Welcome to term 2. As always it is lovely to reconnect with everyone in our community after time away to refresh and rejuvenate. I hope this is exactly what everyone was able to do.

Tuesday was a very special day for me. I celebrated ten years as principal of this school. It’s been such a joy and privilege to serve in this community. Ten years has simply flown.

We ended Term One on a high with an absolutely delightful Easter Hat Parade and productive and engaging Celebrations of Learning across the school. Staff appreciated greatly the positive feedback from so many in our community. These opportunities for us to gather so that parents and carers can actively engage in the life and learning of children are extremely valuable occasions. Knowing how your children are progressing, what their achievements are and where they have committed to focussing their energy allows you, their first teachers to be actively encouraging and supporting their endeavours. This term we will be focussing on the resilience needed for learning and how important it is to understand that new learning is uncomfortable. Some label it stressful, some say it’s too hard. We want children to recognise the physical and emotional signs associated with new learning and develop the skills to persist, understand and work through them. Every day we want children to feel like they are learning something new. We will be talking to them about being in their Learning Zones. Your follow-up, validation, trust and encouragement of this will assist them when times are tough to overcome adversity.

This term promises to be as busy as the first. To assist with planning the term calendar is included in today’s newsletter. Two events that are on the horizon include ANZAC Day at Grovely RSL on Friday morning at 6am and the Cross Country next Tuesday morning from 9-11am.

I am hoping that a very strong contingent of students from the school join me for the march on Friday morning at 6am. ANZAC Day is what many claim to be the most significant occasion in our nation’s history. Acknowledging this occasion and the sacrifice of so many by gathering on ANZAC Day is recognition of this. School captains will lead students and lay a wreath as a sign of respect. I hope to see you there.

Students have been preparing for the Cross Country with Mrs Ittensohn. Parents are most welcome to come and cheer their children on. This event is all about participation and children simply giving their best. While we applaud our winners we will also celebrate and acknowledge every child who participates. Please encourage your child. Children can run, jog or walk..... it’s just about participating and giving it your best shot..... That’s the Grovely Way!!!!!!

Our school is looking wonderful. Steve our Grounds Officer believes it has never looked better. Quite a lot of work was done over the holidays. The bitumen area at the front of the school was resurfaced and the line marking done. Some work was done to the Special Education Unit and E Block. A huge thank you to Steve for taking such pride in his work in keeping the grounds so beautifully maintained. Thank you also to our cleaning team for their work. Again their work is appreciated.

There are times when we are in need of second hand uniforms for children in our community. If you have any that are no longer used by your children we’d greatly appreciate them being donated.

Next Friday we farewell Miss Kiri (Mrs Childs). Kiri will be leaving to have her first child due in a few short weeks. We wish the lovely Kiri and husband Andrew all the very best, and thank her for her hard work and dedication to the children and families in our community. We look forward to her return when she is ready. We are most grateful to have Mrs Barry returning to her role.

Please also be aware that the Open Day for Mitchelton State High school is next Wednesday 30 April from 2-6pm. This really is a wonderful opportunity for parents and students in ALL year levels to go along and see what Mitchie has to offer. The school has a very dedicated staff team and excellent facilities. I recently visited the school to work with staff on the transition of year seven to high school process and had the opportunity to go through the new Trade Training Centre and see students at work. It really is an amazing resource. Some of our staff have children who attend the high school and have nothing but praise for what Mitchelton State High has provided for their children. Please also be aware if this time does not suit you, that John Searle the principal and his leadership team would welcome the opportunity to take you around at a time that is more suitable to you. Simply make a time through the office of the high school for this to happen.

Vicki Baker
Principal
Journey and Discovery
Thanks to all of the community members who came to our first Journey and Discovery last term on 21 and 22 March. This was a very successful event and we would encourage all parents to track down those who attended and ask them about their experiences! We know that they are very willing to share.

Participants also attended an information evening with Dianne Davis on the Friday evening where they learnt more about the Planes of development and each cycle of learning in our school. They then undertook a silent journey through each cycle. This allowed participants to look, feel, smell, and hear what each cycle is like and how they differ.

On the Saturday morning participants experienced a demonstration before they entered into a three hour cycle engaging with various materials and activities from across all three cycles. Those that attended gave us great feedback about the experience including the highlights of being able to work closely with different teachers across the school. Some comments from the feedback include:

"This has been amazing, what a fantastic way to learn I would love to be back at school doing this. You Monte teachers are amazing, you give so much extra, but I can see why"

"A big thank you to all staff involved in putting the sessions together. It was a great opportunity for parents to get an understanding of what our kids are doing at school and how amazing their journey through Monte is. Really appreciate the program."

"I loved it all. Think everyone needs to experience this"

"Great having the teachers around from all cycles"

High School experience days
Next Wednesday 30 April our Year 6 students will be attending an experience day at Mitchelton State High School. Permission letters have gone home this week as students will walk to and from the High School for this day.

We highly recommend that every student attends whether they have chosen to attend Mitchelton SHS or not as this gives them a great insight into how a high school day runs and supports their preparation into this new environment. This is especially important this year as our year 6’s will be our first ever Year seven into high school students.

ICAS
Thanks to all of you who returned the ICAS permission slip. Reminders will be put in the newsletter as the dates approach for each test. The first ICAS test will be the Computer test. It will be held in the ST-LaN room (A Block-entrance through middle gate) at 8am on Tuesday 20 May.

Term Two
Term 2 is shaping up to be an exciting term with many annual events to look forward to. These dates are on the website. One of these is TOONSCHOOL 2014 - Accepting Challenges - Achieving Goals - Building Resilience! This incursion will be run by popular, award winning Cartoonist/ Author -Illustrator, Jeff “Joffa” Taylor. The session has a focus on:

-Raising self-confidence and self-esteem, encouraging creativity and lateral thinking.

-Promoting self-expression - Increasing communication and listening skills

-Providing achievable outcomes.

A letter will be coming home shortly with cost per student.

Seven Steps to successful Writing
Step 3 – Tightening Tension
The tension scene comes just before the big climax ending. In movies this is the scene of the soccer final, the exciting car chase or the heroine fighting for her life in a raging river. We all know Little Red Riding Hood’s classic tension scene. Red RH arrives at the cottage and the wolf is in bed in granny’s clothes. Red RH, (who obviously needs glasses!) says: “Oh, grandmother, what big ears you have!” ‘All the better to hear you with.’ ‘Oh, grandmother, what big eyes you have!’ ‘All the better to see you with.’ ‘Oh, grandmother, what big hands you have!’ ‘All the better to hold you with!’ ‘Oh, grandmother, what big teeth you have!’ ‘All the better to eat you with!’ See how the scene slowly builds up to be more and more dangerous – and thus frightening? We don’t start with the teeth, we start with the ears – and the wolf trying to coax Red RH to come nearer and nearer.

TOP TIP:
Emotion always takes time to build up. So in tension scenes, show kids how to start small and ‘escalate’ to a powerful climax.

ACTION ACTIVITY:
Read picture books with your kids and look for the tension scenes. Picture books are short, so it’s easy to find where the all-important tension builds before the ending.

Many events last term highlighted the focus we share as a community on lifelong learning - from our parents participating in our community events, our first Journey and Discovery, our teachers engaging in the many professional development sessions they undertake and our students delivering our mantra of Learning is the work! Come along to next week assembly to see movie of you all hard at work!!

Sue and Leanne

HOW ENGAGED ARE YOU AS A PARENT
The interesting article below was sent to us by Michael Jeh. Please take the time to read it.

5 WAYS TO ENGAGE AS A PARENT
1. Read to and count with your children from birth – even 5 minutes a day can make a difference. Children who were read to when very young are much better readers at 15, in fact their reading scores are equivalent of up to a year’s additional schooling compared to children who weren’t read to.

2. Maintain a keen interest in what happens at school. This includes listening to your child’s experiences at school and supporting them to have the confidence when they experience setbacks. It also involves building good relationships with your child’s teachers and asking what you can do to help in their learning.

3. Talk with your teenager regularly about social issues. Talk about the issues of today and explore the ‘why’ questions – if you don’t know the answers, work together to figure out where you might find the answer. Teenagers who have regular discussion on contemporary issues are more proficient readers – in fact, their reading scores are equivalent to around half a year’s additional schooling.

4. Understand that your role is important and believe that your child can do their best. Supporting children’s aspirations and showing faith in their ability to achieve their goals has a very positive impact on their educational outcomes. Even if you didn’t enjoy school yourself, there is strong evidence that kids do better when their parents have high aspirations for them, when they talk about the importance of education and encourage them to think big about the future – to develop a lifelong love for learning.

5. Help your children work through things that impact their overall wellbeing. Sometimes there are apparently small things happening at school or at home which can be the biggest issue for your child.

Author: Dan Haesler is a teacher, consultant and speaker at the Mental Health & Wellbeing of Young People seminars. His website is: http://danhaesler.com/ and he tweets at @danhaesler

LIBRARY NEWS
Reading Oasis themed Book Fair Fast Approaching. Our Book Fair will be held in week 6 (Monday 26 – Wednesday 28 May). It will be a lot of fun and give you a great chance to buy new books, posters and stationery. By making a purchase you will be supporting the school library. The more books you buy, the more books we get for our library! The Book Fair will have an Ancient Egyptian theme this year with some fun competitions with cool prizes! Who is going to guess how many pieces of toilet paper are wrapped around our mummy bear?? Are you a Book Fair-oh?

At this stage I am looking for volunteers to help with setting up and advertising. Please let myself or Kathy know if you are interested in helping out. More information will be in the next newsletter. Buying new books will prepare you for May, the National Reading Month!

Children can get involved by participating in the “Read more in May Program”. All children need to do is to read for at least 10 minutes a day (how easy is that!). Scholastic is giving away $10 000 worth of prizes to the families, classrooms and schools that read the most in May. More information can be found on the website www.scholastic.com.au/readmoreinmay
**CALENDAR OF EVENTS – TERM 2**

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<th>ANZAC Day Assembly – 2pm GPAC</th>
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<td><strong>ANZAC Day Public Holiday</strong></td>
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<td>P&amp;C Meeting – 7pm Staffroom</td>
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<td>Prep-Year 2 Sports Day</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Fête de la Musique (Choir)</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>End of Term 2 – Winter Vacation</td>
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**CRAFT DAY – 17 MAY**

Our Craft Day will be held on Saturday 17 May from 2pm-10pm. Come along and enjoy an amazing fun filled day to work on craft projects you may want to complete. We welcome beginners to experts and ask that you bring your own equipment/supplies to use during the day.

Tickets prices of $25 per Adult and $10 per Child is great value and includes entry into the Lucky Door Prize, Afternoon Tea, Dinner and Supper. To reserve your seat please phone the Office on 3354 6333 or tickets can be purchased on the day.

**CROSS COUNTRY**

The Cross Country and Fitness season has begun! Students have started Cross Country training during PE lessons and will continue training up until the Grovely SS Cross Country event on Tuesday 29 April 9am – 11am. Please come along to support the students at this exciting event. If you are keen to volunteer on the day and haven’t put your name down at the office, please see me in the morning before the event.

Distances:
- Prep – Year 1: 1 small lap of oval
- Year 2 / 3: 1 big extended lap of school oval
- Years 4 - 7: Course around school grounds and nearby park 9/10 Year olds – 2km approximately 11/12 Year olds – 3km approximately

The children have been doing some fitness activities during PE and have run parts of the course during these lessons. We promote full participation and encourage all students to complete the course for their age group and to support their house team, Dawson, Madsen or Patrick and hopefully win the carnival!!

It would be great to see all parents and families getting behind the students in this fitness season. I have encouraged all students to do some extra training sessions throughout the weeks leading up to the event and during the school holidays. The more training, the fitter and healthier the Grovely students will be! Thanks for your support.

Anna Ittensohn (PE Teacher)

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC**

Lessons with Mrs Hall for all beginner and senior commenced today. Timetables have been handed out and emailed.

Well done to all of our beginner strings, beginner band, senior band and junior choir who did a great job at the Easter Hat Parade.

For any string queries please contact Mrs Angela Batch at ahbat0@eq.edu.au
For any band queries please contact Mrs Penny Hall at phall35@eq.edu.au

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**FINANCE NEWS**

**Student Resource Scheme**
Thank you to the families who returned the completed Student Resource Scheme Participation form and made payment or arranged a payment plan.

Unfortunately a number of these families have not made payment on the invoice and the money is now overdue. In order for the school to make the purchases and provide the resources to all the students participating, these funds are required to be paid immediately. A statement will be sent home after the end of April for all outstanding amounts if not paid prior. If you have elected to pay by instalments, the statement is just for your records.

Early this term we will be contacting families who have indicated they are not participating in the Student Resource Scheme or have not returned their completed form. By not participating you are required to purchase the items on the list which was sent the week commencing 10 March.

**Year 5/6/7 Camp**
Please remember to return to the class teacher all the documents which were sent home last term.

The school is required to advise the camp of final numbers on Wednesday 7 May. If you indicated payment was to be paid in full this payment is required no later than Friday 9 May (9.00am). Payment plans arranged are due to be fully paid by 27 June. If you child is unable to attend the camp we will be unable to make any refund (as the school will still need to pay) whether paid in full and if paid in instalments full payment will still be required.

**Receipting of Payments**
Due to the Easter Holidays and upcoming ANZAC Day Public Holiday, any payments made since the end of Term 1 will not be receipted until next Friday 2 May. Di Lowe - Business Services Manager

**COMMUNITY INFORMATION**

**QLD ALL SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP** will be held on Saturday 10 May at St Paul’s School, Attunga St, Bald Hills. Interested students can download any entry form from [http://www.metnorthsport.qld.edu.au/Sports/CrossCountry.aspx](http://www.metnorthsport.qld.edu.au/Sports/CrossCountry.aspx)

**ANXIETY TREATMENT STUDY** - A team of researchers (the BRAVE Team) at Griffith University are investigating an internet-based program for children suffering from anxiety who also have a diagnosis of Asperger’s Syndrome. They are seeking children aged between 8 and 12 years to take part in the treatment study. This is being offered FREE for families who are eligible to participate. For more information contact the BRAVE Team: Phone: (07) 3735 3325 or Email braveforaspersgers@griffith.edu.au

**EVERPONT PARK HIGH SCHOOL TRIVIA NIGHT** will be held on Saturday 24 May from 7pm for $10 a person over 15 years (no cost for children under 15), 8 people at a table. Phone 3354 0222 for information. Funds raised will assist students to attend a school trip to Vietnam.

**“COME AND PLAY TOUCH FOOTY”** at Mitchellton Junior Leagues Club with CityKidz Touch on Thursdays from 4.10pm. No experience necessary! 
**Venue:** West Mitchelton Junior leagues Club, LHS Prospect St, Gaythorne 
**Sign on Days:** Thursday 24 April and 1 May from 3.50pm
**Cost:** $50 including insurance.
**Time:** 4:10pm each day and finish by 6.00pm.
Ring Helena 3275 2077 or Peter 0439 679 379 for more information

**Wildlife Emergencies** – 1300 264 625 (1300 animal) 
**Acts of cruelty or neglect** - RSPCA Inspectorate 3426 9971 or 1300 852 188, DPI call centre 3289 3111 or your local police station. 
**Sick or injured stray animals** - RSPCA Animal Ambulance 3426 9971 or 1300 852 188.

**24 Hour Call Centre** – 3426 9999

We are looking at ways of having visual displays that reflect our school culture and expectations. To facilitate this we’re making a plea to all of our artistic parents. If you’d like to volunteer your time to produce one of the several display boards we have ready to go please let me know.
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