Principal’s Comment

A hearty hello from your friendly local school in this, Week 4 of Term 3.

This week, Mrs King, Mrs Smith and Mrs Long and I visited Townsville for meetings at Rasmussen SS, Cranbrook SS, and East Ayr SS. Together with Happy Valley, we have formed a Principal’s Learning Community where we share the expertise of each other. It was an honour to visit these schools, witness first-hand the wonderful improvement journeys that are happening in all of them, being able to compare our school with others and watching inspired teachers work with motivated students. We all enjoyed our time and we look forward to September 1 when the Admin teams from these three schools visit Happy Valley. We will be showcasing a number of excellent things happening here, as well as running Learning Walks through classrooms to affirm the great practice of our teachers.

NAPLAN
NAPLAN test results for our Grade 3 and 5 students are due to arrive soon and will be sent home when they do. We have made some amazing gains as you will read from Mrs Smith. Our teaching staff are currently analysing the data and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask their teacher or Mrs King and myself.

PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
Our Meeting will be held next Monday night, 8 August. The meeting will be at 6:30pm in the Meeting Room. I look forward to seeing as many people as possible at the meeting.

SOCIAL SKILLS AND SCHOOL RULES
Week 4 – Be Seen to be Clean
Week 5 – Give me Gold (positive praise)

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.
2016 RODEO
On Thursday 11 August, we will be holding a gold coin Rodeo Free Dress Day and at 1:40pm, we will have some of the Rodeos mascots, the Queen Quest entrants and some riders on a special parade in the Hall. All are welcome and there will be prizes for the best dressed.

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.

YEAR 5 CAMP
Our Year 5 Camp to Lake Tinaroo is fast approaching (Week 9 in this term). Payments should have been finalised, if not, parents should have contacted the Office about a payment plan. ALL MEDICATION BOOKLETS must be handed in ASAP. This is most important. Thank you to the parents who have been prompt with these booklets. 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.

23rd AVENUE PARKING
We have been speaking about the safety of your children each week in the newsletter but the message is not being listened to too. When parents do not use the designated drop off zones or car parks on the HVSS side of the street and walk students across the road near the drop off zone, you put yourselves and your children at risk. Please be patient and wait to collect your children from the drop off zone so that everyone is safe. We do not want any of our community being injured because of an avoidable situation.

23rd AVENUE DROP OFF ZONE MEETING
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 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 contact the office immediately. The proposed meeting is set for Tuesday 16 August (this has changed due to other meetings) 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.

Recently the Premier and Education Minister released a report stemming from the disappearance and subsequent murder of schoolgirl Tialeigh Palmer. This tragic case saw a young girl disappear from outside her school and then was found a few days later. One of the key findings of this report was that schools need to take more consistent and prompt action in alerting parents of unexplained absences from school. The government issued every school with a grant to improve communication between schools and parents. Currently here at Happy Valley we have very strong procedures and one of these is the Absence phone line (4745 0366) which you can phone any time. In order to further improve our procedures, we will be sourcing a text messaging alert system which will alert of absence each day when roles are marked and students are absent. To do this, we must have correct mobile phone contacts. If you have changed mobile numbers in the recent past or something else has happened, please fill out the following note and return to the Office as soon as possible.

Students Name/s

Mobile Contact:

Our numbers have dropped significantly over the past 12 months with the downturn in the mining sector. If your child/ren are NOT returning to Happy Valley in 2017, can you please inform the Office as soon as possible by sending the following slip back to school:

Students Name/s: ____________________________

□ My child/ren will not be returning in 2017.

Likely Destination: ____________________________

Norm McNamara
Principal
Students of the week

Prep White
Marlee B
Charlize M
Lei-Larni M
Sarah S
Phoenix S
Jayrahn D
Cailin C

1 Blue
Naomi W
Aidan G

1 White
Taj W

Prep Blue
Noel S
Ruby H
Tyler J
Tanya P

2 Gold
Caelen R

2 White
Amitoj H
Damian B

3 Silver
Ashley M
Nathan L
Cooper H

3 Gold
Shantelle H
Cooper J
Neo S
Charlotte R

3 White
Jade L
Ashton M
Taylor A
Truly K

4 Gold
Desanya K
Seth O
Dylan J

4 Blue
Brodie V
Tateyarna H
Ryan N

5 White
Malachi M
Sarah H

5 Blue
Quintin B
Loxley M

6 Blue
Eboney H
Jade B
David A

6 White
Callum M
Paige J

Looks Like
- Students knowing the right time to ask to play
- Students taking it in turns and playing together

Sounds Like
- Compromise
- Asking to play
- Polite language

Feels Like
- Happiness
- Enjoyment

‘Be seen to be clean’
Children understanding the importance of washing hands and keeping clean and healthy during the cold and flu season.

Music Awards
Kayla W
Jazmin P
Piper M
Lailah M
Brooke C
Khezzez R
Danielle B

ATTENDANCE TROPHY

Congratulations
1 Gold 96%
4 White 99%

On having the best attendance in week 2 & 3 Term 3.
FROM THE HOC
Glenys Smith

NAPLAN Success

In May, students in Years 3 & 5 participated in the National Assessment Programme – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests. These tests are aligned to the Australian Curriculum and aim to formally ascertain, at that point of time, student achievement.

Overall school results were released on Wednesday and we are very proud of all our students. We have made pleasing progress towards school targets of 95% of students “at or above the national minimum standard” (NMS) for achievement and for 45% of Year 3 and 35% of Year 5 students “achieving the top two bands” (U2B) of student performance.

### Percentage of students at or above NMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>94.2%</td>
<td>86.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>95.4%</td>
<td>94.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</td>
<td>97.7%</td>
<td>98.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>95.3%</td>
<td>90.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>92.9%</td>
<td>87.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Percentage of students achieving U2B

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>48.8%</td>
<td>26.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>47.1%</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</td>
<td>43.0%</td>
<td>29.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>46.5%</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Years 3 and 5 parents will shortly receive a NAPLAN Student Report outlining a student’s relative achievement compared with the results of students from across Australia.

Whilst we celebrate our successes it is important to note NAPLAN results do equate to a child’s worth. NAPLAN results are simply one of many indicators that lead us to better prepare our students towards individualised success. As a school we need to celebrate the collective efforts of parents, teachers, teacher aides and our students which has resulted in our outstanding results.

Mathletics Medallists

Congratulations to all the Years 1-6 students who have been consolidating and extending their Mathematics knowledge and understanding by accessing the Mathletics online resource. Prep students will be receiving information about how to access this resource from home soon and teachers will begin integrating Mathletics use into their lessons this term to provide students with the opportunity to consolidate their Mathematics understanding and have another opportunity to engage with ICTs.

During Term 2 the following students have received one or more certificates for their Mathletics efforts.

**Bronze Certificates received during Term 2:**
- **Year 1** – Ella K, Alvaro M, Lia O’N, Liane V, Luka E, Charlotte I, Jake M and Luciala Y
- **Year 2** – Micay H, Damian B, Amitoj H, Chace P, Nathan H and Izabella V

**Silver Certificates received during Term 2:**
- **Year 1** – Ella K, Lia O’N
- **Year 2** – Nathan H
- **Year 3** – Luke B, Rehan B and Ryan M
- **Year 4** – Milla V, Amy A, Ericho H, Phillip F, Cole F, Dylan J, Blair M and Damarish R

A special mention to Logan B (6W) for being the first student in the school to receive a **Gold Certificate**!

A reminder to all parents and carers that your child has 24-hour access to Mathletics using a unique username and password. If you have misplaced your child’s log-in details please see your child’s teacher.
Year 1 Fire Education

Get down low and go, go, go.
Opera Queensland presents...

‘Fizz’

Wednesday 24th August

Please return permission forms by

Thursday 11th August

Big THANKYOU to the P&C for making this wonderful performance for the kids possible!!

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

P & C Read-a-thon is on……

1st August – 26th August

Collect Sponsorship & read, read, read

STUDENTS OF ALL AGES CAN PARTICIPATE

AMAZING PRIZES TO BE WON!

Next P & C meeting

Monday 8th August
6:30pm

Make a difference and join our P & C!
When kids bend the truth

As a rule of thumb, step back and try to identify the purpose of a child’s untruths. This indicates to parents how they should deal with the behaviour.

Children often bend the truth to suit themselves. They sometimes tell fibs to escape punishment or avoid being caught when misbehaviour occurs.

Some kids fantasise about their exploits to make themselves appear bigger, more daring or more exciting than they really are. These children often think that they are not much good and so invent a few tales to make themselves seem more interesting. Of course, some children fantasise purely because it is fun to stretch the truth a little. It is more fun to run away from ‘a ferocious man-eating tiger’ than be scared of the next-door neighbour’s moggie.

As a rule of thumb, step back and try to identify the purpose of a child’s untruths. This indicates to parents how they should deal with the behaviour.

Escaping negative consequences

Eight-year-old Pamela spilt a container of milk on the kitchen floor. She panicked, replaced the empty container in the refrigerator and went off to her bedroom to read. When her mother saw the mess, she asked Pamela if she knew what had happened. The child denied any knowledge of it. “What milk do you mean, Mum?” said Pamela, with an innocent look on her face. Her mother, knowing immediately that her daughter was responsible, asked her to help to clean up the mess. Avoiding a scene, she made sure that her daughter didn’t escape the consequence of cleaning up the mess that she had made.

A matter of trust

Thirteen-year-old Britta was refused permission to visit an older friend after school, as her mother thought the friend unsuitable company for her daughter. Resenting her mother’s interference Britta frequently visited her older friend. When her mother asked her where she was going after school she would lie and tell her that she was visiting a friend that her mother approved of. Eventually her mother found out through an acquaintance that Britta had been lying to her about her visits. She confronted her daughter with the truth. Her mother dealt with the matter of the illicit visits. She was not permitted to go out after school for two weeks. This was an appropriate consequence that matched the misbehaviour. She dealt with the matter of lying separately; pointing out that it was difficult to trust her daughter when she didn’t tell the truth.

Fantasising

Some children continually exaggerate to make everything appear bigger or better than in real life. In this way they appear more exciting or interesting than they think they are. This is a sign of discouragement. It is best to go along with these children’s tales, although you should let them know that you are aware of the truth without bursting their bubble.

more on page 2
... When kids bend the truth ...

It is fine to exaggerate, but they should never be too far away from reality. Persistent fantasisers often need plenty of encouragement. Let them know that they are OK as they are. Fantasising and telling tall tales may be fun but they don’t need to fantasise to build themselves up. Youngest children in the family often tell whoppers in an effort to make themselves seem important in the eyes of older siblings.

**Imaginary friends**

Some children will use imaginary friends to avoid doing things they don’t want to do. ‘Mr. Bear says I don’t have to go bed.’ If it only happens once in a while then it’s a bit of fun. It can become wearing if it’s a continuous avoidance strategy. If that’s the case, try the direct approach. ‘Mr. Bear could be right. But I’m your mum and I know it’s bedtime. Mr. Bear can join you if he likes.’

**Don’t overreact**

Be careful not to overreact when children tell lies. It is better to recognise the child’s goal and act in a way that prevents the behaviour from achieving its purpose. There is little point moralising about the evils of lying. Children know that they should be good; they don’t need to be reminded all the time. Children will continue behaviours that serve a purpose, regardless of whether the actions are morally good or bad. It is more useful to ensure that lying doesn’t achieve its goal and to encourage children at every conceivable occasion.

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

Child Protection Week is in week 9 of this term, September 4th – September 10th. The number one key message for child protection week is:

Child protection is everyone’s business. The responsibility lies with adults in keeping children safe from harm. All members of society need to play a part in ensuring children are nurtured and safe.


In the last newsletter I shared information about what Child Protection is and the four categories of harm within Child Protection that a child or young person may be exposed to. So, what can you do if you are concerned that a child or young person is at risk of harm or is being harmed?

**IF YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE IMMEDIATE SAFETY OF A CHILD IN QUEENSLAND CALL POLICE COMMUNICATIONS ON (07) 3364 6464 TO SEEK A REFERRAL TO YOUR LOCAL QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE CHILD PROTECTION UNIT.**

**IF THE MATTER IS URGENT CALL: 000**

**IF YOU WISH TO LET THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITIES, CHILD SAFETY AND DISABILITY SERVICES KNOW OF YOUR CONCERN, CALL:**

The local Regional Intake Service during business hours:

- Brisbane Phone: 1300 682 254 Fax: 07 3259 8771
- Central Queensland Phone: 1300 703 762 Fax: 07 4938 4697
- Far North Queensland Phone: 1300 684 062 Fax: 07 4039 8320
- North Coast Phone: 1300 703 921 Fax: 07 5420 9049
- North Queensland Phone: 1300 706 147 Fax: 07 4799 7273
- South East Phone: 1300 679 849 Fax: 07 3884 8802
- South West Phone: 1300 683 390 Fax: 07 4616 1796

After hours and on weekends – contact the Child Safety After-Hours Service Centre on 1800 177 135 or (07) 3235 9999. The service operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week

This information came directly from the Child Protection Week website – go to the link below for more information:


You can also access the Online Child Protection Guide using the link below to help you decide if your concern should be reported. The guide will take you step by step through your concerns and provide you with a suggestion on what to do next.