



Koumala STATE SCHOOL

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Calendar of Events

Mobile Library

Thursday 23rd February
Thursday 9th March
10:00am – 12:00pm

P&C Meeting

Tuesday 21st February
9:00am Library

Pet Prep

Friday 24th February
11:40am

Landcare

Friday 3rd March
Years 4-6

Last day of Term 1

Friday 31st March

Good Friday

Friday 14th April

Easter

Sunday 16th April
Monday 17th April

Start of Term 2

Tuesday 18th March

**WATCH
THIS
SPACE**
Important Announcements
of interest to you

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

TERM 1 WEEK 5

Welcome to Week 5

At Koumala State School we:

- *Are purposeful in what we do*
- *Always AIM for improvement*

Testing Week

On the fifth week of Term 1 and Term 3 we engage in a Testing Week. During this week we will be testing the students on diagnostic tests called PAT Tests and Waddington's. PAT stands for Progressive Achievement Tests. They have a reading/comprehension component and a Numeracy component. These tests are used to determine where student's gaps may be in Numeracy and Literacy. Teachers can use these tests to define how to plan for students, to compare past performances and to determine whether progress is being made. I use this data to look from a whole school perspective and it allows me to be able to make decisions about patterns and trends in the school across a number of years. Waddington Spelling Tests simply inform us what the students spelling age is and we compare it to their actual age to ensure that both are tracking well.

In 2016 we had our first full year of data which revealed an enormous amount about student progress. It has enabled the staff to have conversations about student development and the role teachers play in creating improvement in students. On Tuesday in the staff meeting we get a chance as a staff to talk about progress that both teachers and students have made. We support those teachers who need assistance and we celebrate with those teachers who feel that improvement is being made.

I encourage parents to look at the data that is being gathered about your child and the developmental journey that your child is on.

Soccer trials

On Monday 6th March soccer trials will be held at Alligator Creek State School at 4:30pm. Please speak to me for any further information.

"Believe, Strive, Achieve"



Student Leaders

Whilst the majority of the Year 6 students were away at the GRIP Leadership conference. Nick, Hayden and Daniel ran the school assembly and their effort and organisation was a credit to them. It is great to see we have leaders everywhere across the school.

Investing for Success (IAS)

As part of the Government initiative to support schools and in turn lift student outcomes across the State we have again been provided with additional funds. The majority of these funds will go towards allowing Mrs Parchert to be off class and supporting teachers and students in her role as Curriculum Coordinator. This made a difference last year in the finding out gaps with students and supporting them in conjunction with parents. This year we are also going to use the money to provide teachers with extra days of to work with each other in moderating work and sharing resources. We also are using the money to fund an extra teacher in the Prep classroom for two days a week. This extra teacher, who for this term will be Mrs Wright, will be working with Ms Cole to work with different groups to move students forward based on their Early Start data. As the Early Years is a focus for the school this will be valuable learning time for the Prep students. She will be working on Tuesday and Thursday for the rest of the term.

Teacher aide hours (SWD)

The hours that we are given to purchase a teacher aide to work with students with disabilities have come in and we welcome Mrs Roberts who will be in our school from Tuesday – Friday for two hours on these days. She will be supporting specific students during her time here and she will be in this role all year.

P&C Meeting

On Tuesday we had a P&C Meeting where I was able to go through the Mandatory Asbestos training, as well as outlining success and challenges for 2016. Once we know where we have been we are able to enter 2017 with confidence in making a difference and supporting the whole school community. Thanks to all those who attended and for their input.

Camp Program

The camping program for 2017 has been an ordeal as the further we go from Koumala the more the price increases. Decisions have been made regarding camp for 2017 but parent input is needed for future planning. A meeting will be held later on this week to discuss costs, times and planning.

Working Bee

Talks have been taking place regarding a working bee for the school as there are numerous jobs that need to be attended to. We also need to have a meeting to discuss the possible Broadsound Sports program for 2018. More information about that will be available soon. The Year 5/6 boys have been doing some preliminary work around the grounds already with tidying up the drains around the tennis court and transpiration pit. They need to ensure they bring appropriate footwear to continue but the area looks great and they should be proud of their work.

You Can Do It – Confidence

Students will be able to demonstrate what confidence means both in and out of the classroom.

Weekly Behaviour Focus

Be Respectful – Classroom - Raise your hand to speak – Politeness

*“There is no elevator to success.
You have to take the stairs”*

Students of the Week

Prep MIA 1 MAKAYLA 2/3 ANDREW W 4/5 ALESHA 5/6 -

Learner Awards

For Being Responsible, Respectful & Safe

- & -

25 Gotcha Bands

-

Tuckshop News

Tuckshop Volunteers for:

Friday 24th Feb – Vicki C & Brodee G

Monday 27th Feb – Amanda B & Brodee G

Bus Notice

To all parents of all children travelling on R1064 Ilbilbie, Mt Christian & Greenhills Bus Service, please ring or text Jenny on 0434303985 with your emergency contact details as these need to be up to current and up to date.

Past Student News

Koumala Student Engineering Award

Analeigh Angus, daughter of Bill & Janet Angus has been given the Robert Thwaites Memorial Award from Griffith University. This award is given to the most outstanding engineering student in their final year. Congratulations from everyone at Koumala State School.



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