Principal’s Comment

A great big hi from the Principal’s desk. We have passed half way in our Term, we still have so much to look forward to with Year 5 Camp, visits from other schools and regional office staff, and plenty of learning still happening.

This week I was informed that I have been relocated for the 2017 year to Torbanlea SS in Hervey Bay. Whilst it is saddening to have to say goodbye to my extended family here at Happy Valley, my own family now have the opportunity to be closer to our immediate family and this will be invaluable. I now have about 15 weeks to say a long goodbye to the community that has been my life for the past 5 years. I certainly look back on my time here with great pride and satisfaction.

Sadly this week, our safe and secure environment here at HVSS has been invaded. On Tuesday afternoon, two student’s bikes were stolen from the bike racks. After much detective work and some excellent information from one of our students, I finally managed to locate the two bikes on Wednesday morning. Thank you very much to Michelle for reporting what had happened swiftly. There were some very relieved staff and students. What it has highlighted to us is that we need to become safer as a school. It is important that if your children ride a bike or scooter to school, they ensure it is locked in the rack. It is almost unheard of to actually recover stolen bikes so quickly. Please help your children to make their property as secure as possible. As well, our continued vigilance as a community is essential to our safe environment.

Dates to Remember

August
20th Prep working bee 8am – 1pm
21st Prep working bee 10am – 2pm
22nd Beach to Bush program
24th Opera ‘FiZZ’ Performance
26th Graduation Bear/Balls Order Due
26th Read-a-thon Sponsorship Money Due
31st Softball & AFL Carnival

September
1st P & C Father’s Day Stall
2nd P & C Father’s Day Stall
3rd Year 5 Camp depart 2:00pm
10th Year 5’s return approx. 11:30am
10th Softball & AFL Carnival
12th P & C Meeting 6:30pm
13th Safe ST Committee meeting 10am
16th Last day Term 3

October
3rd First day Term 4
14th Rock Pop Mime Performance

Office Display Week 7 & 8
1 Gold

PREP WORKING BEE
On Saturday and Sunday this week, our Prep is holding a Working Bee to help beautify the area. If you are even able to give us one hour of your time, we would be greatly appreciative. Times are Saturday from 8am – 1pm and on Sunday from 10am – 2pm.
QUEENSLAND SURF LIFE SAVING VISIT
Next Monday afternoon we are having a visit from Queensland Surf Life Saving Association. They are running a Beach to Bush program for the whole school and have scheduled us in from 1:40 - 2:30pm. Any parents who wish to attend are encouraged to do so. This important message about water safety is being given to all students in Queensland to highlight water safety everywhere.

PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
Our Meeting will be held on Monday night, 12 September. The meeting will be at 6:30pm in the Meeting Room. I look forward to seeing as many people as possible at the meeting.

2016 RODEO
Our Rodeo Free Dress Day raised an amazing $370. Well done to all who helped out.

A big thank you to Miss D and Mrs S for the wonderful entry our school put into the Mardi Gras. I was disappointed that the judges didn’t see it our way but all of the staff and students who took part were amazing. Well done to you all, you made me extra proud.

SOCIAL SKILLS AND SCHOOL RULES
Week 6 – Don’t Gossip, Stop It
Week 7 – There’s a lot at stake with the choices we make.

YEAR 5 CAMP
Our Year 5 Camp to Lake Tinaroo is in two weeks’ time. Payments should have been finalised, if not, parents should have contacted the Office about a payment plan. 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.

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.

23rd AVENUE DROP OFF ZONE MEETING
This week’s meeting was unfortunately postponed. 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 call the office and leave your details. The proposed meeting is now set for Tuesday 13 September 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
Students need to encourage each other. Students need to know how it feels when you receive encouragement.

**Looks Like**
- Smile
- Thumbs Up
- High 5
- Pat on the back

**Sounds Like**
- Positive language
- Cheering
- Applause

**Feels Like**
- Part of a team
- Accepted
- Happy
- Co-operation

---

**Attendance Trophy**

Congratulations

2 Blue 98%
4 White 99.98%

On having the best attendance in week 4 & 5 Term 3.

---

**Give Me Gold!**

Students need to encourage each other. Students need to know how it feels when you receive encouragement.

**Looks Like**
- Smile
- Thumbs Up
- High 5
- Pat on the back

**Sounds Like**
- Positive language
- Cheering
- Applause

**Feels Like**
- Part of a team
- Accepted
- Happy
- Co-operation

---

**Don't Gossip Stop It!**

Looks Like
- Responsible silence

Sounds Like
- No comment - silence or Catch phrase
- Don't Gossip Stop It

Feels Like
- Happy, warm and fuzzy inside

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**Fathers Day Stall**

1st & 2nd September

Gifts up to $10 available for purchase
Spotlight on Year 3 History

This term the Year 3s have explored continuity & change in local communities. They located information in sources to discover aspects of life in Queensland (specifically transport, natural & built environment & work), comparing the past and present. In their assessment task they represented and communicated how Mount Isa has developed over time.

In week 4, keen local historian Barry Merrick delivered an informative presentation to deepen the students’ understanding of Mount Isa’s history. The students were most engaged by this opportunity:

“I thought it was magnificent because Barry came and told us the history of Mount Isa, we learnt a lot. But my favourite fact was about the official opening of the Mount Isa Train Line because two young girls held the ribbon, one was 5 or 6 and she was the first girl to be born here. The other one was the daughter of Mrs Glennings. Mrs Glennings was the lady who opened the first produce shop in Mount Isa, kind of like our Woolworths (but had no refrigerators, doors or windows)! Thank you Barry for sharing the history of Mount Isa”.  Holly O, 3W

Spotlight on Year 6 English

During term 2 the Year 6s have listened to, read and viewed extracts from literary texts set in earlier times, such as My Place by Nadia Wheatley. Check out http://www.abc.net.au/abc3/myplace/ where you and your family can explore one place on Earth and the kids who have lived there over a 120-year period. The students examined how these texts established a sense of time and place and throughout the unit they constructed paragraphs which similarly aimed to engage and inform an unknown audience about what life in Mount Isa in 2016 is like for them. In their assessment task they created a letter to a future Year 6 Happy Valley student to evoke a sense of time and place by describing their personal experiences such as hobbies, school-life and technology. Here is one extract of high quality student work:

I have lived in Mount Isa for twelve years and I find the weather extremely aggravating. If you like ice-creams, like I do, then gulp them down quick for they will melt in our scorching summer Sun. At the moment the weather has been tipped upside down, the dusty dry temperature has been beaten by the freezing wind, ice cold winter and wet soaking stormy days. My boiling body has turned into a frozen ice cube. Although I knew it was too good to be true, it disappeared into thin air, literally, and the scorching sun withered back with its dusty dry days. Although I don’t spend most of my time outside, I’m usually inside playing on technology. – Lachlan F, 6W

A selection of these texts will be kept in the memorabilia room (along with some already there from previous Year 6s) so future students will learn what a great place Happy Valley is! Well done to the Year 6s for producing such well-constructed texts.
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

Opera Queensland presents...

‘Fizz’

Wednesday 24th August

9:30 – 10:30 Kindy, Prep & Year 1
11:15 – 12:15 Years 2 & 3
1:30 – 2:30 Years 4, 5 & 6

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

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Fridays:
8.30am – 9.00am

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

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Thank you!

Support from Local Businesses

Each year many hours of hard work goes into producing a high quality Rock Pop Mime performance which wows the audience and provides a valuable learning experience to our Year 5 and 6 students. Without the support and generosity of our community it would not be possible. We wish to thank these businesses for their support and encourage the Happy Valley community to support them.

- Woolworths Mount Isa for supplying props for our Rock Pop Mime performance – We can’t wait to show off our students’ creativity!
- Roger Locke & Co for sewing the canvas for our Rock Pop Mime backdrop – We can’t wait for some of our talented staff to bring it to life!

Did You Hear?

Kids 4 years and up can get free non diagnostic hearing checks!

Where: Mount Isa Hospital- Outpatients Department

When: Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursday’s by appointment

How: Self-referrals are welcome, no need for a GP referral

Contact: Allied Health on 4744 4447 or Terene on 4744 4422

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The pitfall of using other children as benchmarks

Benchmarking children's progress with that of other children is not a wise parenting strategy. Inevitably, it will lead to parent frustration as there will always be a child who performs better than your own on any scale you use.

Gender matters
It's no secret that boys' and girls' brains were developed by different architects.

One major difference lies around timing, or maturity. The maturity gap between boys and girls is anywhere between 12 months and two years. This gap seems to be consistent all the way to adulthood.

Quite simply, girls have a developmental head start over boys in areas such as handwriting, verbal skills and relationship skills.

Boys benefit greatly from teaching strategies designed for their specific needs. They also benefit from having teachers and parents who recognise that patience is a virtue when teaching and raising boys, as it seems to take longer for many boys to learn and develop.

Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter, my FREE weekly email parenting guide at parentingideas.com.au. You'll be so glad you did.
... The pitfall of using other children as benchmarks ...

Kids have different talents, interests and strengths
So your eight-year-old can’t hit a tennis ball like Novak Djokovic, even though your neighbour’s child can. Avoid comparing the two as your child may not care about tennis anyway.

It’s better to help your child identify his or her own talents and interests. Also recognise that the strengths and interests of a child may be completely different to those of his or her peers and siblings.

Avoid linking your parenting self-esteem to your child’s performance
As a parent you should take pride in your children’s performance at school, in sport or their leisure activities. Seeing your child do well is one of the unsung pleasures of parenting. You should also celebrate their achievements and milestones, such as taking their first steps, getting their first goal in a game or getting great marks at school.

However, you shouldn’t have too much personal stake in your children’s success or milestones, as this close association makes it hard to separate yourself from them. It may also lead to excessive parental pressure for kids to do well for the wrong reasons – to please you!

The maxim “You are not your child” is a challenging but essential parental concept to live by. Doing so takes real maturity and altruism, but it is the absolute foundation of that powerful thing known as “unconditional love”.

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 key message for Child Protection Week is - Protecting Children is Everybody's Business.

In the last newsletter I shared information about what you can do if you are concerned that a child or young person is at risk of harm or is being harmed. This week I will look at what Parents can do to help keep their children safe. Next week, I will share some resources that parents can use with their children around this topic.

While some children are harmed by strangers, the majority of children are at risk of harm or experience harm from someone that they know – either within their family or known to their family. So how can Parents help keep their children safe? Next week, I will share some resources that parents can use with their children around this topic.

The information below is from: Trust Your Feelings, A Protective Behaviours Resource Manual for Primary School Teachers by Ingrid Lippett.

1. **Talk to your children about Safety** – what does it mean, how does it feel? Talk about safe games / behaviour, safe places / places to go for help. Let your child know “**We all have the right to feel safe, all of the time.**”

2. **Early Warning Signs** – ask children how can they tell if they are not feeling safe? What parts of their body tell them they are not feeling safe / not having fun eg. butterflies in their tummy, feeling sick, start to cry or feel like they want to cry, legs feel like jelly, heart beating fast. Tell your children that these are their Early Warning Signs, the first sign of possible danger and that they need to stop what they are doing, go to a safe place and talk to someone on their network. Reinforce the message to your child that “**We all have the right to feel safe, all of the time.**”

3. **Help your child establish a network** – Discuss with your child who they can talk to if they have an early warning sign. Try to think of around 5 people that could be on the network. Also emphasise with your children that talking to someone about a situation if you have an early warning sign is not dobbing. Let your child know that “**Nothing is so awful that we can’t talk to somebody about it.**”

4. **Persistence** – what if your child has told someone about their Early Warning Sign and that person didn’t listen, didn’t help or didn’t believe them? Sometimes when children try to tell someone about an Early Warning Sign or something that has happened, that person may not listen particularly if they are in a hurry, are sick, worrying about another problem or busy doing a job. Tell your child to Persist – to talk to other people on their network or someone that may not be on their network. Tell your child to keep telling until someone listens.

5. **Using the Telephone** – teach your child how to use the phone to ring 000, the police, Kids Helpline, Lifeline. Program these numbers into your mobile /home phone / child’s phone if they have one. Also let children know that they should be the last to hang up that way the organisation they have phoned can be sure to have all of the information they need to help the child.

   - Kids Help Line : 1800 55 1800
   - Lifeline: 13 11 14

6. **Secrets** – teach your children about good and bad secrets. Good secrets are fun, make you feel good and may involve a surprise for someone. Bad secrets make you feel sad, uncomfortable, have Early Warning Signs and must be told to someone on your network. Some people use the term “Keeping a Surprise” instead of “Keeping a Secret” for things like birthdays etc.

7. **Touching** – talk to your child about their body and help them to know the correct name for their body parts and what body parts are private ie. areas covered by a swim suit (Protecting Your Children, A Parent’s Guide, Scouts Australia p.22). Talk to your child about who it is appropriate to be hugged and kissed by or touched by (eg. a doctor – if parents are present). Tell your child that if someone touches them in a way that gives them an Early Warning Sign to tell that person to stop and then tell someone on their network.

**Kip McGrath Education Centre: Mount Isa**
**Professional Tutoring in:**
- Reading ✓  Spelling ✓  English ✓  Mathematics ✓
**For more information,**
**Call Chris: 4743 3218**