A note from the Principal:

I would like to congratulate all students on their attendance, our overall average daily attendance for term 1 2014 stands at 94.9% which is 1.8% higher than 2013. With a large number of children attending school for 100% of the term we can be assured they are getting quality learning time. At parade it was a pleasure to congratulate these children; along with another large group of students awarded their 20 tokens level, for their exemplary behaviour. It is a pleasure to see that our school community values and supports regular attendance, good behaviour and engaged classrooms.

School parade:
Parade for this week will be a full school parade held at 9.00am on Friday morning. The P&C will draw the Easter raffle at the parade. Make sure you buy your tickets from the school office before Friday. Thank you to all who donated to the raffle and to the ladies who put the Easter hampers together.

Parent, teacher interviews:
A reminder interviews are tonight from 3.15pm onwards. We look forward to catching up with as many parents as possible. Mr McEnery, Ms Watts, Mrs Seed, Mr Walters and Mrs Grogan will be available in the library if you wish to discuss your child’s progress in HPE, LOTE or with support for their learning.

Professional Learning for Teachers:
This week all our teachers attended an information session on functional behaviour of students as part of our school wide positive behaviour program. Melissa Grogan our regional coach presented our teachers with research, strategies and skills that will enhance and strengthen our present behaviour structures at Jones Hill SS.

Time was given this week to teachers to work in small groups to plan next terms classwork and moderate the results from student’s assessment from this term. Giving staff this time together enables them to share resources and ideas and enables consistency in our high quality delivery of teaching and learning.

Fundraising:
Thank you to all involved in the sausage sizzle, both parent volunteers and our cool kids did an excellent job feeding us last Tuesday. The funds raised will be used by the P&C to provide resources for students at the school.

University in Gympie:
I had the privilege of attending a presentation at the new University of the Sunshine Coast campus in Gympie. It was a wonderful eye opener to see what courses are available both at Gympie and the Sunshine Coast for our children, and to know they no longer have to travel a long way from home to get quality tertiary education. I am in the process of organising an information evening and tour of the university campus and local TAFE, for the students and parents of our current year 6 and 7 students. This will enable students to think about future careers and see what great resources and programs are available locally.

Environment Trip:
Four of our students have been invited by Elli Webb our Cleanaway educational officer, to participate in the first official Minimise to the Max Materials Recovery Facility and Education Centre Tour. The children will travel this Tuesday to Hervey Bay to take part in the environmental educational tour, our school was one of five selected due to our involvement in Elli’s sustainability programs.
GYMPIE TIMES - iPads for your school!

Thank you to everyone for their help in collecting the tokens for the Gympie Times iPads for school competition. Our total was 2658 – a great effort. We do not know which school was the lucky winner yet, but that certainly will put us in with a great chance of winning. Thank you one and all.

Parents interested in running a playgroup:

If you are interested in taking part in a playgroup on site at Jones Hill State School for a couple of mornings a week, please meet with Helen Grogan in the staffroom at 12.00pm this Friday.

Reminder if Interested In after school Care:

Camp Australia, a provider of before school, after school and holiday care for children, has a survey, if you think you would use this service, please take time to answer it: The survey can be found at https://www.research.net/s/JonesHillStateSchool. If there is enough interest from our school we may start the service early term 2.

How to help my child to read and understand what they are reading (Comprehending)

Throughout the first years of school, teachers are helping your child develop reading skills that will enable him or her to become a proficient reader. But make no mistake, learning to read takes practice, practice and more practice—much more than a child can get during a school day.

You can provide reading opportunities and extra guidance at home by simply implementing the simple activities and tips you find below. They are sure to help your child with reading comprehension regardless of what skill level they are currently at. Equally important, they will help foster a love for reading.

Before reading a book about ocean life, for example, first talk to your child about how fish are different from mammals and have to live in a water environment. Preview the text to find unfamiliar words like “gills” and “vertebrate” and explain them before you start reading. Talk about the fish you may have seen in a pet store or at the beach.

Studies show that children are exposed to a larger variety of words in children’s books that are read to them than from what they hear on prime time TV. That means anything you read to them will enlarge their vocabulary much more than the conversations heard on television.

Remember that your child’s listening vocabulary is much larger than their reading vocabulary. When you read books that are interesting to them, both reading and writing vocabularies increase. That’s because if they have heard a word before in context, then when it’s presented in the classroom they’ll be able to recognise it with greater comprehension.

Good readers unconsciously create visual images in their heads while they are reading. It’s all part of the comprehension process. While you are reading to your child, think out loud about the images you see or the questions that may arise. That means explaining the ideas, pictures, questions, and connections that go through your mind as you read a passage. Here’s an example of a think aloud:

The title of this book is Bobby: The Bravest Boxer. There is a picture of a dog on the cover so that tells me Bobby is a boxer dog instead of a man that boxes. I wonder what the dog did that proved his bravery. I need to read ahead and find out. Oh, on the next page it says, “Bobby got very nervous when the children were playing outside all alone, especially if they are near the street.” That tells me that Bobby may do something to protect one of the children in the family. But how? I have to read on to find out more.

Most children jump at the opportunity to play a little role reversal. As you and your child are reading, take turns coming up with questions, making predictions, and summarizing. You be the student and let your son or daughter be the teacher. Children love being able to say things like “Dad, tell me what you think will happen next!”

One of the most important things parents can do is to provide reading material that is interesting and relevant. Nothing turns a child off reading like boring content. If your reader is a young boy make sure he has access to scary stories, sports books, or science fiction. And if your girl likes those things as well, make sure she has them in addition to stories about animals, fairy tales, and babysitting clubs.

By consistently using these reading comprehension tips and strategies you’ll provide a learning environment that will accelerate your child’s reading comprehension development. Not only that, you’ll form a parent – child bond that will serve your child well as he or she meets the challenges of school years and beyond.


8 Strategies

1. Prior Knowledge – what do they already know?
2. Making Connections – between other books, life experiences or world.
3. Questioning – what questions can they ask about the text?
4. Visualising – developing a mental image in their mind.
5. Inferring – reading between the lines, what is the author trying to say?
6. Summarising – what was the story about?
8. Synthesising – process what was read to comprehend the text and solve problems across the curriculum with this new knowledge.

Using strategies together to make meaning
Keep a watch on our school these holidays
With the holidays fast approaching, we need you to look out for after-hours crime in our school. If you see anything suspicious, please call School Watch on 13 17 88.

The School Watch program is a partnership between the Department of Education, Training and Employment, the Queensland Police Service and the State Government Protective Security Service. It aims to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in Queensland schools.

If you do see something suspicious, please don’t attempt to intervene. Call the School Watch number and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter. Keep the number handy—13 17 88—and let’s work together to help create a safer school community.

Thank you
Thank you to Stacey Seed who is taking the place of Wayne Alexander as Acting Deputy Principal, whilst he is on leave. Welcome also to David Lee who will take over Stacey’s duties. We look forward to working with them over the next few weeks.

THUMBS UP CERTIFICATES
Whole School Parade Friday at 9:00am in the hall


40 points – Annalise S and Ashlyn S.

ANZAC DAY MARCH
ANZAC DAY is on Friday April 25. Students from our school have taken part in the Anzac Day parade for many years. Those wishing to be involved can meet up with Mrs Hurren at 10:00am in Smithfield Street with the march starting at 10:30am. Please wear school uniform and a hat.

Anzac wristbands, tattoos and silk ribbons will be available to purchase from the school office next week for:
- Camouflaged wristbands - $2.00
- Silk ribbons - $1.00
- Silk stickers – 50c
- Tattoos – 50c

School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS)
Weekly Update
What does SWPBS look like at Jones Hill State School:
In Term Two all Year 1 – 7 students will be given the opportunity to apply for a higher achievement behaviour level. Over the coming weeks we will include the descriptors related to each of these levels. Students must have demonstrated all the appropriate behaviours. Applications are approved by the class teacher, specialist teachers (PE, Music, LOTE and Librarian), teacher aides and Deputy Principal and Principal. The application must be approved at each stage of the process.

PLATINUM
These students are considered school ambassadors. They display exemplary behaviour and are school leaders.

SAFETY:
Always follows school rules and models safe behaviour in all settings.

LEARNING:
Always displays positive attitude and outstanding effort to improve their learning.
Always participates in a range of learning opportunities, demonstrating commitment and effort.
Always completes class work and homework to the best of their ability.
Always supports others in their learning (peer tutor, class leader etc)

RESPECT:
Always displays exemplary manners and treats other members of the school community with respect.
Always represents their school with the highest standard of behaviour and wears their uniform with pride.
Always treats school property and environment with respect and may be pro-active in caring for or restoring things.

RELATIONSHIPS:
Always supports and takes responsibility for the welfare of peers and other students in the school.
Is an excellent role model for positive relationships.
Is involved in student groups and welcomes leadership roles.

Weekly Focus:
This week our focus is Safety in the classroom and learning settings. Every class will be engaged in a lesson designed to teach the following expectations:
- Keep learning areas clean and tidy
- Use personal and class equipment safely
- Act safely at all times

Parents, teachers and students working together make a powerful team!

Kind Regards, Helen Grogan
**CHAPPY’S CHAT**
This Wednesday the Yr 6/7 leadership group will be giving the Prep/Yr1 classes a real treat with an obstacle course being set up for first break. This is part of the challenges the leadership team will be taking on as they organise and plan for some great projects that will benefit the school over the next 3 terms of 2014. Term 2 will see some more lunch time activities which are being discussed further this week.

Brekky club has been going well each Thursday morning and again I am very grateful for the volunteers from the Yr 6/7 students who have been cooking toast, cutting up fresh fruit and serving tasty fruit juice to all the eager hungry mouths lining up and waiting patiently for their turn. Next term I am hoping to find two Adult volunteers to come on board to supervise the running of the Brekky club program. If you would like to have a part in helping with this, please contact the office and leave your details. Mums or Dads, your help will be much appreciated!

It is hard to believe that this is the last week before holidays. I have really enjoyed the busyness and involvement in the classrooms and working with the Teachers. Term 1 has flown past and it has been a privilege to be a helper when required. I hope you all enjoy the time off over the holidays and that you stay safe. Easter is a very special time of the calendar.

Of course there is lots of chocolate that needs to be eaten, so have the best time ever over the holidays and see you all back in Term 2. Until next time this is Chappy Russ.

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**Easter Holiday Hotshots Junior Tennis Fun Tournaments & Coaching**
Gympie and District Junior Tennis Association coaches Brett Cottrill and Matt Watkins will be conducting 3 Fun Tournaments and coaching clinics in week 1 of the holidays on Monday 7th April, Wednesday 9th April and Friday 11th April at The Reg English Memorial Tennis Centre on Cartwright Rd. The tournaments will be held from 8.30am until 12.30pm with morning tea and lunch included. Costs are $25.00 /day / person, $45 for both days/ person or $60 for all 3 days. Great prizes and plenty of tennis for all. Levels from beginners to advanced are welcome. Family Discounts. Enquiries and bookings to Brett Cottrill 0417 746795. Entries for each tournament close 10.00am 1 day prior to the event.

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**P&C NEWS**
**EASTER EGG RAFFLE**
The P&C are asking that families donate an Easter treat to go towards a monster Easter raffle draw at the end of the term. All donations will be made up into baskets and the raffle tickets will only be sold at school. You can donate anything from a single Easter egg to ribbon to help wrap the baskets. Please send your Easter item to the office. Thanks to all those who have already donated. Tickets will be available from the office or at Parade this Friday. The raffle will be drawn at the 9am parade on the last Friday of term.

**CADBURY CHOCOLATE DRIVE**
Boxes of chocolates are still available from the office for collection.
- Fun Pack Mixed Freddos Box to be sold for $1.00 per chocolate
- Easter Box to be sold for $4.00 per packet of Easter eggs

The chocolates must be collected from the office by a parent. Money is to be returned to the office once you have sold all of the chocolates. All money raised helps the P&C to provide those extra resources for the students and teachers.

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**IGA TAGS**
IGA tags are available at the school office. Just swipe the tag when you put your groceries through and a percentage goes straight back to the school.

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**SAUSAGE SIZZLE THANKYOU**
A huge thank you to those who supported the P&C sausage sizzle last Tuesday. Our P&C volunteers, Janessa and Louise, along with the Cool Cooks teachers and students, Mrs Byrne, Mrs Walters, Shannan J, Madeline D, Rory B, Ethan B, Reegan S, Stuart M, Scott M, and Braydon P cooked, packaged and distributed over 160 sausages in bread. We also thank Coles supermarket Gympie for their generous donation of goods for this day. A percentage of this fundraiser will go to the Cool Cooks program.

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**UNIFORM SHOP**
Fridays - 8:30am to 9:30am
No EFTPOS - Cash/cheque only
Enquiries Jill Wells 0408 064 744
7am to 6pm Monday to Friday

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**SCHOOL BANKING**
Fridays - 8:15am to 9:00am
No banking till February 14
In the tuckshop office
For information see Kate
The Gympie SHS HighLIGHTS excellence programs are now available for registration. The five programs, on offer predominantly after-school throughout Terms 2 and 3, provide students in Years 6, 7 and 8 opportunities to experience some of the wide range of subjects on offer at Gympie High. Students will have hands-on experience of creativity, discovery, design and creation in these extension programs.

**The STEM (Science Technology Engineering and advanced Manufacturing) HighLIGHTS** course runs throughout Terms 2 and 3 and prepares students for Robotics Competitions such as the Technology Challenge and both State and National RoboCup Junior Competitions. Students design and build NXT Lego-based robotics and build functional, autonomous and remote-controlled robots from scratch. STEM, a Junior Secondary elective subject which leads to Engineering Technology in Years 11 and 12, focuses on electrical and mechanical engineering with advanced manufacturing and industrial control systems as a key focus.

**The Short Film HighLIGHTS** will explore aspects of the short film genre, including creative writing, storyboarding, filming and editing. This valuable learning experience has an emphasis on fun and creativity, linking closely to Junior English and Year 11 and 12 Film and Television. The course runs for nine weeks and culminates in a Short Film evening at the beginning of Term 3 to witness and celebrate the students’ creativity.

**The Agriculture HighLIGHTS** program involves six weeks of boots-on, hats-on experiences where students are immersed in working with cattle and poultry, growing vegetables, learning how to set up electric fences, taste-testing local produce and finding out how a tractor harnesses the power of a hundred horses! Agriculture is a Junior Secondary elective which leads to studies in Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Science in the Senior School and can prepare students for tertiary studies in Agriculture.

**The Biotechnology HighLIGHTS** program runs for four sessions and will see students immersed in a “lab-coats-on” series of experiments, including extracting DNA from plant and animal sources; discovering aseptic technique; and finding out how antibiotics work, as well as culturing plants and other microorganisms. Using state-of-the-art technology, students will get a head start for Junior Secondary science, which leads in to Senior Biology and Chemistry and onto tertiary study.

**The Gaming Programming HighLIGHTS** is an intensive Saturday workshop which will see students program their own computer game using industry standard software applications. Delivered by instructors with game industry qualifications in software programming, students will learn the power of computer programming while having fun with computer games. Gympie High offers courses of study in computer game design, programming and 3D game art modelling. In Junior Secondary, Technology and Media is an elective subject that leads to Digital Media and Communication in Year 9 and a range of Certificate II, III and IV courses in Years 10 to 12.

Brochures and registration forms will also be available from Primary schools and from the GSHS front office where payment for the programs can also be made. Places in some programs are limited, so get in quickly to sign up for these exciting courses. Registration closes Wednesday 23rd April. For more info please contact Stacy Wilmore (Deputy Principal – Junior Secondary) on 5489 8333 or swilm8@eq.edu.au.