



# Koumala STATE SCHOOL

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## Calendar of Events

### Mobile Library

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March  
Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March  
10:00am – 12:00pm

### P&C Meeting

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March  
9:00am Library

### Cross Country

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March

### Last day of Term 1

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March

### Good Friday

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April

### Easter

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April

### Start of Term 2

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April

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

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

## TERM 1 WEEK 7

### Welcome to Week 7

*At Koumala State School we:*

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

### Student Performance

In Week 5 we conducted Diagnostic Testing of the students in Maths, Reading and Spelling. It is important for students to take part in these twice a year as it allows us to see distance travelled as well as the gaps in learning that we are able to focus on. For the 72 students who took part in the testing we had 31% of students reaching their expectation in Maths, and 38% reaching their expectation in Reading. There was a further 8% in Maths and 21% in Reading of students who exceeded their expectations. We also had 8 students work on harder tests to challenge them. In total this meant that 39% of students achieved in Maths and 59% achieved in Reading. It is the commitment of the teachers that the school reaches 100% achievement in all areas of the school.

Parent's role in the student's improvement is crucial through reading, counting, challenging students to show what they know and listening to them as they explain concepts. I was reminded last week that students who read for 20 mins a day, over the course of the year are so much further advanced with vocabulary and ideas.

We all look forward to supporting the students in seeing their progress when they are tested again in Term 3 of this year.

### Principals Conference

On Thursday and Friday I had the opportunity to attend the Principal Conference on the Gold Coast with 1300 other Principals from around the state. It was a fantastic occasion and the speakers and the presentations were so relevant and focussed on improvement. Some of the steps that we are taking this year lines up with the direction of the state. One of the special guests was John Hattie who has written books about school improvement and he was very informative and challenging to ensure progress is being made. Liz Ellis, who made a name for herself as Australia's netball captain, spoke at the dinner. She, as a parent, was very aware about Growth Mindset and John Hattie due to her involvement at her child's school. It was an inspiring two days.

*"Believe, Strive, Achieve"*



### **School Camp**

Thanks for all parents for sending back their forms. At the moment we have 36 students attending camp, but we hope that number will increase soon. Information about payment options will be out soon as all monies need to be in by the beginning of August. Please contact Gail for payment options.

### **School Performance**

Next Tuesday we will have the first school performance of the year. It's a Mad World is the title of the performance and it will involve a person who tells a story using juggling. This will be highly visual and entertaining from a performer who has worked with Circus Oz. The cost of this will be \$5 per child. Forms have been sent home.

### **Shave for a Cure**

On Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March our year 2 student, Kayne, is having all his long flowing locks cut off. He is doing this to raise money for a good cause. Flyers and posters are up around the Koumala Hotel and will soon be around the school. There will be prizes involved in this cause with a television, meat tray and some drinks offered to those who go in the running and purchase tickets for the day. More information will be coming through in the next week.

### **Football and Netball trials**

On Monday there were soccer trials and on Wednesday there will be Netball trials. Good luck to all students who will be trying out for those positions.

### **Disco**

The first Disco for the year will be happening on Friday of Week 9. This will be a fundraising event for the student council. No doubt there will be some fun activities and food being offered. Make sure all students have their dancing shoes ready to go for the night. More information coming soon.

### **Student Council**

The students have been meeting regularly and coming up with some great ideas around school improvements and fundraising. The leaders have also been organising the cross country practices and it has been great to watch them demonstrate leadership in moving the students from one place to the next.

### **Cross Country**

Cross Country training is taking place with the event happening in four weeks' time on Tuesday of Week 10. Parents are always welcome to attend and cheer on your favourite child. Hopefully the weather might be a little cooler by then

### **You Can Do It – Getting Along**

Discuss with students the meaning of "friendship." Ask students whether they believe it is possible to form a friendship with someone who doesn't like them. Ask them to explain their answers. Remind them that even though we may not like everyone we still need to use getting along behaviours. Point out that for us to have "true blue" (good) friendships, we must treat others the way we want to be treated.

### **Weekly Behaviour Focus**

Be Respectful – All Areas – Wait your Turn – Patience

*"Education is not the learning of facts,  
but the training of the mind to think"*  
- Albert Einstein

## **Students of the Week**

**Prep ZACH 1 ANNA 2/3 NFP 4/5 SERENITY 5/6 ZALI**

### **Learner Awards**

*For Being Responsible, Respectful & Safe*

*Sienna W & Andrew W*

**25 Gotcha Bands**

## **Tuckshop News**

*Tuckshop Volunteers for:*

Friday 10th March – Brodee G & Help Needed

Monday 13th March – Vicki C & Amanda B



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