As we get closer to the end of the term, our classrooms are hives of activity as teachers and students are working hard to complete learning and finish units of work before the holidays begin! This will culminate in the distribution of report cards next week. These are expected to be emailed out to all parents late on Wednesday afternoon. Please contact the school office to check that we have your correct and up-to-date email address to use.

As the holidays approach, there’s a wonderful opportunity for our families to help look after the school chickens by volunteering to care for them over the vacation period. If you are interested in helping out for a few days at a time, please be in touch and let us know. The responsibilities involved are: daily feeding, checking and maintaining fresh water supplies, collecting eggs, enabling free ranging during the day and locking the chickens in the pen for the nights. Once parents have been in touch to volunteer, a timetabled roster will be completed and shared.

The annual Hinterland Small Schools’ Athletics Carnival is coming up this Tuesday 21st June and we are anticipating a fantastic day! As it is a regular school day, all students are expected to be in attendance, participating and representing our school with great sportsmanship on a fun day. All students need to be at Pizzey Park, Miami by 8:40am ready for a 9:00am start in uniform with sports shoes, hats and sunscreen.

Playgroup is continuing to grow and develop with new families regularly joining us. Consequently, playgroup will be held weekly on Monday mornings from the start of next term with the first meeting being 13th July. Please let anyone with young children in our area know and invite them to come and join us.

The annual School Opinion Survey will be conducted between 29 June and 31 July 2015. All families, school staff and a random sample of students will be invited to participate. We encourage you to take this opportunity to have your say about what this school does well, and how this school can improve. Your opinions are important and are an integral component of our improvement agenda. More information about the surveys will be provided at the start of next term.

Please keep an eye on our school during the upcoming vacation period. If you see anything suspicious at our school over the holidays, call the School Watch number – 13 17 88. Please don't attempt to intervene. School resumes after the holidays on Monday 13th July.

Sarah Jane Ash
Principal
During this term, our students have been working on a number of speeches and tasks across many different curriculum areas. A snapshot of some of these are below:

**English:** The students have been analysing characters in narratives this term and are preparing a talk accompanied by a power point which reveals their personal opinion of the character they have chosen. The students have to provide evidence from the text to support their opinions. They have chosen a wide ranging and interesting list of characters including Finn from Adventure Time and Gollum from Lord of The Rings.

**Geography:** The students have been looking at the concepts of place and location, various mapping conventions, and comparisons between various nations. They have endeavoured to create accurate maps and interpret data presented on thematic maps. They have also analysed natural and human made features of various environments and their influence upon the way people live in these environments. They are currently researching other countries within the world.

**Technology:** The students were given the incredibly challenging task of building, from scratch, a flying model aeroplane. Many dynamic designs have been created and all students have thrown themselves into the building process. We are approaching the trialling and re-designing phase of construction and the students are adapting and sharing successful ideas in the hope of achieving flight.

This week will be exciting as we will have all students presenting their public speech in the hopes of being a finalist representing our school at the Green Heart Cluster Public Speaking Competition. Our school-based competition will be held on Thursday, June 18th, starting at 9:30am. If your child is successful in being chosen as a finalist, they will compete at Robina SHS on Friday 24th July.

If you managed to read the Gold Coast Bulletin on Tuesday last week, a piece of writing collaboratively authored by our class was printed in the EDiT student section of the paper. Our students successfully argued both sides of: “School Zones should be 40km per hour all the time.” It made for interesting reading! We have submitted other articles, book reviews and photos to be published in future editions and will be checking closely to see our student work in print!

*Cheers, Sarah Jane and David*
Dear Parents and Caregivers,

**English** – We are learning about the purpose and structure of stories. Imaginative stories are written to entertain the reader. To help make stories entertaining, there are usually three parts: a beginning, a middle and an end. This ensures that something happens in the story to keep it interesting. Words and pictures can work well together to tell a story.

**Science** – we have just started our science unit ‘Good to Grow’. The students will be learning and understanding that plants:
* have basic needs, including food and water.
* have a variety of external features.
* Live in different places where their needs are met.
* Grow, change and have offspring similar to them.

**Maths** – next week in maths we will be looking at measurement and understanding length and width. Students will be measuring length using direct and indirect comparisons. They will also order length and use uniform informal units to measure the length of items.

**Literacy Planet and Mathletics** – The students are really enjoying time on Literacy Planet and Mathletics in class, please remember that it is encouraged for students to participate on these computer programs at home as part of their homework. Students are able to earn points and receive certificates at assembly for Mathletics and Literacy Planet participation.

**Homework** – students should all have their sight words in their homework books. Highlighted words are known words. Please practice sight words frequently. Remember that sight words need to be identified by sight, as many of these words are not able to be sounded out. Sight words help students:
* Accelerate reading
* Increase fluency
* Develop comprehension
* Boost self-esteem
* Build confidence
For those students that know their sight words, they can practice spelling some as well. Make up games and use timers to record how quickly they can read their sight words.

Uniform – with the change in weather please make sure your child brings a jumper to school and it is clearly labelled with their name.

Have a great week

Warm regards

Joyce
Gardening Club News

Hi Everyone!

Welcome to Gardening Club News!!! We have just started our gardening club at Springbrook State School. Lately, we have been discussing how we will be propagating and planting the Richmond Birdwing Butterfly Vine (Pararistolochia praevosa) throughout our school, improving our gardens and cooking some healthy treats using vegetables that we have grown. A lot of students have joined the garden club and we plan to let everyone know what is happening through the newsletter. Our Garden Club News will include what we’ve been up to, games and interesting facts.

Grace & Lashae Grade 3

The Richmond Birdwing Butterfly

The Richmond Birdwing Butterfly (Ornithoptera richmondia) is one of the largest butterflies found in South East Queensland and Northern New South Wales. This beautiful butterfly, the male of which has brilliant green and black wings and bright red splash on its thorax, was once found in great numbers from the Mary River Heads in Queensland to the Clarence River in New South Wales and west to the Great Dividing Range.

Since the early 1900s, the range of the butterfly has become severely restricted. By the beginning of the 21st century, its distribution was reduced to two distinct populations, one on the Sunshine Coast and one stretching from the Gold Coast and its hinterland to the more northern parts of Northern New South Wales, Brisbane and its environs no longer has a stable and viable Richmond Birdwing Population, although sightings are more frequent in wet weather years encouraged by a frenzy of planting activities in the Brisbane suburbs over the last two decades.

Once one has seen the beautiful male Richmond Birdwing butterfly with its brilliant green and black wings, it would be difficult and unlikely to confuse another butterfly with it. On the other hand, the very different and larger female Richmond Birdwing butterfly can be easily confused with a number of other butterflies. The Richmond Birdwing Butterfly is endangered because of development and removal of vegetation including the Richmond Birdwing Butterfly Vine.

We have vines at the school, some of which have been propagated and potted from naturally germinated seeds from our original vines. In time we would love to be able to send a vine home to all families at Springbrook State School so we can help increase the population of the beautiful Endangered Richmond Birdwing Butterflies.

By Tilly Grade 6
Influenza (flu) season


Our school is helping to prevent the flu from spreading by:

• encouraging children, staff and visitors to cover their mouths and noses when they sneeze or cough
• making tissues readily available and ensuring used tissues are disposed of immediately
• ensuring children and staff wash their hands regularly
• cleaning our facilities and resources regularly
• encouraging staff and children with flu-like symptoms to stay at home
• strongly urging staff and children who arrive with flu-like symptoms to instead stay at home and encouraging them to seek early medical advice.

If your child catches the flu, please seek medical advice and keep them home until they are feeling well again.

Upcoming Dates

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15/06/15</td>
<td>3:15pm P&amp;C meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>18/06/15</td>
<td>Springbrook SS Public Speaking competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>22/06/15</td>
<td>Playgroup</td>
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<tr>
<td>23/06/15</td>
<td>Hinterland Small Schools’ Athletics Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>24/06/15</td>
<td>Report Cards distributed</td>
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<tr>
<td>26/06/15</td>
<td>Cooking Day (whole school)</td>
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<td>08/07/15</td>
<td>SMCA Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>13/07/15</td>
<td>Term 3 begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>20/07/15</td>
<td>Playgroup</td>
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<tr>
<td>24/07/15</td>
<td>Green Heart Cluster Public Speaking finals</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/08/15</td>
<td>SMCA Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>24/08/15</td>
<td>Bike Safety Centre (years 3-6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>28/08/15</td>
<td>Gold Coast Show holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>09/09/15</td>
<td>Hinterland Small Schools’ Soccer/Netball Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>16/09/15</td>
<td>3 day School Camp at Bornhoffen</td>
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SENSEI’S CORNER

Konnichi wa! Welcome to Sensei’s corner 2015. Remember everyone from Grades Prep to 6 is welcome to enter.

Question

Is sakura:

a) toy
b) flower
c) animal?

Last newsletter’s answer: Singing

Japanese Award Winners:

Week 5: Ryka
Week 6: Will

Japanese Quiz Winner:

Lashae
STUDENT AWARDS: Term 2 Weeks 5, 6, 7

Student of the Week
Briana: for always being a Learner and working hard with your letters and sounds. Well Done!!
Aimee: for displaying excellent “Be a Learner” behavior's in the classroom. Well Done!!
Emma: for always following our school rules and being a positive role model. Well Done!!
Aidan: for displaying excellent learning behavior's in the classroom. Well Done!!
Antwon: for being respectful and displaying excellent listening skills during sharing time. Well Done!!
Elvis: for displaying excellent “Be a Learner” behavior's and dedication to his learning. Well Done!!

GOTCHA Awards
25: Grace, Tilly, Elvis
50: Arwen, Grace
75: Connor, Cate, Britt, Charlie, Jimi, Tarelle, Alyssa, Asha, Ryka, Cole, Mika, Aimee, Lashae, Aidan.
100: Rob, Emerald, Christopher, Zavier, Isabelle, Ethan, Emma.

GOTCHA Raffle Draw:
Emerald, Emma, Antwon, Ethan, Arwen, Ryka, Zavier, Antwon, Ryka Grace.

Mathletics
Will - Bronze Award: 4992 points
Cole - Bronze Award: 1116 points
Will - Gold Award: 3210 points
Will - Bronze Award: 2507 points
Aimee - Bronze Award: 1460 points

Literacy Planet Leaderboard
Week 5 & 6:
Cole
Emma
Mika

Week 7:
Isabelle
Mika
Parenting Ideas by Michael Grose

“Reading Your Child’s Report”

Reports can mean anxious times for children. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children.

Could try harder . . . always does her best . . . lacks concentration . . . easily distracted . . . a pleasure to teach . . .

Do these comments, taken from a batch of student reports sound familiar? Student reports bring mixed feelings for parents. Pleasure and pride if they are performing well but considerable angst when children are not progressing as you hoped.

Reports can mean anxious times for children too. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children. Kids of all ages take their cues from their parents, so your reaction to their school report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people.

Here are some ideas to consider when you open your child’s report:

**Focus on strengths.**
Do you look for strengths or weaknesses first? The challenge is to focus on strengths even if they are not in the traditional 3Rs or core subjects.

**Take into account your child’s effort and attitude to learning.**
If the report indicates that effort is below standard, then you have something to work on. If your child is putting in the required effort, then you cannot ask any more than that, regardless of the grading.

**Broaden your focus**
Broaden your focus away from academic performance to form a picture of your child’s progress as a member of a social setting. How your child gets along with his or her peers will influence his happiness and well-being, as well as give an indicator to his future. The skills of independence and cooperation are highly valued by employers so don’t dismiss these as unimportant.

**Take note of student self-assessment.**
Kids are generally very honest and will give a realistic assessment of their progress. They are generally very perceptive so take note of their opinions.

**Discuss the report**
Discuss the report with your son or daughter talking about strengths first before looking at areas that need improvement. Ask for their opinion about how they performed and discuss their concerns.

After reports are read and discussed celebrate your child’s efforts with a special activity or treat. In this way you will recognise progress and remind them that the holidays are just around the corner when they can forget about assessment, tests and reports for a while.
HELP OUR SCHOOL BY RECYCLING YOUR ORAL CARE WASTE

DEAR PARENT/GUARDIAN

Every year in Australia and New Zealand, over 30 million toothbrushes and 80 million toothpaste tubes are thrown away.

Our school is participating in the Colgate Oral Care Brigade, a unique recycling solution in partnership with Terracycle. Simply collect your used and empty oral care waste (any brand is accepted), send it to school with your child and we’ll ship to Terracycle to be recycled. You can provide a second life for the following acceptable items and their outer packaging:

- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste tubes
- Toothpaste caps
- Floss containers

For each approved item received, our school will be awarded points which can be redeemed for funds for the school. Colgate will award $1,000 in local currency to the registered school from which we receive the largest total shipment of oral care waste in each of Australia and New Zealand before 1 November 2015.**

Thank you for your participation.

To learn more go to: www.teracycle.com.au – in Australia
OR www.teracycle.co.nz – in New Zealand

*AZTEC ANZ Society combined unit sales QAT 3/11/14. **Only one registration per school. Applies to new registrations only.

For full terms and conditions go to: www.teracycle.com.au/label-terms.html (in Australia)
OR www.teracycle.co.nz/label-schools.html (in New Zealand).