

Newsletter

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Stafford State School

Independent Public School

Term 4 Issue 16 Thursday 9 November 2017

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

'Music Count Us In' was a fabulous day celebrated by Stafford State School students from Year 3 – 6 at Virginia State School on Thursday 2 November. 'Music Count Us In' is a National program funded by the Federal Government to support music education in Australian schools. Every year, this group supports young composers and industry leaders culminating in a "Song" to be sung by Australian children on the same day at the same time to raise public awareness of the importance of music education for our children.

The way all students in attendance behaved and participated was fantastic, a true sense of achievement. For all who attended 'Music Count Us In' at Virginia State School - Thank you for a wonderful day.



Instrumental Music and Choir Concert and Recruitment Evening

What an amazing night had by all at our Concert and Recruitment Evening last Thursday. Well done musicians! Thank you to all students and families who joined us to not only showcase our Instrumental Woodwind, Brass, Percussion and String Programs but to also see what instruments are on offer for 2018. Thank you Mrs Jackson, Mrs Killen and Mrs Harle and Mr Hills for a wonderful night and for all your preparations.



Student Leaders

This year I have been very proud of the manner in which our School Captains, House Captains, Music Captains and Student Leaders have conducted themselves. They have set a very high standard and have been a very good example for the other students within the school.

The process of selecting our 2018 student leaders is well under way. Earlier this term I spoke to all potential candidates to ensure they understood the process of selection and the expectations that the Stafford State School Community would have of them. The journey to becoming a school student leader did not start this term. Their attitude towards the school, their studies, their peers and their teachers over the year is taken into account. Their ability to perform the task of the leadership position they aspire to is then judged through our selection process. Good luck to all those students who have leadership aspirations.

Active School Travel Class Award

Fantastic - **Week 5:** 5/6B **Week 6:** 5/6B for having the most students Actively Travelling to school.

Class Attendance Awards

Well Done - **Week 5:** 3/4B **Week 6:** 5A for your Attendance.

Class Uniform Awards

Great Work - **Week 5:** 4A **Week 6:** 6A for wearing your School Uniform with Pride.

Swimming Club Meeting

Our last Swimming Club Meeting for 2017 will be held on Tuesday 21 November at 7:15pm at Jabiru (our After School Care Room). The Stafford Stingers Swim Club works in partnership with the school. If you are interested in joining Stafford Stingers Swimming Club or in having swimming lessons or squad training for your child please contact Stafford UNIFIED Swim School on 0418185598 or aquatics@soqld.com.au for more information. Parents are also most welcome to attend meetings.

QSS Annual Swimming Relay Carnival

The Annual Invitational Relay Carnival at Chandler will be held on tomorrow night, Friday 10 November. Congratulations to the following students who will be representing Stafford State School: Brooklyn S, Max V, Cade B, Hugh B, Ava L, Lara R, Jada B and Declan C. Good Luck!

P&C Meeting

Our last P & C Meeting for 2017 will be held on **Tuesday 28 November at 7:00pm** in the Library. The Parents and Citizens Association works in partnership with the school to improve the learning outcomes for all of our students. If you would like to be a part of this group of dedicated parents, we invite all members of the school community to attend. All parents welcome.

Swimming Carnivals

Years 3 - 6 Swimming Carnival will be on Thursday 23 November from 9:00am - 1:15pm.

Prep - Year 2 Swimming Carnival will be held on Friday 24 November from 9:00am - 11:00am.

Making Every Day Count

As we near the end of the school year, it's important to remember that all students are required to attend school every day until the end of term which is **8 December 2017**. Not only is attendance at school a legal requirement, but being at school helps students to achieve more and builds social and emotional skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience.

For more information, visit <http://education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts>.

Kind Regards,

Lee Martin

Calendar of Events

NOV	
23	Swimming Carnival Years 3 - 6
24	Swimming Carnival Prep - Year 2
28	Volunteer's Morning Tea
DEC	
5	Year 6 Graduation Celebration
6	Pancake Breakfast
6	Academic & Sports Awards Starting at 1:30pm
7	Christmas Concert 9:15am – 10:45am
7	Class Parties
8	Last Day of Term 4
JAN	
22	First Day of Term 1 2018
26	Australia Day Holiday

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Four nominations were received for the positions available for the School Council, therefore the positions are automatically filled without voting.

The Council Members are:

Principal -	Lee Martin
P&C President -	Daniel Smith
Teaching -	Cate Hall
Non Teaching -	Helen Cau
Parent -	Karen Pearce
Parent -	Karra Schokman

Congratulations to the first members of our new council.

Leonie Dowse
Returning Officer

Independent Public School Council

The Independent Public School (IPS) initiative is about enabling school leaders to take responsibility for decisions that influence teaching and learning, while the department supports capacity and capability building and provides an authorising environment built upon collaboration and shared responsibility.

We have now successfully formed a Stafford State School Council and our first official duty as a council is a training day on Monday 27 November from 8:00am – 1:00pm.

MUSIC NEWS

Instrumental Strings and Band Recruitment 2018

Thank you to all parents who have returned their expression of interest forms indicating their wish for their child's inclusion in the Strings or Band programs for 2018.

If you were unable to attend our recruitment concert last evening, please do not feel that you have missed out on any opportunity for your child to be considered in the new intake.

This week, I administered the Selmer Music Aptitude test to all Year 2 and 3 students during their classroom music lessons. This is a guide to aid with matching children to a suitable instrument for them to learn to play.

It also can be a useful general measure of each child's ability to follow instructions and identify such things as variations in pitch, rhythm, chords and melody matching, even if they are not intending to learn a musical instrument.

You will receive notification from Mrs Tammy Jackson, IMP Coordinator, when the instrument selection process has been finalised. If you need any more information please contact Mrs Jackson by email tjack112@eq.edu.au

Christmas Capers Concert

Each year level will perform items to celebrate the upcoming festive season on Thursday 7 December in the school hall.

If you have the following in your Christmas decoration supplies at home please feel free to add these embellishments to your child/ren's costume for the concert.

P1 and P2/1A student's costume would look like Santa's helpers in elf caps. 5A student's costume would match their item well with reindeer antlers.

All other classes could adorn themselves with any Christmas headwear or suitable Christmas decoration pinned to their costume to add to the festive fun and excitement of the day.

Please follow future newsletter items for further details.

Moira Killen
Classroom Music

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Prep – Year 2 Swimming Carnival

Students in Prep – Year 2 will participate in their annual swimming carnival on Friday 24 November from 9:00am – 11:00am. A range of races: 25m (full lap) and 12.5m (half lap) races and noodle races will take place. The Junior School Carnival is a short fun carnival with the emphasis being FUN and PARTICIPATION! Come along in your child's house colours for a morning of excitement!

Years 3 – 6 Swimming Carnival

The fun and exciting Senior School Swimming Carnival begins at 9:00am on Thursday 23 November. Students in Years 3 - 6 have already been given the opportunity to nominate for any of the 25m and 50m finals events. Time trials have been completed during PE lessons to find the fastest six students in each of the finals events. Age champions and district selection is decided from the finals.

If students did not make it into a final, they will swim in any of 25m and 12.5m open events on the day. **House points are awarded for all events.** Relays and novelty events such as a noodle race and a fashion parade will also be held on the day. The more participants swimming in each house = a greater chance of winning the carnival.

So encourage your child/ren to get involved, have some fun, wear their house colours and most of all try their best for Thor, Atlas or Hercules!!

The fashion parade will be held after all of the swimming events. Students are encouraged to wear clothes in the colour of their house. Thor - Yellow, Hercules - Green, Atlas - Blue. The most interesting, creative and brightest male and female from each house will win a prize.

The only time students may take off their swim shirt is to compete in a final. Swim shirts must be worn at all other times.

Please ensure your child/ren bring their swimmers, swim shirt, cap, goggles (optional), towel, hat, sunscreen and drink bottle for their carnival.

Parent volunteers will be much appreciated for both carnivals. Parents will be asked to sit in the grand stand on the far side of the pool, while all students will be seated in the grandstand closest to the school.

Good luck to all students. Come and enjoy two fun and fabulous days!

**Miss B
HPE Teacher**

WELLBEING CLUB

Ms Jen Compton, one of our EAL/D Teachers, has started a **Wednesday Wellbeing Club** (WWC) at first break. To begin with, the WWC will be open to students in Years 2, 3 and 4.

During the 30 minutes, Ms Compton will guide the students in mindfulness meditation using the highly successful program already used in many Australian State Schools, **Smiling Mind (available as an app)**.

The students will then listen to and enjoy a picture book, which holds a powerful virtuous message such as compassion, empathy, honesty, respect for others, resilience etc. At the end of the story, students will have the opportunity to discuss aspects of the story and participate in related activities.

The WWC is held in Chappy Dan's room from 11:00am – 11:30am each Wednesday.

A commitment to the class for the rest of Term 4 is needed because the skills taught during the classes build on one another. It's important that if the students are to enjoy the benefits of the meditations and stories, that they attend each Wednesday to see

positive results. If you do NOT want your child to participate in the Wednesday Wellbeing Club, please write a short letter and drop it off at the front office.

What makes Ms Jen Compton qualified to do this? Jen Compton has been a teacher for more than 27 years. She understands how children think and feel. She has been a meditator for the last decade and has seen the positive changes in her life that daily meditation practice can achieve.

Jen wishes to support children in mindfulness meditation and social and emotional education to improve their inner confidence and behavioural outcomes.

LOTE

Ni Hao!! Hello!! I am Priscilla Tsang, the LOTE teacher at Stafford State School. This year we had the Chinese LOTE programme through Years 3 – 6 and it has been wonderful to see the hard work and engagement of students in experiencing another language and culture. Research shows that students find it easier to handle a new language in the early stage of schooling.

As a language teacher, I found the Year 3 and 4 students are able to get used to the language quickly and they are always willing to apply the language skills at school as well as in the community. It is always amazing to see the engagement and capability of them to perform another language. Here is an opportunity for students to explore more about the language after school hours.

Kedron State High School offers a Language Infuse programme for Year 3 and 4 students in 2018.

This is a 10 week programme to introduce Chinese through games, songs and cultural tradition activities. It is run by qualified and experienced Chinese teachers at Kedron SHS. You are welcome to have a look of the programme through the link:
<https://kedronshs.eq.edu.au/Calendarandnews/News/Pages/Infuse-2017.aspx>.

The registration form can be downloaded through the link or hard copies can be found at the office.

Priscilla Tsang

TUCKSHOP

Please note the Tuckshop will be closed on **Wednesday 29 November** and **Friday 1 December**.

No food will be available from the Tuckshop starting from Wednesday 29 November.

On the last week of Term 4 the Tuckshop is closed for a stocktake and cleaning.

CHAPLAINCY NEWS

Hi everyone! I trust you're having a great week!

Next Week

Next week I will be here on Monday and Tuesday, 13 and 14 November, instead of my usual Wednesday and Friday. This will also mean that toast will not be on next week. If you need to get in touch with me, please feel free to send me an email!

Toast Volunteers

I just want to publically thank Sharon and Karra for their amazing help with Friday morning toast. It means that we now are in need of parent volunteers for our Friday toast. If you have skills in buttering, or spreading jam or vegemite, and have between 8:00am and 9:45am free, I would love to hear from you!

The Gathering Update

The past couple of months have been fantastic fun, with our students learning a range of skills, practicing English, and just being in a fun environment.

Last week we had a food afternoon. We cooked together and some of our fantastic Karen families brought some yummy dishes to share. A great time was had by all.

My days at Stafford are Wednesdays and Fridays. If you need to get in touch with me to make an appointment, or ask any questions, my email address is daniel.baxter@chappy.org.au.

Chappy Dan

JABIRU KIDS STAFFORD

A big hello from the Jabiru Kids Team. We are now in week 6 of Term 4 the weeks are flying by. It will be Christmas time before we know it.

We have been busy bees in Jabiru organising our Vacation Care Program. There are some exciting and engaging activities. Also, incursions and excursions for the children to enjoy and engage in over the vacation care period. The children had input into the program and planning by group discussions such as children's meetings and daily conversations. The children's ideas are documented and kept as a reference point for the program and planning cycle. We also have input from the families and the educators.

The Jabiru Play Bus will be coming to Jabiru Kids Stafford on Wednesday 8 November and on the last week of Term 4, Thursday 7 December. The Jabiru Play Bus will be located on the far corner of the school oval. The bus comes full of exciting and engaging activities which are facilitated by the staff. The children will enjoy a variety of activities such as ball games, circus activities and fun with a giant parachute. Feel free to call down and have a look and say "hi" to our friendly staff.

Also, we are looking for a donation of recycled paper that we can use within the service for the children to utilise. We are focusing on sustainability and the use of recycled materials. Any donations of paper and boxes and bottles for construction would be greatly appreciated.

Just a reminder Jabiru Kids Stafford will be closed on the last day of Term 4, **Friday 8 December** for the end

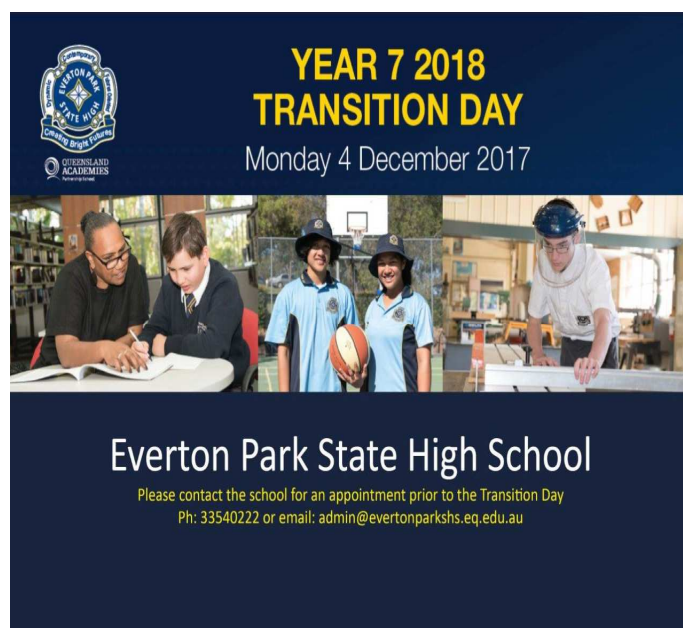
of the year clean up day. **There will be no care available for families on this day.**

We have vacancies for both Before and After School Care sessions and we are taking bookings for the upcoming Vacation Care period. The Vacation Care program and booking form will be available soon.

Please call in and see Sarah Corrie the Service Manager for Jabiru Kids Stafford and get some information on how to enrol.

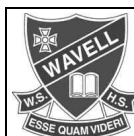
Sarah Corrie
Service Manager
Telephone: 0438 542 465

COMMUNITY NEWS



**YEAR 7 2018
TRANSITION DAY**
Monday 4 December 2017

Everton Park State High School
Please contact the school for an appointment prior to the Transition Day
Ph: 33540222 or email: admin@evertonparkshs.eq.edu.au



WAVELL STATE HIGH SCHOOL Orientation Day for students in Year 7 2018

Monday 4 December 2017
Assembly Hall
Telopia Avenue, Wavell Heights

8:30am for 8:45am start
3:00pm finish
(Morning Tea provided for parents at 10:00am)

Students to bring/wear:
Primary School Uniform
Notepad & pens
Morning Tea & Lunch

Combined Shop Hours – Monday 4 December
3:00pm – 5:30pm

Speak to our staff about how to place
online 2018 stationery orders

Contact Combined Shop on 3350 0370
Pre-purchase your requirements
prior to Orientation Day
Shop open in 2018 Monday – Thursday
8:15am – 11:15am

Applications for Year 7 2019 are welcome

Enrolment Enquiries Contact :
Sandra Lock Enrolment Officer on 3350 0328



A very big thank you for the wonderful support of our **READING RAINFOREST: Go Wild For Books!** Book Fair. The students loved coming through with their classes to view the Book Fair and it was great to see many parents visiting with their children as well.

This year we raised about \$560 in commission from our Book Fair sales. We will use this money to purchase new books and resources for the library.

The Stafford Library Wish List Program

Thank you to the following families for donating a book to our library. It is greatly appreciated.

The Besley Family
The Craig Family
The Hedelfs Family

Maybe by Morris Gleitzman
The 91-Storey Treehouse by Andy Griffiths
The Goldfish Boy by Lisa Thompson
48 Hours - The Vanishing by Gabrielle Lord
The Bad Guys Episode 6 by Aaron Blabey
Odd Dog Out by Rob Biddulph
Pig the Elf by Aaron Blabey

The Vaughan Family
The Prebble Family
The Hartnell Family

Competitions Winners

Congratulations to the following students who won a **\$15 book voucher** which they used to purchase a book from the Book Fair.

- There were 117 snakes in the **Guess How many Snakes in the Jar Competition**. Cody-Lee in Prep guessed the correct number and Luke in Year 5A was the next closest.
- **Purchase a Book at the Book Fair Competition** was won by Brianna Spinks in 1/2C and Aiden Daley in 5A.

Thank you again for going wild in our Reading Rainforest Book Fair!

Book Club: Issue 8

The final issue of Book Club for the year has been sent out. All orders will need to be submitted by 23 November to ensure that your order can be handed out before the holidays. Thank you again for your support of Book Club this year. Check out some highlights from this issue below.

Issue 8 Stats

- 144 new releases
- Over 160 titles \$10 and under
- 63 titles \$5 and under

Highlights

DC Comics Ooshies Collector's Guide
Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Getaway
Diary of a Minecraft Creeper #1
Bad Dad
Do Not Open This Book Again
There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fossil
DIY Slime
Minecraft Mobestuary
Diary of a Minecraft Zombie: Friday Night Frights
David Walliams Biggest Box Set
Structures: Buildings & Bridges

Helen Jordan and Di Knox

