



Proud of our past, realising our potential, ready for the future

Principal's Column

Edition 34 29 October, 2009

World Teachers' Day A Time To Say Thanks

This Friday 30 October is World Teachers' Day. Celebrated in more than 100 countries, World Teachers' Day acknowledges the efforts of teachers in an increasingly complex society. Every day our teachers are building skills that translate into future careers and are shaping our future workforce - creating the next generation of leaders and innovators. The Department of Education and Training also recognises the outstanding work of its teachers through special awards and we are very privileged to have on our staff the recipient of one of these prestigious awards. Watch our sign for details officially announced tomorrow!

The World We Live In - Cyber-Safety, Ipods And Mobile Phones!

It is a reality in schools today that our students are 'tech savvy' and have at their fingertips an increasing array of personal ICT gadgets and modes of communication. As parents we have a duty of care to be the guardians of our children's safety and emotional well-being. They don't always appreciate this as their view of the world is confined by their limited life-experiences. It really is okay to say 'NO' to our children when they cry for 'privacy' around these matters. Parents are urged to be alert to the nature of MSN conversations taking place between students out of school hours (*Do you know what your children are reading/ writing on MSN?*), and to remind their children of the risks involved in texting while on the move (*Recently, one of our older students was almost hit by a car as she crossed the road, absorbed in texting a message on her mobile phone!*). As Ipods create similar safety issues, they are banned at TGSS. Students have been advised that confiscated Ipods can be collected by parents from Miss Chakalakis or Mrs Hoek.

Some worthwhile resources for primary aged children include: www.cybersmart.gov.au and www.cyberquoll.com.au for upper primary.

Teachers Learning

On Monday 19 October, our teachers engaged in a day of professional learning with a particular focus on *Gifted & Talented Education*. Mrs Karyn Hume, Head of Curriculum and Gifted Education Mentor, engaged staff in discussions to further enhance their knowledge, skill and practice in identifying, planning and applying appropriate programs to nourish the talents of gifted students.

Last Thursday afternoon, some of our teachers continued to build their own talents in using Interactive White Boards (IWBs). Keen to master this new technology, they have formed their own 'Café Tech' study group and meet with Ms Jane Mullins on a regular basis to further their own learning around ICT.

The Gap State School Needs Your Vote

Students at The Gap State School are asking you to vote this week so they can win **\$5,000** as part of an energy education challenge. The Year 7 students have been announced as finalists in Origin's Switched On™ students' awards, which celebrate schools promoting energy wise behaviour in their communities. Ms Mullins and her class have been using Origin's educational materials to learn about where energy comes from and how to use it more efficiently. After learning about energy efficiency with Origin's Energy Savers resource, students Laura, Maddie, Christie and Amy carried out energy checks to make sure unused lights and air conditioners were switched off.

"By saving electricity in our school, we're helping to reduce the impact we have on our environment," said the girls.

"We're also rewarding classes who are saving energy with certificates and treats - we're hoping our efforts will be reflected in reduced energy bills for the school."

"As a finalist, we've received \$500 for our efforts, which we plan to spend on a range of sustainability projects to help keep the students motivated to do their fantastic work," said Ms Mullins.

To see how TGSS is promoting energy wise behaviour and help them win, go to originenergy.com.au/thegap between 2 November and 17 November 2009 and vote. The winner will be announced on 23 November 2009.

MARIA CHAKALAKIS
PRINCIPAL

JANET HOEK
A/ DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

STRIVING FOR SUCCESS IN SPORT

The Gap State School continues to excel in all sports. For many years our school has had over 90% of children in years 4-7 participating in inter-school sport – the highest number in our district.

In the three largest district carnivals- athletics, swimming and cross country The Gap State School is clearly the best school of the district which comprises 22 state and non- state schools.

We are an active “Smart Moves” and “Smart Choices” school and this is impacting on the quality and quantity of our aspiring sportspeople. Our school community is justifiably proud of the way children present themselves in sporting fixtures here and at North-West District Sports.

The Children of The Gap State School are very fortunate to have so many dedicated teachers interested in the on-going promotion of sport.

Rob Kolomeitz (Mr K)

*SKIDS GOLF DAY
Sunday, 22 November 2009
Ashgrove Golf Club*

*Cost \$65 includes round of golf, breakfast
burger, sandwich lunch.
Registration 6.30am for 7.00am tee off.
Contact Leon (0407 184 661) or
Lisa (0409 278 772)*

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FROM THE CHAPLAIN (continued from last week)

Steve Biddulph's five important tips to help raise boys:

1. Be willing to spend time - something we all know, but maybe the hardest to do. The stages outlined last week go by so quickly. In the stage of 6 to 14 years is the time to be with your boys.
2. Play rough-and-tumble games. This is when boys are learning to live in a male body. Boys are learning in 'rough and tumble' an essential lesson for all males: how to be able to have fun, get noisy, even get angry and at the same time, know when to stop.
3. Teach him to respect women. One day he will realise that he is bigger than his mother! And he will think 'She can't make me do it!' Teach him how to converse respectfully and safely.
4. Honour their tender feelings. It is clear that the more tender and warm the lives of children are, the safer and more loving they will be as adults.
5. Teach him to do housework. I really liked this one, he suggests by the age of nine our boys should be able to cook an evening meal.

Steve Biddulph's book "Raising Boys" is available for borrowing by parents from the school Library, and is a very helpful and interesting read.

Jocelyn Hayes School Chaplain (jhaye105@eq.edu.au)

MUSIC NEWS

Senior Strings and Senior Concert Band will be performing at Indooroopilly Shopping Centre on Thursday, 05 October. Students will travel by bus to the venue and parents are most welcome to come and watch. Performance begins at 1.30pm. See you there!

Rhonda Haringcaspel

MUSIC SUPPORTERS' MEETING

The next Music Supporters' meeting will be held on Thursday, 12 November at 6.30pm in the staffroom. This will be our last meeting for the year. We will be putting the finishing touches on the end of year functions so please come along.

CALL FOR ASSISTANCE

The children have all worked hard this year in music. The end-of-year concerts are an opportunity for the children to celebrate music and share with the family what they have learnt. The Instrumental Concert will be on Wednesday, 18 November and the Choral Evening on Tuesday, 24 November. The MSG is coordinating refreshments for both evenings. This cannot happen without many helpers. If you are able to bake a slice or cookies for either or both events please contact Kellie on 3511 0024 or stockton01@bigpond.com Thank-you to all who have already kindly offered assistance.

P & C MEETING

Monday, 02 November, 2009 at 7.00pm (Staffroom).

SKIDS (Supporting KIDS Sport) MEETING

Skids (Supporting KIDS Sport) next meeting will be held on Thursday, 05 November at 7.00pm at The Gap Tavern. All welcome.

UNIFORM/STATIONERY SHOP ROSTER

| | |
|------------|-------------------------|
| Mon 02 Nov | volunteer needed |
| Wed 04 Nov | Sue Binder |
| Fri 06 Nov | Anne Carseldine |

We have had no response to our call for volunteers for a Monday opening. **WE NEED YOUR HELP** to have this service continue.

***** Opening Hours - Term 4**

Monday (8.00-9.30am)
 Wednesday (2.30-3.30pm)
 Friday (8.00-9.30am)

Margaret McMullen (Convenor) 3300 4524

TUCKSHOP NEWS

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Tues 03 Nov | Sue Fleming, volunteer needed |
| Wed 04 Nov | Julie Greenwood, volunteer needed |
| Thurs 05 Nov | Lei Berry, Kiri Welsh, John Ruhle, Volunteer needed |
| Fri 06 Nov | Mel Hogan, Deb Twomey |

Baking Roster - Lesley Godkin, Myat Tanner

Volunteers' Dinner - The tuckshop volunteers dinner will be held on **Wednesday, 11 November** at 7.00pm at Siam Garden. Please call in at tuckshop and let me know if you can make it.

Volunteers are urgently needed. If you can help out for a couple of hours once a month, please contact me on 3300 9730. *Stacey Healy (Tuckshop Convenor)*


COMMUNITY NEWS

Michael Johnson MP extends an invitation to families to the *Inaugural Thomas the Tank Engine Family Fun Day* to be held on 31 October and 01 November 2009 at Toowong's ANZAC Park (access via Dean Street, Toowong).

This special family initiative promises to be a fantastic weekend of fun, laughter and entertainment! Enjoy a classic sausage sizzle or bring your own picnic for a truly special day out!

HAVE A SPLASH WITH THE ROAR

Take a holiday with the **ROAR** and your mates. Plenty of games, drills and fun. Come and join the **ROAR** coaches and play the beautiful game this holiday - indoors! Information sheets available at school office.

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|  | <p>HARVEY LEE 0407 350 132 Quality work by an experienced, reliable and licensed carpenter. For all your carpentry & renovation needs.</p> | <p>Hayley Voll Travel Counsellor T 0414 935 530 E hayley.voll@travelcounsellors.com.au W www.travelcounsellors.com.au/hayley.voll</p> | <p>travel counsellors</p> | <p>⇒</p> <p><i>Where will your conversation take you?</i></p> |
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Diary Dates

Cash Collection Days - Tuesday and Thursday only

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|-----------|---------------|---|
| Tues-Fri | 27-30 October | Year 4 Camp (Alexandra Park) |
| Wed-Fri | 28-30 October | Year 3 Camp (Camp Constable) |
| Friday | 30 October | World Teachers' Day (Celebrated at TGSS on Monday 26 October due to Yr 3 & 4 camps) |
| Monday | 02 November | Music Fest (Junior Band) |
| Tuesday | 03 November | Melbourne Cup Fundraising Lunch |
| Thursday | 05 November | Year 1 Day Camp (School Oval) |
| Thursday | 12 November | Music Supporters' Group Meeting 6.30pm (Staffroom) |
| Friday | 13 November | School Disco |
| Wednesday | 18 November | Instrumental Concert |
| Sunday | 22 November | Inaugural Golf Day |
| Thursday | 24 November | Choral concert |
| Thursday | 26 November | Junior Swimming Carnival (Years 1& 2) |
| Friday | 27 November | Senior Swimming Carnival (Years 4-7) |
| Thursday | 03 December | Volunteers' Morning Tea |
| Tuesday | 08 December | Year 7 Graduation |

SCHOOL DISCO

Friday, 13 November 2009. Please mark in your diaries as this is our last disco for the year. Be sure not to miss it.

Mel Hogan (Parent Liaison Officer)

BICYCLE RIDING

Students are reminded that care must be taken if riding bicycles on footpaths. Last Friday one of our young students had to move off the footpath and near to the edge of the road to avoid bicycles.

STUDENT BANKING

Banked this week \$221.70 by 19 students.

SPORTS VENUES - FRIDAY 30 OCTOBER

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|-----------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|
| Traditional Cricket | Year 6 Tramway Street Ferry Grove | Year 7 Ferry Grove State School | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Students will not be permitted to go to sport if they do not have a hat. ➤ Please be aware that it is not always possible to get a message to Years 4-7 students on Friday afternoons due to sport. |
| Modified Cricket | Valleys Cricket Club Yoku Rd, Ashgrove | | |
| Boys Touch | Hanran Park Hanran St, Grovely | | |
| Girls Touch T Ball | West's, Mitchy Dorrington Park | Year 4 at Camp | |

COMMUNITY NEWS

Do you groan when someone talks about Christmas shopping?.....all the parking, crowds, top price and the heat? Well, come to The Gap Scouts Shopping Tour on Saturday, 07 November. Cost is \$50 which includes lunch, all wholesale outlets in Brisbane. All your Christmas shopping done in one day!

Ph: Anita Gow (3300 1911) or Rae Askew (0418 739 955) to secure your place!

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