Thursday, 19 February 2015

Parents, Students, Staff and Community Members;

Thank you for your on-going support this term, it has been wonderful to see so many parents involved in school and classroom activities! At Blackwater SS we encourage parent helpers to assist in classrooms across the school. If you are interested in helping out please either contact your child’s teacher or if you would like to be able to work in other classrooms let us know at the Office so we can help you with this.

In our last edition of the Newsletter we shared Our School Explicit Improvement Agenda Focus Areas for 2015:

- Literacy – focusing on Writing with a sub-focus on Grammar & Punctuation.
- Numeracy – focusing on the Number strand.

We look forward to families, referred to as the ‘teaching team at home’, working with the ‘teaching team at school’ to improve our school performance in these areas throughout the year.

A critical aspect of students achieving their individual best and their wellbeing at school is daily attendance. At Blackwater SS our attendance target is 99% throughout the year. At Assembly each week we provide feedback to the school community about our weekly progress and so far as a school we have achieved 89% - close but not quite achieving our target! We also provide feedback about our best attending group of students to acknowledge their efforts and the support from home in regards to this. Every student is required to attend school on every school day of their education program unless they have a reasonable excuse, such as illness. This is a Department of Education and Training, i.e. state government expectation. I have included a flyer insert in this edition of the Newsletter called ‘Every Day Counts’ that I would appreciate parents and caregivers taking particular note of.

For those students in attendance on Tuesday this week we had a special visit from the NRL who brought along some rugby league stars including Darius Boyd (Qld State of Origin & Broncos player), Joe Boyce (Broncos player) and Ian Webster (CQ Caps player). The informative visit focused on student wellbeing, including the important messages of eating breakfast and healthy foods on a daily basis. As a school we support these messages and encourage our students to be physically active on a daily basis to best assist with the expectations that come with being an attentive student at school.

On Wednesday some of our upper school students joined me in attending the Blackwater Shs Student Leaders Induction Ceremony. It was a particularly proud moment for the BSHS students, parents and staff involved and it was also wonderful to see some of our ex-BSS students stepping into Senior and Junior School Captain roles for 2015. The Blackwater SS School Leaders process has been underway since late 2014 and our students will soon be presenting speeches followed by voting and then the announcement of our 2015 School Leaders. We look forward to sharing the good news about the 2015 Blackwater SS School Leaders in the near future.

Please note that I will be attending the state-wide Principals Conference in Brisbane from Wednesday 25th to Friday 27th February. I look forward to sharing the messages we receive on return to school following the conference. During my absence Megan Rauchle will be Acting Principal.

Cheers

Rod Wood
PRINCIPAL

Office Hours Monday—Friday 8.15am—3.30 pm

Email: the.principal@blackwaterss.eq.edu.au

Great state. Great opportunity.
P & C News
The P & C Association will be holding a Cent Sale on the 1st March 2015 as one of our major fundraisers for the year. To make this day a fantastic success we are asking for your support and any with the following:

Donation of Prizes: These can be any small Knick Knacks, household items, children’s toys and the list goes on. A donation box will be placed outside the tuckshop between 8:30 am and 9:30 am every day to receive donations starting from the 9th of February until the 27th of February.

Ice Cream Containers: If anyone owns any empty containers that they are able to donate this would be greatly appreciated. The containers can be placed in the above mentioned donation box.

Home Baking: As with the tradition of cent sales we will be selling plates for morning tea along with tea and coffee. If you are a keen baker, enjoy whipping up a packet mix, can make some sandwiches or are happy to purchase items from the shop your generosity would be appreciated. Baked goods can be brought to the school hall between 8:30 and 10:00 am on Friday the 27th Feb or alternatively fresh items can be brought to the hall before the cent sale begins on the 1st March.

Helpers: If you’re available to join in the fun on the day please consider volunteering to help. Help is required with the following areas: Setting up and packing away, ticket sales at the door, serving morning tea, calling tickets and delivering prizes to the winners. If you are available to assist or have any further questions please don’t hesitate to contact Jade Hare on 0400049990 or email jade6896@bigpond.com.

Library News
Book Fair Term 1 - Library
Next week Blackwater State School Library will be holding our first Book Fair for the year.

The dates for this Book Fair are: Monday 23rd Feb through to Friday 27th Feb. The children will view the Book Fair and will be given an information sheet about the event. We will begin to sell the books and items from Book Fair Monday morning at 8:30 am. Selling Times for the Fair will be 8:30 am to 9:00 am and 3:00 pm to 3:30 pm each day from Monday to Friday.

All Book Fairs raise money for our school so we look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you - Library Staff

School Banking
*** WEDNESDAY is our school banking day ***

Tuck-shop Meal Deal
$7.30
1st Lunch
- Hot dog on roll
- Chocolate milk
2nd Lunch
- Nutella sandwich
- Icy Cup

ATTENTION-Bus Parents/Carers
Quinique Industries wishes to advise the parents of children that travel on the Bus from Duaringa into Blackwater that there will be an Annual General Meeting for the Duaringa – Dingo – Bluff – Blackwater Bus Run on Friday the 27th of February 2014. This meeting will take place at 9:45 am in the Interview Room of the Library at the Blackwater State High School. Parents attendance would be greatly appreciated.

Kite Flying Project
Blackwater is very fortunate to have a sister city, Ichinoseki in Japan, and this relationship has grown and developed for more than two decades. Unfortunately on March 11th in 2011, Ichinoseki was affected by the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake which destroyed houses and damaged roads and public buildings.

To mark this sombre anniversary, two hundreds kites will be flown at the same time in Ichinoseki and Blackwater (Kite-Flying project). Students from grades 5 to 6, who are studying Japanese at Blackwater State School, have been chosen to create messages of love, hope and peace on kites. These will be sent over to Ichinoseki, and in return, Blackwater council will receive one hundred kites from students in Ichinoseki.

Members of the community are invited to come along and get involved in this project. This year, it will be held on Sunday 15th of March at Hunter Street Sporting Complex from 10:30 am. A sausage sizzle is available for a gold coin donation.

Yumi Akiyama (Japanese teacher)

Notice for Catholic Parents
Preparation sessions for receiving the Sacraments will begin at the Catholic Church at 3:30 pm on Wednesday 25th February. This is for children in Grade 4, 5 and 6. It is necessary that the child is accompanied by at least one parent. For further information please contact the Sisters on 4982 5362.

Blackwater Aquatics & Barracudas
The Blackwater Community Invitational Carnival is on Saturday 21st February. Blackwater Aquatics and the Barracudas extend an invitation to swimmers of all ages from Blackwater, Comet, Bluff, Dingo, Duaringa, Rolleston and surrounds. For further information contact 0408 303 355.

PCYC Skate Night
The Blackwater PCYC will be holding Haunted Skating this Friday 20th February from 6.00 pm to 8:00 pm. Renew your PCYC membership and receive free entry.

MUSICIANS OF THE WEEK!
CONGRATULATIONS
Class of 1/2A
Chelsey Rogers
**Dates to Remember**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Assembly 2.15pm</th>
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<tr>
<td>23rd Feb—27th Feb</td>
<td>Book Fair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 1st March</td>
<td>P &amp; C Association Monster Cent Sale</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 2nd April</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
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<td>Mon 20th April</td>
<td>School Resumes Term 2</td>
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<td>11th, 12th &amp; 13th May</td>
<td>Napan (Year 3 &amp; 5)</td>
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**Put yourself in the picture and join the team to Clean Up Day**

**Celebrating 25 Years 1990-2015**

**Sunday 1st March 2015**

**Registration Point:**

7am
Scout Den
Arthur Street, Blackwater

**BYO: Hat, Gloves & Water**

Come along to help your environment & community and enjoy morning tea with your fellow community members.

For enquiries, please contact the Central Highlands Regional Council Blackwater Office on 4980 5555.

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**Bluff-Blackwater Amateur Race Club**

The Bluff-Blackwater Amateur Race Club (Newmarket Race Day) will be held on Saturday, 21st February 2015. Gates open at 11.00am. Under 18—$5.00, 18 and over—$10.00 (No ID = No Wristband). Bus from Blackwater—$5 per person per trip from the Blackwater Hotel Motel—11.30am and returning to Blackwater at 7.30pm & 11.30pm. Stay on after the races for the mechanical bull ride competition and music.

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**School Chaplaincy Information Night**

**Blackwater/Dingo**

**Date:** Monday 23 February

**Time:** 5.30 – 6.30 pm

**Venue:** Supper Room

Blachwater Civic Centre

Blackwater

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**For more info:**

Josh Clutterbug 0428 987 511
Anita Linke
anita@chappy.org.au
Flor Wiel
flor@chappy.org.au

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**Birthdays**

- 30 Jan Mia Clarke
- 01 Feb Gary Roser
- 02 Feb Sarah Munro
- 04 Feb Cameron Madden
- 05 Feb Gabby Morris
- 06 Feb Hayley Doyle
- 06 Feb Ashley Leeson
- 06 Feb Julius Malone
- 07 Feb Indi Watts
- 11 Feb Emily Connolly
- 12 Feb Joel Barton
- 13 Feb Ethan Low
- 16 Feb Logan Nelson
- 17 Feb Tom Denniss
- 19 Feb Alex Bamblett
- 21 Feb Jesse Broun
- 23 Feb Ben Rauchle
- 23 Feb Sarah Seeman
- 24 Feb Xavier Conway
- 24 Feb Jaydan Doyle
- 24 Feb Tristan Hodgson