PM Benchmark Running Records to assess how guided reading is progressing. The preps have made excellent gains and both groups have moved up a level in groups. The minimum requirement for Prep is now level 5, so we should see most students attain or be close to this level by the end of the year. Daily home support to practice the readers that we study in class is essential for continued progress—thank you for your assistance at home with ensuring this is signed Monday to Thursday nights. In Maths both Preps and Ones have been looking at money—dollars and cents—a bit tricky for some when the coin size does not represent the value!

In Science we looked at the forces of pull and push. In History we explored the changes in the way we cook—from open fires to microwaves.

Please ensure your child brings a WATERBOTTLE to school **everyday**, so they can rehydrate continually throughout these very hot days. The students were very excited about swimming lessons this week, they really enjoyed the time they spent at the pool.

**Week 5**

- Green Slips- Natalie, Stevie
- Bookwork Award- Leo

**Week 6**

- Green Slips- Riley, Sarah
- Bookwork Award- Natalie

**Mrs Alex Brimblecombe**

---

**Year 3-4 News**

In English, we have been listening to, reading and viewing advertisements from different times which target children. We have looked at toy advertisements from magazines, television and websites. We have analysed the language features, visual features, and audio features in the ads. We have another check date for our Lectureettes at the end of week 6. Students will need to show that they have started researching their chosen animal.

In Maths, we have completed our unit of shape, space and position. We completed the test for this topic on Friday. Next week we will start our unit on measurement including length, area and perimeter and volume, capacity and mass.

In Science, we have been looking at the properties of solids and liquids. This week we conducted a viscosity race. We experimented to see which liquids have a high viscosity and which liquids have a low viscosity. We have also been looking at what happens to liquids and solids when heat is added or removed.

In History, we completed the second part of our assessment which involved looking at an historical event from different points of view and answering why different groups of people would feel differently about the same event.

Please continue to ensure all homework is being completed and signed every night! We are counting down the days to our rewards trip to Aussie World.

**Erin Hubbard**
LECTURETTE

There is currently plenty of buzz around the classroom in regards to our lecturettes for Term 4 – “Fractured Fairy Tales”. Please let us know if you have having difficulty finding a fractured fairy tale for your child. We will have a rehearsal next week so that students can practice reading their chosen story to a partner and then to a small group. Remember they are due: Monday 10th November 2014.

ENGLISH

We have commenced our mini “Fractured Fairy Tale” unit of work. Students have been learning about elements of a Traditional Fairy Tale, recording and discussing their favourite traditional fairy tale of all time. Next week, students will make a villain’s wanted poster and choose a fairy tale to write all of the causes and effects they notice within the story line. Students have continued to type up their “Information Reports” into PowerPoint slides. We have 7 students who have completed this assessment piece thus far. We have certainly enjoyed adding our own styles to the slides, fonts, colours and images.

MATH

This week, Year 2 have been completing practical activities from the unit of work “Measurement”. Students have been using lunchboxes, textas, blocks, books etc to measure the length of items around the school. We started using centimeters to measure items under 30cm within the classroom also. Next week, students will complete practical activities measuring length with meters.

Year 1 students have been working on the “Space and Shape” unit of work. Students have been sorting 2D shapes according to their properties. Next week, we will be looking closely at triangles, pentagons and hexagons.

SCIENCE

This week, students have been learning some new terms – such as – push, pull, force, gravity, motion and friction. We have been completing some practical activities to assist with our understanding of “pushing” and “pulling”. Students learned how pushes and pulls are forces and how we can make an object start or stop moving by using these forces. Next week, we will be learning about gravity and completing an investigation, where we will discuss and record our observations.

HISTORY

Students have continued to sort objects and inventions into past and present. This week, we completed activities around transportation. Next week, students will investigate school in the past and record the resources once used for education.

HIGH EXPECTATIONS HANDWRITING AWARD

Week 3 – Wilson Iszlaub
Week 4 – William Porter

GREEN SLIPS

Week 1 – Erin Kunde, Sean Monk, Shea Troeth, Charlie Gilbert and Lacy Lee
Week 2 – Rory Scott, Dustin Ramke, Cooper Mollenhauer and Wilson Iszlaub

READING AWARDS

Week 3 & 4

75 Nights of Reading – Shea Troeth

125 Nights of Reading – Miley Divljak, Mia Bishop, William Porter, Lacy Lee and Jorgia

150 Nights of Reading – Hannah Mollenhauer and Ryder Brown

250 Nights of Reading – Cooper Mollenhauer, Luke Greer and Jorja Forsythe

Congratulations to Julia Kerkow who entered her circular loom weaving into the “South Burnett Regional Council Children’s Art” completion and claimed 2nd Prize. Well Done, Julia.

Miss Sarah Sullivan

LIBRARY NEWS

This term in the library, we have started holding a borrowing competition—“Winners read books!” to encourage all of the Wheatlands students to remember to borrow each and every week. Each week a student borrows they put a sticker on the competition chart. Students have been getting very excited by this and I have seen many more students borrowing regularly as a result. At the end of the term, results will be tallied up and prizes will be given to the students and classes that do the most borrowing. Good luck to everyone!

Mrs Tracy Anderson
Messages from the Minions

READING GROUPS

We enjoy our reading group activities. We have been focusing our attention on comprehending texts by expanding our range of strategies. Ask us about:

- Finding the origin of a word, e.g., what would aquaflower mean?
- Using the word building section in a dictionary.
- Dictionaries sometimes use a word in a sentence ‘words in use’.
- Justifying our answers by using information from the text.
- Using knowledge of other words to make new words.
- When we first look at a piece of text or book, we predict what it may be about.
- Assessing authors’ purpose and text type search for the main idea.
- Drawing conclusions and making inferences.
- When answering multiple choice questions, ruling out the most obviously wrong answers first.

TRANSITION

Our 6’s and 7’s have now been to the high school for 2 whole days. Although there are defined areas for them to eat and play, they have all been very quick to ditch me and explore around the school grounds at break time. The highlights have been:

- Working on the passports.
- Seeing old friends and meeting new ones.
- Having tuckshop without needing a brown bag, and iceblocks when you want.
- Walking around while eating.
- Getting the bus to school.
- Finding money in the drains.

They are looking forward to our next visit when we will participate in ‘high school’ lessons, hopefully ITD!

Mrs Mebbs

ICY CUPS $1

Sarsparilla, Orange, Raspberry, Lime

SCHOOL BANKING

The Commonwealth Bank is running a promotion to reward regular saving. Prizes are:

- 40 x GoPro HERO3 White Edition Cameras
- 150 x Slip ‘N Slide Double Wave Riders

To be in the running, students simply need to make a school banking deposit between 20 October—30 November 2014, regardless of the value. They will then be automatically entered into the competition. The more times they deposit, the more chances they have to win (up to a maximum of 6 entries).
The P&C’s Comedy Night fundraiser held on October 17 was a huge success and “awesome” seems to be the word most people have used to describe the evening along with “can’t wait until next year’s”. The 4 comedians who appeared each had their knack of tickling everyone’s funny bones and after the comedy show people were heard saying “my stomach hurts from laughing”, “my face is sore from laughing” or “I was nearly wetting myself with laughter”. One audience member who recently moved to the South Burnett from Brisbane said “I almost forgot that I was in Wondai – that was just like a show that would be put on in the City”. The profit from the night exceeded $6,000 so was a fantastic fundraiser in addition to being a great night of humour and socialising. The organising committee were ecstatic with the entire event and are planning another Comedy Night in 2015 – stay tuned for the date so you can mark it on your calendar and in your diary.

In addition to thanking school families who supported the Comedy Night the P&C would like to publicly thank the following businesses and individuals for their contributions to the Comedy Night:

Guy Davis
Extra Touch Designs and Hire
Robyn Zelinski
The Tacklebox
Sunshine Mitre 10
Pomfrets Hardware & Plumbing
Coca-Cola Amatil
Murgon Tyre & Auto
Mobbs Mitre 10
Wondai Pharmacy
Murgon Paint & Panel
Crow FM
Murgon Moments
Kheli Cross & Dave Hansen
The Hotel Cecil

In addition to thanking school families who supported the Comedy Night the P&C would like to publicly thank the following businesses and individuals for their contributions to the Comedy Night:

Guy Davis
Extra Touch Designs and Hire
Robyn Zelinski
The Tacklebox
Sunshine Mitre 10
Pomfrets Hardware & Plumbing
Coca-Cola Amatil
Murgon Tyre & Auto
Mobbs Mitre 10
Wondai Pharmacy
Murgon Paint & Panel
Crow FM
Murgon Moments
Kheli Cross & Dave Hansen
The Hotel Cecil

In addition to thanking school families who supported the Comedy Night the P&C would like to publicly thank the following businesses and individuals for their contributions to the Comedy Night:

Guy Davis
Extra Touch Designs and Hire
Robyn Zelinski
The Tacklebox
Sunshine Mitre 10
Pomfrets Hardware & Plumbing
Coca-Cola Amatil
Murgon Tyre & Auto
Mobbs Mitre 10
Wondai Pharmacy
Murgon Paint & Panel
Crow FM
Murgon Moments
Kheli Cross & Dave Hansen
The Hotel Cecil

In addition to thanking school families who supported the Comedy Night the P&C would like to publicly thank the following businesses and individuals for their contributions to the Comedy Night:
Next General Meeting

- Tuesday, 18th November 2014 @ 6.30pm

If you have anything you would like to add to the agenda for the next meeting, please add it to the form at the front office counter.

**TUCKSHOP**

Please note that the LAST TUCKSHOP for this year will be Friday 28th November. Thank you to the parent helpers who provide this service.

---

**P & C NEWS**

**Lost and Found**

FOUND—Child’s plush toy “Henry the Octopus” - please see Mrs Allan in the office to claim him.

---

**Head Lice Alert Notice**

Head lice have been detected in the school. Please be vigilant in checking your child/ren’s hair every 2 days until there are no head lice found for 10 consecutive days. If you do find head lice, commence effective treatment immediately and be sure to complete the process of treatment. This will help prevent head lice from spreading. Thank you for your co-operation.

---

**Student Resource Scheme for 2015** information has been sent home to families this week. Please note that we need the Participation Form signed and returned to the office by Friday 7th November. Please mark the forms “Yes” or “No” to indicate your participation so we can order correct quantities of student resources. Payment is not needed until families collect the books to be covered, which we expect in last week of Term 4. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter. Any questions please see Mr Batson or Mrs Allan.

---

**Wondai Community Kindergarten**
Everywhere I go I hear from parents that they are too busy, too stressed, and have too much to do and not enough time. Many social observers say parents seeing themselves as ‘time poor’ is at epidemic levels, a belief that is only compounded by technology that enables us to be connected 24/7.

At one point I personally had to take some time to stop and honestly reflect upon my own life and that of my family. It didn’t take long for me to see that I too had become caught up in the ‘busyness’ of life. I knew that for the sake of my kids and my family, I had to make a change but it requires a day-in day-out conscious level of commitment – a commitment to practise joy, fun, patience, forgiveness, silliness, bad dancing and reflection.

Currently I’m doing seven things to calm my life down and that of my family while trying to create more space for my children to simply enjoy their childhood. (Some of the following I’m sure you already do but it’s taken me a while to figure them out).

My strategies to slow down and not be so busy are as follows:

1. **Eat together as a family at the table at least four nights a week**
   There has been more and more written about the importance of families eating together and the positive effect it has on children and adults alike. I have to say I’m enjoying it.

2. **Avoid watching the nightly news**
   I’ve stopped watching the news and to my surprise the sky never collapsed as I had feared. I’m a much happier man not watching the oh-so-depressing’ news.

3. **Turn off the TV and sit around an open fire**
   I’ve constructed a simple fire pit in our inner-city backyard and every second weekend my partner, the kids and I toast marshmallows, listen to funny songs, talk and look up at the stars. Who needs to go camping to enjoy the outdoors! My eldest boy (13 years old) is also learning to set a fire and his younger brothers are learning a lot about flames, hot coals and what happens to marshmallows when they are left in the fire for too long. Meanwhile my 16-year-old daughter will stare at the flames for an hour thinking about who knows what … but for me this is better than seeing her staring at social media or watching mindless television.

4. **Dance together**
   I’ve made the conscious decision to start dancing in the kitchen with my kids at least three times a week. I can’t dance to save myself, however I have three boys and if they are ever going to learn to dance and be comfortable with moving their bodies, I suddenly realized I have to lead the way. This parenting caper sure can be humiliating at times, but we wouldn’t have it any other way.

5. **Exercise together**
   I exercise with my kids at least four times a week, usually at the local park kicking the footy, throwing a frisbee, running with our dog and so on. I have realised that the best way to get them all moving is by moving myself too.

6. **Explore nature together**
   I’ve started spending more time in nature with my kids by taking them to the river, the hills, lakes, nature parks. I keep it local, with the occasional longer drive on weekends. I contacted my local council and found so many fun things to do as a family in my local area that I never knew existed … who would have thunk it!

7. **Limit your own social networking**
   I have severely reduced my time spent on social media such as Facebook, Twitter etc. My personality type could disappear into social media and never come back so I knew I had to significantly change my ways and, once again, it’s all about positive role modelling for my kids.

So there you have it, my strategies for simplifying and calming my family life. As a result I’m happier, less stressed and far more ‘present’ for everyone which, in turn, is having a positive effect on my kids.

Malcolm Dix

Stay one step ahead of your kids with great ideas & expert advice from Michael Grose. Join Michael’s NEW Parentingideas Club today at parentingideasclub.com.au. You’ll be so glad you did.