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From the Principal

I often ponder that I must have the best job in the world. Every day I interact with children. Their eyes are often filled with wonder, they skip along with joy as they appear to daydream up the pathway and excitedly share details of their experiences.

Parents do a great job of keeping the ‘home fires’ burning, as well as supporting us as a school to ensure that a child’s wonder is fed with knowledge. ‘The larger the island of knowledge, the large the shoreline of wonder’ Ralph Sakman. As a parent, I know that it is the hardest task that we do.

The government website www.humanservices.gov.au has information about social and health related payments and services. There are lots of services that can help out families in a variety of ways.

The busyness of life can, at times, make it difficult to find time to talk and listen with our children. Talking and listening to children does lots of important things. It improves your bond with them, and encourages them to listen to you. It helps them to form relationships and to build self-esteem.

Like so many other things, talking and listening can be done badly, just OK, or really well. And like any other skills, you get better with practise. Good communication with children is about encouraging them to talk to you and listening so they can tell you how they feel.

Top tips for talking and listening

- Set aside time for talking and listening to each other.
- Be open to talking about all kinds of feelings, including anger, joy, frustration, fear and anxiety. Talking about feeling angry is different from getting angry. Learning the difference is an important step for a child learning to communicate.
- When talking to your child, try to remember how it was when you were a child and how you were generally attracted to those people who really listened to you. There are a lot of things they don’t know and a lot of things they don’t have the words to talk about.
- Let your child finish talking and then respond. When listening, try not to jump in, cut your child off, or put words in your child’s mouth – even when your child says something ridiculous or wrong or is having trouble finding the words. Children appreciate this as much as grown-ups!
- Watch your child’s facial expression and body language. Listening isn’t just about hearing words, but also trying to understand what’s behind those words.
- To let your child know you’re listening, and make sure you’ve really understood, repeat back what your child has said and make lots of eye contact.
- Show your interest by saying such things as, ‘Tell me more about’ ..., ‘Really!’ and ‘Go on ...’. Ask children what they feel about the things they’re telling you about.
- Avoid criticism and blame. If you’re angry about something your child has done, try and explain why you want them not to do it again. Appeal to their sense of empathy.
- Be honest with each other.
- If you talk and listen to your children from a very young age, you’ll all get into habits that will be very useful once they’re teenagers. An open relationship – where children feel comfortable talking about what they’ve been doing and with whom – will encourage children to tell you about the details of their life when they’re older.

Celebrating Learning in Every Classroom

There was excitement and historical moments at Eagleby State School on the last two Fridays. Students can earn Gotcha tokens in their classrooms and in the playground. In the classroom teachers give a Gotcha token to students who are showing effort with their learning and recognising the wonderful opportunities at every moment to grow their brains. Students place their classroom Gotcha token in a box at the office. There is a box for Prep to Year 3 and one for Year 4 to 7. At each respective Assembly, 10 Gotcha tokens are drawn. These students are special guests on a Friday morning tea with Mrs Jordan or Mrs Smith, which we call the ‘Hot and Cold Buffet’. For the playground Gotchas, students are drawn out of the playground Gotcha box and select a prize from the prize box. As always, a picture speaks louder than words; these students were the first to attend the special event, which honours them as valued learners and members of the community. The Year 4 – 7 students voted on what they would like as their acknowledgement. The two strongest ideas were to have the ‘Hot and Cold Buffet’ or 10 minutes extra play. The 10 selected seniors will decide which of these rewards the group wants as their acknowledgement. They chose the Buffet this time.

Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible
Science Week

Science Week was celebrated eccentrically throughout the week. A huge effort was put into the many and varied activities that occurred during playtimes, class time and Assembly.

The word ‘science’ probably brings to mind many different pictures: a fat textbook, white lab coats and microscopes, an astronomer peering through a telescope, a naturalist in the rainforest, Einstein’s equations scribbled on a chalkboard, the launch of the space shuttle, bubbling beakers. All of those images reflect some aspect of science, but none of them provides a full picture because science has so many facets.

- **Science is a process of discovery** that allows us to link isolated facts into coherent and comprehensive understandings of the natural world:
- **Science is exciting.** Science is a way of discovering what’s in the universe and how those things work today, how they worked in the past, and how they are likely to work in the future. Scientists are motivated by the thrill of seeing or figuring out something that no one has before.
- **Science is useful.** The knowledge generated by science is powerful and reliable. It can be used to develop new technologies, treat diseases, and deal with many other sorts of problems.
- **Science is ongoing.** Science is continually refining and expanding our knowledge of the universe and, as it does, it leads to new questions for future investigation. Science will never be “finished.”
- **Science is a global human endeavour.** People all over the world participate in the process of science.

By celebrating and focusing on Science for a week, students were inspired through experience to seek scientific understanding and knowledge. In my experience, students LOVE science.
Griffith University Students Visit
Griffith University delivered a Nutrition Education Program to our students Prep to Year 7. A large number of different university student teams dramatised and represented one common message – eat fresh fruit and vegetables as much as you. We were appreciative of their time and talents.

Numeracy Week
We enjoyed celebrations for Numeracy Week in our classrooms and during play times in the library. Some students participated in the opportunity of Maths Challenges and investigations. The world is made up of hidden and seen numbers; we know how the universe works through numbers rather than the naked eye; we know how much money it costs to live but there never appears to be enough. Numbers always get us thinking!

Libby Jordan - Principal
Prep 2014
If your child was born between 1 July 2009 and 30 June 2010, they are eligible for Prep in 2015. We are currently taking enrolments at the school in preparation for next year. If you have a child eligible for Prep or know someone who does, please collect an enrolment pack from the office and we will organise an interview time. Our Prep Parent Information session will be held on Thursday September 4 from 9am. We will also be conducting our Prep Transition Program during Term 4.

Lara Smith—Deputy Principal

SWPBS Focus of the week
Line-up in 2 lines quietly when directed

STEP 1: On the first bell, stop what you are doing, go to the toilet and get a drink.

STEP 2: Arrive where you need to line up before the second bell.

STEP 3: Sit in two straight lines.

STEP 4: Legs crossed and keep your hands and feet to yourself

STEP 5: On the second bell, wait quietly for your teachers instructions.
IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PARENTS
TAKING HOLIDAYS DURING SCHOOL TERM

If you are taking your child/ren out of school for any length of time, for a holiday or a medical procedure etc…..please fill in the appropriate paperwork available at the school office.

*It is government regulation that all significant school absences must be approved by the Principal.*
Students of the Week - 14-8-14
- PH - Melody - For always displaying a consistent effort in her work.
- GR - Nejla - Working hard to improve her writing skills.
- RT - Reiko - Settling into Eagleby State School & RT easily.

Students of the Week - 21-8-14
- BJ - Tangiroa - Returning to school with a positive attitude & being a focused learner.
- BK - Ihiah - For making sure his homework is always done.
- BP - Hayden - For a great effort during reading.

IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE
Parking - the Staff car park and the Administration car park are for staff and official visitors only.

For safety reasons do not drive into these areas - do not drop off or collect students from these areas as this is the main area used by students with bikes and scooters.

Car parks are available for parents at the front of the school for the purpose of student drop off and collection.

To ensure the safety of our children, please do not drive into the school grounds or the staff or administration car parks, this area is NOT for dropping off and picking up students.

Lately the office has been receiving many requests for messages to be passed on to students during school & learning time for change of pickup places, times & people for students across all year levels. We realise that sometimes these changes are unavoidable but we ask that firm arrangements are made with your child/children before they leave in the morning.

Alterations to these arrangements should only be made in an emergency situation.

Please be aware that we are unable to guarantee that messages can be passed on to students due to class movements etc.

Awards

Students of the Week - 14-8-14

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Recipients of Diamond Awards are:


Congratulations & well done !!!!!!!
10 tips to help your child build vocabulary through new words

Learning new words helps children read more complex books and stories. Children learn new words when someone reads to them and they read on their own. The more children read, the more words they are likely to know. Here are some things you can do with your children to help build their vocabulary:

1. **Point out words that appear often.** As you read together, point out words that you see often. These words include "I", "me", "a", "the", "but", "my", "he" and "she". Your children will begin to notice the same words in every story.

2. **Play rhyming games.** As your children begin to recognize certain words, you can try playing rhyming games. These games will build their vocabulary and increase their awareness of different word sounds. As they get older, have them write out rhyming words (cat, mat, sat, splat, flat, etc.).

3. **Make sound effects.** Use different voices and sounds to keep your children interested in the story’s words. If a word sounds like its meaning, e.g., splash or splat, point this out – it makes the word more interesting. Hearing different sounds also helps your children develop better listening skills.

4. **Make connections.** Help your children connect the words you read with the words they hear. Follow along with your finger as you read to show how print moves from left to right. Point out the pictures in the book and talk about what you see, matching the words to the pictures.

5. **Talk about daily events.** Talk with your children about past and future events, using the special words that go with these activities. For example, making breakfast could be associated with words like omelette, spatula, bowl, cereal or toaster. Taking a holiday would mean using words like ticket, schedule, suitcase and so on. Every once in a while, use a new or more difficult word and talk about its meaning.

6. **List new words.** Encourage your children to keep a list of the new words they have learned. Ask them to listen for new words as people talk. Have your children find new words in newspapers, books, flyers, and magazines. Talk about the meanings of these new words with your children as they add them to their list.

7. **Look for “word families”.** Give your children a word that is found inside other words (for example, *grow* is found in *growing* and *growth*). Ask your children to name other words that are related. Explain that these words are part of the same “word family”.

8. **Build sentences.** After talking about a new word and its meaning, ask your children to write their own sentences using the word.

9. **Look up words.** As your children start to understand written words, get a children’s dictionary. Whenever they need to know the meaning of a new word, they can look it up in the dictionary and talk to you about it. You may not know the word either and you can learn together!

10. **Listen to music.** Songs introduce new words, especially ones that rhyme or repeat, which makes them easy to learn and remember. Music helps with learning languages and developing listening skills.
Uniform Shop Opening Hours

| Opening hours: | Friday 9.00am - 9.30am |
|               | 2.30pm - 3.00pm        |
| Other days by prior arrangement |

Please hand banking to class teacher and please make sure you have completed a deposit slip so your banking can be processed.

School Banking:
School banking is each Friday morning. Please give your bank books to the class teacher.

A Commonwealth School Banking Representative will be at school tomorrow, Friday 29th August 2014 from 8.15am outside the Office so parents will be able to open new School Bank Accounts for their child/children.

Parents need to bring photo ID, such as drivers licence, 18+ card, or passport. For any non-school child (younger brothers or sisters), we need to see birth certificate or passport. If you don’t have these things on the day, you are welcome to open your child’s bank account but will need to take the above requirements into the Beenleigh Commonwealth Bank.

Graduation:
Our next Graduation meeting, is next Monday 1st September 2014, at 3pm in the Seminar Room. All Yrs 6 & 7 parents/carers are invited to attend.

Tuckshop Update:
If you haven’t got the new Tuckshop menu price list, please ask the office staff for a copy.

Uniform Shop Update:
If you haven’t got the new Uniform Shop price list, please ask the office staff for a copy.

Please note:
Next Friday 5th September 2014, the Uniform Shop will not be open the afternoon, as Yvonne will be selling Father’s Day gifts at a stall at the front gate.

Book Club:
Orders and money are due back tomorrow, Friday.

Fun-a-thon:
Notes and sponsor cards went home this week for the Fun-a-thon which is on Friday 19th September 2014.
All sponsor cards and money are due back from Monday 15th September 2014. These will be collected from a table set up outside the uniform shop.

School Disco: Term 3 Disco.
Information on this will be published in a later issue of the newsletter.

Hot Dog Day:
Watch this space for more information on this. Monday 15th September 2014.

P&C Newsletter:
Please remember to check your emails for the Eagleby State School P&C Newsletter, which is emailed out to you the week after the School Newsletter.
Also you can keep up to date with information on the schools Face Book page.

Tuckshop:
Tuckshop is open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for 1st and 2nd breaks.
Please use Australian currency only as we are unable to bank foreign currency.

NO HOT FOOD WILL BE SOLD DURING 2ND BREAK
All 2nd break lunch orders MUST be collected from the Tuckshop.
There is no class basket this break.
Please remember that lunches are to be ordered at the Tuckshop before class time.
Volunteers needed for Tuckshop. If you could spare some time to help in the Tuckshop, please see Sandy our Tuckshop Convenor, or leave your name and contact details at the office.

P & C Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in the Seminar Room at 3pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. Hope to see you there.

Father’s Day Stall:
Thursday 4th September 2014 – Yrs 5, 6 & 7.
Friday 5th September 2014 – Preps to Yr 4. (Inclusive)
Please note: Teachers will organise class shopping times.

All Gifts – $5.00
Any gifts not sold at the class stalls will be on sale at the gate from 2.30pm on Friday 5th September

SCHOOL LUNCHES
It is very important that your child comes to school everyday with a healthy lunch packed in their lunchbox. Please check that the lunchbox is put in their school bag before they leave for school in the morning.

Strong Minds, Healthy Bodies,

Subway: This will be offered again on the first Monday of the month, next time being on Monday 1st September.
Order forms have been sent home.
Orders must be handed to the uniform shop on Friday morning 29th August by 9.30am.
Correct money only, no change available.