FROM THE PRINCIPAL.....

Next week sees us halfway through the term and there are a lot of events coming up for students and their families through to the end of the school year. Communication becomes very important in these busy times and there are multiple ways that we use to try and ensure that all families are as informed as possible. The methods of communication we use to share information include: email, Facebook (search for Springbrook State School), paper notes home, the school sign, fortnightly newsletter and our website (www.springbrookss.eq.edu.au) which updates on the QSchools app. We endeavour to use all of these equally and encourage you to check them out regularly.

This coming week sees the completion of the Early Start assessments of all junior class students. The early years of schooling (Prep–Year 2) are a critical time children as they develop the foundational literacy and numeracy skills required for success in future learning and in later life. The significant rate of learning and development that occurs within these years requires that we continually monitor literacy and numeracy progress to ensure we meet individual needs. Our school uses Early Start to monitor this progress. The Early Start tasks will be administered individually as short interviews with Mrs Boura; each interview takes approximately 20 minutes. We use the data gathered from Early Start to monitor literacy and numeracy progress over time. We do not generate individual student reports from the Early Start data and we will not award your child a ‘grade’ based on their results. While Mrs Boura is completing the Early Start interviews, Mrs V. (Pamela Van Doorn) will be working with the junior class. We welcome her back to our school for these three days.

Big congratulations to all students in the junior class and Grace from the senior class for meeting the requirements of this year’s Premier’s Reading Challenge. This is a great achievement and all certificates were distributed at Assembly last week. Next assembly will see the distribution of our Attendance Awards for Term 3. I look forward to publishing the names of those student who met the 95% or higher attendance rate target!

This Wednesday sees something wild and wacky happening at our school with a WACKY HAIR DAY in support of Can Teen and their work with young people living with cancer. Students and staff are invited to come to school with wacky hair for a gold coin donation to Can Teen. Project Club will be collecting and counting all donations. Bandanas for Can Teen’s National Bandana Day are still available for $4 from the school office if you would like to purchase one.

Sarah Jane Ash
Principal ☺
Woah! Who can believe that we are already at the end of week 4? This term is zooming past at a fast rate of knots!

Recently, our year five and six students had the privilege of visiting Parliament House as guests of our local MP for Mudgeeraba, Ros Bates. Being able to see our state government sitting and working in the Legislative Assembly room was an eye opener for our students. It was an experience that greatly enhanced our learning about Australia's systems of governments at the local, state and federal level. We were lucky enough to meet with Ros Bates, the Speaker of the House, Pater Wellington and the Opposition Leader, Lawrence Springborg. All were generous in their time and answering the many questions that our students asked. Recounts of the day are included further on in the newsletter.

Wednesday next week, 4th November we will be participating in a "WACKY HAIR DAY" to support Can Teen and their work with children living with cancer. All students are invited to do something weird and wacky with their hair for a gold coin donation to Can Teen. Project Club will be collecting the gold coins on the day and can't wait to see some of the creations. What will Mrs Ash do with her hair? You can only wonder!

This Friday sees some of our senior students participating in an Academic Excellence workshop at Robina State High School. This is a fantastic opportunity to develop familiarity with the high school layout, staff and routines in preparation for year seven at high school. I am pleased that eight of our students are have the opportunity to be involved in this program.

Our whole school excursion to the Beenleigh Historical Museum is coming up soon and the last date for payment is Wednesday 11th November. Please ensure that permission forms and payment are organised by this date so that all students can attend and learn first hand about our early pioneering days.

Cheers, Sarah Jane 😊

Introducing our new PE Teacher

Hello, my name is Susan Smith and I’m the new Physical Education Teacher at Springbrook State School for this term while Mr Newman is on long service leave.

I have been a teacher for 22 years, a PE teacher as well as Classroom Teacher for Prep to Grade Ten in that time. I’m also a qualified Personal Fitness Trainer with a Cert 3 and 4 in Fitness and a Diploma of Exercise Science and Fitness Management, with 11 years experience in learning and helping people with nutrition and good food choices as well.

I have recently been working at Gilston Primary School and still help out there when I can.

I’m really enjoying teaching your children the basic fundamentals of sport and fitness and helping them to understand the importance of a healthy active lifestyle. I look forward to meeting you all and chatting about your children.

Kind regards, Susan Smith
**Student Awards**

**Student of the Week**

*Asha* - for displaying ‘Be a Learner’ behaviours when working with others.

**Antwon** - for displaying Be Respectful behaviours by actively listening to others and waiting to speak.

**Rob** - for displaying Be a Learner behaviours and working hard towards your writing goal. Well done!

**Ryka** - for being respectful at all times! Well done!

**Gotcha Certificates**

100 Gotcha: Antwon, Briana
125 Gotcha: Alyssa, Grace
150 Gotcha: Robbie, Chris, Ethan, Isabelle, Emma, Zavier, Britt, Aimee, Ryka, Mika
175 Gotcha: Arky

**Premier’s Reading Challenge**

Antwon, Jimi, Ethan, Isabelle, Abigail, Charlie, Emma, Roy, Tajahna, Tarelle, Chris, Alyssa, Briana, Zavier, Emerald, Rob, Grace

**Gotcha Raffle Draw**

Junior class: Charlie, Alyssa, Briana, Zavier, Emerald

Senior class: Arky, Arwen, Connor, Ryka, Mika, Will

**Mathletics**

Will - Bronze award for 4020 points
Will - Bronze award for 3560 points

**Literacy Planet Leaderboard Leaders**

Junior class: Emma (590), Tarelle and Chris (71)
Senior class: Will (54), Connor (398), Aidan (44)

**Upcoming Dates**

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<td>11/11/15</td>
<td>SMCA Meeting</td>
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<td>30/11/15</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
<td>25/01/16</td>
<td>Welcome back to Term 1!</td>
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<td>Australia Day public holiday</td>
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**SENSEI’S CORNER**

Konnichi wa!

**Question**

What colour is Aka?

Hint: Learn colours in Japanese:
http://www.learn-japanese.info/colors.html

**Answer from last newsletter’s quiz:**

True: Universal Studio Japan is located in Oosaka (the second largest city in Japan).

**Activity of the week:**

Learn this colour song:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x_uHc7D07OM

How well do you know your colours:
http://www.learn-japanese.info/color_speedgame.html
**Manage like a cat, nurture like a dog**

Here’s how to get the mix of firmness and nurturing right when communicating with young people.

**Finding your inner cat**

We all have some cat and dog in us. It’s just a matter of accessing those parts and bringing them out when we need them. The cat is the credible side we all have, but find difficulty accessing. It is always expressed through your non-verbals – that is, your tone of voice, your posture and your head.

A cat speaks with a flat, clipped voice. His or her head is very still and body upright and confident. The quickest way to access your inner cat is to speak with you palms facing the ground. You can try this now. Stand up with both hands in front of you with your palms facing the ground. Now start speaking. You’ll find you’ll naturally speak like a cat – clipped voice, still head and body and more serious expression. This is your credible (and calm) side.

When you speak from your cat side people will usually believe what you have to say. It gives you authority.

Australia’s foreign minister Julie Bishop is a good example of using cat behaviour. Like her or loathe her you can’t deny she has authority. That’s because she accesses the cat side of her nature in public.

You manage a teen like a cat by speaking calmly, quietly and staying still when you speak. Cats will also withdraw eye contact rather than stand and argue so look away or respectfully walk away rather than become involved in argument.

Cats also look for ways to manage visually (look away to indicate not arguing) or kinaesthetically (a touch on the shoulder, move close and whisper) rather than repeating themselves. If they do repeat themselves they are more likely to lower their voice than raise it to get attention. These cat behaviours work well when managing teens.

**Using your inner dog**

We also have a dog side to our nature. This is the approachable, conversational, relationship-building side. When you access this side you’ll speak with lots of inflection and your partner.

Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter, my full weekly email parenting guide at parentingideas.com.au. You’ll be so glad you did.
On Wednesday 28th October, the years five and six students had the privilege and honour to go to Parliament House in Brisbane. We got to see the ancient and re-designed walls and corridors with beautiful architecture and stunning gardens. Parliament House was something we were not going to forget.

In Parliament there is the government and the opposition. The job of the opposition is to try and make everything the government does seem worse than it is so they can have the polls.

Parliament House looks amazing! The walls are made from limestone and the gardens are five star with the tops of the original chimneys in it. The plants are well cared for as well.

I saw Ros Bates, The Speaker of the House, Peter Wellington, and the Opposition Leader Lawrence Springborg. We were toured by Alex, Ros Bates' assistant. There is a Mace which is golden and used to be a weapon but now is a ceremonial thing carried in before a session of speaking by the Sergeant-of-Arms.

The security was very high class there was a constable and a sergeant. We were also informed that there is a secret passage way. To join parliament, you need to have a clear past and can't be bankrupt.

We loved Parliament House - it was awesome! I'm sure the kids from Numinbah enjoyed it too. (Arky)

Screech! The train stopped at Robina station. We got on the train and it took an hour and ten minutes to get to Parliament House.

We went to the Legislative Assembly room with Sue and Ros Bates, our local member for Mudgeeraba, waved at us. Then we had lunch. We had some sandwiches and our helper was Alex.

After that, we went to the Legislative Assembly room where politicians debate about different issues. Then we went to the red room and then we went to see the mace. The mace is a weapon but now it's used to protect Mr Speaker. We went to the library and after the library we went back to the train station and got home at quarter past five at night. (Will)

I bet you’re thinking, “WHAT?? Year 5 and 6’s going to PARLIAMENT? WHAAAAAAT?” That’s crazy right? Back to basics. They had a green room for most Assemblies, and a red room for only when the Governor General or the Queen come to visit. We got to meet Ros Bates, and even got to see the green room in use, and saw a huge argument.

There were sandwiches that were SSOOOOOOO awesome. They were cut in quarters so I had 2 full sandwiches worth of PRAWNS and chutney. Goodness they were delicious. Here’s what I said, “HECK to the YEAH!”

We were on a train to and from Parliament. We were on the train for about and hour and ten or so minutes. We got off and guess what? Yep; it started HOSING DOWN RAIN. On the road, I tripped and got straight back up and went on my merry way. (Angus)

Ok - Parliament House is fun and massive! It has: foyer, security, offices, toilets, Legislative Council, cafeteria, café, billiard rooms, library, lots of stairs and halls, bar, Legislative Assembly, Ministerial Offices, Media Room, Gallery, Courtyard, and lots more, 24 stories more!

We started off at Robina Train Station. One hour and ten minutes later, we hopped off at South Brisbane and we put one foot out of the train and.... RAIN. It was cold, wet and gloomy. We walked 15 minutes over the bridge and down the road.

When we got to Parliament House, we went through Security where they scanned our bags. Alex, Ros Bates’ assistant, came and met us and we went on a tour with Sue. After our tour, we had lunch. We got to meet some police officers, a Constable and a Sergeant. Next, we met Ros Bates, the Speaker of the House and the Opposition Leader, Lawrence Springborg. We asked lots of questions.
One question we asked Mr Springborg was, “What is the best thing you have done as the Opposition Leader?” He told us he was proud that he managed to get more maternity help into remote communities and he helped to stop the closure of some remote hospitals.

We had a great day! (Tilly)

Swoosh! I was there in blink of an eye from last year and I knew it would be fun today. When we got to South Brisbane, it started to rain so we had a snack and waited for a bit and when it started to sprinkle, we walked across the bridge. We had to walk for about another ten minutes and we were there. We had a little lunch until Alex came down and took us through security.

Sue came and gave us a tour around the outside of the building and then she took us inside and we had a look at the board that had all the faces of the people that were in Parliament. We went up one story and we went in to the red room. We listened for a two minutes stop and listen and then we went out and Sue said, “Do you have any questions?” and Alex took over. We went back out and we met Alex a bit more.

We went back in and looked at the mace and we found out some facts about it. After that, we had lunch with Alex. Lunch was tuna, eggs, lettuce, prawns and other sandwiched with orange juice. We all loved it! Then we had a walk with our friends.

After that, we met Ros Bates and Mr Speaker, and the Leader of the Opposition and his name was Lawrence Springborg. We asked them some questions and we also got to sit in a seat in the Legislative Assembly room. I sat in the Treasurer’s spot and Arky sat in the Premier’s spot. We all loved it!

Then we watched question time for an hour and twenty minutes until we had to leave. We had a run around on the grass at South Bank for fifteen minutes. We walked back to the train station and caught the train back home. We were on the train for one hour and ten minutes and when we got back home, I said, “Holy moly, what a humungous day I had today!”

It was a fun and enjoyable day and it was probably better than last year and I hope everybody loves it when they go to Queensland Parliament next year. (Taylor)

POW, we hit the train and were going to Parliament House. When we hopped off the train we raced to our destination or we’d get soaked. Well besides that, WE WERE GOING TO HAVE AN AWESOME DAY.

As we were walking through the door and security, we were taking some of our first foot steps into Parliament House. As we were greeted, we met Alex, Ros Bates' assistant and he came along for a tour. The tour was great! We got to see some statues, some sculptures and some sculptures were on the roof but the ones on the roof were only flowers but still very cool and the green room and the red room.

Now this is one of my favourite parts of the ride: the sandwiches! There were prawns, egg, cheese and everything you can think of. Well besides that, we got to do the coolest thing imaginable, besides meeting President Obama. We got to meet the Speaker and the Leader of the Opposition. We asked so many questions.

If you are into bickering then you’ll love question time, it was bickering heaven and some people got warnings and one Member of Parliament had to apologise to another Member of Parliament.

After all that touring, it was time to go home, after a game in the park. If you get a chance to go to Parliament House you should take it. (Cole)
Lost and Found

We have a collection of lunch containers and uniform items in our Lost Property. Families are welcome to come to Administration to check for any belongings you may be missing!

City of Gold Coast: Fantastic Free Community Event

Summertime Sessions in the Village, Fridays 5.30pm -7.30pm in Cuddihy Park, Swan Lane, Mudgeeraba. Come and listen to up and coming Gold Coast Emerging Musicians every Friday leading up to Christmas. Bring a chair or your picnic rug and enjoy some food from the Village or bring your own. This is a family friendly event. Check out our Facebook Page Summertime-Sessions-in-the-Village. Free Event commencing Friday 23 October