Welcome back! A very warm welcome is extended to all members of our school community, for the new school year. To our new students, particularly our new prep students, we expect that you will soon be settled, comfortable and happy in your new environment. While our focus is genuinely on our students, it is vital that the parents of new students also recognise that we want them to quickly become settled and familiar with our school. Parents play a significant role in our school and our students’ learning and general participation in school life.

We must acknowledge the work of several people for their efforts in preparing for the beginning of the year:
- Our groundsman and cleaner have worked hard to ensure our school is ready for use
- Our admin staff for their assistance with enrolments and organisation
- Our families for their preparation of students for a positive start to the year
- Our teaching staff for their work and efforts in creating positive, inviting classrooms for all of our students.

The three Student Free Days were well used by all staff to undertake mandatory training in WH&S, Code of Conduct, Student Protection, and to ensure our staff qualifications are update in first aid and in curriculum topics including the teaching of writing. These days contributed significantly towards setting the positive direction for the school for the year.

2014 will be the final year at primary school for both our Year 6 and Year 7 students. Year 7 will progress to Year 8 at secondary school as per normal, however, our Year 6 students will progress to Year 7 which, for the first time, will be fully catered for at secondary school. It is our intention to ensure both year levels are able to celebrate and recognise their final year of primary school, at the end of the year.

A very brief summary of our Improvement Agenda for the year is as follows:

**Reading** - focussed teaching of reading, especially for inferential comprehension

**Writing** - daily writing, targeted teaching of writing features suitable to each year level

**Whole Number** - explicit teaching of whole number and number fact recall/knowledge

**Data** - using individual student achievement data to support learning

All of our staff and students will be working together to improve our results in all curriculum areas with a specific focus on these identified targets.

Finally, a quick reminder regarding our responsibility towards gifts. As lovely as it is, employees of Education Queensland schools are unable to accept gifts of cash or the like as outlined below.

‘The Public Service Commission provides guidance for all government agencies including the Department of Education, Training and Employment. It has issued a guideline in relation to the issue of Gifts and Benefits. The guideline states any offer of cash, or any items which are readily converted into cash (e.g. lottery ticket, scratchies, shares) must be refused by employees. It further states accepting money in any form may breach a number of public service policies and legislative requirements including the Criminal Code. Offers of cash may be seen as an attempt at bribery.’

Whilst the offer of gifts such as cash by members of the community to school staff is in good faith on many occasions having regard to the guidelines the school must follow, any offer of cash cannot be accepted by staff attached to the school. Thank you for your understanding with this.

Sarah Jane Ash
Principal
sash16@eq.edu.au
It has been a fun and exciting week getting to know everyone! We have a busy term coming up with lots of fun and interesting things to learn about.

This week in English we are looking at authors’ deliberate use of verbs to help show a character’s emotion. Try asking your child about all the different ways they can open a door and how that is linked to what they are feeling.

Our Junior room has some fantastic “counters”… Everyday we will practice counting to 100 in 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s. The year 2s are also counting in 100s into the 1000s. Wow!! It’s amazing how well we can all count.

Next week all the Juniors will get homework! It will consist of a home reader, sight words, letter-sounds, and spelling words (year 2) and maths.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>What to bring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Library borrowing</td>
<td>Library bag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>2:30 Assembly</td>
<td>Listening, manners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Full-brimmed hat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please ensure your child has a wide-brimmed hat, water bottle and a healthy lunch on a daily basis.

Warm regards,
Joyce Boura.

Glorious Springbrook Weather!

With the constantly changing weather conditions we are so lucky to experience up here, students regularly skip from feeling hot to cold and back again.

Please ensure your child brings a wide-brimmed hat every day, as well as a maroon jumper packed in their school bag. Encourage them to do their own bag check every morning. Nobody can predict how the weather will change over the course of the day!

Remember Springbrook State School is a “No Hat—No Play” school; students will not participate in outdoor playtime if they have not remembered their hat.
Welcome back everyone!
It is lovely to see familiar faces eager to start the school year and wonderful to meet new students and families arriving at Springbrook SS for the first time. This year all staff will be focussing on positive behaviour and social and emotional learning for all students. A great way to start the year is to recap on our Manners expectations for students. This is not just for students but a reminder for everyone to be respectful and model positive behaviour and manners wherever we are.

- Use of please, thank you, you’re welcome.
- If interrupting, use…..Excuse me.
- Use people’s names in responses.
- Saying sorry and then helping, if necessary.
- Use of Yes or No (Not Yep or Nuh).
- Following instructions/directions the FIRST time.
- Avoid back chatting and arguing.
- Appropriate language….If you can’t say something nice, don’t say anything at all.
- Avoid being disrespectful by doing things behind people’s backs.

Good Manners are essential for every child’s self confidence and success in life. The social skill of using manners and getting along with others opens doors and builds opportunity. Children, teachers and community members are more likely to interact positively with those who use manners. Being sincere and consistent in showing manners is integral to the success of a polite and well-mannered individual. Children learn the importance of and how to use manners from their role models. Whether this is a parent, relative, family friend or teacher, it is important that the adults in the life of our children demonstrate consistently courteous language and respectful relationships where manners are modelled and encouraged every day.

Please don’t hesitate to contact me via Mrs Ash if you would like to arrange an appointment to meet.

Carla Loughnane (Guidance Officer)
The beginning of 2014 has rolled along very smoothly, with the class adapting to new teachers, room changes, new students and of course welcoming the Year 3s!

This week the whole Senior Class went on their first excursion of 2014 to the Ashmore Bicycle Safety Centre. The students spent the day listening to Mitch from the PCYC about bike safety rules, signs and bike riding etiquette, followed by heaps of fun practice time out on the realistic road setting. The students had a wonderful time and definitely impressed the PCYC staff with their awesome bike riding skills.
ADDITIONAL SCHOOL FUNDING

Schools were advised of allocations from the “Great Results Guarantee” Funds by EQ last week. Our school will receive approx. $5,410 from the total allocation of $131 million.

These funds are to target literacy and numeracy from Prep to Year 2. Schools have to develop a strategy to improve student performance and the principal will have to sign a guarantee that every child will be either at National Minimum Standard or working within an individual learning plan.

This is a genuine boost for all schools and we are currently undertaking a planning process to determine how to maximise the benefits from these funds.

P&C (Parents & Citizens Association)

The P&C is the parent forum within our school. It is a forum in which parents can play a constructive role in the school, contributing greatly to the life of students. Through the P&C, parents can have input into school decisions, providing advice to the principal. Often, the advice of parents has assisted some school decisions to be more relevant and workable, in consideration of the perspectives of families. Further, many parents who attend meetings or assist at P&C activities, enjoy meeting other parents.

Our P&C’s efforts have provided the school with a significant array of resources including iPads, library resources, gardening equipment materials and funding towards the technology requirements in the classroom.

All parents are welcome to attend meetings and/or assist at P&C activities. Please note that the next scheduled P&C meeting will be held on Monday 10th February, starting at 3:15pm in the senior classroom. With the dates for the year on the school website. All parents are invited and welcome.

TERM DATES FOR 2014

Term 1 – Tues 28th Jan to Fri 4th April
Term 2 – Tues 22nd Apr to Fri 27th June
Term 3 – Mon 14th July to Fri 19th Sept
Term 4 – Tues 7th Oct to Fri 12th Dec

Dates to Remember

⇒ 10th February    3:15pm P&C Meeting in the senior classroom
⇒ 12th February    3:15pm Active After School Sport (weekly)
⇒ 12th February    715pm SMCA meeting in the community hall
⇒ 17th March       3:15pm P&C Meeting in the senior classroom
Guess what’s starting back...

MUDGEERABA SWIM CLUB!

Thursday, 6th February @ 5.15pm!

Mudgeeraba Aquatic Centre
Cnr Robert & School Street Mudgeeraba

Children of all levels ranging from Beginners through to Squad level are all welcome to participate. Once per fortnight, the club comes together for a club night with fun competition over all strokes! Cost is $5 per child which includes entry, racing fee and one free sausage sizzle!

Commissioner for Declarations - Free Service

Do you have documents that need to be witnessed?

Looking to have certified true copies of all your important certificates on file – Birth, Marriage, Change of Name, etc?

Need to complete a Statutory Declaration in front of an authorised authority?

Then I can help!

Aside from being a registered teacher, I am also a registered Commissioner for Declarations for the State of Queensland [similar to a Justice of the Peace].

I am available to witness and stamp your documents any day I am at Springbrook State School. Please be advised that this is a free community service.

If you would like to make a time to see me, please contact the school directly, or via my email: sxmat5@eq.edu.au. A day’s notice in advance would be appreciated, so that I can give you my undivided attention during the process.

Shanny Matterson

GOLDCOAST BASKETBALL IS OFFERING AUSIE HOOPS (6-8 year olds, includes 15 basketball and reversible ring) AND MINIHOOPS (7-11 year olds, includes 7 hoop basketball and reversible ring) FOR 2024 FOR $76.00 (NEW PLAYERS) AND $60.00 (RETURNING PLAYERS NO BALL OR RING INCLUDED)!

TERM DATES ARE BELOW. 8.30AM-NOON AT CARRARA INDOOR SPORTS STADIUM.

Term 1 - 8 Sessions
February 8, 15, 22
March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Term 2 - 6 Sessions
May 10, 24, 31
June 7, 14, 21

Term 3 - 6 Sessions
July 26
August 2, 9, 23,
September 6, 13

Term 4 - 7 Sessions
October 18, 25
November 8, 15, 22, 29,
December 6

All registration information can be found on www.goldcoastbasketball.net.au or by clicking the link below.

09420-46310&menu=6&menu_lang=1-2717-4630

Please email jenalle@jcsite.com.au after reading all of the information for further queries.
Let the magic and awe of this year's Sand Safari experience take you on a journey to discover, imagine and explore the wonderful art of Sand Sculpting.

Over three weeks, the Surfers Paradise Foreshore and various locations across the Gold Coast will feature magnificent sand sculptures. The event will begin with the new edition of a Sand Trail across the Gold Coast, followed by the Australian Sand Sculpting Championships, and two weeks of activities and viewing at the Surfers Paradise Foreshore.

Price: Free

Address: The Foreshore, Surfers Paradise

Phone: (07) 5584 3700

Website: www.surfersparadise.com