From the Principal

The Waraburra Way is the foundation for all of our work at Waraburra State School. It aligns to all of our school practices. I encourage all families to take some time with their children to discuss what the Waraburra Way means to them. At last week’s P&C meeting, time was spent around unpacking each and every component. If families would like further information around our school vision and goals please make a time to discuss the Waraburra Way with your child’s teacher or a member of the admin team.

Teachers reviewing their practice- Our teachers are constantly involved in reviewing their teaching practices to ensure our students are being taught to the highest possible standard. Currently teachers are videoing lessons to self reflect on their practice. These videos are deleted once the teacher has watched it and discussed it with a fellow teacher. Teachers make sure that students who do not have permission to be videoed are not recorded. This practice enables our teachers to really reflect on their teaching.

Absences- This year we are closely watching students attendance rates. Students need to be at school every day. The only time they should be absence is if they are unwell or the family has a major reason to be absent. Students taking one day off a week adds up to losing 2 weeks out of a 10 week term. Students just can’t catch up with their learning with this amount of time off. Any absences of a student must be explained. We ask you either contact the school or write a letter to your child’s teacher when your child returns to school. We are noticing a huge difference in learning progress from students missing one or two days per week compared to students attending school every day.

NAPLAN- Congratulations to all our year 3 and 5 students for completing the annual NAPLAN assessments. The students were very settled and all tried their hardest. Special thank-you needs to go to the classroom teachers for making sure the students were very prepared and constantly reassured their students. These tests results will be posted home to families in early term 4.

Breakfast club- Last week our P&C and Chaplain commenced a breakfast club for all students. The breakfast is available on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning. The breakfast on offer is toast and a choice of spreads. Chappy Rod is looking for volunteers to help out in the morning. If you can give half an hour one morning a week please contact the school. This is a great service for our children and we are so pleased our parent body is getting behind the program.

Mr Jeff Jepson
Principal
Education QLD has a new procedure for administering medication at school, the medication needs to be presented with a label from medical practitioner, and we are also required to have a “Request to Administer Medication at School” form completed. There is a copy enclosed.

Cyberbullying - Just a reminder of the facts and what you can do... J

Cyberbullying is bullying that takes place using electronic technology. Electronic technology includes devices and equipment such as cell phones, computers, and tablets as well as communication tools including social media sites, text messages, chat, and websites.

Examples of cyberbullying include mean text messages or emails, rumors sent by email or posted on social networking sites, and embarrassing pictures, videos, websites, or fake profiles.

Be Aware of What Your Kids are Doing Online

Talk with your kids about cyberbullying and other online issues regularly.

Know the sites your kids visit and their online activities. Ask where they're going, what they're doing, and who they're doing it with.

Tell your kids that as a responsible parent you may review their online communications if you think there is reason for concern. Installing parental control filtering software or monitoring programs are one option for monitoring your child's online behavior, but do not rely solely on these tools.

Have a sense of what they do online and in texts. Learn about the sites they like. Try out the devices they use.

Ask for their passwords, but tell them you'll only use them in case of emergency.

Ask to "friend" or "follow" your kids on social media sites or ask another trusted adult to do so.

Encourage your kids to tell you immediately if they, or someone they know, is being cyberbullied. Explain that you will not take away their computers or cell phones if they confide in you about a problem they are having.

Establish Rules about Technology Use

Establish rules about appropriate use of computers, cell phones, and other technology. For example, be clear about what sites they can visit and what they are permitted to do when they're online. Show them how to be safe online.

Help them be smart about what they post or say. Tell them not to share anything that could hurt or embarrass themselves or others. Once something is posted, it is out of their control whether someone else will forward it.

Encourage kids to think about who they want to see the information and pictures they post online. Should complete strangers see it? Real friends only? Friends of friends? Think about how people who aren’t friends could use it.

Tell kids to keep their passwords safe and not share them with friends. Sharing passwords can compromise their control over their online identities and activities.

Steps to Take Immediately

Don't respond to and don't forward cyberbullying messages.

Keep evidence of cyberbullying. Record the dates, times, and descriptions of instances when cyberbullying has occurred. Save and print screenshots, emails, and text messages. Use this evidence to report cyberbullying to web and cell phone service providers. Block the person who is cyberbullying.

Mrs Di Kahl
Deputy Principal

Friday Parade, 1A-Feelings
**Master Teacher**

Since the commencement of this term, year level cohorts have been working with me each week for two hours on improving their pedagogy (quality teaching practices). The focus learning area for these sessions is mathematics. Within these sessions, we have unpacked the Department of Education’s – Central Queensland Teaching Framework and have focused on the high yield strategies for best practice. The teaching teams have also looked at suggested teaching models for mathematics.

Last week all teachers at Waraburra were engaged in professional learning on the high yield strategy ‘Questioning’. Teachers were exposed to research findings which included important points such as: after a question has been asked, wait time of 3–4 minutes needs to be allowed for students to think and 1 or 2 questions per minute should be asked (any more than this and students are experiencing cognitive overload). Another important finding was: for students to gain deeper knowledge of their learnings they need to be composing questions. However research has revealed that only 5% of the questions are asked by the students. Teachers are currently reflecting on their practices with the spotlight being on questioning.

If a word of one syllable (monosyllable) ends in a /k/ sound and this /k/ sound follows a short vowel: a, e, i, o, u, then the /k/ sound will be represented by the digraph ck.

e.g. sack, duck, lick, stick, wreck, clock (There is an exception ‘yak’.)
The letter ‘k’ follows any other sound e.g. milk, tank, tusk, soak, peek, hawk, bark, cork, perk.

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**Focus on Sport**

**Cross Country**

Congratulations to all the students who competed in the cross country trials in Rockhampton. Great performances by all especially Cooper Bland who came 7th in 7:39min.

**Interschool Sports**

Interschool sports starts this Friday for Rugby League and netball. Play make sure all forms and money have been returned.

**House Shirts**

House shirts can be worn each Thursday for students to receive a point towards their house. Limited shirts are available from the tuckshop although Lowes will start stocking the shirts in the near future.

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**Instrumental Music**

Congratulations to Caitlen and Lindsay who represented our school proudly in the 2015 Rockhampton Eisteddfod on Friday 1st May. They played their violas beautifully in the String Duet/Trio section for primary students and were presented with a Highly Commended award for their performance of “French Folk Song”. Well done girls.

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**Book Club**

Is HERE! Due back to school by 28/05/15 OR order and pay online!!

All forms and monies to go to the office.

All Students will receive forms from class teachers...

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**National Sorry Day**

26th May 2015

Sorry
**W.W.W. (Watching Wara Kids Work)**

**A day in the life of Prep B**

We start off the day by singing our ‘Days of the week’ song and dancing the Macarena to our ‘Months of the year’ song.

We practice our letters and sounds poems and make letters in different ways to help us to remember them.

When we do our Write2Spell handwriting we say the writing words aloud as we write.

We learn how to read including pointing to the words, looking at the pictures for clues, looking at the first letter in the word and sounding out. We are even learning to sound out and use our sight words to write sentences.

We are learning our numbers and words for our numbers in different ways like playdough.

We are learning to count to 20 and even count backwards until the rocket ship launches.

In Prep B we’re always busy learning and making fun things to help us to remember what we learn.