Yangan State School News

Dear Parents and students

The new acting principal for Yangan State School next year is Mr Joey Campbell. I extend a warm welcome to him. Mr Campbell will be visiting the school tomorrow to meet staff and students.

Unfortunately Ms Lisa Holden the new Year 3/4 teacher for next year will be unable to visit our school next Monday. Therefore, there will be no afternoon tea. Her present school is unable to release her.

Playgroup Mornings
Playgroup mornings on Thursday this year have continued to be a wonderful addition to our early year’s philosophy of engaging pre-school children with play activities. The school has continued to fund the employment of Mrs Anne Maree Kelly, an experienced early childhood teacher, to deliver a play based program to our young members of the playgroup. It has been an exciting starting point for children from birth to 5 years and their families to experience connection and learning through play. How does playgroup help a child? It can begin to develop: independence, social learning, health and physical development, language development, early understanding of literacy and numeracy, imagination and creativity.

Student Report Cards
Teachers have been very busy writing reports to outline your child’s progress with their school work this semester. I am very proud of the quality of reports our parents receive. They are very detailed and thorough, and I would like to thank our teachers publicly for the long hours and the effort they have put into preparing this semester’s reports. Reports will be given out to students on Friday. If parents would like a parent/teacher interview with their child’s class teacher, please contact the teacher.

Yangan State School Presentation Evening
The Annual Yangan State School Presentation Evening will be conducted on Tuesday 8th December commencing at 6:00pm in the Big Shed. On behalf of Yangan State School I would like to extend an invitation to all members of our school community to our presentation evening.

This evening is a special event on our school calendar as it recognises the hard work and dedication of our students and school community. It is also an opportunity to say farewell to our year six graduating students. Please bring along a plate to share for a light supper that will be held prior to the presentations. A barbecue will also be available.

Class Booklists for 2016
Class booklists for 2016 have been sent home. Hynes Newsagency in Warwick has quoted prices to pack your child’s booklist for next year. Please note these prices only hold if your order is placed by the end of this year. If you wish to take advantage of this service, the school will collect orders and deliver to Hynes on your behalf. Pay Hynes Newsagency and collect your order in the new year. If you wish to participate, please complete the attached booklist form and return to the school by Wednesday 9th December.
End of Year Celebration Day
This year’s break up day will involve an excursion to Warwick Cinema then back to school for lunch, fun activities and afternoon tea on **Thursday 10th December**.

The cost is free. The day includes entry into the movies, sausage sizzle, drinks, ice block and transport by bus. The Parents and Citizens Association and the school have provided financial assistance for this excursion.
Parents are most welcome to join the excursion. To assist in planning, we need to know the number of students and parents who are attending. The **bus will be leaving the school at 8:50am**. We will be returning to school at approximately 12:15pm. Students are required to wear school uniform. Students may take extra money to purchase a drink, popcorn, etc. at the movies.
Please **complete the permission note** at the end of the newsletter (if you haven’t already done so) if you would like your child to attend and return to school by **Friday 4th December**.

If you have any queries or concerns regarding your child’s education or any other school related matter, please have no hesitation in contacting the school (4664 8224) or emailing me at [the.principal@yanganss.eq.edu.au](mailto:the.principal@yanganss.eq.edu.au)

Have a great week. Regards,
Ian Rathmell

**SCHOOL NEWS**

Enrolments for 2016
The predicted enrolment numbers for next year is 81 students. More enrolments would provide additional resources to become available to support our students. Maintaining this number of students will keep the current situation of available resources (teachers and teacher aides). If our numbers fall below 78 students, we have less resources. I ask for your assistance in the promotion of the educational opportunities at our school to help maintain our enrolment numbers.

If you need more information about Prep for next year please contact the school 4664 8224. Come and enrol your child in Prep now.

**End of year clean up – Prep/yr1/2 classroom**
At the end of each year we appreciate parental help to get the equipment/resources in our classroom cleaned and ready for next year’s use. There are a variety of tasks that need completing; some that can be done at home, some at school. If you can help out, a list of jobs is displayed in the P/1/2 classroom so that you can choose what might suit you. Just write your name next to your preferred job and tick off when completed. Any help is very much appreciated. Thank you.

**Library Report**
From Book Week, to Premier’s Reading Challenge, to Accelerated Reader, to weekly class visits, the Library has had a wonderful year. Our inter-house Literacy Trophy has also focused on reading and spelling, and introduced competition between Sturt and Mitchell Houses. Thank you to everyone who has helped in our success. I’m very proud of the way our students approach reading as an enjoyable and beneficial activity.

Our Library statistics show a continuing growth in usage. Last year we loaned 5889 books, averaging 33.8 loans per day. This year we loaned 6349 books with our average daily loans up to 37.5 loans per day.

Words read in Accelerated Reader have also increased, from just over 7 million last year to just over 10 million this year. We welcomed Zach Mapes, Thea Diack, Lauren Hutchinson and Megan Kelly to the Millionaire’s Club and other students reached a quarter of a million and more words - a great effort! All that extra practice has been reflected in our various test results throughout the school.

Thank you everyone. I look forward to another successful year in 2016. Don’t forget to enjoy a few books over the holidays. Happy reading.

Ann Smith

**Return your Library Books**
A reminder that all library books and home readers borrowed from classes should be returned by the end of this week, please.  

*Thank you, Ann Smith*
CURRICULUM CORNER

BULLYING
By Michael Grose

“What is bullying? Do we mix it up with teasing and other forms of mean behaviour?” It is an important topic which I’d like to help clarify. Bullying is a term that’s wrapped in emotion. For many people it’s associated with bad childhood memories. It’s been estimated that around 40% of people have experienced bullying in the past. It’s something we don’t want to happen to our kids. But I fear it is being overused at the moment and confused with teasing and rudeness.

Rudeness refers to thoughtless behaviours and thoughtless words. Kids often do rude things to each other without thinking their actions through. Examples include breaking wind in a child’s direction, joking about the colour of a child’s hair in front of others, failing to share possessions and neglecting to acknowledge someone. Rudeness is usually about selfishness and thoughtlessness. Taken on their own many rude behaviours can be seen as an element of bullying but when looked at in context they are more about thoughtlessness, lack of consideration and poor manners rather than a deliberate attempt to hurt someone.

Teasing refers to annoying, hurtful behaviour that is used to get a reaction from someone else. Teasing can be persistent in nature, but not always. It’s generally an attempt to get under a person’s skin. It can involve name calling, it can be personal and hurtful in nature. It can also infringe on another person’s rights. But generally teasing doesn’t have the key ingredients that make up bullying.

Bullying is the selective, uninvited, repetitive oppression of one person or group by another. It involves three elements – intent to hurt or harm; power imbalance and repetition over time. It takes many forms and guises including physical aggression; verbal abuse; emotional aggression (or blackmail); intimidation, harassment and exclusion. The new cyber-dimension to bullying has moved the goalposts for many kids. In the past children and young people could escape bullying by being at home. Cyberbullying means that children can’t escape bullies like they once could.

Why the distinction?
I hear the term bullying misused a great deal in the media and when talking to parents. We run the risk of “The Boy Who Cried Wolf” Syndrome where we become so desensitized to the term that we (or teachers) ignore it when children really are victims of bullying. We also run the risk of failing to skill our kids up to manage rudeness and teasing if we categorise every awful behaviour that kids experience, as bullying. Our ability to be discerning about bullying is as important as the action we take when we are sure that our child is on the receiving end of bullying behaviour. These actions include: dealing with feelings; providing emotional coping skills; getting others involved; building up a child’s support networks and building self-confidence that can take a battering. Bullying needs to be taken seriously. But we need to be discerning about bullying behaviours.


WSHS TRANSITION DAY - Wednesday 9 December 2015

We look forward to welcoming the future Year 7 students of 2016 to Warwick State High School. A program has been planned that aims to enable students to meet students from other schools, meet some of their teachers, establish relationships with Peer Leaders and to navigate their way around the school campus.

What to Bring: Morning tea and lunch from home or money for canteen (students are encouraged to use the canteen on the day – no other students are here so they get to line up and see how it operates without the older students). School Bag, Water Bottle, Pencil Case – with pens, pencils

What to Wear: Primary school uniform and hat.

Where to Go: The Hall (Victoria Street) Students will all be directed to the hall from approximately 8:40am. They should bring their bags with them to the hall.

End of Day Pick-Up: Buses run from the high school from along Victoria Street. For parents collecting students, they will be dismissed from the hall at 3:10pm. (Please pre-organise where you will be meeting your child)

Parents: You are invited to come along with your child and meet some of the staff. Parents are welcome to stay for the first session held in the hall until 9:15am and then attend a morning tea and tour of the Junior Secondary building (U Block). If you have any queries regarding the day, please don’t hesitate to call the high school.

Jump Rope for Heart Update

A VERY BIG THANK YOU to the Yangan State School community for supporting The Heart Foundation through the recent Jump Rope for Heart Jump Off Day. As a school we raised $654.90. What an awesome effort! 50% of the money raised will come back to the school and be used to further support the education of our students.

So far in 2015, the Jump Rope for Heart program has collectively raised over $2.8m! Once again thank you for your fantastic support of this worthwhile charity.

Yours in skipping,

Miss Hart
AWARDS

Gotcha Values Award

Caring and Contributing – Mrs Booth – Thank you for making us an awesome prop we can use in our Celebration Night performance.
Improving – Year 3/4 Wonderful improvement in time management skills during Semester Two. Well done!
Caring and Contributing – Connor Smith – Assisting the Prep and Year 1 students with the whole school dance.
Caring and Contributing – Izic Webb – Assisting the Prep and Year 1 students with the whole school dance.
Improving – Kyeisha Smith – Putting in a huge effort with your sight words and homework. Well done.
Improving – Shay Towson – Putting in a huge effort with your sight words. All the hard work has paid off Shay.

Congratulations to Mrs Booth, Year 3/4, Connor, Izic, Kyeisha and Shay the recipients of this special award. They received this award for their personal achievements and assisting and supporting fellow class members. Well done!

Word Wizard
Marley Skinner – Green
Ameena Abdel – Orange
Josie Gillespie – Orange
Shay Towson – Jade, Sapphire, Amber and Magic 300
Kyeisha Smith – Violet and Magic 100

Achieving My Goals
Lilly Kerlin – Read 30 000 words on Accelerated Reader.

Gotcha
Shania Skinner – Full Sticker Chart

Accelerated Reader
Congratulations to Eli Carter for reaching Independent Reader and to Tegan Lamb for reaching Super Reader.

P&C NEWS

WHY COOK?

A BBQ will be available at the Presentation Night – Tuesday 8th December.
- Hamburgers and sausage sandwiches
Will be available for purchase from 6 to 7pm and at supper break.

Families are asked to bring a plate to share at supper also.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Yangan Carol Service
At St Peter’s Anglican Church
On Monday, 14th December at 7:00pm
(Supper at the School of Arts afterwards)

Yangan & District Progress Association Christmas Party !!!!!
Sunday, 13th December 11PM-4PM Yangan Park/Playground

Entertainment
Soft Serve, Slushies and Fairy Floss
Jumping Castle Family Games
Sausage Sizzle Face Painting
Heavy Horse Cart Rides
Kevin Stow and Classic Kountry Visit From Santa!!!!!

Permission for Celebration Day

I do / do not give permission for my child/children ………………………………………………… to travel by bus to Warwick Cinema in Warwick on Thursday, 10th December 2015 and to participate in the Yangan State School End of Year Celebration Day activities.

Parent attending: Yes / No

The cost is free. The day’s activities include entry into the movies, sausage sizzle, drinks and transport by bus. Students will need to take extra money if they wish to buy food at the movies.

Signed ………………………… Date …………………