FROM THE PRINCIPAL.....

It is very pleasing to be able to report of the success of the Richmond Birdwing Butterfly project that our students have been a part of, with the project being run by Springbrook Landcare. It is so exciting to have seen the elusive butterflies within our school grounds, to have found eggs laid on vine leaves and to be able to observe the caterpillars on the vines! Big thanks to Landcare for inviting us to be a part of their project and giving our students the opportunity to learn about revegetation and how one dedicated act can influence the survival of an entire species.

The annual community ANZAC Day commemoration was well attended by our students with over twenty students marching proudly in our school uniforms to remember and show respect to all those men and women, past and present, serving in our armed forces. As a school principal, I couldn’t be prouder of the behaviour of our students during the service and afterwards during lunch. An enormous thank you must go to the members of our P&C and additional volunteers, who capably provided both the Gunfire Breakfast and the luncheon for our community and special guests, adding to the community connection on the day.

Parent Teacher meetings have been held over the last couple of weeks and most of our families have taken advantage of the opportunity to meet with their child’s teacher/s to discuss their learning and progress this year so far. These meetings are an important process to ensure that parents are aware of their child’s academic strength areas along with their weaker or challenge areas. It is always an invaluable opportunity to strengthen the relationship between home and school and to reinforce what small things parents can do to support their child. If you are yet to have one of these conversations, please make contact as soon as possible to arrange a time.

The Year 3 and 5 NAPLAN assessments will be conducted next week on 10th, 11th and 12th May. These tests will be held in numeracy and literacy for all students in Australia in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Reports will be provided to parents once they are available to schools later in the year. These confidential reports will show your child’s results against key national information in each year level. Our school will use the information in a number of ways, primarily to better identify students requiring additional support, and to identify strengths and improvement areas in teaching programs. While the NAPLAN report is an important measure of how all students are performing, it is important to remember that it is only one aspect of the school’s assessment and reporting process. It does not replace the more extensive and informed judgements made by our highly skilled and experienced teachers.
Parents concerned about their students undertaking the NAPLAN program should talk with the class room teacher as a first point of contact. Parents can withdraw their students from the tests under certain circumstances. It is important that students receive ongoing support at home throughout the year in developing literacy and numeracy skills. For tips and information please visit www.education.qld.gov.au/parents/map. For information about NAPLAN tests please visit www.naplan.edu.au.

Part of our school culture around NAPLAN is the eagerly anticipated breakfasts on the day of the assessments. All students are invited into the senior classroom from 8:15am next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday to share and enjoy breakfast altogether. This is a great way to start the day with much laughter and friendship. The menu over the three days will include a selection of bacon and eggs, pancakes, porridge, beans, toast, cereal and fruit. Parents are very welcome to join us!

On Thursday this week, we had the pleasure of a visit from Alan Jones, our Assistant Regional Director. We were able to share with him some of the great work happening within our school and take him to visit both of our classrooms. He was most impressed by the work going on in the school and the curriculum implementation in our classrooms leading up to NAPLAN and semester one reporting. As usual, he provided some really good feedback and challenges to be considered in our ongoing improvement journey.

Entertainment Books are a fundraising initiative being undertaken by our school and purchase information will be emailed out to our school community over the coming week. Within the Entertainment Book, you can discover thousands of valuable up to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers for many of the best restaurants, cafés, arts, attractions, hotels, travel, shopping and much more. The Entertainment Books are Available now, the NEW 2016 | 2017 Gold Coast and Northern NSW Entertainment™ Memberships sell for just $60 and you’ll receive over $20,000 in valuable offers you can use until 1 June, 2017. There is a book version and a digital version available to purchase now.

Finally, mFest is on this Saturday and I look forward to seeing and speaking with many of our community members as I market our school to the wider mFest community. Come and say, “Hi!” and design a button badge to take home with you on the day.

Sarah Jane Ash
Principal ☺

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Upcoming Dates</th>
<th>12/05/16</th>
<th>13/05/16</th>
<th>16/05/16 &amp; 17/05/16</th>
<th>18/05/16 &amp; 19/05/16</th>
<th>20/05/16</th>
<th>25/05/16</th>
<th>14/06/16</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07/05/16</td>
<td>mFest Celebration held in Springbrook SS grounds</td>
<td>NAPLAN: Numeracy</td>
<td>Year 6: Robina SHS Academic Excellence Day</td>
<td>Year 5: Robina SHS Academic Excellence Day</td>
<td>Year 4: Robina SHS Academic Excellence Day/16/05/16</td>
<td>National Simultaneous Story Day</td>
<td>Athletics Carnival @ Pizzey Park</td>
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<td>08/05/16</td>
<td>Mother’s Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>09/05/16</td>
<td>Evacuation Drill this week</td>
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<td>0905/16</td>
<td>3:15pm P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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<td>10/05/16</td>
<td>NAPLAN: Language Conventions NAPLAN: Writing</td>
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<td>11/05/16</td>
<td>NAPLAN: Reading</td>
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Student Awards

Student of the Week
Abigail - for displaying a responsible and mature attitude towards her work and behaviour in class!
Britt - for an excellent start to Term 2 in both behaviour and attitude!
Georgia - for displaying ‘Be A Learner’ behaviours by always giving her best effort!
Arwen - for excellent efforts in all aspects of her learning!

Literacy Planet Leaderboard Leaders
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Isabelle</td>
<td>257</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mika</td>
<td>128</td>
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Mathletics Awards
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<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bronze Award: Taijahna</td>
<td>1256 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Britt</td>
<td>1180 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aimee</td>
<td>1040 &amp; 1180 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zavier</td>
<td>1020 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jimi</td>
<td>1300 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Silver Award:
- Mika 1750 points
- Britt 1440 points

Gotcha Raffle Draw
- Yrs P-2 class: Zavier and Tarelle
  Robbie and Georgia
- Yrs 3-6 class: Yuna and Asha
  Mika and Aimee

Gotcha Award
- 25 Gotcha - Britt, Aimee and Arky

Gotcha Award
- Pen Licences: Aimee, Mika and Arky
- Britt, Aimee and Arky

P&C Meeting
Monday 3:15pm
Senior Classroom
Don’t threaten, bribe or deal – breathe & act

Five great discipline habits to add to your parenting repertoire.

Getting kids to cooperate is tricky. One method doesn’t necessarily fit all children so as a parent or teacher it helps to have a broad repertoire of responses to draw on when kids are less than perfect or you want more cooperative behaviour.

Disciplining a child can also make many parents feel decidedly uncomfortable, as it doesn’t generally fit an idealised picture of parenting that many of us may have. Discipline is about helping kids stay safe, become social and also be savvy and astute when they interact with others, which makes discipline a positive and very necessary part of the parenting process.

**Bad discipline habits**

Unfortunately, it’s easy as a parent to develop bad habits to get cooperation from kids. For instance, it can be easier to offer a simple bribe such as “I let you use my iPad for 10 minutes if you can be quiet in the back seat of the car”, rather than battle with kids for their cooperation. This type of bribe can work wonders to get some peace and quiet and is infinitely better than engaging in a slanging match while you’re driving. Well, it may seem that way!

However, it’s easy for both parents and kids to become hooked on bribes. As a parent you can easily fall for the trap of offering a bribe to induce good behaviour because it often works. A child learns to cooperate on his terms and soon learns to think, “What’s in this for me?” Soon kids learn to wheel and deal to get better terms so today’s ‘quick 10 minutes on an iPad’ becomes tomorrow’s shiny new piece of technology bought in return for cooperation. Bribery and dealing almost always escalates in scale. The stakes rarely get smaller.

Similarly, idle threats of withdrawing co-operation if a child won’t behave well soon fall on deaf ears as kids have a built-in radar for knowing if a threat is real or not. “If you continue to argue with your sister I’ll cancel your birthday” is the sort of threat that many of us have made in desperation just to get some peace and harmony at home. Again, threatening all types of dastardly consequences can become a habit, particularly when we don’t have many other options at our disposal to get better cooperation.

Most of us will default to our lowest level of skill when we are tired, stressed or under pressure. When a child yells, “I hate you! You never listen to a thing I say” just when you’re trying to get her to bed you’re likely to return fire in spades. “What do you mean I never listen to you! I always listen to you. You never...” and away you go chastising a child in a way that only exacerbates her lack of cooperation.

more on page 2
... Don't threaten, bribe or deal – breathe and act ...

Good discipline habits
So it helps to develop some good discipline habits instead so that when we do become stressed or tired they are so ingrained in us that they become second nature.

Here are five good discipline habits to develop:

1. **Avoid the first Impulse so you don’t overreact**
   A good rule of thumb is to stop yourself from reacting when children misbehave. As much of children’s poor behaviour is purposeful, in that it keeps parents busy with them or is designed to let parents know that in fact you can make a child do anything they want to do, your impulsive reactions reinforce the behaviour. At times stopping and doing nothing is better than saying something you regret later on or can’t follow through with.

2. **Step away and take a breath to gain control**
   When you feel annoyed, angry or hurt by a child’s misbehaviour temporarily step away from the situation and take a few deep breaths before you speak or act. This meta-moment will not only buy you time but will quickly calm you down and change your thinking, putting you back in control. Better self-management helps you respond more effectively when kids misbehave.

3. **Lower your voice to be heard**
   Do you typically repeat yourself or raise your voice when your children ignore your request for better behaviour or even cooperation. If so you are training your kids to ignore you. Try lowering your voice rather than raising to be heard. This has the double effect of being easier to hear as well as carrying a greater sense of authority.

4. **Move toward them to be noticed**
   Moving into children’s space to deliver a message is usually more effective than issuing an order across a lounge room when you are competing with a screen for attention. It does require effort but the results in terms of getting cooperation is generally worth it.

5. **Use a consequence to teach**
   Not all children respond positively to consequences. Very sensitive children can take consequences personally so use them sparingly with more sensitive kids. Sometimes a change in the tone of your voice is enough for these children. But generally reasonable consequences that have a relationship to children’s misdemeanours and that are respectfully delivered are effective in teaching children to behave responsively. The trick is to deliver them like a neutral cop – cool, calm and with not too many words.

Good habits are best developed in low or no stress situations so if you’d like to add any of these ideas to your parenting repertoire start putting them into practice in every day interactions with your children, so that they become second nature when you really need some cooperation from your kids.

Michael Grose
The mFest
Mother - Music - Mountain - Markets
10am - 4pm  Free Entry

Workshops
Bouncy Castle
Yummy Food

Live Music:
Leopold’s Treat
and more Women led music!

Saturday 7th May
Springbrook State School

maryen@bigpond.com  www.mFest.com.au  Stalls: gina@selfhelpretreat.com.au
Census is on 9 August, 2016. Over 15 Million people are expected to complete the census online this year and we need lots of enthusiastic people to help!

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