



Abercorn State School

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Upcoming Events	Birthday Bonanza's
School Swimming.....6 th February	Reghan Bayles.....31 st January
North Burnett Regional Council Visit.....10 th February	Archie Pointon.....9 th February
School Swimming.....13 th February	Gemma Hutson.....12 th February
School Swimming.....20 th February	
School Swimming.....27 th February	
P&C AGM Meeting.....2 nd March	
Anti-Bullying Day.....20 th March	



From the Principal's Post

Welcome to Term One of 2015 at Abercorn State School. We have had a very busy start to our first two weeks of the school year, with lots of great learning and fun being had. I am very pleased to be working at such a great school with friendly and helpful staff, and kind students. This is my first position as a small school Principal and I would welcome any feedback you have for me. Our students have all settled in to the school very well. We welcome the Osborne family to our school this year, along with three new prep students. I look forward to working for and with the students of Abercorn State School.

Dates of Mr DePasquale's absence

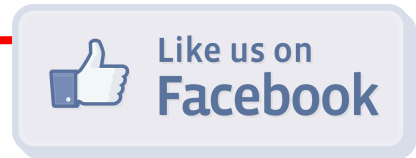
Over the coming weeks, there will be days when I will be required to attend regional and district meetings, along with other Professional Development for Principals. I will be absent on Tuesday 10th February for a NAPLAN meeting in Monto. Tuesday 17th I will be off class to speak with the Finance Auditor who is coming out. I am also required to attend a Principal's State Conference on Thursday 26th and Friday 27th February. Whilst it is not ideal for me to be out so often, we are trying to minimise the impact on our students by being consistent with staffing replacements. Janelle Burnham or Kellie Smith will be replacing me on these dates.

Staffing for 2015

Based on our current enrolment numbers of 22, we will be staffed on 1.5 teachers. In saying this, the school will fund an extra teacher aide for one day per week, as well as Mrs Dendle for an extra one day per fortnight. This year will begin with the following staff at our school:

- Ben DePasquale – teaching Principal, working on class four days each week;
- Belinda Dendle – teaching our students Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday;
- Kellie Smith – teaching on Thursday while Ben undertakes administration tasks;
- Janette O'Sullivan – teacher aide;
- Karla Galloway – teacher aide;
- Shelley D'Arcy – teacher aide;
- Kim Pointon – school cleaner;
- Tara Adams – school admin officer; and
- Gene Pointon – schools officer (groundsman).

Don't forget to like our Facebook page for photos from school events, updates and other timely information.



Literacy Learning

During the first half of this term, students from Prep to Year 6 will be exploring a variety of books ranging from the slightly eccentric Roald Dahl chapter books, to fables, fairy tales, and short stories from around the world. We will be using these texts to discuss characters, plot and setting, to compose our own pieces of writing.

Maths Moments

This week and next week in maths, students are working on learning all about time. This spans from working with identifying days of the week in prep, to learning about the length of time things take to do, to reading and comparing digital and analogue clocks, to converting between 12 and 24 hour time in Year 5 and 6. Following this, students will investigate place value, counting patterns, multiples of 2, 3 and 5, and finding factors of numbers.

School Captain Process

Notes will be forwarded home this week with our Year 6 Students. They will be required to make a short speech about their intentions as a leader of the school and the rest of the students will vote on their positions. Announcements of the School Captains/Sports Captain for 2015 will be in the coming weeks. We will advertise this so parents/carers can join us at the school for a celebration of our new leaders.

Thanks Mulgildie Pub

Thanks to Julie from the Mulgildie Pub for her generous donation of \$100. This will be used to purchase books to be put into our library. Mulgildie had some Australia Day festivities and we are pleased to accept this generous donation.

Bell Times

Morning Session - 9:00 am – 11:00 am
First Break - 11:00 am – 11:45 am
Middle Session - 11:45 am – 1:15 pm
Second Break - 1:15 pm – 1:45 pm
Afternoon Session - 1:45 pm – 3:00 pm

There will be no snack break in the morning session, but students are welcome to bring a healthy snack (fruit, nuts etc) to eat halfway through the session.

School Swimming

Swimming commences this Friday 6th February at the Eidsvold Swimming Pool. The bus/cars will leave school at 9am in order for us to maximise our lesson times. Students are encouraged to come to school in the swimming gear, including a shirt/rashie to wear. Don't forget a towel and school clothes to get changed back into – remember to label your clothing! We will also have a break halfway through our lesson, so please remind students to bring along a small snack to have, to boost their energy mid-lesson.

Photo/Publishing and Internet Permission

These documents are being sent home again with all students this year. We ask that you please complete these forms and return them to the school as soon as possible, so we can update our systems. If you are unsure what these forms mean or find them a little confusing, please come in and see Mr D or Miss Adams (our amazing office worker on a Monday and Thursday), and we will do our best to explain them to you. Photo/Publishing Permission – gives permission for the school to use your child's work/images/names on our school website, school Facebook, and in print media. The Internet Permission form is signed by both parent and student, and indicates that you give permission for your child to access the internet through our school network.

Bookclub

Book Club was distributed to all students earlier this week. If you are keen to order something, please return your order form and payment/proof of payment to the school by next Friday 13th February. If you are interested in a great special - 20 books for \$20 - please speak to Mrs O or Mr DePasquale for more details.



Homework

This term we are trialling handing out homework on a Thursday. This means students have all weekend to work on their homework and to also complete some reading tasks. Each student is expected to do some reading at home each day and record this. There are incentives for students to complete some reading each night and these are outlined on the cover of their reading log. Students should also complete one or two activities from their homework sheet each day. These activities may not be directly related to the work being completed in class, however can be used by students to consolidate their understanding of concepts. Students will also have a spelling workbook to complete their spelling words in. If there are ever any issues or questions about homework, please don't hesitate to come up to the school and speak to a teacher.

Library Borrowing

Students will have a library borrowing session each Thursday afternoon with Mrs O. Please remember to keep our library books safe and return them each week so you can re-borrow. Our library has a great range of books available, with our non-fiction expanding throughout the year. Keep an eye out for some new books coming soon to our bookshelves!

Tuckshop News

Our tuckshop roster for Term 1 is included with this newsletter. Please fill it out and return it to school with your child ASAP so we can collate everyone's responses and put this back out to everyone. We look forward to some great tuckshop items coming into the school. Remember: it costs \$5 per child per tuckshop day. All the money raised from this will subsidise the cost of a school camp.

Religious Instruction

This year, our Religious Instruction will take place on a Thursday afternoon and be presented by Marie Frost of the Monto Presbyterian Church. Please see the attached permission form to be filled out and returned to the school office.

Tips for a successful start to the year

Here is an excerpt from an article published by www.yourkidsed.com.au. Just a few tips for surviving the first few weeks of school, and beyond!

Talking AND Listening!

To help your child, especially through the first few weeks, spend time each day after school to talk about what they did, who they played with etc. LISTEN to what they tell you! Remind them of all those positive things when you take them to school next day and this may overcome the daily tears and uncertainties.

Communication

Make sure you have open lines of communication with your school, your child's teacher and your child. Inform school of any special needs your child may have – medical, social, behavioural, learning. If there are any changes to family dynamics which are a little sensitive, speak to the teacher – your child's behaviour may be misinterpreted if the class teacher doesn't have the full picture!

Routine

Establish a consistent routine before each school day. Plenty of sleep; a healthy breakfast; help your child pack the school bag (so they know what's in it!); ensure they know where, when and by whom they will be collected after school.

Be Involved!

Research shows that parents' active interest in their child's learning has a positive effect on both their child's learning and attitude towards school. If requested by the school/teachers, try to be involved in supporting classroom reading programs; computers; setting up craft activities; canteen; fund raising etc. The kids love it!



Tuckshop Term 1- 2015

Week	Lunch	Name	Smoko	Name
29 th Jan Week 1	Mini Quiche	School	Cake	School
5 th Feb Week 2	Spaghetti Bog Garlic Bread	School	Fruit & ice cream	School
12 th Feb Week 3				
19 th Feb Week 4				
26 th Feb Week 5				
5 th Mar Week 6				
12 th Mar Week 7				
19 th Mar Week 8				
26 th Mar Week 9				
2 nd Apr Week 10				