From the Principal
Welcome to the last formal newsletter of Term 3! Our junior students are currently attending a field trip to Paradise Country where they have the opportunity to see firsthand, what they have been learning through their Studies of Society and the Environment unit “Farm to Plate” this term. Today we also welcome our Assistant Regional Director, Mr Alan Sampson and the Principal Education Officer School Improvement, Mrs Zoe Harlow to Springbrook State School as part of the verification process for our Quadrennial School Review. I will be presenting the 4 year Strategic Plan for our school in the presence of teaching staff, support staff and parent representatives. It is a pleasure to be able to showcase our school and what we plan to achieve in the next four years.

The preliminary data and results from this year’s NAPLAN testing has been released and I am pleased to report that our students have achieved similar results to the national average in almost all areas of Reading, Writing, Spelling, and Numeracy in all year levels. The exceptions to this are Years 5 and 7 Writing which will be a focus for improvement going into next year. This is a great result for our students and teachers and reflects the focussed teaching and learning that happens in our classrooms. There had been a delay with the arrival of the individual student reports and they have not yet have not yet arrived in the school. They will be sent home with students when they arrive in the first week of Term 4.

With the summer storm/cyclone and bushfire season on its way Queensland’s Get Ready Week on 14–20 October will encourage people to be prepared before extreme weather or a natural disaster strikes. Over the holidays, families can work through a checklist to help them get ready and ensure everyone knows what to do. Information and resources are available from http://www.disaster.qld.gov.au/

Finally, the September holidays are beginning tomorrow, Friday 20 September. It is important that all students attend on this day as normal teaching and learning will continue until 3:00 pm. Students return to school on Tuesday 8 October with the Monday being the Labour Day public holiday in 2013. Monday October 21 (week 3 of next term) is a scheduled student free day – please mark this in your diaries now.

Sarah Jane Ash (Principal)
From the Guidance Officer

A sense of belonging…

Belonging improves mental health, wellbeing and learning. All children need to feel that school is a safe place where people will care about them, where their needs for support, respect and friendship will be met, and where they will be able to get help to work out problems. When these needs are met children develop a sense of belonging at school. Belonging is very important for children’s mental health and wellbeing. Children who feel that they belong at school are happier, more relaxed and have fewer behavioural problems than other students. They are also more motivated to learn and be more successful with their school work. Research into children’s mental health has found that a sense of belonging and connectedness at school helps to protect children against mental health difficulties and improves their learning.

Making friends and having positive relationships with teachers helps children develop a sense of belonging at school. Having older ‘buddies’ to turn to helps younger children feel that school is a place where they can get help if they need it. Looking after younger children encourages caring and helping in older children and helps to reduce conflicts and bullying. These are just some of the ways that children’s sense of belonging at school can be supported.

Parents and carers can work with school staff to help create a bridge between home and school. When the adults responsible for children take a positive interest in what happens at school it helps children feel at home. It also makes it easier to pick up any problems early when they are easiest to resolve. Speaking positively about school to your child is an integral part of building children’s sense of belonging. If the important adults in children’s lives value school and education, children will hold school in high regard.

• Find out about the school and what your child is learning; participate in information sessions
• Make time to listen to your child tell you about what he or she is doing at school
• Let your child’s teacher know if he/she is having difficulties and discuss what kinds of things you can do at home and school to help.

Working positively with school personnel will help to enhance the enjoyment of school for your child and as such help to build a sense of belonging for now and the future.

Carla Loughnane
Guidance Officer
*Information adapted from kidsmatter.edu.au
Juniors’ News

Over the last couple weeks of the term we have busily been completing assessment pieces for English, Mathematics, Science and SOSE. We have all been working extremely hard and we are all very excited about Thursday’s excursion to Paradise Country. We have included some student work samples from today’s excitement about turkey chicks and the brief shower of hail we had this morning.

The hail hit the classroom. We were wondering what that sound was. Ting! Ting! We went outside the teachers came inside and showed us the hail. The hail looked like a ninja sword. Then everyone collected hail then we went inside. Then we started writing.

By Connor

The baby turkeys were fluffy and cute. I liked the black spotty one. They had brown spots on their chest. Miss Barb held one. She said she was scared. The chicks could not stop chirping. I had seen wild turkeys buy I had not ever seen babies.

By Arwen

Wow! Today I saw six day old baby turkey chicks! It was very, very exciting. I also saw little turkey plops. The plops smelt very, very, very bad. It is Mrs Shepherd’s Birthday!

By Aimee

A Word from the Garden…..

Busy, Busy, Busy! That’s what we have been in our garden: the students harvested Cauliflower, Chinese Cabbage, Carrots, Beetroot, Silver beet and Onions to use in our cooking class. We have recently planted Pumpkin and Sweet pea flower seeds into tyres they have already started to sprout we also planted seedlings of Beetroot, Rainbow Silver beet, Egg plant, Spring Onions and Rocket.

Our gardens are looking fantastic…. Keep up the great work!!!!
Ryka for displaying a positive attitude towards all areas of his learning.

Elvis for his excellent work and focus on his writing assessment.

Reading Awards

50 nights - Kaleb
100 nights - Britt
75 nights - Cate
75 nights - Connor

Mathletics Awards

Bronze - Maiki 1477 points
Silver - Britt 1195 points
Bronze - Aidan 1344 points
Silver - Ryka 1196 points
Bronze - Connor 2042 points
Silver -

Gardening Awards

Arwen for her care and attention to detail when gardening.
Arky for his persistence and humorous attitude in gardening.

Dates to Remember

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<tr>
<th>WHAT:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bunning's BBQ</td>
<td>Saturday 21st September</td>
<td>Nerang</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Free Day</td>
<td>Monday 4th October</td>
<td>Nerang</td>
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<tr>
<td>Start of Term 4</td>
<td>Tuesday 5th October</td>
<td>Nerang</td>
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Come and try ORIENTEERING

Ideal family activity: all welcome: suitable for all ages and abilities. Training available: compasses for hire: string course for the very young.

Musgrave Hill
Southport / Labrador,
Gold Coast
Sunday 29th September 2013
9am-11am
$7 senior $6 junior $20 family

What is Orienteering?
It’s all about the map, not the compass! Orienteering is the sport of navigating in unknown terrain using a detailed map. Orienteering is an ideal family recreation - it gets you out of the house on a regular basis and our events are designed to cater for all ages and abilities.

What do I need to do?
Note the date: bring your family on the day between 08:30 and 10:30, wear sensible shoes and sunblock.

Bring a compass if you have one, although compasses are not required for park orienteering.

This is a low-key introductory event designed for novices and youngsters. It’s nothing like that boring compass/pace counting exercise they made you do at school camp!

Gold Coast event programme at q.asn.au/events select Club = Paradise Lost, Year To = 2014
Learn about the Gold Coast’s orienteering club q.asn.au/paradise-lost-orienteers
Keep in touch facebook.com/ParadiseLostOrienteers
Drop us a line paradiselost@q.asn.au Call Mark 0404 50 99 24
Healing Hooves Inc
Halloween Celebration
for the whole family!!

- Face Painting
- Live Music
  By REDLINE
  From 6pm
- Stalls

Saturday 26th October
3pm till 10pm
231 Beaudesert Nerang road,
Nerang, QLD 4211

- Family Activities
- Fancy Dress Competition
  $2.00 per entry
- Jumping Castle

Entry $5.00 per person

For more information: Call Jodie 0418417399,
or email: Healinghoovesevents@hotmail.com.au

Food & Drinks

Hooves Healing Inc. is a charity which brings People with special needs
& Horses with special needs together.
http://www.healinghoovesinc.org.au/

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Healing Hooves Inc
Halloween Celebration
for the whole family!!

- Food & Drink Available.
- Activities for the children.
- Stalls.

Saturday 26th October
3pm till 10pm
231 Beaudesert Nerang road,
Nerang, QLD 4211

Entry $5.00 per person

- Live Music
- Novelty Events for the whole family.
- Face Painting.
- & Much Much More!!

Fancy Dress Competition
$2.00 per entry

REDLINE ROCKS ON FROM 6PM