Principal’s Comment

This is the last Newsletter of Semester One. Our Term finishes this Friday and Term 3 will begin on Monday 13 July. Please note there is no Student Free Day next term. I would like to wish all students, staff and community members a wonderful holiday break and hope to see you all in one piece on the first day back in the Valley. Please drive carefully and look after yourselves.

Report Cards

I would like to apologise for the lack of Report Cards going home this week so far. There is still a state-wide issue in relation to the backing up and generating of reports. Please be assured that the entire state is being affected. We are constantly awaiting these reports to generate on the system. If they are ready by Friday, they will be sent home. If not, they will be handed to children at the earliest time possible next term.

NAIDOC Week

This year NAIDOC Week falls in the second week of these holidays. Therefore we will be holding our NAIDOC activities during the first week of Term 3. We will celebrate the contributions made to our country by the Indigenous forefathers and their ancestors. We will be celebrating with Years 4-6 on Thursday 16th July and Prep to Year 3 on Friday 17th July. If you would like to join us on the day, please feel free to sign in at the office and enjoy our celebration with local Elders led by our own Mrs Ang Marshall.

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data

Each year we undergo collection of data in relation to disabilities that students at our school may have. These can be permanent or temporary. In the first few weeks of term we will collect the data and enter it into OneSchool. This data will be used to track funding and staffing across the State Government.
educational entities. If you do not wish your child’s data to be collected and entered, please contact me in the Office.

**Athletics Carnivals**

Last week we held two amazingly successful Athletics Carnival Days. On Wednesday, the senior school had a great time. Big winners on the day were Sturt House who took out both the House Spirit and Overall Champion team, and the teachers relay team who just managed to stay undefeated following a muscle tear in the final leg by myself. I really need to stretch for at least a week before Sports Day. On Thursday, the junior school had their turn and had an absolute ball. I had to take a Prep class for a while and when we went back in to class, they were so exhausted that some were falling asleep eating lunch. A huge thank you to Mr Gason for his organisation, to the staff for their help over the two days, to the super parents who attended, helping to marshal events and took part. Not to forget our brilliant students who behaved so well.

**Yrs 5/6 Camp Payments**

Just a friendly reminder to all parents of students attending the Yrs 5/6 camp in September that the camp fees are due tomorrow. Given the payment amount is quite large our preference is for this to be paid by EFTPOS as we may not have change in the office.

**Keep a watch on our school these holidays**

As we are almost into our mid-year holidays I would like to ask that you help keep our school the safe environment we want for our children. If you are concerned about unlawful activity in our school grounds during this period, please contact the Mount Isa Police (4744 1111), State Government Security on 3224 6666, or phone SCHOOL WATCH on 131 788.

**Cent Sale**

As per advertisement on the following page, Corinne Jackson is organising a Cent Sale at Happy Valley for Term 3, with monies raised going directly to our P&C. In order for this event to run smoothly, Corrine requires 2L or 4L ice cream containers. If you have any lying around your house or if you can keep this in mind next time you have an empty container, please bring them to the office and we will pass them onto Corinne.

**Australian Early Development Census**

This year, we are taking part in the Australian Early Development Census, which monitors the progress of children in their first full year of schooling. This data is anonymous and is used by early childhood educators, health services, local councils, community groups as well as schools and governments for forward planning. Our Prep teachers will be collecting this data across May – July. For any further information, you may access the AEDC website [www.aedc.gov.au](http://www.aedc.gov.au). If any parents wish to have their children excluded from the AEDC, please contact me at the Office.

**Supervision of Students before and after school**

Over the last few weeks, there have been a number of incidents involving students before and after school. Please be aware that teachers are not on duty before school and that we do not expect students to be at school prior to 8am. When students arrive, they need to follow our Social Skill of ‘Sit on It’ until the 8:25 bell rings. In following our Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students, anyone who is mucking around has found themselves on red cross as a consequence. In the afternoons, playground equipment is also out of bounds. I ask that parents of younger siblings watch them closely and ensure they respect our student’s learning, as they are still in class. Consequently, pick up time is 2:30pm when students are released. I request that you pick your children up on time each day as our Office Staff are beginning to feel like a babysitting service. If you are going to be late on a given day, we understand. If it is a constant issue, please consider After School Care.

**Car Parking**

A reminder also that the Brilliant Street Car Park is NOT a parent drop off area. This area is a designated staff car park but also serves as a delivery area and Taxi Drop Off zone. It would be appreciated that parents do not use this car park and also, people do not use the car park as a short cut to classrooms. There are still a number of parents who insist on breaking the law when picking up and dropping off students. The police have been provided with number plates and will follow up in the next few days.

**Parent Helpers**

A reminder to the wonderful parents who come in and help in our classrooms. We thank you all for the commitment that you make to helping your children and other people’s. Can I please ask that you sign in to the Office. This is a Workplace, Health and Safety issue. If we have an emergency, we need to know who is at the school. Also, if you are working around teachers or teacher aides, please respect the job they are doing and give them the space they need to do their job.

Norm McNamara
Principal
**WEEKS 8 & 9 – TERM 2 AWARDS**

### STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep B</td>
<td>Lusiana Y</td>
<td>1 Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep B</td>
<td>Isaac H</td>
<td>2 Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep B</td>
<td>Liane V</td>
<td>2 White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep B</td>
<td>Christine H</td>
<td>3 White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep W</td>
<td>Lincoln T</td>
<td>3 White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep W</td>
<td>Charlotte M</td>
<td>3/4 G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep W</td>
<td>Xavier B</td>
<td>3/4 S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep W</td>
<td>Lily C</td>
<td>4 Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep G</td>
<td>Ethan C</td>
<td>4 Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep G</td>
<td>Gage M</td>
<td>5 Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Blue</td>
<td>Shauney I</td>
<td>5 Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Blue</td>
<td>Mariah M</td>
<td>5 White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 White</td>
<td>Chace P</td>
<td>5 White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 White</td>
<td>Amitoj H</td>
<td>6 Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 White</td>
<td>Kyle S</td>
<td>6 Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 White</td>
<td>Breanna D</td>
<td>6 Blue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MUSIC AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faith F</td>
<td>Clarinet</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mete K</td>
<td>Percussion</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jenisha A</td>
<td>Clarinet</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel M</td>
<td>Percussion</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tayla B</td>
<td>Flute</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brayden Mc</td>
<td>Clarinet</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patric M</td>
<td>Trumpet</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlie J</td>
<td>Bass Guitar</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jodie J</td>
<td>Clarinet</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte H</td>
<td>Trumpet</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyle B</td>
<td>Percussion</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathanael L</td>
<td>Percussion</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Braith M</td>
<td>Percussion</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Issabella B</td>
<td>Alto Sax</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hayley W</td>
<td>Trumpet</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misha G</td>
<td>Flute</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Mc</td>
<td>Trumpet</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xander K</td>
<td>Flute</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**UNIFORM SHOP OPENING TIMES**

- **Tuesdays:** 8.30am – 9:00am
- **Fridays:** 8.30am – 9.00am

Orders can also be placed at the Tuckshop between 8.00am – 1.30pm (Mon/Wed/Thurs) for collection at a later date.

Larger sizes available (up to XXL)

**EFTPOS NOW AVAILABLE IN UNIFORM SHOP**

EFTPOS is now available in the Uniform Shop.

Anyone with Second Hand Uniforms at home is encouraged to donate them to the school. Drop them into the Front Office.

**REVERSIBLE SPORTS HOUSE HATS AVAILABLE**

* Limited stock of Size 12 track pants *

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**Cent Sale**

On Saturday the 18th July 2015

2:30pm to 4:30pm

Tickets on sale from 2:30pm and draws start at 3:15pm & kids activity all afternoon.

50 Great Mega Prize Draw, Lucky Door Prize,
Kids Draws & lots of prize to be won!!

**Afternoon Tea will be on sale!!**

We would also like to thank the businesses that donated to help us with this day!

 Loads of fun for the kids as well......

- Showbags
- Spiders
- Kids Draws
- Cake Stall
- Glow Products
- Pick a Stick
- Kids tables
- Balloons
- And More......

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**Student Absent Number:** 4745 0366 or **Email:** admin@happvalss.eq.edu.au

Please advise the office every time your child is absent from school.
**The Playground of Racing Royalty**

**EMIRATES MELBOURNE CUP TOUR**

7 July - 3 November

**APPEARING AT**

2 pm Thursday July 9, Kruttschnitt Oval

Games & activities + Caravan facilities open

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**ON THE BALL**

School Holiday Program

**MOUNT ISA**

**LEARN BASKETBALL SKILLS FROM**

- NBL Brisbane Bullets Legend Leroy Loggins
- WNBL Townsville Fire Champion Micaela Cocks
- WNBL Sydney Uni Flames Super Star Rohanee Cox
- NBL Wollongong Hawks Great Cam Rigby

**THIS PROGRAM IS FREE**

+ COMPETITIONS & PRIZES!

**When:**

Wednesday 1, Thursday 2 & Friday 3 July 2015

**Time:**

9:30am - 11:30am for 7 - 12 year olds (register from 9:00am)

12:30pm - 2:30pm for 13 - 17 year olds (register from 12:00pm)

**Where:**

Mount Isa Basketball Stadium

Cnr Jessop Drive & Sports Parade, Mount Isa

**LUNCH IS PROVIDED..!**

Please bring along your parent/guardian consent form (or complete it on the day) and don’t forget your runners.

*The program is suitable for all skill levels.*

For more information contact Lyn Lehan at Whitsunday/Stride Programs

07 4734 3984 or 0415 770 339

 lyn.lehan@whitsunday.qld.gov.au

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**Isa Therapy Services**

**Talkabout Social Skills**

A small group program for improving the social communication skills of primary school children.

**Does your child:**

- Have difficulty making friends?
- Have difficulty expressing emotions?
- Have low confidence that affects their ability to make friends?
- Have difficulty understanding the body language of others?
- Have difficulty sharing, losing or compromising?
- Have difficulty understanding social rules?
- Have difficulty having conversations outside of their special interests?

This program, run by an experienced Speech Pathologist, aims to build the friendship and social skills of children using the Talkabout Social Skills hierarchy. The program works on building self-esteem, understanding and responding to body language, and using appropriate conversation skills.

**The program includes:**

- 8 x 45 min group sessions, and resources for home practice
- Resources for home practice
- Commencing Week of July 20th, 2015
- Cost: $360

Spaces are limited so book early to secure your spot. To register your interest for the program please contact Isa Therapy on (07) 4743 6695 or email

admin@istherapy.com.au

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**READY, SET, READ!**

A small group program for improving spelling and reading skills of primary school children.

**Does your child:**

- Avid reader or spellers because they find it difficult?
- Have trouble identifying letters and the sounds that go with them?
- Perform below the expected reading or spelling level for their grade?
- Forget spelling or sight words soon after they have learnt them?
- Have difficulty understanding rhyme or counting syllables?

This program, run by an experienced Speech Pathologist, aims to build the phonological awareness skills that children need for literacy. The 8 week program will consist of fun and educational activities that incorporate a range of different learning styles and ability levels. The focus of group is on improving literacy skills of students as well as building confidence to learn.

**The program includes:**

- 8 x 45 min group sessions, and resources for home practice (Initial assessment not included)
- Where: Isa Therapy Services, 92 Marian Street
- When: Commencing Week of July 20th, 2015
- Cost: $360

Spaces are limited so book early to secure your spot. Please note that school-based groups can be arranged.

To register your interest for the program please contact Isa Therapy on (07) 4743 6695 or email

admin@istherapy.com.au
Teach your kids to SHRUG!

The secret to having resilient, confident and optimistic children is to teach your kids to shrink!

It was so irritating, yet so effective...

I’m talking about my boyhood mate Terry’s habit of shrugging his shoulders whenever anyone teased him or tried to persuade him to their way of thinking.

‘Hey Terry, you’re a **&@&&@’
Shrug.

‘Hey Terry, everyone says your……….. *&**’
Shrug.

‘Hey Terry, I’m going to tell on you’
Shrug.

His nonchalance used to drive everyone nuts!

So much so that he was rarely targeted for teasing despite the fact that he wasn’t sporty, he wasn’t cool and he was late maturing—all of which back then, as now, would put a boy in the ‘to be picked on’ category.

I thought of Terry recently when I was coaching a young person about how to respond to some schoolyard taunts.

This young person wore his heart on his sleeve, taking taunts and even Witticism too seriously for his own good. Unfortunately, some of his so-called mates used to enjoy seeing him become angry.

The best way to break this toxic cycle of taunt-react-taunt was for him to change his reaction.

So we did some coaching in the art of shrugging and before long my young charge was shrugging his shoulders, as if to say ‘Whatever’, and walking away at the first sign of a taunt.

Eventually he was channeling Terry so well that his nonchalance even began to irritate me.

Some things can’t be ignored

Don’t get me wrong. Kids cannot and should not ignore all negative comments directed at them.

There are times when they need to stand up and be counted. They don’t need to be aggressive about it, but they do need to be assertive from time to time. Sticking up for a friend, rescuing someone who is being taunted or even looking out for a sibling’s best interests at school are times when children need to assert themselves rather than shrugging off a problem.

How to create a good shrug

Kids can practise shrugging in front of the mirror so that they can see what a good shrug looks like. There are 4 ingredients:

2. A shrug of the shoulders.
3. A simple, non-combative, non-sarcastic line such as ‘You may be right’, ‘Whatever’ or ‘I hadn’t thought of that’.
4. A final breaking of eye contact that indicates that they are in control.

A word of warning

If you teach your kids to shrug, you need to be prepared for them to use this shrugging technique against you when you direct some criticism or constructive feedback their way. If they do, you’ll find out how damn infuriating nonchalance (even when it’s fake) can be.

Oh, and you’ll be seeing a child or young person who is exercising a degree of personal power that, when used smartly, will increase their overall social effectiveness.
Newsletter Article 5 – Things Children Will Always Remember

From the Guidance Officer – Charmaine Gubbins, at Happy Valley School on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and every second Thursday.

I came across a link to a post by The 36th Avenue about 10 things children will always remember from their childhood when they grow up.  http://www.the36thavenue.com/10-things-children-will-always-remember/

The post struck a chord with me as I reflected on the things I do with my children, how they would remember these when they are grown up and how the things we do together build our relationship.  While you may not agree with any or all of the things in the article I think there are a couple of key things we can do with our children to enrich our relationships with them.

1. **Let our children know we love them.** No matter how old they are. Tell your children you love them, hug them, tell them when they make you proud, try to spend some one on one time with each child, celebrate their achievements with them no matter how big or small. Try using the phrase “I love...” to describe something you enjoy seeing your child do eg. I love to listen to you read, I love to watch you play (eg. soccer).

2. **Reading to and with our children.** Reading is such an important part of our lives and we use this skill every single day. Children love to be read to and also love to read to others. Small children could retell / read a favourite story from memory and using pictures. Reading a book together or a chapter of a story each night with older children is a wonderful way to have a few minutes of quality time together focussed on the same thing. Reading a story together is one way of building our relationship with our children in our very busy lives and it doesn’t take a lot of time. Similarly, making up a story and telling it verbally to children is another form of storytelling that children love.

3. **Doing things together as a family.** In our busy lives it is difficult to find time to do things together as a family and it may not be possible to spend quality time together as a family every single day. What is important though is that at some time during the week, the family come together and spend time doing something they enjoy. This could be anything from –
   - participating in the same sport
   - having dinner together at the table and talking about the good things that have happened in each person’s day (a key element of the Fun Friends and Friends For Life Programs)
   - having a night of the week eg. Friday night, where the family all watch a movie, the footy or a show together on television
   - cooking or making a meal together eg. children helping to make pizza, or to roll mixture to make biscuits
   - playing together eg. board games, jumping on the trampoline, building a lego, throwing and catching a ball
   - camping

4. **Listening to our Children.** This quote sums up perfectly how very important it is to simply listen. You don’t have to know exactly what to say or have a solution to their problem. Simply listening and valuing that your child is sharing something with you that is important to them is enough.

I think that these ideas show that we don’t need to do big things with our children to have positive relationships with them, we just need to spend some time – no matter how big or small - as often as we can.