FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Being the final newsletter of the year, I take this opportunity to again thank everyone involved with the school. Thank you for your efforts, your generous gift of your time and your support throughout the year.

I take this opportunity to express our deepest condolences to Chris, Cindy and the family for the tragic loss of their little daughter, Elisha, last weekend. We are so very saddened for you all and you will continue to be in our thoughts. The Southbrook P&C on behalf of the school community have donated a voucher to assist the family and SCSS Staff have provided fruit/veges and cooked meals. We hope these small things help a little over the next number of weeks.

Community Help

The Southbrook Pub are now taking donations of food to put a hamper together for Chris, Cindy and family. If you would like to contribute, please drop off any items to the pub. Your contributions will be gladly accepted and included.

Chaplaincy Funding

Recently, schools had to reapply for chaplaincy funding for 2016-2018. Many more schools than previous years applied in this last round and funding to many current chaplaincy schools was cut back. I am very pleased to say that our funding remains the same and will continue as such for the next three years. Karen Pomerenke will remain as chaplain to our school and I thank the P&C for their letter of support that enabled our success in this round of Chaplaincy funding.

2016 Camps – Tallebudgera update

I have been notified of our camp dates for 2016. Students will arrive at Tallebudgera on Monday 8th August and return home on Friday 12th August. You can visit their website for more information.

http://thebeachschool.eq.edu.au/

Amaroo Camp – Year 3&4

I am looking at a possible camp over that coincides with our visit to Amaroo every second year for year 3&4 students. I have secured our Amaroo visit dates for 16, 17th June, 2016 and am now seeking an affordable camp provider around the Highfields/Meringandan area. I do not yet have costings. If you know of any suitable camps around this area, please contact me.

Rossvale Swimming Carnival Results

Well done to our fantastically fit Southbrook Students. We came away with the highest score from the Rossvale Swimming Carnival against Biddeston, Mount Tyson and Brookstead. Congratulations to our Age Champions and congratulations to the following for qualifying for Bunya Level of swimming trials:

Matilda Collins- 50m Butterfly, Backstroke, Breaststroke and Freestyle
Jessie Friedrichs- 50m Backstroke and 50m Freestyle
Jasmine Roberts- 50m Breaststroke
Tony Morris will provide further information about the next level trials as the time gets closer.

End of Year Concert

We had a wonderful night last week at our End of Year School Concert. The students enjoyed the items they presented and this could clearly been seen by the bright smiles and excitement during the night. Congratulations to our award winners. We are very proud of all of our students and it takes some time to choose the award recipients.

I have included student names below and the criteria for which they are chosen. You will find photos further in the newsletter.
The Pittsworth Rotary Citizenship award presented by Garth Shaw
The Citizenship Award goes to a student who demonstrates leadership qualities and is involved in the community. This student
- Cares about and is willing to do things for others;
- is unselfish;
- is co-operative with fellow students and adults;
- has school pride and
- is a good influence across the school
and comes from a family that could be financially challenged.
The award consists of a certificate and a cheque for $200.00 for the selected student.
This year the award goes to: Akayla Brown

The Pittsworth Lion’s Citizenship award presented by Wilma Proudlock
The Citizenship award is sponsored by Lions and is given to a boy or girl chosen to have shown themselves to be:
- Good citizens of the school with an awareness of their responsibilities and a readiness to accept them.
- Unselfish and encouraging to other students.
- Ready to do their best in all their school activities.
The award consists of a certificate and a cheque for $50.00 for the selected student.
This year the award goes to: Trenton McNab

The Principal’s Award presented by: Terri-Anne Simpson
The Principal’s Award goes to a student who has consistently strived hard in academic, sporting and cultural activities;
worked diligently in class and other areas of schooling;
strived to improve on or show exemplary behaviour.
The award consists of a certificate and a medallion for the selected student.
This year the award goes to: Jasmine Roberts

The Peter Weir Enthusiasm Award presented by:
The Peter Weir Enthusiasm Award goes to a student who has exhibited outstanding enthusiasm in any facet of schooling. It could be enthusiasm of:
- their school community;
- their education,
- engaging with staff and fellow students,
- sport,
- the creative arts or
- social activities.
The student may also be chosen from any year level within the school.
The award consists of a certificate and a medallion for the selected student.
This year the award goes to: Chaz McNab

The P&C President’s All Rounder Award presented by:
The P&C President’s All Rounder Award goes to a student who is a keen participant in all aspects of school life. The student will be presented with a certificate and Bursary of $150 to be used at their chosen high school. The chosen student may not necessarily be the top scholar or the school captain but is recognised this year for showing strong commitment and dedication to achieving their goals, striving to be his or her best, yet helpful and encouraging to others.
The award consists of a certificate and a Bursary for the selected student.
This year the award goes to: Maxine Lovell

The Ros Scotney Encouragement Award goes to a student who works hard at their school work.
This year the award goes to: Reagan Collin

A reminder that our uniform Shop opening Friday 22nd 9-11.30am. Thank-you Kirsty Brown. If you would like to drop off your child’s books prior to the long weekend, teachers will be at the school between 1.00-3.30 on Friday afternoon. They will be involved in Professional Development prior to that on Friday morning. Teachers will be back on deck Tuesday 19th January. You can see that most days, there will be staff here at school. We have a week full of Professional Development and training.

Have a wonderful Christmas holiday, everyone and stay safe.
Warmest regards
Terri-Anne

Start Date for 2016 School Year
You might already know that the Minister announced a new start date for the 2016 Queensland school year will see students return to the classroom on Wednesday 27 January 2016 — the day after the national Australia Day public holiday. The previous Term 1 start date of Monday 25 January 2016 will now become an additional flexible staff professional development day. Please see below for the term start and finish dates for 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AM</td>
<td>Mandatory training (Southbrook)</td>
<td>Gifted &amp; Talented (Southbrook)</td>
<td>First Aid (Southbrook)</td>
<td>Language and vocab development (Biddeston, Dalby)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM</td>
<td>PBL Modules and ESCM skills (Southbrook)</td>
<td>Problem solving and data analysis (Southbrook)</td>
<td>First Aid (Southbrook)</td>
<td>Mandatory training (Southbrook)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The annual Pittsworth District Alliance Christmas In The Park
22 December 2015 starting at 5.30pm.

Entertainment
FREE Rides - Giant Slide, Chair-o-plane, Jumping Castle
Tutti Frutti - Ski Boom! Show
The Incredible Flea Circus
Music by Andrew Kucks

Food
Lions BBQ
Pittsworth Vikings Soccer Club - Hot Chips
Pittsworth Show Girls - Cooks Soft Drinks
Cup and Away Coffee Van
Fairy Floss
Santa will be there giving out lollies to the Children

The Christmas In The Park is always a fun filled night and the children all enjoy themselves.

For more information
Sheree Ericksen
0481 353 055  info@pittsworth.org.au  www.pittsworth.org.au

Rossvale Swimming Reflections

Congratulations!!
Reminders and Notices

Instrumental Music Lessons for 2016

FLUTE, CLARINET, SAXOPHONE OR PIANO!!
Give the gift of music to your child! Instrumental music lessons are available during school time. If your child is in grade 4 or above they can learn any of the wind instruments. Hire of these is available at reasonable cost. Grade 2 is the starting point for piano. Lessons are given in small groups of 2 or 3. Accounts are sent each term and each half hour lesson is $18. Pick up and return a form at the school office. Email Chris at yougotbuckleys4@bigpond.com.au for more info.

Southbrook School Dress Code

We encourage all students to wear our smart school uniform every day.
Student dress codes provide clothing that aims to contribute to a safe and supportive teaching and learning environment through:
⇒ Easy identification of students;
⇒ Fostering a sense of belonging; and
⇒ Developing mutual respect among students by minimising visible evidence of economic and social differences.

Southbrook Possums Playgroup

We meet at the Southbrook Sports Grounds every Monday between 10am and 12 and welcome any new members with children aged from birth to 5 (prior to starting prep). Playgroup is a place for you and your child to interact with other parents/caregivers and their children, providing opportunities for play and learning. Playgroup also develops new skills and helps gain confidence by interacting with other children. Lots of activities are planned this term, including a visit from the local health nurse and a visit to the Southbrook School.

Please contact Kerrie on 0409055679 for further details.

Morning Arrival Times for School

A reminder that students should not be at school before 8.30am unless previously organised with your child’s teacher/school staff.
For the safety of your children, please remember there is no supervision provided for students before 8.30am and before the buses arrive at school.

Every Day Counts

Every day at school is an important day for your child’s education.
If your child will be absent from school for more than 10 days, it is a requirement by law that parents contact the school to complete a Student Exemption form. If your child is unwell, there are many options to notify the school of absences:
⇒ Telephone the school on 46910142 and speak to someone, or leave a message on the answering machine
⇒ Speak to your student’s teacher
⇒ Write a note to your student’s teacher
⇒ Email: principal@soutcentss.eq.edu.au
Unexplained absences are then listed on students’ report cards.
Well it has been a very busy fortnight with Rossvale swimming carnival, end of year concert, graduation and a big clean up of classrooms. Congratulations to all the students who swam at the Rossvale carnival it was an outstanding result for the individuals who received age champion awards and for the whole school.

Congratulations also to all of the students for their contributions to their end of year concert. The students who played lead roles in the nativity play did themselves proud with their interpretations of their characters. The chorus sang beautifully and the backstage crew did a great job with the signs, the props and the curtain. Those who sang leads in the chorus numbers should also be proud of their efforts, you sang with real confidence.

It is with great sadness that I farewell our year six cohort. As there is only four of them I have grown very fond of each and everyone of them and I will miss them dearly. I am relieved I will still get to see Maxine and Akayla at pony club and I hope I bump into Dylan once in a while as he still has two sisters at the school but Nate I hope you make an effort to pop in and see me once in a while. You are all wonderful young people who have so much potential. I sincerely wish you all the very best for your high school years and beyond. I have no doubt you will continue to grow into fine young adults.

To the rest of the students you have a safe, fun filled relaxing holiday. I look forward to seeing you all again next year. To the parents thankyou for your tireless support, I truly love working at this school and you are part of the reason why I enjoy it so much. Have a very merry Christmas and fun filled new year.

Mrs Rice

Graduation Preparations. Our senior students have continued to work hard on their Graduation preparations. They have completed sections of their year book and also their primary school memories and fact file ready for Graduation night. Congratulations to Maxine, Akayla, Dylan and Nate. Your leadership through this year has been noticeable and memorable. We hope that you had a fulfilling final year of primary school and you take positive memories away with you. We will miss your cheery smiles and happy conversations.

Year 4 & 5 Leadership preparations. Leadership speeches are complete and advertising posters ready to hang around the school in 2016. Good luck to all the students who are hopeful of a leadership position. We look forward to listening to your speeches in 2016. The successful 2016 senior shirt was designed by Otto Friedrichs and will be available for seniors to wear next year.

Year 3 students have in the meantime, been designing Christmas cards and working on developing a play using Christmas finger puppets. They have had fun creating additional props and we look forward to seeing these Christmas stories on Friday when we return from our Golden Pentagon day.

Mrs S

Mrs Nestor’s (K)nowledgeable Preps, Year 1’s and Year 2’s

Well! The holidays have finally come and Christmas and jolly red man are fast approaching. We would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for your support and assistance this year in all areas of the school and curriculum. It is greatly appreciated. Hopefully, all report cards were delivered safe and sound.

We wish you all a Happy and Safe Christmas and a relaxing holiday. We look to seeing you all back bright and bubbly in 2016.

Cheers,
Jude, Maree and Lou..

Frozies for free on the last Friday........
Sports
Scholl
Has FINISHED
FOR 2015
WATCH THIS SPACE FOR 2016
NEW BOOK CLUB
C0-ORDINATOR
Mrs Jodie Berghauser—Mobile—0418724976
School Banking
We have come to the end of another school year. Merry Christmas to all Dollarmites, and I look forward to new banking adventures in 2016.
Have a safe holiday.
Mrs Andrews
Southbrook Central’s 5C’s — Values
Consideration
- Thinking about others
Commitment
- Always doing my best
Courage
- Knowing what is right and acting upon it
Care
Looking after:
- Ourselves
- Our school
- Our community
Sporting Schools
Has FINISHED FOR 2015
WATCH THIS SPACE FOR 2016
The value for weeks 9 and 10 is COMMITMENT. COMMITMENT is always doing my best. Be organised. Be on time. Be a positive role model. Complete set tasks.
Below are the processes around our PBL reward system at Southbrook Central
- We have fortnightly focus on one of the 5 values throughout each term
- Coloured Pentagon tokens are given anytime, anywhere to acknowledge any good efforts/behaviours that demonstrate any of the 5 school values. Eg. Student continues reading over holidays and records this in reading diary, the teacher would reward that student with a “Commitment” pentagon for demonstrating commitment to learning.
- The focus value for the fortnight will attract double rewards of that particular token.
- Students collect all pentagon tokens and save these to trade for vouchers sold at the V-Shop.
- Vouchers range from 25, 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 250 pentagon tokens thus allowing regular reward for students who need this and also allow students to ‘save’ for a more significant voucher reward.
- Participation in end of term Golden Pentagon Celebration day — Students participate upon receiving an invitation. Students excluded from receiving an invitation will have behaviour records in One School for that term. These records are produced through our current behaviour slips/data collection methods which are aligned to our Behaviour matrix consequences. Criteria for which students are excluded from the Golden Pentagon day will be - three or more minor behaviour breaches or one major behaviour breach. This will result in that student not receiving their invitation to attend the golden pentagon reward day and instead, work on goals for next term.
- 3-6 Classroom daily point systems will result in the reward of a pentagon every time students reach 5points. Pentagons are given at the end of the day. Classroom jobs in the 3-6 class are categorised under the school values and will be paid in pentagons at the end of the week.
- ‘Student of the week’ rewards continue to be selected by the teacher and will result in a pentagon token reward as well as a certificate during assembly.
- Reading awards will attract a Commitment pentagon every time a student reaches the milestones outlined in their reading diaries. Number fact and spelling post test results will result in a pentagon reward when achieving set target scores.

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Southbrook Central School Priorities for 2015

| ⇒ Reading | ⇒ Engage with the Community |
|⇒ Numeracy | ⇒ Positive Behaviour Management |
|⇒ Transition | ⇒ School Wide Curriculum, Teaching and Learning |
|⇒ Attendance | |

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Have a safe holiday.
Mrs Andrews

I would like to wish Staff, Students and parents a very Merry Christmas and safe and happy holiday.
Thank you to the Editors for editing the newsletters for me.
Look forward to seeing you in 2016
Take care
Ms Holmes

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CO-ORDINATOR
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Southbrook Central’s 5C’s — Values

Consideration
- Thinking about others
Commitment
- Always doing my best
Courage
- Knowing what is right and acting upon it
Care
Looking after:
- Ourselves
- Our school
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Take care
Ms Holmes
Uniform Shop Information

Pre-ordered uniforms are ready and are available to be picked up from the uniform shop. If the normal uniform shop day of Tuesday does not suit for pick up, please contact Kirsty Brown on her mobile number to arrange alternative times. Cheers, Kirsty.
0448170049

Help Needed—TUCKSHOP

We are still needing volunteers to help on Thursday during the day. If you can help, please call Amy 0400910252 or Kerrie 0409055679.

Homebaking is also needed and appreciated from anyone who may be able to assist with that, please let the ladies know.

Thanks again for the support.

A BIG THANK YOU to all the volunteers who have assisted on Tuckshop days and who have donated homebake. Your help is truly appreciated.

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Amy and Kerrie

FINAL TUCKSHOP—Thursday 10th December 2016

What a great time we had at Art Camp.
I felt privileged to have been invited to tutor at this year’s Art Camp. I took workshops in drawing and watercolour pencils, and was amazed at the level of skill the students demonstrated. By day three the students had taken the skills they had been shown and produced some amazing works of art. I’m sure Maxine and Akayla enjoyed their time and came away with some inspiring new ideas to share and take into high school. Thank you Mrs Wheeldon. Lou Ferguson

Get your family active and eating well

Families in Toowoomba can now sign up the free healthy lifestyle program called PEACH™ - Parenting, Eating and Activity for Child Health. Registrations are open for a new group to commence in term 4, 2015.

The program is fun for kids and helps parents and carers make healthy eating and activity a part of every-day life. It is available to families with a child aged between 5-11 years who is above a healthy weight for their age and consists of 10 group sessions that run for 90 minutes each.

Topics covered include nutrition skills, reducing screen time and being more active as a family. While the parent sessions are taking place, children enjoy active play with a trained child physical activity facilitator.

What: PEACH (Parenting, Eating and Activity for Child Health) program
When: Term 4, Tues 4-5.30pm (weekly)
Where: St Mary’s College
Cost: FREE

The program is funded by the Queensland government and being delivered state-wide by the Queensland University of Technology. If you would like more information about the PEACH™ program or to register please contact free call 1800 263 519 or visit www.peachqld.com.au
Student of the week—Term 4

Week 9—1st December
Students of the Week!

Week 10—8th December
Students of the Week!

Well Done!! Otto Friedrichs and Nathan Mann.

Congratulations to Prep, years 1 & 2 for 100 plus nights reading.

Congratulations to Reagan Collin and Matilda Collin for 250 nights reading.

Ms Holmes’s Reading, Maths, Language Groups
Congratulations to Dylan Collin, Nate Bancroft, Trenton McNab, Waylan Smith, Nathan Mann, Destiny Lightfoot, Reagan Collin, Jessie Friedrichs, Alice Train and Chaz McNab.

Rossvale Swimming Carnival—Age Champions
12 year old Girl—Maxine Lovell
11 years old Boy - Dylan Collin
10 year old Girl—Matilda Collin
9 year old Girl—Jessie Friedrichs
8 year old Girl—Reagan Collin
8 year old Boy—Eric Lovell

CONGRATULATIONS !!!!

Merry Christmas
Award Recipients for 2015

Rotary Citizenship Award
Akayla Brown
Presented by Mr Garth Shaw

The Lions Club Citizenship Award
Trenton McNab
Presented by Mrs Wilma Proudlock

Principal’s Award – Jasmine Roberts
Presented by Mrs Terri-Anne Simpson

The Pat Weir Enthusiasm Award
Chaz McNab
Presented by Mrs Kirsty Brown

Councillor Ros Scotney Encouragement Award
Reagan Collin
Presented by Councillor Ros Scotney

Principal Terri-Anne Simpson presented Maxine Lovell with her Attendance Certificate.
P&C All-Rounder Award is presented by Mr Clint Roberts to Maxine Lovell.
DON'T BLAME YOUR KIDS WHEN YOUR EMOTIONS LET YOU DOWN

By Michael Grose

One of the greatest challenges we have as parents is maintaining a sense of calm when the chaos of childhood is bubbling all around us. Recognise any of these situations?

You’re in the midst of crazy hour just before dinner and you’ve two under-fives racing towards you, each with a tale of woe about the other
You’ve a primary-aged boy who refuses to do his homework even though he’s struggling at school
You’ve a teenager who rudely mimics your quite reasonable request for help

All situations that we know in our heart of hearts that should be ignored, or at least handled calmly but also situations that commonly lead to us losing our cool!

If only…

So often our best parenting intentions are derailed by our inability to regulate our emotions. We so often blame our kids for their poor, thoughtless or challenging behaviour but it’s our emotions that let us down, derailing our best intentions. Then the recriminations begin.

“If only I had taken my daughter seriously, I should have listened, not shrugged her off”.

“If only I hadn’t told my son he’d continue to struggle at school as he was lazy like his father”.

“If only I had used a little humour to laugh off my teenager’s baiting rather than getting involved in an argument of his making”.

You can’t put the genie back in the bottle

Once your emotions let you down you can’t take your outbursts back.

You need to go into damage control to repair relationships that have been strained, to reassure kids who are disappointed with your response, and to rebuild self-esteem that’s been damaged by your outburst. Once something has been said it can’t be unsaid. Once the genie is out of the bottle you can’t put it back no matter how much you want to do so.

BULLYING

“What is bullying? Do we mix it up with teasing and other forms of mean behaviour?” It is an important topic which I’d like to help clarify. Bullying is a term that’s wrapped in emotion. For many people it’s associated with bad childhood memories. It’s been estimated that around 40% of people have experienced bullying in the past. It’s something we don’t want to happen to our kids. But I fear it is being overused at the moment and confused with teasing and rudeness.

Rudeness refers to thoughtless behaviours and thoughtless words. Kids often do rude things to each other without thinking their actions through. Examples include breaking wind in a child’s direction, joking about the colour of a child’s hair in front of others, failing to share possessions and neglecting to acknowledge someone. Rudeness is usually about selfishness and thoughtlessness. Taken on their own many rude behaviours can be seen as an element of bullying but when looked at in context they are more about thoughtlessness, lack of consideration and poor manners rather than a deliberate attempt to hurt someone.

Teasing refers to annoying, hurtful behaviour that is used to get a reaction from someone else. Teasing can be persistent in nature, but not always. It’s generally an attempt to get under a person’s skin. It can involve name calling, it can be personal and hurtful in nature. It can also infringe on another person’s rights. But generally teasing doesn’t have the key ingredients that make up bullying.

Bullying is the selective, uninvited, repetitive oppression of one person or group by another. It involves three elements – intent to hurt or harm; power imbalance and repetition over time. It takes many forms and guises including physical aggression; verbal abuse; emotional aggression (or blackmail); intimidation, harassment and exclusion.

The new cyber-dimension to bullying has moved the goalposts for many kids. In the past children and young people could escape bullying by being at home. Cyberbullying means that children can’t escape bullies like they once could.

Why the distinction?

I hear the term bullying misused a great deal in the media and when talking to parents. We run the risk of “The Boy Who Cried Wolf” Syndrome where we become so desensitized to the term that we (or teachers) ignore it when children really are victims of bullying. We also run the risk of failing to skill our kids up to manage rudeness and teasing if we categorize every awful behaviour that kids experience, as bullying. Our ability to be discerning about bullying is as important as the action we take when we are sure that our child is on the receiving end of bullying behaviour. These actions include: dealing with feelings; providing emotional coping skills; getting others involved; building up a child’s support networks and building self-confidence that can take a battering.

Bullying needs to be taken seriously. But we need to be discerning about bullying behaviours.

Permission granted by Parenting Idea to Pamela Sippel, Guidance Officer Mental Health, More support for Students With Disabilities, Darling Downs South West, Education Queensland, 2015.
The Cancer Association presented the Student Council with a Certificate for the Footy Fundraising Day. 
WELL DONE EVERYONE!!

A big thank you P & C Association for the donation of a wall art picture for the garden. Mrs Peta Lovell and Mrs Kirsty Brown presented the wall art to Principal Mrs Terri-Anne Simpson.

We say goodbye to our year 6 students Nate Bancroft, Dylan Collin, Maxine Lovell and Akayla Brown. We wish them every success in High School and in their chosen careers. Akayla Brown on behalf of the year 6 students, thanked staff and fellow students for their friendship and support during their years at Southbrook Central State School. We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy 2016.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!