January 30, 2013

Yangan State School News

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**Dates for Your Diary**

- **8 Feb** Trail Ride Meeting 9.00am
- **12 Feb** SD Swimming Trials
- **13 Feb** Religious Instruction
- **13 Feb** P&C AGM 7.00pm
- **14 Feb** Parent Information Sessions
- **20 Feb** SD Softball trials for boys & girls after school at Warwick West
- **20 Feb** Student Council AGM
- **27 Feb** Religious Instruction
- **5 Mar** Student Leader Induction
- **9-10 Mar** Leanne Hoffman Memorial Trail Ride
- **13 Mar** Religious Instruction
- **21 Mar** SD R/League & Netball
- **27 Mar** Religious Instruction

**Yangan State School staff:**

- Principal – Mr Ian Rathmell
- Yr 4/5/6/7 – Miss Anna Condon
- Yr 2/3 – Miss Rebecca Hart
- Yr Prep–1 – Mrs Annette Reid
- Music – Mrs Annette Reid
- HPE – Mr Ian Rathmell
- LOTE –
- Support – Mrs Margaret Gambrill
- Teacher Aides - Mrs Ann Hempel
- Mrs Ann Smith
- Mrs Melissa Donges
- Cleaner – Mrs Pat Fischer
- Relief Cleaner – Mrs Deb Lawrence
- Administration - Mrs Carolyn Vardy
- Groundscrew – Mr Doug Martin

**Principal’s Message**

**Dear Parents and Students**

Thank you everyone for your understanding yesterday regarding the start to school. Road closures caused many schools in the Warwick area to organise different staffing arrangements and an alternative program for the start of school. While our school did not sustain any major damage, sadly there were other schools in the state that suffered damage to classrooms, libraries, sporting facilities, computers and other equipment.

Our school had some water enter one of our classrooms through the roof. Flood waters destroyed our boundary fence near the creek and damaged our bore.

**Welcome Back**

A special welcome is extended to all new and returning students, parents and staff to our school community. I trust that you and your families had an enjoyable break from the school routine. I look forward to a very positive and productive first term. I am very enthusiastic about continuing the great work that we have achieved at Yangan State School. We will ensure that we continue to achieve excellent progress in student achievement as well as ensuring our school has top-class facilities and resources. We are looking forward to working together with you to make your 2013 school year most rewarding.

It is exciting that we have 9 new students and 4 new families joining our school. We offer a special welcome to all of our new students and their families.

**P&C AGM – Wednesday, 13th February**

Our Parents and Citizens Association is a major avenue for parent feedback, support and planning in ensuring our school provides the highest quality service. A lot can be achieved through the P&C and school working towards common goals. Your involvement in the P&C can build a stronger school community where all children benefit.

The Annual General Meeting and General Meeting for our Parents and Citizens Association will be held on Wednesday 13th February from 7:00 pm. I encourage you to attend this meeting to give your support.

**Parent Information Sessions**

Information sessions for each class are planned for Thursday, 14th February. At these information sessions, class teachers will provide an overview of what is planned for their class. It is a great chance to find out about the format of your child’s homework, how each curriculum area is to be taught, sign up as parent helpers in the classroom and ask any questions you may have. Please make the time to attend this information session.

**Our school newsletter is a major form of communication to you at home.** Please take the time to read it so that you can keep informed of school events. If you would like to receive an electronic copy of the newsletter and any other information on what is happening at school please contact Carolyn at the office with your email address.
**Grounds Care and Facilities Upgrade**

A special thank you is extended to Mr Doug Martin, our Schools Officer Casual (Grounds), who has helped maintain our beautiful grounds over the holidays. During the holidays the year 2/3 building was painted externally, skylights were placed in the year 4/5/6/7 building and a water pipe was connected to the Big Shed for bubblers to be installed and connection to our new solar hot water system. This improvement and maintenance of our facilities continues to improve the quality of our school learning environment.

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

Regards,

Ian Rathmell

**SCHOOL NEWS**

**Morning Tea Invitation**

The Yangan School Community would like to welcome all the new families to our school at a special morning tea to be held next Tuesday 5th February commencing at 9.00am.

If you are a new parent and you have a child /children attending the school for the first time (a new Prep student or older student/s) we would like you to join us. Come and meet other new and some not so new parents! Have a social chat, a cuppa, and find out what is happening around the school. Year 1 parents are asked to bring a plate to share.

**SCHOOL CALENDAR 2013**

**TERM DATES**

- Term 1 (9 weeks) Tuesday 29th January to Thursday 28th March
- Term 2 (10 weeks) Monday 15th April to Friday 21st June
- Term 3 (11 weeks) Monday 8th July to Friday 20th September
- Term 4 (10 weeks) Tuesday 8th October to Friday 13th December

**LIBRARY NEWS**

Welcome to a new year of reading enjoyment.

All students will be visiting the Library on Fridays to borrow and return their books, listen to stories, do activities and discover how to find resources. The loan period for P-1 and 2/3 classes is ONE week so books need to be returned each Friday. The loan period for the 4/7 students is TWO weeks but if books are required for longer, renewal can be organised by seeing Mrs Smith. There will be various events during the year to celebrate books and reading, including the Premier's Reading Challenge, the Readers’ Cup, and Children’s Book Week in August.

Please help your child take care of their library books, keep them in a safe place and remember to return them when they are due back to school. I extend an invitation to all parents, especially those new to the school, to visit the library and see the resources we have available.

**Accelerated Reader**

Reading can be an exciting voyage of discovery, visiting different worlds, meeting new people and investigating other writing styles. Accelerated Reader is a motivational program to encourage reading for pleasure which benefits the development of reading and vocabulary skills. Accelerated Reader forms part of the Independent Reading component of our literacy program. In Accelerated Reader, each child reads books within their reading range. They do a quiz on a computer in their classroom which measures their comprehension, and accumulate points over the year. Year 3 to Year 7 students will be continuing from this week and Year 2 students will be gradually introduced to the program during the year.

There are over 1 400 books in the school library which have quizzes. These books are marked with coloured dots on their spines. Additionally, students have access to more than 10 000 quizzes so they may also read books from home and do the quizzes at school, although it is recommended that the majority of these books fall within their reading range. Mrs Smith can advise on the titles available. It is best if the quizzes are taken within two days of the books being read.
Students will be issued with a reading log in which they enter the title, level and points of each book they read, and the result of their quiz. It is essential that the book and log be kept together and both are returned to the library when a new book is selected. In addition, after a quiz is taken, students will print a TOPS (The Opportunity to Praise Students) Report which shows the progress toward their target points. These reports will be signed by the teacher and filed in their display folders. Teachers will print their own diagnostic reports regularly and follow up any difficulties students may face. Each classroom has a motivational method to mark progress with various rewards and recognition of success.

Please support your child by following their progress as shown in their TOPS reports. If you have any queries about Accelerated Reader, what it involves and how it works, please don't hesitate to talk to Ian Rathmell, Ann Smith or your child’s teacher. We would be delighted to explain the benefits of the scheme to your child's education.

**P & C NEWS**

The Annual General Meeting and General Meeting for our Parents and Citizens Association will be held on Wednesday 13th February from **7:00 pm**.

All executive positions are vacant at the Annual General Meeting. We are very much seeking more family representation on the committee so please consider asking someone to nominate you OR nominate someone who you feel would be an asset to the position. Please see the attached membership form. To assist at the upcoming Horse Trail Ride (9/10th March) membership forms need to be completed.

**Trail Ride Meeting** Friday, 8 February 9.00am at the school.

**Hotel Raffle Tickets Selling to raise P&C Funds**

If you can assist with selling tickets (in conjunction with another family or by yourself) at the Yangan Hotel even one Friday in the year, please contact the school to place your name on the roster.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**2013 Junior Netball Fixtures**

*Sign-On Day Information*
When: Saturday 16th February
Where: Bottom of the escalator in Rose City Shoppingworld
Time: 10am – 1pm

Promotion: Pay registration fees at sign-on & go in the draw to win back your fees
Fees: Fun Net $60, Midgets & Juniors $135 (discounts for multiply players)
These fees are a once only payment, there is no weekly fees
Age Groups: Fun Net 5, 6 & 7 years, Midgets 8 & 9 years, Junior A & B 10 – 14 years,
Fixtures Commence Saturday 23rd February
If you are unable to attend sign-on day, you are most welcome to sign-on prior.
To sign-on prior or for more information please email or ring Linda Bunch 0407 734 380.

**Pangea Music** - 'coming together through music' - Slade Campus, Horsman Road, Warwick
Pencil in Saturday the 9th of February, if you're free and you'd like to join us at the Pangea Studios, Warwick, 11am-12.30pm for our next drumming and marimba workshop -$ 20. We'll be having workshops regularly throughout the year..spreading the joy! If you are interested in attending reply to pangeamusic@hotmail.com and let us know. **Grant:** phone: 4661 9474 or 0439 347 061, **Michael:** phone: 4661 4370 or 0428 066 201