Principal’s Comment

A warm and hearty hello from Happy Valley in Week 2 of Term 3. We have made a wonderful effort to move through the first half of the year and now we continue to consolidate what we have been doing and forward plan for the continued growth of our students. This week we were visited by our ARD Dr Foster who continues to affirm the strong work that Happy Valley is doing to improve the students and learning culture here.

There are many amazing things coming up this term. Year 3 are studying the history of Mount Isa and will have visits from local historians, ICAS tests are coming up soon, AFL and Softball are the sports for District Carnival Days and our Year 5 students are going on camp.

I am sending home the parent School Opinion Surveys and I ask that as many families as possible complete these online. This survey is used in every school in Queensland. While the data collected remains anonymous, it is used by our school and by various government departments to indicate trends and inconsistencies within individual and group school contexts. In the past three years, we have averaged only 10% of our families who have taken the short time to fill the survey out. I challenge you as parents to give your opinion this year so we get as many opinions as possible. I thank you in advance for completing this survey before Friday 29 July.

I would like to welcome Mrs Hayley King as our permanent Deputy Principal. Mrs King is well known to our students and staff and will be a wonderful asset at the Administration level. I also would like to welcome back Mrs Karen Scotney who brings a wealth of teaching experience to our school. She will be working with our Year 4 students on their enrichment tasks and will be supporting readers in our school who may require a helping hand to see them improve.

DATES TO REMEMBER

**July**
- 26th Year 1 Fire Education
- 27th Year 1 Fire Education

**August**
- 1st Read-a-thon Fundraiser
- 1st Year 5 Camp Fees Due
- 2nd ICAS English
- 5th Bravehearts Visit
- 11th Opera FIZZ Permissions Due
- 12th Pupil Free Day
- 12th Rodeo Mardi Gras
- 16th ICAS Mathematics
- 20th Book Week
- 24th Opera ‘FIZZ’ Performance

**District Athletics Carnival**
The Mount Isa District Athletics Carnival is being held on Friday 22 July at Sunset Oval. From this, the team to represent our district in Longreach at the Regional Carnival will be chosen. We wish all our students the best of luck and know they will represent their school with pride.

**Parents and Citizens Association**
Our Meeting was held this week. Thank you to the members who attended. Our next meeting is to be held on Monday 8 August at 6:30pm in the Meeting Room. See you there.
RODEO
This year the Department of Education have allocated a Pupil Free Day for Rodeo Friday. This means that instead of the Pupil Free Day in October, students will not be required at school on Friday 12 August, the Mardi Gras day. Teachers will all be hard at work here at school.

SOCIAL SKILLS AND SCHOOL RULES
Week 2 – Play fights turn into real fights
Week 3 – Learn to take turns

YEAR 5 CAMP
Our Year 5 Camp to Lake Tinaroo is fast approaching (Week 9 in Term 3). The cost will be $455 and is due by August 1. The school is covering the cost of the bus with our Rural and Remote funding. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Mrs King at the Office. Students who do not attend will be expected to come to school where a special program is being developed to give them a chance to experience some things similar to those on camp. Mr Scrimgeour has been booked for this week and is looking forward to working with the students.

NAIDOC WEEK
This week saw our school celebrate NAIDOC Week for 2016. On behalf of all of the students, staff and community members who attended on Monday and Tuesday, I would like to thank Mrs Ange. Marshall for the huge effort she put into the organisation, and to her dedicated team of teacher aides and volunteers from the community who helped give our children the amazing, authentic experience.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS
I would like to thank the parents who have already paid the Voluntary Contribution for 2016. The cost of $30 per student, covers other costs such as ingredients for cooking, special art requirements and other incidentals. This can be paid at any time to Belinda or Sam at the office, and will be receipted.

PLAYGROUND USE BEFORE SCHOOL
For those families new to our school and for others that may need a reminder, we do not encourage children to be at school before 8am. Students are then expected to follow the ‘Sit on it’ social skill outside their classrooms. This includes Prep students playing on the playgrounds. There are no teachers rostered on duties at these times and children are not permitted on any play equipment, even if you are supervising them. Please help us with these safety issues.

BRAVEHEARTS
Bravehearts are visiting our school on Friday August 5. The presentation will commence at 11:15am and a note will go home very soon.

23rd AVENUE DROP OFF ZONE
We are in the process of forming a SafeST Committee that will help to organise the communication in relation to the proposed works that will happen with our 23rd Ave Drop Off zone and the current crossing on 23rd Ave.

Current plans are to move the pedestrian crossing from its current position towards the river and relocate outside the main gate of St Joseph’s. With our Drop Off zone, we would like to be able to create a combination car park/ drop off area that will be bigger and easier to access for parents and students.

I have proposed a meeting that will include all interested parties. At this meeting we will need to discuss the process and what needs to be done to further these plans. I am hoping to have representatives from our school, St Joseph’s, Happy Valley Kindy, Queensland Transport, Mount Isa City Council, Queensland Police, Mount Isa City Council, Queensland Transport, Mr Katter’s Office and any other interested people. If you are interested in joining this working party, can you please fill out and tear off the slip below and return to the office immediately. The proposed meeting is set for Tuesday 9 August at 10am in the Meeting Room at Happy Valley SS. I look forward to improving the safety of our students in conjunction with as many of you as possible. If you are interested and unable to attend, please call or email the school to register your interest.

Norm McNamara
Principal

I ____________________________ parent of ____________________________
Am interested in the working party of Happy Valley Traffic Precinct on Tuesday 9th August at 10am.

Phone Number ____________________________ Signed ____________________________
ATTENDANCE TROPHY

Congratulations

3 Blue - 99%

On having the best attendance in week 1 Term 3.

SOCIAL SKILLS

‘Play fights end in real fights’

Looks Like
- Students interacting physically. They think it is a fun thing to do. (Eg pinching, hugging, tagging)

Sounds Like
- Can be teasing like voices involved
- Lots of noises (raised voice)

Feels Like
- People are excited
- People can become angry
- People understanding their emotions but emotions escalating
- One student not knowing the intent of the action.

UNIFORM SHOP OPENING TIMES

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

NB Can do orders & payments (credit card) over phone for collection at office.

Orders can also be placed at the Tuckshop between 8.30am – 1.30pm (Mon/Wed/Thurs) for collection at a later date.

Larger sizes available (up to XXL)

EFTPOS AVAILABLE IN 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

PET INFORMATION DAY

23 July 2016
10am-1pm

Civic Centre Lawns

- RSPCA Education Mobile Unit
- Sausage Sizzle, Cupcakes & Drinks
- Pawz, Woof & Claws Fundraiser
- Paws, Hoofs & Claws animal adoption meet & greets
- Petting Zoo and Jumping Castle
- Mount Isa City Council Staff with information & giveaways
- RACQ Get Ready Emergency Pet Plan kits with free microchipping

Learn more about your pets in the RSPCA’s state-of-the-art classroom on wheels filled with interactive animal welfare education.

Come along and register your pet for the first time and receive a voucher for free microchipping.
FROM THE HOC
Glenys Smith

Semester 1 English, Maths and Science Achievement

At Happy Valley we have set key targets in these learning areas for 2016 and are committed to working together to ensure that every child achieves individual success. We are aiming for **80% of students to attain a C or better** in English, Maths and Science. As part of this commitment staff are working to analyse student work samples and data to set individualised learning goals and inform the next phase of teaching. We are very proud of the students’ achievements from Semester 1 and look forward to using this information to ensure continual success:

- Years 1-6 **81%** of students achieving a C or better in English
- Years 1-6 **89%** of students achieving a C or better in Maths
- Years 1-6 **83%** of students achieving a C or better in Science

Reading Successes

At Happy Valley reading is a cross-curricula priority (it happens in every Key Learning Area and is a necessary skill in life and learning). For the past three years the North Queensland Region has undertaken a regression analysis study on the reading attainment of students in Prep-3 and used data to predict how students in Year 3 would ‘track’ in NAPLAN National Minimum Standards in Reading. As a result of this study the Regional Reading Targets indicate the following PM Reading Levels as a minimum for students to attain by the end of each of the year levels:
- Prep – PM Level 8
- Year 1 – PM Level 16
- Year 2 – PM Level 20

It is important that we are all on the same page when it comes to Reading. At Happy Valley we believe comprehension is the goal of reading, and all students can learn to read and will progress at different rates. All teachers and support staff are focussed on providing instruction to support students on a daily basis. All parents/carers can assist their child by reading to and with children on a nightly basis – grab your favourite story and share a passion for reading. By working together we will continue to ensure all students are achieving their best possible results. **In Term 2 we saw great reading success with 55% of the school reaching or exceeding the term reading goal for their year level.** This is only possible with the continued collective focus of students, staff and parents. Keep up the great work everyone!

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P & C Read-a-thon Fundraiser

Starting 1st August

Amazing prizes to be won

Information & sponsorship forms will be sent home next week

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P&C News

P&C met on Monday to discuss the latest projects we are funding. Your will notice the new safety sign in the playground near Mod A. This has been provided by P&C to encourage and remind students, parents and carers of the rules when using the playground in order to remain safe.

P&C are also excited to fund each child to attend the Opera 'FiZZ' which will be performing at our school in week 7. What a great experience! Please fill in your child’s note and return to the class teacher for them to attend.

We are currently planning another 2 projects to occur this term.

1) Prep area overhaul – preparing, painting and potting plants in the Prep area
2) School house colour shade sails to the oval area

We value each member of the P&C and are always after new committee members and volunteers. If you have a certain set of skills that you think you can volunteer to the committee, please email us on admin@happvaliss.eq.edu.au (like swinging a hammer, turning a sausage, perusing a policy……)

Make a difference and join our P&C!! Next meeting is Monday 8th August 6:30pm
Thank you to our Adopt-a-Cop Carly & our amazing Teacher Aide’s Angeline, Nadja, Cass, Karen & Katie for their time and effort on the day.
During Term 2, 25 students from years 4 to 6 participated in the Happy Valley Art Club. They spent an hour after school every Monday and even some lunch times learning a variety of different skills and mediums they could use to improve their artistic skills. They completed three pieces of art using these different skills and mediums.

For their first piece of artwork, Students painted the silhouette of their waterfront cityscape, including the reflections on the water. They used warm colours to create the sunset behind the cityscape and blending them together to create the warmth of the sun. The same technique was used to create the water using the cool colours of blues and greens.

Their ‘visions’ piece seemed to be a favourite among many students as they decided what their vision should be. Students used sketching techniques such as hatching, cross hatching and shading to create these fabulous faces. They then chose a ‘vision’ to sketch into the glasses as a reflection of something they have seen, want to see or imagined. The use of watercolour pencils brought these visions to life.

Finally, the young artists could choose from the different techniques and mediums they had learnt about to use in this final piece of artwork. They created a superhero and developed their backdrop and onomatopoeia using sketching techniques, soft pastels, leacrylic paint or watercolour pencils. Layering the three pieces creates a fabulous piece of superhero art.

All of these fantastic pieces artwork are hung on the walls in the back of the school sports hall. So feel free to pop in and have a look at the early works of our future artistic masters!!

A big **THANK YOU** to Amy Kennett & Scott Wilson for the time they took out of their personal lives to run such a wonderful club!
The art of sparenting

Modern parenting has seen the rise of the uber-parent ... the parent who does it all! Well move over uber-parent and make room for sparents. They have a role to play too.

Modern parenting has seen the rise of the uber-parent ... the parent who does it all, on their own.

In practice, parenting has never been done well in isolation. In previous generations, aunts, uncles, grandparents, god parents and family friends – sparents, or sparents – have all played a part in raising kids.

Lately it’s been back to the future as an increase in adults without kids (AWOKs) within our community means there are plenty of potential sparents around. These AWOKs are aunts, uncles, mates and friends. They are everywhere, and many are ready, willing and able to take on a sparenting role.

Sarenting is all the rage

A child can never have too many sparents. Most of the adults without kids that I know just hanker to do some sparenting. My 25-year-old daughter just loves to babysit her young niece; she phones her brother constantly asking if she can do so. The urge to be around babies, kids and teens can be strong and needs to be satisfied.

But sparents don’t have to be adults without kids. Relatives and friends with kids make great sparents too.

Of course, it’s all care and no responsibility: sparents give the kids back at the end of a day or weekend. But that’s okay: you don’t want to divest all the child-rearing to someone else.

Sarents are good for:

1. Filling a gender gap
   If you are raising a son in an all-female household then the regular presence of an uncle, grandfather or male family friend can be the role model that’s needed. Similarly, girls in all-male households can benefit from sparenting by a female friend or relative.

2. Filling a talent or interest gap
   Kids usually appreciate having an adult to share their interests, but it’s hard for parents to be across all their children's hobbies and activities. Relatives or family friends can be well-placed to fill the interest void that occurs in some families.

3. Babysitting and child-minding
   There is always a need for reliable carers for kids from tots to early teens.

4. Mentoring kids who don’t want to listen to their parents
   Teenage boys and girls benefit from having a number of trusted relatives or adult friends in their lives to talk with. Sarents make great confidantes and coaches for young people at a time when they are seeking independence from their parents.

5. Bringing a fresh voice and perspective to kids’ lives
   Ever noticed how kids of all ages will listen to other adults more than they listen to their parents, even though the message is the same? It’s frustrating, but that has always been the reality of raising children and young people.

6. Doing fun (and costly) things with kids
   Adults without kids usually have more disposable income than parents, placing them a good position spoil your kids. Okay, this may be a little trite but there is nothing too much wrong with the occasional splurge from adults who may have a little extra cash to share, particularly when your purse strings are stretched.

Child-rearing has always been best when it’s a community affair. The recent trend towards uber-parenting – parenting as an individual endeavour – has been to the detriment of both kids and parents.

So move over uber-parent and make room for some sparents, because they too have a lot to offer your kids.

Michael Grose

Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter, my FAME weekly email parenting guide at parentingideas.com.au. You'll be so glad you did.
Child Protection Week is in week 9 of this term, September 4th – September 10th.

This term, the focus of my newsletter articles will be on the topic of Child Protection. I will be sharing information about what Child Protection is, links to information around Child Protection and resources that you can use with your children and what to do if you are concerned that a child is at risk of harm.

Child Protection is about protecting children from harm. Harm is defined as any detrimental effect of a significant nature on the child's physical, psychological or emotional wellbeing (section 9 of the Child Protection Act 1999). This can include harm to an unborn child.

There are four categories of Harm:

- Physical Abuse
- Sexual Abuse – the Traffic Lights Framework (link below) can be used to assist in distinguishing between normal and problem sexual behaviour.
- Emotional Abuse – Domestic and Family Violence is included in this area.
- Neglect – Self Harm can fall into this category.

Harm can be the result of a single incident, or can be caused through a number of different incidents that take place over time.

Under the Child Protection Act 1999, it does not matter how much a child is harmed, but whether a child:

- has suffered harm, is suffering harm, or is at risk of suffering harm
- does not have a parent able and willing to protect them from harm.

If you would like to read in more detail about the information above, click on the following link.

The Traffic Lights framework is a useful tool to assist in determining how to respond to sexualised behaviour that a child may display. It covers the age range of birth to 18 years and is divided into categories of Birth to 5 years, 5 to 9 years, 9-12 years and 13-18 years. Examples of behaviours that may be observed in each category are given and also classified as being Green, Orange or Red. The Green, Orange or Red classifications determine how to respond to the behaviour. Follow the link below to the Traffic Lights brochure for more information.