This week is currently National Science Week and we are celebrating in a big way! Our students have participated in a geological study of the rainforest by walking the Tallanbana Circuit, completed a macro-invertebrate study in the local waterway at Purlingbrook, had a visit from the Energy trailer based at Numinbah Valley Environmental Education Centre, will be visiting Robina SHS and working in their Science laboratories, and finally, finishing the week by hosting our own Science Fair and Trivia Challenge on Friday morning. It’s certainly an extremely busy week with the focus on Science as a curriculum area.

Last Friday, we had a successful Open Day where we had the opportunity to showcase what we do at Springbrook State School. We were fortunate to meet some prospective new students for next year and start building relationships with them and their families. If you know of anyone who is looking for a school for their child or children, please send them our way as enrolments for 2014 are currently being accepted. We still have space for new students to start immediately and enrolments packs are available from the office.

Next week is National Book Week and we are celebrating in a number of ways! We are hosting a Scholastic Book Fair throughout the week, with a late night opening until 6:00pm. This is a great opportunity to purchase some quality reading materials for children and support our library at the same time! We earn $$ for each purchase which we are able to spend on new resources for our library. Everyone is welcome to shop at Book Fair. We are also reading and sharing the shortlisted picture books from the Children’s Book Council of Australia awards and participating in an online Reader’s Cup based on these books. Next Friday, all students and staff will be dressing up as their favourite book character. We can’t wait to see the outfits! All of these activities around Book Week reinforce our school’s improvement agenda focus on reading.

The following week, on Wednesday 28th August, you are all invited to come to Springbrook State Schools’ Tupperware party starting at 9:00am. We are attempting to add to our stock of kitchen equipment for our garden and cooking program. All families will be bringing home a catalogue next week and anyone can order. Please let all of your friends and family know.

Sarah Jane Ash
Principal
Junior Room News

Today the 12th of August we went to Tallanbana Picnic area and we did the Twin Falls walk. It was 4 kilometres long and it was a circuit, so we finished where we started. We saw areas of dry forest, rainforest and we saw where there had been a landslide over 100 years ago. It cleared all of the rainforest trees and now there is a dry forest in that spot in the middle of the rainforest. First we stopped at the Canyon Lookout for a drink. Then we had morning tea at the bottom Blackfellow Falls. After morning tea we kept walking and then stopped at the bottom of Twin Falls for lunch. Finally on the way back up we walked behind Twin Falls and then we had to walk through the three rock caves. Last of all we then had to hike back up from the bottom all the way back to the start. Some of the parents spotted a Blue Lamington Crayfish in the water at the top of Twin Falls. By the time we got back to the picnic area we felt tired and exhausted from our big walk.
Open Day

Our Open Day was held last Friday where we welcomed prospective new families and showed off our spectacular school. We had lots of fun sensory activities for the children to try, as well as our regular cooking classes. Aimee – “I liked the slime! I loved tasting different milks. My favourite was the soy milk. I also liked feeling all the things in the feely boxes.”

Katie – “I liked meeting all of the visitors that came in for the open day. I liked the milk and my favourite was the goat’s milk. I also liked feeling the stuff in the boxes.”

Cate – “I liked meeting the people that are coming next year and I liked the feeling all the different types of foods.”

Mika – “I liked the slime and the goo. I liked drinking the cow’s milk.”

Britt – “I liked the slime and tasting the milk. My favourite was cow’s milk.”

Ryka – “I loved tasting the different types of milk. My favourite was cow’s milk.”

Fundraising

We are holding a bake stall and BBQ on the day of the Federal election, September 7. Please support our school and set aside a couple of hours to either help with the BBQ or serve at the stall. If you cannot help on the day, perhaps you could donate some baked goods to sell at the stall.

Our biggest fundraising event for the year will be the Bunnings BBQ on September 21, the first Saturday of the school holidays. Please mark that day on your calendar - if everyone pitches in then it makes light work…. and more enjoyable!
Have you ever been and completed the Twin Falls walk? Yesterday, our whole school went and completed the circuit with the principal and teacher, Jim and Renata from Numinbah Valley Environmental Education Centre. The experience was fantastic and tiring at the same time! The rainforest had awesome views and we learnt about the geology within the natural environment. Before we went, we didn’t know:

- All the different type of trees including the giant stinging tree, strangler fig and brush box
- Basalt rock is made from molten lava cooling down quickly which makes the rock bubbly from the gas within the lava and it is an igneous rock
- Some lava comes out slowly like toothpaste and it is all thick and it makes a different type of rock called rhyolite
- There’s two kinds of waterfalls – ones with a lot of water and ones with only a little water. The water comes from the rain.
- One of the different types of rock is called volcanic glass, which is also called perlite
- Some trees in the rainforest have buttress roots and there is a rock fig tree which grows around and through rocks. As it grows, its roots expand and break the rock into smaller pieces of rock, causing a physical change.

Being able to complete the walk with a certified geologist gave us the opportunity to learn so many new things about the rocks in our rainforest. It certainly took us a lot longer to complete the walk this way. Overall, the experience was amazing (Zackery), ballistic (Cole), fun (Bridie), tiring (Mathilda), epic (Samantha), and enjoyable (Dante). We totally recommend it for your family this weekend!!
How To Help Your Child With Reading

**MAKE** a regular time for reading together. Share books brought home from school and read old favourites.

**TALK** about the book. Use the pictures to predict what it is going to be about. Ask your child to make suggestions.

**PROVIDE** reading materials that are interesting to your child.

**JOIN** our new local library.

**LOCATE** read signs, recipes, junk mail, packets, boxes, CD cases.

**GIVE** books for gifts. Select books with rhyme, repetition and predictable ideas.

**READ** old favourites and encourage your child to read them to you.

**DISPLAY** an interest in reading. Let your child see you reading newspapers, phone books, novels.

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Introducing Mrs Cavaye (SEP)

Springbrook State School is an inclusive school that recognises and provides for all students. We acknowledge that students learn differently and my role as a Special Education Teacher is to support staff and students in being able to utilise appropriate strategies to overcome the barriers to not only student learning but also with social understanding and interaction.

My name is Karen Cavaye and I have worked in the field of Special Education in varying roles for nearly 30 years. Primarily, I am engaged to work with students who are verified with a diagnosis that meets the Education Queensland criteria. This is where I interact closely with the teaching staff and families to look at any areas of challenge and we cooperatively plan strategies and provide opportunities to assist these students to recognise ways of identifying difficulties and using approaches in finding ways around them. I also assist staff to observe and collate data on areas of concern in preparation for students requiring further paediatric evaluation.

Currently, I am resourced to work at Springbrook State School on Fridays and it is an immense pleasure to work alongside the staff and students with their learning. In the Senior Class, I also assist with a 30 minute lesson to learn about a social topic that is important with being within a school community and how that translates to the wider society. With increased use of technology, some of our social expectations do not get the frequent recognition or practice time they need to become a regular practice with daily life and encourage tolerance with acknowledging others’ views and understanding.

If you have any queries or require further information about the verification process, please do not hesitate to contact me either here on Fridays or leave your details so I am able to be in touch. My email is kcava1@eq.edu.au.

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Garden and Cooking

Last week’s cooking class took advantage of the wonderful pumpkins we have grown in our garden. We used some early onions and the pumpkin to make some pumpkin soup; and the pumpkin was also mashed up to make pumpkin scones to share with our Open Day guests. The seniors also made some fresh bread to eat with the pumpkin soup. Most of us agreed it was all delicious!

With the weather warming up and the feeling of spring in the air, we are going to be getting busy preparing seeds for spring and summer crops. We welcome any donations of garden equipment, seeds or seedlings for our garden.
Students of Springbrook State School will soon be provided with an offer of oral health care pack to take home. The pack includes:

- Child & Adolescent Oral Health Service Brochure
- Examination Card

Please familiarise yourself with the process by reading the information provided. If your child is enrolled, did not receive a pack, and you would like to arrange for your child to receive oral health care, please contact the Oral Health Call Centre on 1300 300 850, Monday to Friday 8.00 am – 4.30 pm excluding Public Holidays.

Did you know you can now take most of your plastic from your groceries and drop them into the green bin at selected Coles supermarkets?

Mudgeeraba Coles supports the REDcycle program. Items accepted for recycling include:
- empty bread bags
- biscuit packets
- frozen food bags
- rice and pasta bags
- confectionary packets,
- plastic shopping bags
- old reusable bags

Our school encourages sustainability and responsible waste management... let’s keep this plastic out of landfill by bringing them in to select Coles supermarkets instead.

Your empty packaging will be recycled into useful new products such as sturdy outdoor furniture and signage.