Principals Pen,

This week, I would like to reflect on how well Dalby State School has progressed this year. Our students continue to excel in the Sporting, Instrumental and Musical arenas. Our academic results also continue to improve, specifically in the area of reading. “Aladdin”, our School Musical was a quality performance that showcased our talented students and committed staff and parents. The outcomes that we have achieved in all areas of education have been highlighted at state, regional and local levels.

I would also like to acknowledge that work that is done behind the scenes by committed staff and parents. The opportunities that our students receive can only occur with the support of adults. We are extremely privileged at our school to have supportive teachers, teacher aides, office staff, auxiliary staff and members of administration, who constantly support our students inside and outside the classroom. We are also fortunate to have a committed P&C and supportive parents who continue to support the students and staff at Dalby SS. Well done to everyone for your support and I appreciate your commitment towards making our school a better place for our children.

Although, we are heading towards the end of the year, it is important to continue to reinforce the importance of reading to your students and to encourage reading at home. “READING MATTERS at Dalby State School”

Books Help Children Develop Vital Language Skills

Reading is an important skill that needs to be developed in children. Not only is it necessary for survival in the world of schools and (later on) universities, but in adult life as well. The ability to learn about new subjects and find helpful information on anything from health problems and consumer protection to more academic research into science or the arts depends on the ability to read.

The more children read, the better they become at reading. It’s as simple as that.

Reading Can Open Up New Worlds and Enrich Children’s Lives

As mentioned above, reading opens doors - doors to factual information about any subject on Earth, practical or theoretical. Given the wealth of available resources such as the Internet, libraries, schools and bookstores, if children can read well and if they see reading as a source of information, then for the rest of their lives they will have access to all of the accumulated knowledge of mankind, access to all of the great minds and ideas of the past and present. It truly is magic!

Reading Can Enhance Children’s Social Skills

Although reading is thought of as the quintessential solitary activity, in certain circumstances reading can be a socializing activity. For example, a parent or grandparent reading a story aloud, whether from a traditional printed book or from an eBook, can be a great opportunity for adult and child to share some quiet, relaxed quality time together away from the rush and stresses of the business of daily living. They share a few minutes of precious time, plus they share the ideas that are contained in the story. In addition, older children can be encouraged to read aloud to younger ones as a means of enhancing their relationship.
Principal pen continued,

Reading Can Improve Hand-Eye Coordination

It may sound funny, but eBooks can be a way for children to improve their fine motor skills and their hand-eye coordination, as they click around a child friendly website or click the backward and forward buttons of online story pages. They may also be picking up valuable computer skills that they’ll need in school and later in life.

Reading Can Provide Children with Plenty of Good, Clean Fun

I’ve saved the most important point for last. Reading can provide children with endless hours of fun and entertainment. All of the pragmatic reasons above aren’t at all necessary to justify reading’s place in children’s lives. Stories can free up imaginations and open up exciting new worlds of fantasy or reality. They allow children to dream and may give them a good start on the road to viewing reading as a lifelong source of pleasure; so read to your young children every day.

So Reading Really Does Matter After All

There are so many ways in which reading continues to be both a vital skill for children to master, and an important source of knowledge and pleasure that can last a lifetime. Nurture it in your children. Make the most of all the resources that are available and waiting for you: printed books, online stories, magazines and so forth. Encourage follow-up activities involving creative writing skills and the arts, as well, so that your children can reflect upon or expand on what they’ve absorbed and, at the same time, develop their own creativity.

Don’t forget that our annual Book Fair will be in the School Library next week. This provides a great opportunity to purchase books to read at home or for Christmas Presents. For more information about Book Fair please read the notice about it in this newsletter.

Voting for School Captains and School Vice Captains will occur this week and the selection process for these two roles will continue next week as successful candidates participate in interviews. Information regarding the panel will be included in next week’s newsletter. We would like to ensure that the student leadership process is transparent to students, staff, parents and the wider community. I am happy to receive feedback regarding our process by contacting me at the school office or email feedback to the principal email on the.principal@dalbyss.eq.edu.au.

The Sport/House Captain selection process will occur on November 15th. The selection of student leaders will occur in Week 7, Choir and Instrumental Music Captains will also be selected during the same week.

Our Awards ceremonies will occur in Week 9 & 10. Dalby State School will have a Sport and Cultural Awards ceremony on Thursday 5th December and the Academic Awards Ceremony will be on Monday 9th December. Successful candidates for these awards will be notified later this term.

I would also like to remind parents that our end of the year Concert will be on Monday evening, 2nd November. Our Concert will involve all students from Prep to year 7. Classroom teachers and Mr MacPherson will work with our students while preparing for our end of the year concert.

Thank you again for your ongoing support.

Have a wonderful week.

Regards,

Ms Mona Anau, Principal
SPORTS NEWS:

QLD ALL SCHOOLS TOUCH
Over the weekend two teams from Dalby SS played in the Qld All Schools Touch Titles. The boys team played five games, winning two, going down in the quarter finals of the Plate Competition. The girls team went one better winning two games before losing the semi final of the Plate Competition. Well done to all the students who competed so well and thank you to all the parents who travelled to support the students and our school.

TUCKSHOP NEWS:

Please note that Oak Vanilla milk is no longer available, the company is no longer making this product.

Tuckshop Volunteer Lunch.
All tuckshop volunteers (past & present) and those who have been involved in the home bake roster are invited to have lunch together on Thursday 21st November, 12 o’clock at the Coffee Club. With another year fast coming to an end it will be very nice to sit down and enjoy a meal and some time together. If you are able to attend please let Jan or Bev, know by Tuesday 19th.

UNIFORM SHOP:
The uniform shop will now be operating on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8.30am to 9.30am, as well as the normal tuckshop days. These new hours of operation will continue through to the end of the year to make the purchasing of uniforms easier for parents. The uniform shop now has all sock sizes available.

JIGSAW PUZZLES NEEDED.

The library is in need of a new stock of puzzles for the students as I am constantly being told, “Mrs Maguire we’ve done this one.” If you have puzzles at home which are no longer being used please consider donating them to the library if they fit the following description:

♦ from 9 to 1000 pieces
♦ all pieces there
♦ suitable for primary school children
♦ in great condition

There is a regular group of students who come to the library before school and at lunch time who enjoy completing jigsaws. They are from across the year levels and tend to have a lovely time chatting and sharing as they complete the puzzles.

STUDENT BANKING COMPETITION

FANTASTIC PRIZES TO WIN
60 x Apple iPod touch 16GB
100 x Adventure DVD packs (includes Despicable Me, HOP & Despicable Me 2)

All you need to do to enter this great competition is make two or more School Banking deposits between the 21st October, and the 30th November, 2013. You will then automatically be in the draw to win these fantastic prizes. Thank you for supporting our school and teaching your children the important life skill of saving money.

Regards,
Kym Burton
School Banking Co-ordinator

2014 TALLEBUDGERA CAMP MEETING:

There will be a parent information meeting for those parents who intend sending their child to attend Tallebudgera Camp in 2014. This group will be our present Year 5 and 6 students. We are taking both year levels from 10 - 14 March 2014. The meeting will be held in the Conference Room (old computer lab) at 3.15 pm on Tuesday 12 November. Items to be discussed will be cost, transport, accommodation and other educational activities.

CHAPLAINCY NEWS:

Hi Parents,
Term 4 is off and running and what a crazy start it has been! It is so pleasing to see just how much our students have grown and achieved over this year.

I have been reading a fantastic book called Switch on Your Brain, by Dr. Caroline Leaf. She is a Scientist who studies the brain. Some interesting facts from her book are:

• Our brain generates more energy in one day than all the cell phones on the planet.
• Every day when we wake up our brains have made new nerve pathways. What a great fact to share with your child to encourage them to give things a go and learn new information, our brain has already set up the pathway for us!
• Our intellect, determination and emotions are very strong and driven by principles of love. As parents love and encourage your kids. Encourage your children to be positive and optimistic – our minds are very powerful!

As the term progresses and gets hotter it is important to ensure that your child gets plenty of sleep and lots of encouragement to help get them through the last jammed pack weeks of the year.

I am available on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and would love to get to know you the parents as well.

Regards,
Chappy Heather.