It has certainly been a busy fortnight since the last newsletter. Our classrooms are busy places with assessments being finalised for the release of report cards in the last week of term and preparations for end-of-year are underway. Halloween, National Bandana Day, Wacky Hair fundraiser and Day for Daniel have all been held. I am thrilled the report that our small school raised $42 from Wacky Hair Day to support the work of Can Teen and their work with young people living with cancer. Day for Daniel was an opportunity to reflect on the message of child safety in our community and I thank our parents, staff and students for wearing red on the day.

It has been widely reported on the news that there is a change to the starting date of school next year. The new school year now begins on Wednesday, 27th January 2016 for all students. Should any students be returning to Springbrook later than this first day, please inform the school office via written letter or email. In the first 2 weeks of next year, there is very careful scrutiny of all student enrolments. This is because enrolments determine staffing allocation and therefore our class and teacher arrangements. The practice of having written information as to the circumstances of every student who has not attended from Day 1 of the new year is necessary for our school to meet audit requirements.

Following on from our successful audit held over the previous week, all parents received information regarding the transport of students in private cars to and from school sanctioned events. Education Queensland has clear guidelines on the safety of students when private transport is used for school activities and events. Springbrook State School has a responsibility and duty to ensure that when students are being transported in private vehicles, the following safeguards are implemented:

- written consent of parent for their child to travel in a privately owned vehicle is received and stored.
- details of insurance, registration and roadworthy condition of any vehicle to be used by a parent/caregiver agreeing to transport students in a privately owned vehicle are recorded.
- all children up to seven years of age must be secured in a child restraint. A child may stop using a child restraint once they turn seven years of age or their eye level is above the back of the booster seat.
- children who have reached four years of age must be secured in an approved booster seat with a H-harness or a booster seat with a secured adult seatbelt that is properly fastened and adjusted. An approved booster seat complies with Australian Standards (AS1754 or S/NZS1754)
From the Principal…. (cont.)

restraint will display an Australian Standards tick logo. The child must be secured in this manner up until they turn seven years of age

- a child aged between four and seven years of age cannot sit in the front row of a vehicle that has more than one row of seats unless all the other seats are occupied by children under seven years of age
- contact details for all drivers are recorded for contact purposes.

You can appreciate that the safety of our students is a key priority for our school and we will be following up on the completion of the permission and driver detail forms for all events into the future when students are travelling with someone other than their own parent.

Our Parents and Citizen’s Association has some fundraising activities as we enter into the festive season. There is a Pie Drive currently underway and a Christmas Raffle which will be drawn at the Community Christmas Celebration on December 9th. Please support our P&C as they support the work we do in our classrooms. Donations for the Christmas raffle are being collected in the office area.

All parents and loved ones are invited to join us in the celebration of our graduating students to be held formally on Thursday December 10th, starting at 2:00pm in the senior classroom. We will be recognising the fabulous work of our graduating students and sharing some of our music and dancing performances as well. This a great way to celebrate reaching the end of year and it is hoped that you are able to join us.

Enrolments for Prep for 2016 are being taken now! The support of all families is sought to share the message that early enrolment allows the school to plan ahead for a smooth start to the year. Enrolment packs are available from the school office and prep students for next year should be born between 1 July 2010 and 30th June 2011. Please note that each enrolling student requires their original birth certificate.

The period over Christmas is a time when many families experience changed circumstances. This often results in students having to change schools. Families whose children are moving schools are asked to advise the office either in person, by phone or email/letter. We are always disappointed to lose students but recognise that is necessary at times and will assist with transition into a new school.

Up-to-date emergency contacts for all students are an essential detail required by our school. This week, student information cards listing the current information for each student in our school will be distributed. I ask that all parents please read and update all contact and emergency details and return to school as soon as possible. This is a necessity, particularly in case of an accident, illness or emergency.

Our whole school excursion to the Beenleigh Historical Village is just about here and all students are hopefully fully prepared for the early start on the day! All students need to be at school by 7:30am this Tuesday in preparation for the bus to leave at 7:45am. A fantastic day is planned and we look forward to seeing our leaning of pioneer and early settler days in Australia come to life!

Finally, it was a pleasure to support one of our students this week following their nomination as Gold Coast Bulletin’s EDIT Junior Photographer of the Year and I’m so very excited to report that Arky won! This is a wonderful achievement for Arky and he is a fantastic ambassador for our school. You can read all about his success on our website www.springbrookss.eq.edu.au Arky’s success has inspired others and we are looking to establish a Photography Club at our school. If you are interested in donating your time and expertise within this field, please be in touch!

Sarah Jane Ash
Principal 😊
SENIOR ROOM NEWS

It's a busy time of year now where we are finalising assessments and completing tasks in readiness for report card writing and distribution. It is really important for all of our students to be at school, all day, every day for them to have the best opportunity to demonstrate their learning and understanding. Minimising absences is important at all times through the year, but is especially important now!

All of our year six students are participating in transition programs as they prepare themselves for year seven at high school next year. Participating in a transition program enables familiarity with teachers and other students, routines, expectations, and the basic location of facilities which can reduce uncertainty at the start of the year. Next week, senior class welcomes our current year two students in to our class for their own transition into the senior classroom. I know that our students will make Jimi and Antwon welcome and comfortable as they prepare to be joining senior class as year three students in the new year.

Swimming lessons are coming up shortly and all students are invited to participate. Swim shirts are compulsory and goggles are highly recommended. Now would be the prefect time to get these sorted. Private transport forms will be required for any student who is not travelling with their own parent. Please see the office for a copy of the private transport permission form and driver details form if your child is travelling with someone other than you.

Student Resource Scheme forms for 2016 should now have been returned for all students joining us next year. If you are not taking up this option, please see the office for a copy of the book list requirements for your child.

Cheers,
Sarah Jane

JUNIOR ROOM NEWS

Wow, we are already half way through this term!

This week our class have begun the writing process for a narrative story. During their *pre-writing* stage, students have had to brainstorm ideas for characters, problems and solutions. Afterwards, they will start on *drafting*, then *revising*, *editing* and finally *publishing*. I am so excited to see their final product and I’m sure they will all be very proud of what they will have achieved by the end of it.

This week is also National Recycling Week, so the class will be learning about the environmental benefits of recycling. We will continue till the end of the year to promote and be involved in activities to learn more about recycling. In particular, we would like to turn ‘junk’ into ‘funk’ recycled art projects, so if you have any recyclables to donate to the class, we will be happy to take them. Please note that toilet rolls are unable to be donated due to health and safety.

On Tuesday, the 17th November, we are going to the Beenleigh Historical Village. Please be sure that your child brings their hat, water, lunch and is wearing the full school uniform. We are leaving early and all students will need to be ready at school at 7:30 am for the bus to leave at 7:45 am.

I hope you have a great week,
Kind regards,
Joyce

Show ‘n Share

Remember that you are expected to present on your *scheduled* day:

**18/11/15**
Asha, Britt, Lashae, Tilly, Cole, Connor

**24/11/15**
Tilly, Elvis, Ryka, Asha, Mika, Britt

**REMINDERS:**
Library books need to be returned on Monday.

Excursion is on Tuesday. Be here at 7:30am!

Homework is due, completed, on Friday.
Student Awards

Student of the Week

Taijahna - for displaying Be a Learner behaviours during Literacy tasks.  Great effort!
Grace - for displaying Be a Learner behaviours during dance classes.
Abigail - for displaying Be a Learner behaviours during improving his handwriting and presentation standards.
Aidan - for excellent Be a Learner effort in improving his handwriting and presentation standards.

Gotcha Certificates

75 Gotcha:  Angus, Elvis  Gotcha Raffle Draw
100 Gotcha:  Elvis  02/11/15:  Emma, Tarelle, Taylor, Arky
125 Gotcha:  Roy, Arwen, Jimi, Briana  09/11/15:  Charlie, Emma, Asha, Cole
150 Gotcha:  Tarelle, Taylor, Lashae, Taijahna, Emerald, Alyssa

Mathletics

Will - Bronze 4560 points

Term 3 Attendance

100% - Roy 99% - Connor  Literacy Planet Leaderboard Leaders
98% - Angus 96.9% - Abigial, Tarelle  Junior class: Emma (244), Zavier (427)
95.9% - Grace, Charlie, Jimi  Senior class: Will (54)

Upcoming Dates

09/11/15  National Recycling Week  04/12/15  Swimming Carnival Mudgeeraba Pool
13/11/15  2016 Student Resource Scheme forms due back  09/12/15  Community Christmas Celebration
17/11/15  Historical Village Beenleigh Excursion  10/12/15  School Graduation and Awards Ceremony
23/11/15-27/11/15  Learn-to-swim @ Mudgeeraba Aquatic Centre  11/12/15  End of Term 4 and 2015 School Year
27/11/15  Pie Drive Orders due  26/01/16  Australia Day public holiday
30/11/15  P&C Meeting  27/01/16  Welcome back to Term 1, 2016!

SENSEI’S CORNER

Konnichi wa!

Question

What is the name of a samurai’s sword called?

Hint: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Katana

Answer from last newsletter’s quiz

Aka is red.

Good Luck! Sayonara!

Activity of the week:

The samurai are an important part of Japanese culture and history:
Read some samurai stories:
http://listverse.com/2012/07/04/top-10-fascinating-samurai/
Raising Mighty Boys

Understanding what makes boys tick is the key to teaching and raising them. Here are twelve essentials in order to connect with our sons and help raise well-adjusted boys.

1. **You must like them**
   Approval is at the heart of raising boys. Most will walk over hot coals for you if they know you like them. In a sense, this need for approval holds many boys back in school, as they can shut down for a teacher who doesn’t like them. If you can feel comfortable with their boisterousness, live with their lack of organisational skills, and not be confronted by their in-your-face ways then the chances are that they’ll respond to you.

2. **Boys like to blend in**
   Boys are group-oriented by nature. They want to fit in. They tend to play group games and form themselves into structured groups. Boys don’t want to stand out from the crowd. Don’t put them down in front of their friends and understand that they make poor friendship choices rather than be in a group of one. They’ll generally prefer the wrong friends rather than no friends at all.

3. **They are hierarchical by nature**
   Boys need limits and boundaries as they make them feel safe and secure. They like to know someone is going to enforce those rules, so don’t be afraid to take the lead with them.

4. **Many boys hide behind a mask**
   Some boys wear a mask to protect them from being hurt. The mask can take many guises including ‘tough nut’, ‘cool dude’ and ‘class clown’. Refuse to communicate with the mask. Make them feel comfortable, joke with them, even tickle them. Do whatever you can to get behind the mask.

5. **Boys are just as sensitive as girls**
   Despite the fact that research shows that boys are more easily stressed and more fragile than girls, parents will ask daughters how they feel more often than they ask sons. Also when daughters get hurt, parents tend to comfort them more than they comfort sons. Boys are sensitive you just need to use different language to get them to open up than you do with girls. For instance, a boy will more than likely tell you how he feels if you ask him how he thinks about something. Also, he generally needs more time to process his feelings so bedrooms can become their caves that they’ll retreat to when they need the space to work out what’s going in their hearts.

Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter, my FREE weekly email parenting guide at parentingideas.com.au. You’ll be so glad you did.
Raising Mighty Boys...

6 Boys are tactile by nature
Ever noticed how little boys are more likely than little girls to pop new objects in their mouths. That’s because taste and touch are two important ways that they take in the world. That tactile nature of boys needs to be nurtured, not ignored. One way is to hug them – lots! Boys need to be touched two to three times as much as girls to release the same amount of oxytocin (a feel-good chemical in the brain) that is released during a hug.

7 Boys learn from experience
Many parents know the extreme frustration that comes from imparting their wisdom on to their sons, only to see it completely ignored. If you have boys in your life then you need to get used to the fact that boys like to learn many of their life lessons for themselves. Experience, for better or worse, is a teacher that many boys can relate to.

8 Loyalty is a high driver
Understand that a boy’s loyalty to his friends and family is a key driver and you’ll unlock the key to the male psyche. They are incredibly influenced by their peers, which can hold them back, stopping many from getting too far ahead of the pack. Loyalty also gets many boys into strife with authority.

9 Many boys’ mouths don’t work unless they are moving
If you want to have a serious or personal conversation with a boy then you are better off joining him on a walk. Face-to-face conversation can make them feel awkward, whereas shoulder-to-shoulder chats or conversations that happen during a game or activity seem to flow more naturally.

10 Boys needs social scripts
Most boys need some didactic teaching about how to act and what to say to others at some stage in their life. Don’t be afraid to tell boys of any age exactly what to say in new social situations as they can often struggle to find the words and the way to get their messages across.

11 Boys need a purpose to learn
If you want to motivate a boy to learn then you need to offer him tangible, short-term goals. He’ll learn to play a musical instrument if he wants to be in a band; but get him to practise a musical instrument without a purpose and you’ll probably be locked in a continuous struggle.

12 A boy’s brain mature differently than a girl’s brain
The maturation rate and sequence is different for boys than girls. For instance, the brain developments in the first five years of life prepares girls for the rigours of school better than it does for boys. A girl’s brain in that period is busy developing fine motor skills, verbal acuity and social skills, which are highly valued by parents and teachers. A boy’s brain, on the other hand, is busy developing gross motor, spatial and visual skills, which are essential hunting skills. Unfortunately, there isn’t a great need for these traits in primary schools these days!!

There’s no doubt that raising boys tends to be more of a challenge for parents than raising girls. Understanding and appreciating the differences is a great start. However I think parents who really connect well with boys somehow develop the wisdom to step as well as speak up at the right time, and the smarts to know when to stand back and allow their sons to work things out for themselves.

Michael Grose

Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter, my free weekly email parenting guide at parentingideas.com.au You’ll be so glad you did.
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 starts on Friday 23rd October.

Robina State High School
Orientation Day

We invite all students enrolled in our 2016 Year 7 cohort to attend Orientation Day.

Friday, 13 November 2015
9.30am – 2.30pm

www.robinashs.eq.edu.au

For more information contact our Head of Junior Secondary – Mr Ben Weeks mweeks12@eq.edu.au
Christmas Celebration

It's the Season

Springbrook State School
Wednesday 9th of December

Fun Starts
at 5:30pm

All Welcome
community spirit
carols and

Bring a Savoury plate to share.
Students providing dessert.

RSVP 55483333 by Dec 1st