FROM THE PRINCIPAL.....

School Photos are coming up on Monday next week and it is hoped that all students will be in attendance able to participate. Each student will be in their class photo, a whole school photo and an individual photo, regardless of whether an order is placed made or not. Please ensure that all students wear their full school uniform on Monday for the photos.

Thank you! Student Resource Scheme payments in full have already been made by many of our families. If you are yet to make a payment or elected to pay by instalments, we look forward to receipting your next contribution towards the scheme before the end of term. Ideally, one third of the cost ($40) would be paid at the start of term 1, term 2 and term 3. All 2016 student resource scheme accounts need to be finalised by the end of term 3.

Our annual Cross Country event is scheduled for this Friday at The Cultivation Paddock approximately 400 metres south of Numinbah Valley State School on the opposite side of Nerang Murwillumbah Road. We will be joining Numinbah Valley students on the day in a fun and competitive program of events. The cross country racing will occur in the Cultivation Paddock and the remainder of the activities (novelty games and races) will be held at Numinbah Valley SS. The day is due to conclude at approx. 2:15pm. As Friday is a school day, it is expected that all students be in attendance, supporting their school and actively participating in the events.

This coming Saturday is the Gold Coast City Council local government election. Springbrook State School is a polling booth for this election and our P&C will be fundraising on the day to purchase additional musical instruments for use by students with their specialist Music teacher, Mr Shelton. There will be sausage sizzle and a bake stall available on the day. If you are available for a couple of hours and would like to donate you time, please contact the P&C through the school office or send us an email. There is always room for another pair of hands to help!

Over the course of the next few weeks, we will be conducting a review of our school’s Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students. Our current and endorsed plan is available electronically on our website and a paper copy is available by request. A copy of a survey consulting with all school families will be coming home over the next week to enable all views to be heard. As this is an important document for our school, I’d very much appreciate each family’s input into the survey.
As part of our compliance, each term we will be conducting evacuation and lock down drills to ensure that all students are able to complete both comfortably and knowledgeably should one ever need to be put in place for student and/or staff safety. These drills enable us to identify any issues with the equipment or the process so that they can be addressed. After the most recent lock down drill, it was identified that the telephone handset in the junior room was unable to project school page information through its speaker components. The staff and students were unaware the a lock down drill had been called as they were unable to hear the school page at all. This presents a safety concern and a job has been logged with Telstra regarding the telephone handset. As soon as this has been rectified, we will again be conducting an in class lock down drill.

I am extremely please to be able to report that our whole school for the school year so far is above 95%, meeting one of our identified school targets. Within our whole school cohort, there are twenty-five students with an individual attendance rate above 95%. Within that group, there are twelve students with 100% attendance for the term so far! Congratulations to the following students for their 100% attendance up until this point: Abigail, Angus, Isabelle, Aidan, Connor, Ethan, Aimee, Britt, Grace, Kyla, Micah and Lashae. Big thanks and recognition to all of our parents for supporting us in meeting our attendance targets - we know you are often the driving force behind our students and their attendance.

It is hard to believe that we are almost at the end of term 1 already. The last day of school this term is our Easter Hat Parade and Morning Tea. All members of our school community are invited to join us for the extravaganza. All students will be making their hats in class and look forward to sharing them with you in our annual event. The students will parade in their hats and sing some Easter songs for your enjoyment. Our P&C will be providing hot cross buns with tea and coffee for a nominal costs of $5. Mark it on your calendar - it’s a great morning and will be a perfect way to finish the school term. The Easter school holidays start that afternoon for two weeks and all students are due to return on Monday 11th April for the start of a fun-filled and action-packed term 2!

Our school has three rules: Be Safe, Be Respectful Be A Learner. Each week, there is a focus behaviour that is taught and reinforced on Assembly and in the classrooms/playground over the course of the week. This week’s focus was: Be a Learner - Be prepared and organised for school. Well done to all of our students in being able to demonstrate this in action over the week.

Finally, the date of our next scheduled P&C meeting has been postponed by a week due to the financial reports not being returned from the auditor yet. The new tentative date is for next Monday 21st March at 3:15pm in the senior room and this will be confirmed once the audited books have been received. I encourage all families to be represented at the Annual General Meeting and following regular meeting to get involved and support our hardworking and supportive group of P&C parents, as many hands make light work!

Sarah Jane Ash, Principal 😊

### Upcoming Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/03/16</td>
<td>Lock Down Drill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/03/16</td>
<td>7:15am Year 6 Leadership Summit at Robina SHS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/03/16</td>
<td>3:15pm Richmond Birdwing Butterfly Garden working bee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14/03/16</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>18/03/16</td>
<td>Cross Country at Numinbah</td>
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<tr>
<td>14/03/16</td>
<td>P&amp;C Annual General Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>24/03/16</td>
<td>10:30am Easter Hat Parade and Morning Tea</td>
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<tr>
<td>25/03/16</td>
<td>Good Friday public holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26/03/16</td>
<td>School holidays begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/04/16</td>
<td>Welcome back for Term 2!</td>
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</tbody>
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**Student Awards**

**Student of the Week**

Emma - for a consistent and conscientious effort in all of her school work!

Aidan - for excellent efforts at consistently displaying “Be a Learner” behaviours in class.

**Literacy Planet Leaderboard Leaders**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Micah</td>
<td>83 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angus</td>
<td>184 points</td>
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**Mathletics Awards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jimi</td>
<td>Bronze Award</td>
<td>1190 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will</td>
<td>Bronze Award</td>
<td>5500 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Gotcha Raffle Draw**

Gotcha Award: 25 Gotcha - Ethan

**Yrs P-2 class:** Emma and Zavier

**Yrs 3-6 class:** Arwen and Jimi

**STUDENT REFLECTION/RECOUNT**

**Our Day at The Somerset Celebration of Literature**

by Asha

At 9:15am, everyone excitedly hopped on the bus, ready for a day of fun. It was a long, bumpy ride down the mountain, but eventually we made it to Somerset College. We walked off the bus and into a huge hall filled with loads of school students all chatting away excitedly. Soon everyone settled down and we watched an interesting workshop by Deborah Abela which everyone enjoyed. Once Deborah finished we had a quick snack before we sat back in the hall. The next workshop was with Dave Hackett which was a lot of fun. After that, we found a nice spot to sit down and eat our lunch. Once we had eaten our lunch, we walked around to get some food from the busy stalls and to buy books and get them signed buy the authors. After we were all finished looking around, we all split up to go to our last workshop. The 3-4s went to see Rap Rhyme with Andy Jones and the 5-6s went to see Felice Arena. Once the final workshops were finished, we all climbed back into bus ready to go back to school. It was an honour to be able to attend this amazing celebration, especially since some schools had to travel seven hours just to get there! It really was an amazing day.

**Somerset Celebration of Literature**

by Ryka

It was a true honour to be invited to the Somerset Celebration of Literature. Our school enjoyed all of it. We came by bus and that was a fun experience as some people felt a bit sick in the stomach. It was an awesome experience to meet all of the authors and listen to their stories and why they decided to write books. It was the perfect day for us to arrive at the festival. The first author we saw was a wonderful woman who used to run and jump off shed roofs named Deborah Abela. We saw her at 10:15-11:00am. After her, Springbrook and some Numinbah Valley students all sat down and ate some lunch. The next author we saw went from 11:15-12:00 and he was Dave Hackett. Everyone wanted to ask him questions until we ran out of time. At that point most of us were boiling! The next rotation the year 5-6 and 3-4 students split up and go to different authors with different stories after lunch. The year 3-4s saw Andy Jones as the year 5-6s saw Felice Arena. For that one we had to move around a bit as it was outside in the heat. We all knew it was coming to the end and we started walking back to the main hall where the 3-6 students all met up. Soon we were on the bus heading back to Springbrook State School. It was a wonderful experience and adventure and I would love to go again!
Academic Excellence & Sports Academy

INFORMATION EVENING

For all intending Academic Excellence, Japanese Immersion and Sport Academy enrolments in 2017 and their families. This session will provide in depth information on Academic and Sporting programs. Including:

- Academic Excellence
- Japanese Immersion
- Golf Academy
- Baseball Academy
- Football/Futsal Academy
- General Sport Academy (Incl. Netball and Triathlon specialisations)

Wednesday, 23 March 2016

Academic Programs: 5.30-6.00
Sporting Programs: 6.15-6.45
Sessions will take place in the Performing Arts Centre

www.robinashs.eq.edu.au

For more information and to RSVP contact our Head of Junior Secondary, Mr Ben Weeks bweek12@eq.edu.au
Parenting ideas
INSIGHTS

Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Jenny Brockis

Creating creative kids

Dr Jenny Brockis explains the 4 main ingredients for creativity and why it is so important for whole brain development in kids.

“If you’re not prepared to be wrong, you’ll never come up with anything original.” Sir Ken Robinson - author and advisor on education in the arts.

Creativity and imagination help us to better understand our world. A creative mind looks for ways to do things differently; we see things with a fresh pair of eyes.

Creativity adds value to and enriches lives and our kids have wonderful fertile minds just brimming with ideas. The problem is we can stifle that creativity, particularly during those upper school years when sticking to the demands of a busy curriculum takes increasing priority.

Research tells us that those kids who continually access creative outlets are the more successful students, because creativity is linked to whole brain development. Brain wise, creativity is important for the development of language, problem solving, reasoning skills, understanding and learning.

Being able to think “outside the box” is what makes for a better brain. Rather than pushing your child to spend hours doing their piano practice, spending some time in unstructured creative play may pay far greater dividends in the form of them being better at problem solving and finding alternative ways of doing things.

Encouraging curiosity matters, and we as parents and educators can do much to promote the engagement, fun, focus and perseverance required to provide an innovative environment.

There are four main ingredients required for creativity:

• Mess
• Mistakes
• Make-believe
• Mucking in together

Creativity is messy
So the kitchen looks like a bomb has gone off, the lounge suite has been completely disassembled and the dog is wearing an outfit that looks mysteriously like your best jacket! But, all that activity has resulted in that first cake being made, the princess’s castle being refurbished and the dog being an active participant in a rehearsal for that very important play.

Creativity is full of mistakes
If we don’t get things wrong, how can we tell when they are right?

There is no room for perfectionism in creativity. Allowing our kids to get things wrong and discover what doesn’t work is just as important as discovering what does. It teaches them to deal with failure and to realise that finding out the wrong answer matters far more than never starting to look in the first place.

It was Thomas Edison the inventor of the light bulb that said, “I have not failed. I’ve just found 10,000 ways that won’t work.”

Creativity is make-believe
Stories are a great way to transport our children’s minds to far off and magnificent places. It allows them to create their own visual images of the people, characters and places. Manufacturing creative artistry allows saucepan lids to become cymbals, modelling clay to become teacups and saucers, boxes and tin foil to become knights on horseback, and colourful artworks the latest masterpiece destined for the fridge door.

more on page 2
...Creating creative kids...

It’s not about a pretend reality; kids know the difference. Their make-believe world allows them to explore possibilities and options.

**Creativity is mucking in**

Creativity can be a solo performance but is often a collaborative piece. Joining young minds together amplifies the creative process.

Mucking in is about using an array of different (and sometimes unusual) materials that can be repurposed or used to create new objects.

Whether your child is six or sixteen, managing their creativity starts with sharing the value we hold for the arts and new ideas. It’s about taking trips to an art gallery, a science show or museum. It’s about travelling to different places, trying different foods and learning about different cultures. It’s about reading and sharing books, and talking to our kids to encourage an ongoing sense of wonder and curiosity about their world.

**Top tips for fostering creativity:**

1. **Give permission for freedom of expression** It’s not about you or what you think is the right way to create something. Encourage your child to explore, and create on their own terms while having fun.

2. **Encourage play** Encourage active unstructured play that takes them away from the TV, tablet or computer for a while.

3. **Celebrate your child’s creative expression** That’s what fridge doors, corkboards, and mantelpieces are for! It’s not to reward the masterpiece itself (that’s a quick way to stymie any future creative activity!), but to celebrate the process of exploration and discovery.

4. **Foster originality by being accepting of difference** While some rules are important to keep our children safe, being allowed to do things their way when developing ideas, is what helps shape their individuality.

*Jenny Brockis*

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Dr Jenny Brockis is a Medical Practitioner, speaker and author. She specialises in brain health and the science of high performance thinking. Her new book Future Brain (Wiley) is available in all good book stores and online. [www.drjennybrockis.com](http://www.drjennybrockis.com)