

Koumala Parent Notices

Term 1 Week 6

School Philosophy

At Koumala State School we:

- Are Purposeful in what we do
- Always AIM for Improvement.

Four Year Strategic Plan

- Teacher Quality
- Data Analysis
- Early Years/Early Start
- School Community

“Test scores and measures of achievement tell you where a student is, but they don’t tell you where the student could end up”
- Carol Dweck

Week 5

I like the above quote. As much as I like the data, I love that we can make a difference to the data. They may not be an ‘A’ now, but what affect can you have on the learning to enable them to be there at the end of the year. We’ll talk about that on Tuesday. Thanks for all the work on the PAT tests and Waddington last week.

Research Article

“It is clear that while the differences between schools are relatively small, classroom differences are quite large. In fact an effective school is little more than a school full of effective classrooms. Children fortunate enough to be in the most effective classrooms will learn in six months what students in an average classroom learn in a year. What matters is the quality of the teacher” **pg4**

“Feedback that moves learning forward emphasises that the major purpose of feedback is to provide the learner with the guidance on what to do next, rather than telling her or him what was deficient in the last piece of work – or as Douglass Reeves says, the difference between a medical and a post mortem” **pg 12: Dylan Wiliam, Assessment for Learning: Why, What and How?**

Four Year Strategic Plan

Teacher Quality

I was very excited about the conversations last week around the Performance Plans and especially the staff meeting. It was very honest but also very positive, and our intention to improve what we do to help students is becoming evident. Hopefully the alignment with the Four Year strategic plan to the AIP, to the I4S money to the classroom is becoming clearer.

Data Analysis

Teachers need to mark your PAT tests and bring the PAT M spreadsheet to the meeting. We are going to talk through that both as a hub for improvement and as a school for trends.

Early Years/Early Start

School Community

Release Days

As part of our plan to improve teacher quality and use the I4S money we are offering the first of our release days for the year this term. We have planned for Week 10 to allow first Jodie and Kirsty on Tuesday, Andrea, Melissa and Lisa on Wednesday, and Tony, Debbie and Emily on Thursday to be off class. I envision these days being broken into two sections.

1. Hub time for moderating work completed during the term to validate and question the marks that had been given for work attempted and whether there were any 'A' samples for:
 - a. Collection for student examples of 'A' standard work for future reference, and
 - b. Begin planning for those students heading towards receiving an award at the end of the year.
2. Planning and sharing of ideas and resources across the hub for work to be completed in Term 2. Questions asked will be: How will the data improve your teaching in Term 2? How will you know? What do the students need to do to improve?

This work will be moderated by Jodie during those days. Time can also be provided for some alone time as well. I look forward to hearing your thoughts both before and after in how we can improve the day.

Class/Parent Meeting

Teachers have asked about a parent meeting and that topic has slipped through the busy-ness of the term. The idea of holding one afternoon for all classes is difficult as there are many siblings across all classes. If teachers would like to hold an afternoon session and invite parents then you need to organise it yourself. If teachers would like me to come and say something let me know. We are three weeks away from parent teacher interviews so if you want to hold off and have an honest conversation with a parent as opposed to many, I understand.

Cross Country

It will be held on the Tuesday of Week 10.

Sporting Trials

Soccer will be taking place on Monday 6th and Netball will be trialling on Wednesday 8th of March after school. I will be taking the Sarina District team to the trials on Friday 10th March so I will be away that day as well.

Vomit plan

Debbie Hamilton has asked that if there is any more vomit on the eating area (and let's hope there isn't) to give her a call and she can come and clean it up.

You Can Do It – Resilience

Students will explain what Resilience looks like and feels like for them. They can describe when they would need Resilience.

Weekly Behaviour Focus

Be Responsible – Classroom – Keep your work space tidy – the curse of the pencil shavings

This week:

- Tuesday – Gail away – Finance Meeting – Sarina State School
- Tuesday – Parade
- Tuesday – Data Check, hub conversation – PAT M Spreadsheets
- Wednesday – Principal Conference: Gold Coast
- Thursday – Principal Conference: Gold Coast
- Friday – Principal Conference: Gold Coast