

18 October 2017

Principals Report

MOVE TO MORE ELECTRONIC INFORMATION:

We are increasing the amount of communication that we will send out of Allenstown School via electronic means (Facebook, SMS, Website).

Having recently started releasing our newsletter via Facebook we have had very positive responses from many people. While quick and effective it is also helping us to reduce some of our administrative costs.

This week will be the last time that we print up to 300 paper copies of the newsletter. From now on we will only be printing 30 or so copies which can be collected from the office for those who prefer this type of communication. Otherwise, most weeks our newsletter should be available via Facebook from Tuesday afternoon.

The P&C are also looking into the idea of using an online Tuckshop system. It would allow online ordering and payment in an instant – orders for a whole week could be placed at one time. More news of this to come.

ATTENDANCE CONCERNS:

We currently have far too many students who are missing school too regularly. It is a parental responsibility to get school aged children to their school of choice very day.

There are far more positive reasons for students to attend school than to be away regularly – not the least of which is that parents then don't get harassed about attendance issues.

Our level of 'harassment' for some families is about to step up – we want to see our students every day so that we can engage them with their education.

CLASS ORGANISATION FOR 2018:

In the very near future we will start the process of organising classes for 2018. This will involve making

many decisions about which students are allocated to which classes.

The decisions are not made lightly and many factors are considered. Some of these are:

- ✓ Male / female balance for class;
- ✓ Balance of students at various achievement levels across classes;
- ✓ The behavioural balance of the class;
- ✓ Class size and whether multi- age or 'single' year level;
- ✓ Parents requests in relation to siblings of the same age, year level, etc

Please arrange to speak directly to me if you have specific information that may affect your child's class placement for next year. A student simply 'not liking' a particular teacher is not a valid reason to seek a specific class placement. I am happy to receive email or personal requests which will be treated confidentially.

Asking teachers to 'have' your child / student for another year will not be considered – requests have to come to the principal or deputy (Mr Spyve) directly.

COLLECT STUDENTS FROM OFFICE ONLY:

If for some reason you need to collect your child early from school (illness, family emergency, etc) you should come to the office only. Please do NOT go directly to classrooms.

The office ladies will arrange for students and their belongings to be at the office and then correct signing out procedures can be followed.

SECOND SEMESTER REPORTING:

We are planning some changes to the way we will provide end of semester reports to parents.

Previously student reports have included descriptions (sometimes quite lengthy and wordy) about the units of work that have been taught as well as student performance in relation to these.

We believe that the reports were not very 'user friendly' and as a result we plan to:

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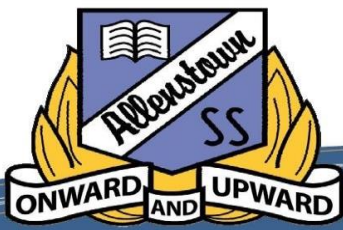
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NEWSLETTER



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- Send home a copy of the unit of work descriptions approximately 1 week prior to the actual student reports;
- Only include on the student reports for each subject the allocated marks for achievement and effort.
- All comments will be collected together under the heading of general comment. In that we will be aiming to give you a precise account of the skills and achievements of your child.
- The only comments that will remain in the specific subject areas will be those provided by specialists such as music, HPE and LOTE teachers.
- Each student report will also have an individual comment about behaviour included.

The main difference you will notice is that the long comment section next to each subject will no longer appear. The comments sections next to all subjects except Music, HPE or LOTE (Yrs 5 & 6 only) will remain blank.

Please call the office to discuss this matter if you have any concerns. Mr Spyve or I would be happy to talk with you.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL:

The date for the 2017 swimming carnival has been set for Thursday 23rd November commencing at 4.00pm. Watch the newsletter for further information regarding this event.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION AND AWARDS EVENING:

This important annual event is set down for Thursday 30th November. Please watch for further information from the Year 6 teachers regarding this event.

FINAL PARADE OF EXCELLENCE:

The last Parade of Excellence for 2017 will be held on Friday 1st December.

Awards for students from Prep to Year 5 will be presented on this parade. The winners of Year 6 awards from the previous night's graduation / awards ceremony will also be presented to the whole school. Watch upcoming newsletters for more details about this parade.

PREP ENROLMENTS OPEN FOR 2018:

Please encourage anyone you know with Prep aged children to collect enrolment forms as soon as possible.

We already have 42 students 'enrolled' in Prep for next year. Getting our enrolments completed early will help with staff planning for the Prep classes.

If we happened to have enough Prep enrolments to start a third class next year, we would need time to organise a suitable room and resourcing for this. Early notice of your intention to enrol would greatly help.

ALL ENROLMENTS OPEN:

As well as Prep we are also taking enrolments for all other year levels in 2018. Please pass this advice on to anyone you may know who has students to enrol.

ADVICE OF NON RETURN FOR 2018:

If you have students from Prep to Year 5 who will not be returning to Allenstown in 2018 (for whatever reason) it would be beneficial for us to be advised of this.

It means that when I am planning classes for next year I can accurately predict which students are available for which classrooms. You can confidentially advise this information directly to Mr Spyve or myself by phoning the office.

Other News



TRIVA NIGHT – DONATIONS

The P & C will be holding a Trivia Night on 3rd November and urgently need donations for the multi-draw raffle. If each family could donate something, no matter how small would help. Some suggestions could be – groceries, toys, gardening equipment, plants, vouchers etc. Anything would be greatly appreciated. Donations can be dropped off at the office. If you have any queries please contact Kelly Thompson (P & C President) on Ph. 0459 202 186

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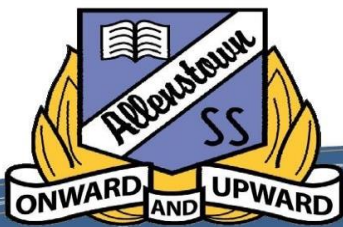
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YEAR 5 CAMP

The final cost for the Year 5 Camp after fundraising is \$295.00. Final payment needs to be made to the office no later than 27th October 2017 for your child to attend camp.



BOOK CLUB – Issue 7

Book Club Issue 7 closes on 24th October. Please get your orders in before then to avoid disappointment.



Term 4 - SWIMMING LESSONS

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
8:45 – 9:15am		PB	4B	5/6B	
9:15 – 9:45am					
9:45 – 10:15am	4A	2B	5A	4/5C	PA
10:15 – 10:45am					
10:45 – 11:30am	FIRST BREAK				
11:30 – 12:00pm	1C	1A	2/3C	3A	
12:00 – 12:30pm					
12:30 – 1:00pm					
1:00 – 1:30pm	SECOND BREAK				
1:45 – 2:45pm	1B	3B	6A	2A	

If parents/caregivers are able to help with swimming please let your class teacher know. Helpers will be required to get into the pool. If the required number of Adult Helpers is not present for a lesson, students will be unable to go swimming on that day.

The children are required to bring their **swimmers**, a **swim shirt**, a **swimming cap**, **goggles** and a **towel**. Students will not be permitted to swim without a swim shirt or swimming cap. Swimming caps are available from the office for \$2.00 each. Correct money would be greatly appreciated.

World Teachers' Day 2017

Friday 27 October



Every day, Queensland teachers are making a difference educating and inspiring young people across our state.

World Teachers' Day is an opportunity to acknowledge our teachers and say thanks for the significant contributions they make in our classrooms and communities.



RSHS Enrolment Interview Evening

Rockhampton State High School's second Enrolment Interview Evening will take place on Thursday 26th October from 3:30-6:30pm. Please contact the Rockhampton State High School Office on 49204333 to make an appointment and organise an enrolment pack to be back as soon as possible.

su chaplaincy ART for CHAPPIES



Exhibition & Auction

Walter Reid Cultural Centre – Gallery

Artwork produced by students from North Rockhampton, Rockhampton and Glenmore High Schools

Opening Hours

Friday 27th October 10:00am to 8:30pm

Saturday 28th October 10:00am to 4:00pm

Sunday 29th October 10:00am to 4:00pm

Monday 30th October 10:00am to 6:00pm

Fundraising to support Rockhampton State School Chaplains - all artwork has been produced by present and past students from North Rockhampton, Rockhampton and Glenmore High Schools. These students are pleased to use their talents to support the Chaplaincy service. The Rockhampton Chaplaincy Committee supports ten Chaplains who work in seventeen schools in the Rockhampton area.

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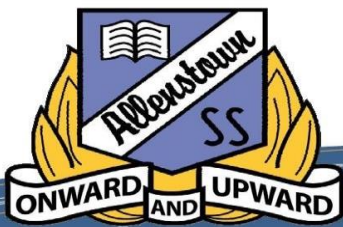
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Pre-bids for artwork can be made up to 6:00pm on Friday 27th October. Artwork can be viewed on the Rockhampton School Chaplaincy Events Facebook page on Thursday 26th. To pre-bid phone 0409 580 748. On-line winning bidders will be contacted by Tuesday 31st October to arrange payment & collection of artwork.

This project received assistance from Rockhampton Regional Council's Community Assistance Program.



Allenstown Square Shopping Centre and the Charter Hall Marketing team are running a "LOVE LOCAL" campaign and Allenstown State School has been nominated to participate. The campaign runs from Monday 2 October to Sunday 29 October 2017 so your vote would be greatly appreciated.

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If you are interested in receiving \$500 in matched savings, please contact

Kathy Connaughton - Saver Plus Coordinator

0408 490 984 or 49248125

Email - kathy.connaughton@thesmithfamily.com.au

Upcoming Events		
DATE	DETAILS	VENUE
Every Monday	Step into Prep 9-11am	Prep Building
Every Thursday	Prep Transition 12-2.30pm	Prep Building
Every Thursday	Playgroup 8.45am-10.45am	Allenstown SS Hall
3 Nov	Trivia Night (P & C)	Allenstown SS Hall
6 -10 November	Year 5 School Camp (\$295 – Balance by 27/10/17)	Fairbairn Dam
13 -17 November	Year 6 School Camp (\$390)	Brisbane
16-27 Nov	Life Education Visit	Allenstown SS
23 Nov	Swimming Carnival 4.00pm	Allenstown SS Swimming Pool
28 Nov	Xmas Concert 5.30pm BBQ 6.00pm Start	Allenstown SS Oval
30 Nov	Year 6 Graduation & Awards Night	Allenstown SS Hall
1 Dec	Parade of Excellence Prep – Yr 5	Allenstown SS Hall
8 Dec 17 22 Jan 18	Last day of 2017 First day of 2018	Allenstown SS



October is
Breast Cancer Awareness
Month

CALL 13 20 50

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