Last week saw the start of our specialised transition program for our years six and seven students going to Robina State High School. Our students will be participating in a program run over three consecutive Fridays this term, and with future dates to be confirmed for next term, in order to prepare our students for the Flying Start Junior Secondary experience. We are very fortunate to have great support from the high school in preparing our students for the move from our small school to their larger school. The Head of Department for Junior Secondary, Mr Ben Weeks has assisted in creating a transition opportunity for our students to gain familiarity with the high school in general, its procedures and what students are required to know to start next year off with confidence. My sincere thanks go to Mr Weeks, Mrs Warwick (principal) and the teaching staff at Robina State High School for welcoming and supporting our students to have a smooth transition to their secondary schooling.

Active After School Sport has recommenced for this term with the chosen sport for term three being touch football. Due to illness, our coach has not been able to make it up on a Monday afternoon as yet but we eagerly anticipate his arrival this coming week. Many thanks go to Miss Nerida and Miss Sue who have been able to provide supervised physical activities in his absence. Please remember that all of our students are able to take advantage of the opportunity to try new sports and the sessions run each Monday from 3:15-4:15pm.

As part of Book Week celebrations, the Scholastic Book Fair® will be at our school for the week of August 18th—21st and special Family Events are scheduled for Wednesday 20th with a dress up parade and family shopping afternoon at Book Fair. The exciting theme for 2014 is Book Fair Garden: Catch the Reading Bug! Our Book Fair will be a stroll through a world of bugs and flowers, overflowing with exciting books students will really want to dig into. We hope you will share your talents and join us as we help students get a buzz for reading. If you have some time to help us plan or conduct our Book Fair, please contact me directly through the school office. Hosting a Book Fair is a great way to not only access quality readers and books for your family members, but to also support our school in acquiring new and exciting resources for our school library. We appreciate all of your help and support with Book Fair! Start planning your costumes for the Book Week Parade on Wednesday 20th August!

Enrolments for Prep for 2015 are now open and some enrolments for next year have been completed! The support of all families is sought to spread the message that early enrolment allows for our school to plan ahead for a smooth start to the new year. There may be families in our community who have limited contact with the school who would appreciate advice to come and enrol early. Prospective parents may collect an enrolment pack from the school office. Prep students for 2015 will have been born between 1st July, 2009 and 30th June, 2010 and each enrolling student requires their birth certificate.

Finally, a big thank you to all the parents/caregivers, students and school staff who completed this year’s School Opinion Survey. We look forward to reviewing our survey results when we receive our school report later this year.

Sarah Jane Ash
(Principal)
Each year, our school participates in Planet Ark National Tree Day by getting outside and connecting with nature, joining with our community and working together on a project that celebrates one of Springbrook’s most valuable assets—TREES!

This year, we welcomed our friends from Landcare and some wonderful local community members to the school to help us plant 60 trees. These trees replaced some unfortunate specimens which didn’t make it from the 2012 planting project, and the remainder helped to thicken up the site.

Our trees were generously donated to us by Nicole and Alan from the nursery who kindly delivered them to our door. We were also lucky to have scored some of the last available trees from the Gold Coast Parks nursery at Coombabah as part of the Free Trees for Schools program. We have Ray to thank for picking these up and delivering them to school.

To our delight and surprise, Landcare arrived early with a power auger, lots of shovels and willing hands, and got stuck into drilling the holes right away. They were all dug in no time (much quicker than we could manage, even with our 29-strong student army). Next, the fire truck arrived with water, filling the holes with water with no effort at all! If only planting trees could always be this easy!

The students then finally got to plant their trees, with the help of the community volunteers. Sugar cane mulch donated by SMCA was then gleefully spread around the trees as the students picked the trees they plan to visit and keep a check on. Everyone worked together as all great communities do, getting the job done and having fun at the same time. Perhaps because of the aroma of the BBQ Di and Mrs Ash were preparing wafting across the oval?

We wish to thank the Springbrook Catchment Landcare group and its volunteers, Nicole and Alan, our community volunteers, the Springbrook Rural Fire Brigade, and our families who all contributed to making our Tree Day a huge success. We even had time to make plans for the next project... stay tuned!

Having Fun and Getting Dirty!

Arrgghhh!!!!! That was a busy day. On Friday the 25th of July, Springbrook State School, Springbrook Landcare and the Springbrook community came along to join in National Tree day which was lots of fun! We got put into partners and then we got to work. Firstly the fire truck came in and watered the holes where the trees were going to be planted. Once the water was in we were straight to the trees. We had to loosen the dirt in the pot then we took the plant out and teased its roots. After that we put the plant in the hole, making sure that the plant wasn’t too deep. Then we started to covered up the plant by surrounding it with dirt.

After we planted the trees we got cleaned up and got ready for lunch. For lunch we had sausage sizzles and homemade lemonade which was delicious. After lunch all of the kids went WILD we all ran around in circles and screamed and yelled and had lots of fun. I know that everyone enjoyed themselves and we are definitely looking forward to it again next year.

written by Tennille
GREEN FINGERS GET DOWN AND DIRTY

written Tilly and Arwen

On Friday 25th students celebrated national TREE DAY. Volunteers from Landcare helped us plant the trees and gave the students, teachers and parents from the community lots of tips because the ones that were planted last year perished. And Miss Matterson learnt how to plant her very first tree!

All Students were rewarded with a sausage sizzle with tomato and lettuce and after their hard work, they earned a little one-off home made lemonade and ten minutes of extra play. Then it was back to class. Now our students can look back and know that they have improved the world just that little bit.

Wow! What an exciting and fun day we just had. On Friday the 25th July, Springbrook State Schools’ junior class and senior class went to plant big and small trees. Before we started to plant the trees, the Springbrook Landcare group dug really big holes and we thanked them all for that! We all got paired up to plant the trees and worked together. Then the Landcare group showed us how to plant the trees and we thought it was amazing!

Britt thought that it was hard work, especially the mulching, and the easiest part was eating the sausage sizzle and drinking homemade or I should say school made lemonade! Samantha thought that the national tree day was spectacular and fun. Her favourite part was the sausage sizzle and the lemonade. Wow – doesn’t that sound delicious?

By Britt & Samantha

Trees are either tall or short, either thick or thin, round or narrow. Trees leaves can either be green, orange, yellow or brown. On Friday 25/7/14 we planted baby trees and it was entertaining and cheerful. When we were finished we had a sausage sizzle.

Written by Callum and Taylor

Yay!!! We had so much fun planting trees at first session! – we planted so many trees! The whole school was there and Miss Matterson planted her first tree ever. She was happy that she planted her first tree and so were we. We can’t wait until we do it again. We loved it!

by Cate and Katie
Disasters, the Media and Your Child

Since the advent of 24 hour news a worrying problem has emerged for the impressionable minds of our children. Children can be shown or hear repeatedly about major disasters to the point it affects their psychological balance. As adults this style of repeating the same confronting news items over and over can be very confronting but for children it can lead to excessive worry that develops into unnecessary anxieties about themselves, family or friends. Because of this Professor Beverly Raphael and psychologist Amanda Harris have written a really useful tip sheet to help families deal with this problem. It is available at www.tgn.anu.edu.au under the tab Resource Centre where you will also find many other great ideas.

Professor Raphael and Amanda list the following ways to help educate and protect children:

- Restricting the amount of time that children and young people are able to watch TV or internet coverage of the disaster.
- Making sure that you are there with your child when they are watching coverage of a disaster. This way you can talk to them about their fears and answer any questions that they may have.
- Distracting your child from the media coverage by doing something else with them, such as watching a different TV show or playing a game.
- Helping your child to understand what has happened and why it has happened and providing information on how likely this is to happen to you and your family.
- Reminding your child that while what is happening in the disaster is upsetting, there are also lots of good things happening in the world, though these do not always receive the same level of media coverage.
- Helping to remind your child that they are safe and that you are there to answer any of their questions and provide comfort to them if they are feeling unsafe.
- Giving support to your child when upset, answering their questions and comforting them with physical affection.
- Talking to your child and making sure that you continue to follow the normal routines and rhythms of your daily life are important ways to help your child feel safe and secure.”

Ian Berghofer
Guidance Officer
Wow! We went on an amazing train ride to Brisbane for the Lego excursion. It was a very long drive but finally we made it. When we got there, nearly everything was made out of LEGO!!! We all went inside and it was the best experience ever!!! We went into our first class and it was about all the forces. For example pushing, pulling, friction. We built a car! That was really awesome!!! The next class was gears and the lesson was fun. We built a windmill. We went to break at a park and played tiggy. We went back to the awesome Lego Education Centre for last session and it was FREE TIME!!! At the end of that amazing experience, we hopped on the train to go back home.

Written by Cole & Ryka

The Lego Education Centre was awesome! On the train there it was boss. There were two seats to sit with your bro. Angus sat next to Elvis and Arky sat next to Britt and his mum. Angus’ nanna came with us too. We hoped off at the South Brisbane station. It was a great, short walk to the Lego Education Centre. There were some pretty cool Porches, Astons, Mercedes and BMW on the road that we passed. We had snack break then went to the Lego Education Centre. We talked to the teachers and started our awesome lessons. There were three different lessons and the last session was free time. Arky made a night fury and Angus made a monster truck. On the way back, we said jokes all the way to the Robina train station. On the way back to Springbrook, I’d bet that everyone was begging for Lego. It really was the best excursion ever!

written by Arky and Angus
Mudgeeraba Show Winners

Dates to Remember

- 6th August: “Wombat Stew—The Musical” excursion
- 11th August: Playgroup
- 18th August: Bookweek and our “Scholastic Book Fair”
- 27th August: Japanese Cultural Day at Gilston SS (years 5,6,7)
- 29th August: Gold Coast Show Public Holiday
- 5th September: Premier’s Reading Challenge finishes
  Teacher Aide Appreciation Day
- 8th September: Playgroup
- 12th September: Hinterland Small Schools Soccer Carnival
- 19th September: Last day of Term 3
Samantha: for consistently demonstrating a solid work ethic and demonstrating learner behaviour.
Maiki: for being considerate and respectful to others and putting in your best efforts in class.

Mathletics
Arwen Bronze 1130 points
Will Bronze 1610 points
Cole Bronze 1010 points

Japanese
Samantha: for excellent work on Japanese Festivals

Banking Prizes
Mika—Swimbag
Taylor—Money Box
Thursday mornings 8.00 – 8.45am

What a fabulous turnout for a frosty morning! Thank you to all the students and playgroup members and parents who came to join in our gardening activities this week. Actually, we were grateful to get stuck into the work to warm us up. By the time everything was done, the sun was shining warmly down on us and we were all invigorated!

Our first responsibility was watering the young trees which we planted on Schools’ Tree Day, and then watering the vegie beds. The seedlings planted last week are growing already! The children then hunted for pests on the vegies and picked them off. We also started planting some strawberries generously donated by the Maguire family.

Sometimes the garden chores seem mundane, but please come along and get involved – many hands make light work and will make our garden thrive. Our regular jobs include maintaining the compost, feeding worms, collecting worm juice and spraying onto plants, removing pests, weeding, sewing seeds, planting seedlings, watering and of course eventually harvesting! These jobs will be spread between the students during gardening class time and Worm Warriors, and Worm Warriors will be incorporating some other fun activities from time to time. We will also be planting some flowers near the sandpit soon and those gardens will also require some maintaining.

Families – if any parents would like to help, the Tree Day trees require watering twice a week for a couple of months (unless we get rain!) If you have any spare time, your help would be greatly appreciated to water some trees. If you do any watering, please note it on the whiteboard in the undercover area of what you have watered and when. The Tree Day trees need about half a bucket or half a watering can per tree, poured gently and slowly around the base. Please see the staff if you are unsure which the Tree Day trees are.

Get out your gumboots and gloves and come and join us….we’d love you to be involved and we look forward to seeing you in the garden soon!
A new dimension is about to be added to Playgroup - the Koala Joeys program! This program has been developed by an experienced early childhood and primary school teacher who is passionate about child development and fun. The program focuses on the relationship between the parent and child, helping to develop the child’s skills through interactive rhymes, stories and touch. The repetition of the rhymes and stories helps the child learn them, and they start to predict what’s coming. Other playgroups which have incorporated Koala Joeys into their program have reported wonderful results - the children and parents love it, speech and vocabulary is enhanced, social skills are nurtured and parent-child relationships benefit, even if it’s just a tickle and a giggle!

We might all feel a bit silly when we first start, but it honestly gets easier, and don’t worry - we can all feel silly all together!

The Koala Joeys program will begin at 9.30am on each Playgroup day, and afterwards we will continue with our usual play, craft and storytime. See you there!

Annual Springbrook Lyrebird Survey

All Springbrook residents are invited to take part in SWAG’s yearly lyrebird survey, Saturday 9th August. We send people to all corners of the mountain from about 6am for two hours, where they record time and location of any calls they hear. At 8am surveyors return to Ceris’ house for hot chocolate and to collate the data.

It is a relaxing and enjoyable morning in the rainforest, even if you don’t get to see a lyrebird. We have had students enjoy the process in the past. A number of families would even be able to do it from their own homes. The Albert’s lyrebird call can be heard on the Michael Morcombe bird App on your phone.

Contact Ceris at info@springbrookwildlife.org.au
You're invited: Flourish Arts Festival

Enjoy a creative day out for the family at Flourish Arts Festival! Come to Southport Broadwater Parklands on Saturday, 6th September, from 9am – 4pm and you will not be disappointed! It will be filled with free activities and workshops for children, live performances, market stalls and much more! Peter Janetzki, 96.5 radio personality will also be speaking at 1pm on ‘raising boys’. We also have various art competitions running for all ages - be sure to go online to find out more: www.flourishartsfestival.com.

We look forward to seeing you there!
www.fb.com/flourishartsfestival

Remember when you believed in anything and everything?

Researchers from the University of Western Australia are investigating children’s tendencies to being tricked, fooled and misled by their peers. We are looking to see how this develops in children, and when children outgrow this.

We are looking for parents of Kindergarten – Year 6 children across Australia to complete an online survey (15 – 20 minutes). Participants will go into a draw to win one of 10 $50 gift certificates to Coles/Myers. To participate go to:
http://tinyurl.com/childsvq2

Or for more information please contact Rebecca Seward at (08) 6488 4652 or rebecca.seward@research.uwa.edu.au