



PORT CURTIS ROAD COURIER

A fortnightly communication between home and the school community

PRINCIPAL: Mrs Julianne Emmert

Term 1 Week 1 - 27th January 2016

VALUE: Every child matters every day!

Port Curtis Road State School acknowledges the traditional Dharumbal people on whose land it stands.

Dates to Remember 2016

Term 1
27 January–24 March
Public Holidays
Student Free Day–25 January
Australia Day–26 January

Term 2
11 April–24 June
Public Holidays
Anzac Day–25 April
Labour Day–2 May
Show Holiday–16 June

Term 3
11 July–16 September

Term 4
4 October - 9 December
Student Free Day–17 October

From the Principal

Families and Friends of the Port Curtis Road State School Community

It is great to see everyone safe and well after the Christmas Break. I hope you all had a lovely holiday and New Year.

We welcome the following new students:

Prep: Lily-Rose Brigg, Mikayla Furness, Daan Greenhalgh, Holly Jones, Lucas Laidlaw, Charlotte MacDonald, Harlan Rook, Anna-Bell Schunemann, Marcus Rodgers, Rylee Godfrey.

Year 3: Cruz Lawrie, Kayla Ware

This year we have the following classes:

- Mr Collins – Prep - Year 1;
- Miss Ingrey – Years 2, 3;
- Miss Shearman – Years 4,5,6.



This week students will be focusing on getting settled into classroom routines. Each class will develop a set of classroom rules or expected behaviours and consequences based on our school rules:

- Be Safe
- Be Responsible
- Be Respectful

Please see attached a copy of our **Behaviour Level System** (Gold, Silver, Green, Amber, Red). All students will commence on green and will progress to silver. Each fortnight students from Year 2 to Year 6 are required to complete a Level Up Form, which then goes to the Behaviour Committee Meeting (all staff) for approval. Each student's Behaviour Level will be published in our fortnightly newsletter.

You can access our newsletter via our website - www.portcurtss.eq.edu.au and click on the newsletter tab.

OR

You can download the QSchools App (free) which will provide alerts when a new item has been added

Core Priorities for 2016:

We have a number of priorities for this year but our main course of business will be focusing on:

- Writing
- Grammar & Punctuation
- Attendance
- Wellbeing for staff, students and parents – our first job is to ensure our kids are happy and safe at school. One way we can do this is by providing daily breakfast club. We have noticed a remarkable difference with student learning when Breaky Club is available. We are desperately looking for parent volunteers starting Friday. **At this stage we have no-one!!!!**

Tuckshop: We are also looking for a tuckshop convenor or parent helpers to get tuckshop organised for next Friday.

Can you please send all reams of paper and boxes of tissues to the office where it will be accounted for? The remainder of school supplies will be stored with each class teacher.

Each child will need a library bag or pillowcase to ensure they can borrow from the library.

P & C Association
NEXT MEETING - 8.30am
Wednesday
10th February 2016
Please come along!

Your voice is needed
Your ideas are valued
You are important
to our school community spirit.

REMINDERS

PLAYGROUP

Playgroup for 2016 will commence on Thursday 11th March 9am–11am

TUCKSHOP

We are looking for a convenor or parent helpers. Can you help?

Uniforms

Our new uniforms have arrived! At this stage we have a limit of 2 per person until we reorder. The new shirts are \$30 each and the old shirts are \$20 each. The old shirts will still be worn for another 2 years. We still have plenty of stock of the old shirts. It is expected that all children will wear the Porty wide brimmed hat or a plain black wide brimmed hat. (No caps are allowed) **NO Hat NO Play!** – as per Parent Handbook.

We will continue with our weekly 'Gotcha Awards, Principal Awards, Bookwork Awards but we have also added a new award called "Caught at their Best". This will be a very special award which will focus on an outstanding act of kindness or effort from any student ranging from Prep – Year 6.

Attendance

It is very important that if your child is away from school or late if you can please either phone, text or email the office before 9.15am? Each day the roll is marked in the morning and afternoon and a reason needs to be recorded against each student. This information is uploaded to Central Office on a weekly basis. If we have a reason we can mark the roll accordingly, however when we are not notified of the absence we are required to enter 'Unexplained'. **The number of unexplained absences are monitored and will be acted on after a certain period of time by the department.**

If you have any queries please feel contact the office.

Take Care

Julianne Emmert, Principal

Positive Behaviour Level System

Port Curtis Road State School's Behaviour Level System aims to track student progress whilst providing motivation towards positive behavioural choices. Students value recognition for responsible and positive behaviour. They also recognise and acknowledge fair and consistent consequences for poor behaviour; this system provides both in that it encourages students to take responsibility for their own movement through the five tracking levels. A committee consisting of the Port Curtis Road State School staff will meet fortnightly to monitor student movement through the Behaviour Level Tracking System.

Level	Explanation of Levels.
GOLD	Gold level students have demonstrated highly responsible behaviour and participate in both school and community service.
SILVER	Silver level students have demonstrated very responsible behaviour and participate in both school and community service.
GREEN	All students enter the system at this level. Green level students have demonstrated responsible behaviour and usually follow the school rules. They may have been referred to the office on occasion however demonstrate responsible behaviour and actions on re-entry into the classroom.
AMBER	This level includes students who have had frequent adverse behaviour reports and/or detentions. Behaviours demonstrated may be deemed critical. Students who have returned from suspension and have operated for two weeks on Red Level also fit into this category. These students will be on a Responsible Behaviour Plan for a fortnight and after this period of time may apply for a level up should their behaviour be deemed satisfactory. For those students whose behaviour has been deemed unsatisfactory, they will be required to review their Responsible Behaviour Plan for an additional two weeks.
RED	These students have demonstrated behaviours that put the safety and learning of themselves and others at risk. Continual interventions have failed to encourage the student to act responsibly. Alternatively, critical, serious or dangerous behaviour exhibited by students on ANY level will result in being moved to RED level. Students will be placed on a negotiated Responsible Behaviour Plan for two weeks. At the end of the fortnight, students who have demonstrated responsible behaviour will move to the Amber level, from which after 2 more weeks, they may apply to move up. For those students whose behaviour has been deemed unsatisfactory, they will be required to review their Responsible Behaviour Plan for an additional two weeks. DUE TO THE LEVEL OF RISK, RED LEVEL STUDENTS WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES, INTERSCHOOL SPORT, EXCURSIONS, CAMPS ETC.

News from the Prep-Year 1 Classroom

Welcome back to the new school year! I hope and trust each and every one had an enjoyable Christmas break.

We will once again start the year running in the Prep-One room. Just a few hints for new Prep parents; you have probably already received plenty of advice along the way *but if I could share just a few 'words of wisdom' that may be of assistance as your child starts their formal journey along the education path, you might find them of some use.*

Organisation and routine is the key. Be prepared and involve your child in readying themselves for the school day. Have shoes, hat and school bag all prepared the *night before, thus avoiding last minute 'melt downs' because they're unable to locate a needed item.*

Please name all student belongings. It can be a nightmare for students and teachers alike trying to reunite lost belongings with rightful owners.

Revisit appropriate and inappropriate behaviour. Discuss with your child your expectations for positive behaviour. Just as you have rules at home, we have rules at school.

Probably the issue that over the years I have faced many *times is that of the 'clingy' parent. Could I just reassure you that in my experience, children who are a little reticent and or hesitant at the beginning of the school year, fare much better when Mum or Dad just leave them with the teacher. Delaying your departure does more for your own feelings than it does for helping your child settle. You may feel like you're abandoning them but I can assure you that in 99.9% of the time, the tearful child has settled by the time you have reached the front gate.*

Finally, enjoy the experience, become part of school life. Become a member of the P and C Association, assist with Brekky Club. Your child will love to see you involved in all aspects of their school life.

Mr John Collins

News from the Year 2, 3 Classroom

Welcome back to 2016. I hope everyone had a safe and happy Christmas break. The class is learning new routines and we have sorted out all our books. This morning started off with the class attending Music.

Each morning we will listen to a 'Turnlebook' before starting our morning lessons. This week we will learn about the Literacy Café and Maths Café and the behaviours that support our learning. We will be looking at one of the CAFÉ Daily 5: "Read to Self", the Comprehension strategy 'Check for Understanding'; and in Maths Café Daily 3-"Maths by Myself"; plus we will start looking at the "7 Steps to Writing Success".

Next week, Homework will start with spelling words, basic facts to learn, some maths activities and daily reading to do. **Homework is set on a Monday and can be returned on a Friday.** It is very important that every child is reading every day. Reading is a very important skill and unlocks learning.

The class will be revising the school rules, classroom rules, school and learning expectations especially book work expectations; introducing Science, Health and Geography/History. Tomorrow students have Library Borrowing in the afternoon. It is a very short week with lots packed into it.

Cheers

Miss Irene Ingrey

News from the Year 4, 5, 6 Classroom

What a great start to the year we have had. It was fantastic seeing beaming faces walk into the classroom excited about the year ahead. It was amazing hearing parents say that their children have been counting down the first day of school. It is wonderful seeing and hearing such enthusiasm!

2016 is sure to be a year that won't disappoint. We have new dynamics in the classroom, having Year 4 join us. Over the holidays Mrs Baxter and myself put in a few big days to give the classroom an overhaul and create a fresh and open space. I also have to give a big thankyou to Lachlan, Alex and Charlotte Macdonald for all their help with our classroom changes. They were fantastic and always willing to get involved.

There will be focus on health and wellbeing this year. Today we discussed gratitude and how we can incorporate it to help us view things differently and be thankful and respectful to our education. I am very big on health and wellbeing and over the year students will

Continued over....

CLASSROOM NEWS

see and experience my passion. Most days after first lunch students will participate in guided meditation whereby they will sit and practise breathing. This will help them to clear their mind, refocus and reconnect. This year is about tuning in and being on task at all times.

Students have each set their own goal to work towards that focuses on how they will work hard this term in the classroom. It was great to see the students really reflecting on how they can work to improve their stamina. Students were involved in all aspects of today and I thank them for their commitment to the year ahead of us.

Last but not least students will be receiving homework from today. Homework is to be completed each night and brought in each day. I ask that students spend 5 to 10 minutes each night reading to you. There is space on their homework sheets to record this. I look forward to finding out about their holidays as I have asked them to write a short recount of their adventures.

Miss Rebekah Shearman