From the Principal’s Desk

Here we are at the end of week 2 already. I hope you have been able to keep up to date with the school’s activities through the use of email and Facebook. If you feel we could do this better, I would welcome your feedback and suggestions for improvement.

Cross Country
We’ve had a busy start to Term 2 with Rossvale cross country trials in week 1. Congratulations to the students who ran at this level – 20. An amazing amount of children from such a small school. Well done to the teachers, lead by Jude Nestor, for their efforts in managing our fitness program so well. These daily activities keep the students very fit.

Congratulations to the following:

Age Champions for Rossvale:
Sam McGinn, Chaz McNab, Jasmine Roberts, Jessie Friedrichs, Bon Rickert and Akayla Brown.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (formally known as SWPBS)
Congratulations to the behaviour team for their great work around the consistency and comprehensiveness of our behaviour program. This week Cathy Skinner, Regional PBL coordinator visited our school to collect evidence of how well we are implementing the PBL program. In addition to ‘Outstanding and High’ ratings we achieved from our recent Behaviour Audit late last year, Cathy has given the school a 92.3% score for the processes and systems we have in place as part of our Schoolwide Responsible Behaviour Plan. Well done to all the staff at Southbrook Central. This is an awesome school of which to be a part and I love the way all the ‘Parts’ work together and contribute collaboratively to achieve excellence.

Part of a good Behaviour Plan is to continually assess the strengths and weaknesses of the school’s processes and systems and to modify those things that are not working as well as they could. This week, we have implemented changes to the way we use the reward system across the school. Staff have been discussing these changes since late last term. I have summarised the main ideas below. Please talk to your child’s teacher or myself if anything is unclear. Sometimes trying to articulate complex ideas in a logical and clear way, is not always successful! Here goes...

Staff will:
- Continue to have a fortnightly focus on one of the 5 values
- Coloured Pentagon reward tokens will no longer be given at the end of the fortnight.
- Coloured Pentagon tokens will now be 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. I will outline these vouchers at the P&C meeting. The vouchers are similar to the year 3-7 classroom vouchers, and with a few additional items, now available to all students across the school.
- 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.
- End of term celebration day will continue. Students participate upon receiving an invitation. Students excluded from receiving an invitation will have behaviour records in oneschool 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 their goals for next term.
- Free and frequent rewards ie points/praise etc continue. 3-6 Classroom daily point systems will result in the reward of a pentagon every time students reach 5points and given at the end of the day. Jobs in the 3-6 class have now been 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 the usual certificate during assembly.

- Reading awards will attract a commitment pentagon every time a student reaches the milestones outlined in their reading diaries.
- Numberfact and spelling post test results will result in a pentagon reward.

These are the major changes and as we implement we might need to adjust or add detail. The Behaviour team meets again on 2nd June and we will reflect on the success of these changes. I have left the old reward system in our PBL page on this newsletter for your comparison. We would welcome your feedback on these changes.

**School Chaplain**
Welcome to our new school chaplain, Karen Pomereneke. Karen will be at the school every Friday and will assist in class.

**Student Council activities for Term 2**
Its great to have a Student Council up and running again. Each week the school leaders meet on Wednesday morning. At the moment, they are planning a number of activities. Please see page two for details.

- **Week 3** – 7th May will be **Crazy Hair** day, in aid of the Toowoomba Hospice and **Crazy Pants** day, in aid of the Toowoomba Hospital. You will find a flyer attached to this Newsletter with more information.
- **Week 6** – is Book Fair week and the Student Council will be organising ‘Storytime’ for anyone who would like to listen to some stories.

Storytime will be outside, under a tree with a rug/pillows for the students to make themselves comfy.

**Week 8** – **Dominos Challenge.** Student Council will organise a domino challenge on Friday 12th June during our buddy class. P-6 buddies will bring their Woolworth dominos to school compete in the fun challenge and then perhaps have a swap meet afterwards for those who are still searching for particular dominos. Should be a lot of fun for the students.

**P&C News**
We had a P&C meeting this week, Thursday 1st May. The minutes of this meeting will be available on the website following the next P&C meeting to ensure the records are ratified before being published. The P&C are conducting a Mother’s Day stall on Thursday 7th May. The P & C are looking for Book Fair helpers for 27th-29th May. Please contact Peta Lovell if you are available.

**School Uniforms**
With the coming of the cool weather, I take this opportunity to remind parents about our school dress code. We take pride in our uniform and I encourage you to ensure your child or children are in full uniform when they attend school! The uniform shop has new winter uniforms in stock if you are needing to replenish or update items of clothing. The uniform shop will soon also be managing a second hand uniform section. Payment options for uniforms can be arranged with Kirsty Brown.

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.

**NAPLAN**
NAPLAN assessments begin Tuesday 12th May, continue Wednesday and Thursday 13, 14th May. Any students from year 3 or 5 away any days during the week will have their catch-up tests on Friday 15th May. Students have been involved in preparation sessions each week since the beginning of Term 1. Whilst year 3 and year 5 students are involved in these assessments, year 2, 4 and 6 students will sit practice simulation NAPLAN tests at the same time, but in different classrooms. This is for a number of reasons— it keeps this style of testing rigour fresh for students (or provides an introduction to the assessment style) it provides additional student ‘knowledge, skill and process’ information for teachers and it keeps the school environment orderly and peaceful for those students who are sitting the 2015 NAPLAN assessments.

**Principal Movements Week 3 and 4**
I will be out of the school on Friday 8th May at the Regional Principals’ Business meeting and attending the Cluster Principal’s meeting on Thursday 21st May. Julie Rice will be teaching the 3-6 class on both days and Jude Nestor will be Officer in Charge.

Warm regards
Terri-Anne

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**EMU GULLY REFLECTIONS**
Welcome back all students from year three to six. I trust you had a relaxing and fun filled holiday and are ready for a terrific term two.

**Year 5 Maths** Students are learning to use the split and compensate strategy to multiply. They use a scan, think, do model to estimate an answer first and then choose a strategy to calculate.

**Year 6 Maths** These students are learning to add fractions with related denominators and will soon move on to subtracting fractions.

**Year 3-6 Science**
Last week all students took part in a lesson about Anzac day and the seniors shared the stories they learned at Emu Gully Camp about the very brave soldiers who fought overseas. This week history lessons will resume as normal with the 3-4 students continuing their studies into early explorers and the 5-6 students learning about Australia’s Federation.

**Year 3-6 History**
After a number of our science lessons being interrupted at the end of last term the assessment for the Good to Grow unit is now underway and should only take a couple of weeks to wrap up. We have also begun our new science unit titled ‘Earths Wild Weather’ with the senior students sharing their prior knowledge of earthquakes and see who is the class ramp champ.

Year 3-4

**Mathematics:** Students have been having some fun with length measurements. Year 3 have been learning about the metre and honing their estimation skills using non standard measuring tools leading to the standard measuring unit of 1m. Year 4 have been learning about graduated measuring tools and developing a sense of centimetres compared with metres. They have been using personal referents as non standard measuring tools to better enable their estimation skills. Year 4 have also been looking at the measuring units used for temperature. Both classes continue to learn to read analogue and digital clocks.

**English:** This term we focus on traditional tales and in particular, folktales. We use the stories as vehicles to continue to learn how to manipulate our English language and the tricks clever authors use to keep us interested and entertained. Next week we decompose elements of the Korean folktale, ‘The Tiger, The Rabbit and Chung Ho’.

Year 5-6

**English:** Year 5 and 6 students are well engaged in using a learning object (animated computer program) to gather evidence for and against a particular point of view. Whilst gathering this evidence, we explore the notion of whether the evidence is credible and unbiased and how we can identify these things. This unit of work is about presenting a particular point of view through news items.

**Geography**
Year 5 and 6 students are currently learning about lines of longitude and latitude. They are developing knowledge around the diversity of communities and how the environment influences these factors.

Mrs Simpson

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Welcome back to Term 2 and I trust you are all well rested ready for the business of school routines again.

We started the term with the new curriculum learning areas of narrative writing in English, problem solving in Maths, recycling and reusing in Science, autobiographies in History as well as spellings, phonics, reading and comprehension to name but a few.

There is a slight change with homework this term as there is some construction to be done for these. I will set them for homework tasks. The year twos will be making a marble run to investigate how to make the marble travel more than two metres. Parents can assist with the construction if they would but if possible don’t take over and make it for them. I need them to problem solve how to get the marble to go the 2 metres or more. The Year 1’s will be looking at measurement and the reading of two digit numbers to investigate how to make the ramp and see who is the class ramp champ.

Preps have resumed their learning journey of letters and words, and continue to develop their number and maths skills such as positional language (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc). We are looking at number and number lines and working on our conservation of number. We are looking at shapes and their special features. We will be combining these shapes to make houses and buildings for different purposes.

Some of the focus in the first week revolved around Anzac Day—It was great to see the representation of children in our class at Saturday’s march in Pittsworth. We also conducted a morning tea of Anzac biscuits on Friday 24th as a special remembrance of this important event in our history.

*Have a great weekend*

**Jude, Lou and Maree**

Reflections of our Term 1 Pentagon Day excursion:

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

**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**: the.principal@soutcentss.eq.edu.au

Unexplained absences are then listed on students’ report cards.

**Joining the School P&C**

Joining the P&C Association is a great way to keep informed, to contribute to the quality education of your children and to make new friends. Your contribution can be as large or small as you can manage, but your ongoing support of the P&C Association is invaluable.

Not only will you be supporting the school community but you will be supported by the school community. You can learn new skills, and gain a clear understanding of how the school operates. This is a great opportunity to share in the school’s decision-making process and shape the future.

The major elements of a school community include:-
- The P&C Association and Members
- The School Principal
- The School Staff
- The Students
- The Parents (including caregivers, guardians, grandparents etc.)

**Religious Instruction**

Purchase of ‘Connect’ Books

Parents of students who attend RI lessons are due to pay the contribution for the purchase of connect lesson books for semester 1 please. These books are $2.60. It would be appreciated if payment is sent into the school as soon as possible. The RI teachers provide lessons on Tuesday afternoon from 2.30-3.00pm. Please remember, if circumstances have changed that involve your child attending lessons, please send a note to school, indicating the change in attendance, otherwise attender and non-attender lists will remain as per 2104.

**Students receive their extra Pentagon for COURAGE on Parade. CONGRATULATIONS!!!!!!**
Southbrook Central School Priorities for 2015

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

Southbrook Central’s 5C’s — Values

**Consideration**
- Thinking about others

**Courage**
- Knowing what is right and acting upon it

**Care**
- Looking after:
  - Ourselves
  - Our school
  - Our community

**Commitment**
- Always doing my best

**Courtesy**
- Using manners in all situations

The value for this fortnight CARE. CARE is caring for ourselves, our school and our community. Look after and put away belongings and equipment. Rubbish in Bins. Hands and feet to yourself. Be safe. Clean shoes inside.

Previous Reward System—Earning Golden Pentagons

We have begun the new Pentagon reward system this term. Students no longer start with 17 pentagons. They earn the coloured pentagons throughout the term. Further information is given below.

- We will continue to have a single 5C focus and teach lessons. Eg. Courtesy
- This 5C focus will be across one fortnight.
- During this fortnight, teachers actively monitor students’ behaviour and collect data
- At the end of the fortnight, teachers meet and discuss the collected data and decisions are collectively made about the students who have consistently demonstrated the focus 5C.
- Qualifying students receive a coloured polygon for that fortnight.

Further to this,
- If a student achieves 3 coloured pentagons across the term – this then equates to a Golden Pentagon at the end of the term and the student celebrates by participating in our end of term Golden Pentagon Day.
- If a student achieves all 5 pentagons across the term – this then equates to 2 Golden Pentagons at the end of the term and the student celebrates by participating in our end of term Golden Pentagon Day and also receives an additional Tuckshop Voucher.

Our new pentagon reward system:
- Links directly to the 5C teaching focus for the fortnight,
- Provides a more consistent sense of motivation for students knowing that a Golden Pentagon can be achieved, even if a student misses earning one or two coloured pentagons
- Rewards our consistently good students for their everyday good behaviours and lifts the bar for those that need a little incentive to get there!

As our core business is commitment to learning, one parameter to students participating in the Golden Pentagon day is that one of their earned pentagons must be ‘Commitment’. In short – all students need to earn this pentagon when we focus on Commitment.
More Items of Interest and Reminders

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.

TUCKSHOP
We are needing volunteers to help on Thursday during the day. If you can help with any of the above please call Amy 0400910252 or Kerrie 0409055679.
Thanks again for the support.
Amy & Kerrie

A big Thank you to Jenny and Jodie for the home baking they have done to help us out in the Tuckshop! Much Appreciated! A big Thanks to Lucy, Leigh, Shelley, Sacha, Bev and Julie for helping us also!
We also regret not being able to get the snack potato pies anymore—they have stopped making them. The Rock It Cans have all sold out now, so please no more orders! Remember we still have the Ice Teas on Special for $1 ... these are a refreshing drink!

Peaceful, Positive Parenting

ARE YOU A PRESENT PARENT?

It’s more challenging than ever to be present with our kids, and so easy to get lost in concentration on a device. Electronic devices such as tablets and mobile phones are ever present. They are heaps of fun, the source of so much knowledge and a great way to stay in touch with others. The flip side is their hypnotic effect is powerful so that frequently all our concentration is directed at them and not our kids. When this happens you’ll more than likely miss some wonderful opportunities to really impact your child.

Here are 2 tips that can really impact and make the most of every opportunity with your kids. When you are full present you can:

Build their language
Recently I saw a mother walking side by side with a young toddler playing a simple language game. She would make a sound with her mouth and her child would mimic her. She changed or added to the sound and her son tried to replicate the sounds. This is language building at the most natural and finest, and wouldn’t have happened if this mother was on her mobile phone rather than being present with her child. Whether you are with a toddler, a primary aged child or teenager, the language building opportunities are endless. You just have to focus on the one you are with and let things happen naturally.

Impact their thinking
Influential British educator Charles Des Forges says, “If you want to influence your child’s thinking then you need to talk to him (her). If parents want more influence then they need to talk more to their children.” According to Des Forges it’s through the conversations that parents have with their children that they impact the way they think, as well as influence their values. Nothing kills personal conversation with a child or young person like a mobile device.

Michael Grose, Parenting Ideas.
Students of the week – 24th March

Jessie Friedrichs, Chaz McNab, Darius Gordon and Frances Cattle attended Choir Camp.

Jessie Friedrichs and Bon Rickert received their Certificates for Homework Reading.

Indonesian with Beau Bisshop
Jasmine Roberts and Matilda Collin learning some Indonesian dance and culture wearing traditional clothes from Java in Indonesian.

Fun at Emu Gully!

Students received their extra Pentagon for CARE on Parade.
WELL DONE!!

Pentagon Reward Day—Students enjoyed watching the movie “Home” at Grand Central Cinema.
ENJOYED BY ALL !!!!

Community Notice

 Mothers Day Luncheon
Sunday, 10th May, 2015, 12PM
Prizes, Raffles & More @ Southbrook Hall
Tickets $25/Adult (12 yrs & over)
$12.50/Child 4yrs-11yrs
Hosted by Southbrook Sport Club
Inquires phone Allan Petersen 0428 790 066

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Netball Carnival
Considering our limited netball experience the Southbrook 3-6 students performed admirably at the carnival. The senior students had a slow start to the day as they developed their skills and negotiated positions until they came up with a strategy that worked and finished up third overall for the day. The junior students also had a slow start but made the finals and thanks to some sharp shooting from Caitlin Stace and back up from the rest of the team they came away with the first place trophy (or should I say the netball) Well done everyone!

Rossvale Cross Country
Twenty students including 8 year old were selected to go through to Rossvale Cross Country.
Congratulations to:
8 year old—Sam McGinn—1st Age Champions
9 year old—Jessie Friedrichs
9 year old—Chaz McNab
10 year old—Bon Rickert
11 year old—Jasmine Roberts
12 year old—Akayla Brown
Students will be selected on their times to go through to Bunya District – Dalby.

ANZAC DAY
B-Row — Otto Friedrichs, Caitlin Stace
F-Row—Jasmine Roberts, Jessie Friedrichs, Nate Bancroft
These students will march for past soldiers from our area.
Otto and Jessie—Robert Oscar Ronnfeldt
Nate—George McCullough
Jasmine and Caitlin—Charles Rudolf Mitchell

A BIG THANK you to our wonderful parents Amy McNab, Sonya Gordon, Kerrie Train, Jenny Ronnfeldt, Amy Roberts for transporting our students to Cross Country at Biddeston.

CONGRATULATIONS to Akayla Brown, Darius Gordon and Bon Rickert who will represent Southbrook School at Bunya District Sports at Dalby on Friday 8th May.
Student Captains, Akayla Brown and Maxine Lovell used their fine Art skills under the watchful tutorage of Mrs Lou Ferguson to complete the canvas that was entered in the recent Weetwood Racing Carnival completion. There were only 15 schools selected to compete and Southbrook being one of them. Well done girls.

Students proudly marched on behalf of the school during the Pittsworth ANZAC Wreath Laying Ceremony on Saturday 25th April. Maxine Lovell and Akayla Brown, school captains, presented the P&C and Southbrook School items during the commemoration. Three of our students marching with RSL War Veterans at the Pittsworth ANZAC Day March. Each of our students will wear the soldiers’ name badge during this march. The students are very honoured and excited to be involved in this and as a lead up to ANZAC day, all students in 3–6 will be conducting research in groups to find out some information about these local soldiers, summarising their findings and presenting this to the class. Three students will be selected to march on ANZAC Day.

The soldiers’ names are:
- George McCulloch
- Charles Rudolph Mitchell
- Robert Oscar Ronnfeldt

Congratulations to Reagan Collin and Maxine Lovell who received their Homework Reading Certificates.