

31 October 2017

## Principals Report

### HALF WAY MARK:

This week marks the half way mark of our last term of 2017.

- ❖ Teachers are involved in assessment of student learning at the moment, leading to the final report cards for students.
- ❖ On Tuesday afternoon (31<sup>st</sup>) we will be having a whole staff celebration of World Teachers day. All the staff will be coming together for a shared afternoon tea to reflect on a busy and positive year to date.
- ❖ Year 5 & 6 students (and their families) are making final preparations for school camps in coming weeks.
- ❖ All classes are busy working on their Christmas Concert items – make sure that you put the date (Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November) on your calendar.
- ❖ All classes are enjoying their HPE times at the pool at the moment – the water is a great place to be on the hot days we are having.
- ❖ P & C Trivia Night is on this Friday (3<sup>rd</sup> November). Have you booked a table for the 'Battle of the Decades'? A fun adult night is promised. Check Facebook for details.

### READING PROGRESS:

Our reading coach (Mrs Thirkettle) has now completed the professional development of all our class teachers at Allenstown.

She has initiated with the teachers a specific reading instruction plan. This plan will be used by teachers at all year levels. The aim is to develop greater understanding, by students, of texts that they read. It is very exciting to see some of our hard work on our reading improvement agenda starting to take shape.

Mrs Thirkettle and our Literacy Coach (Mrs Gill) will be spending time in classrooms coaching and mentoring teachers in the reading instruction protocol.

### THANKS MR FALLON:

Mr Fallon has just returned to his classroom this week. He has been relieving in the position of Head of Curriculum (HOC) over the last four weeks.

During his time as HOC Mr Fallon implemented a program with teachers encouraging them to use iPad's in lesson delivery to students.

We will see the value of this work in coming terms as teachers engage students via a wide range of digital applications. In other words we are truly educating Allenstown students for a future in which they will be comfortable and capable.

## Other News

 **my tuckshop**  
Smart Choices for Queensland Kids

### TUCKSHOP DAY - 3 November 2017

Thank you to Mrs Kylie Tunstead and all the tireless volunteers who play a valuable role in the tuckshop at Allenstown State School.

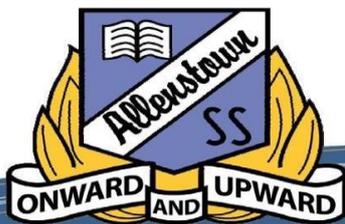
Sometimes we forget to notice the important contribution tuckshop workers make to the everyday operation of schools. There is a lot of work done behind the scene that goes in to prepare the food and keep the tuckshop well-stocked. Tuckshop Day is the day to say thanks to the workers for their hard work.

The old saying "many hands make light work" is never truer than in school tuckshops. We always need more volunteers and you don't need to spend a whole day at the tuckshop. Parents or members of the wider community can make a real contribution by volunteering for as little as an hour.

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# NEWSLETTER



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## **TRIVA NIGHT – DONATIONS**

The P & C will be holding a Trivia Night on 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

## **REMINDERS:**

### **SWIMMING CARNIVAL:**

The date for the 2017 swimming carnival has been set for Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.



### **LATE ARRIVALS ARE HAMPERING LEARNING:**

Many students are still arriving late for school. Some have arrived up to an hour later than our school starting time of 8.45am. This causes extra work for teachers and office staff.

Students who regularly arrive late to class are missing a vital part of their daily education. They also cause the class to have to backtrack in order to try and 'clue them in' about what is going on in the lesson or learning activity.

**PLEASE** – work with us to help your child get the most they possibly can from their education. At least in Australia every child can attend school. We need to value that chance and get the children to school **on time every day.**

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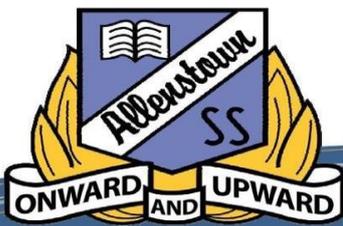
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## Every day counts.

I wag my tail every day, but it's not cool to wag school

School absenteeism and truancy can impact significantly on students' learning and wellbeing.

Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance is associated, on average, with higher student achievement. Additionally, attending school every day helps children to build social and emotional skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience.

Under the law, you must make sure your child is enrolled and attends school on all school days unless there is a reasonable excuse. Schools must monitor attendance of students and follow up with parents and caregivers any unexplained absences. If your child does not want to go to school, or is missing school without you knowing, contact the school immediately for assistance and support.

## WANTED

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Uniforms

If you have any unwanted uniforms or will at the end of the year we would love them. We would like to create a pool of second hand uniforms for those families who may be struggling. If you have any uniforms that are no longer required please drop them into the office. Your generosity would be greatly appreciated.



### DISABLED PARKING ZONES

The Disabled Parking Zones around the school are still being used as "Drop Off/Pick Up Zones". **Please refrain from using these zones unless displaying the correct permit on your vehicle.** Police can issue fines to anyone who use these zones illegally. Please show consideration for individuals who rely on these parking zones.



### STRESSED FAMILIES:

From time to time in our world, families go through times of great stress. Financial, work or daily living pressures can cause the adults to be highly stressed and this often impacts children who, while not fully understanding, realise that something is not quite right.

Please be aware that keeping the school in touch (all information would be dealt with highly confidentially) may mean that we can help both the family and student to work through the issues. We may be able to provide referral to services via our guidance officer or chaplain or monitor student's behaviour and general attitude for signs of stress.

We do not want to intrude on your deepest secrets or major life issues – just provide a helpful piece of advice or care for your child while the situation is worked through. Disclosures of any kind are up to you.



### 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	

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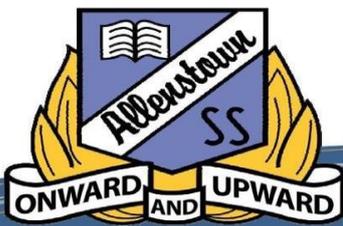
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Upcoming Events		
DATE	DETAILS	VENUE
Every Monday	Step into Prep 9-11am	Prep Building
Every Thursday	Prep Transition 12-2.30pm	Prep Building
Every Thursday	Playgroup 8.45am -10.45am	Allenstown SS Hall
3 Nov	Trivia Night (P & C)	Allenstown SS Hall
6 -10 Nov	Year 5 School Camp	Fairbairn Dam
13 -17 Nov	Year 6 School Camp	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



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](mailto:kathy.connaughton@thesmithfamily.com.au)

## Community News

Rockhampton Little Theatre presents

OSCAR WILDE for Juniors

“The Happy Prince”

performed by RLT (Junior Members)

“The Devoted Friend”

performed by TCC Students



Walter Reid Cultural Centre

18-19 November 2017

Performances at 2pm

Adults \$15, Pensioners \$13, Child \$8

Tickets available –

- at the door (Walter Reid Centre)
- Pilbeam Theatre Box Office
- Dial'n'charge 4927 4111
- [www.seeitlive.com.au](http://www.seeitlive.com.au)



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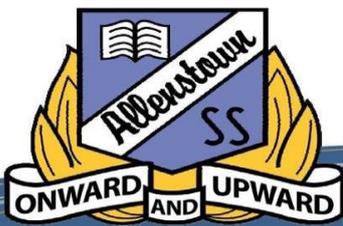
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## A NOTE FROM YOUR SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER

It's that time of year again everyone...

### **SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN!**

Your favourite MSP crew will be at The Gracemere Shopping World to take some great photos of your family with Santa and Mrs Claus.

We will be there from Thursday the 23rd of November to Sunday the 24th of December.

**Thursdays & Fridays: 2pm-6pm**

**Saturdays & Sundays: 10am-4pm**

Bring the family out, have some food, check out the great shops, meet Santa and Mrs Claus and get a photo with them, it will be great!

Because you attend one of the amazing schools we photograph we are offering a great discount on Santa Photos this year. If you present this notice to the MSP staff you will receive 15% off your photo package!

\*One discount per family\* See you there! ☺

**TRIVIA NIGHT!**  
ALLENSTOWN STATE SCHOOL P & C presents  
**BATTLE OF THE DECADES**

**FRIDAY 3RD NOV, 2017**  
**SCHOOL HALL**  
Sausage Sizzle @ 6pm for a 6.30pm start  
**\$10 per person (Adults Only Event)**  
Max of 10 players per team  
Drinks, Nibbles & Alcohol Available  
Lots of Fun, Games & Awesome Prizes  
**BONUS POINTS IF THE MC CAN GUESS YOUR TEAM DECADE!**  
**NOMINATE YOUR SONG FOR A LIP SYNC BATTLE & WIN BONUS POINTS**

Team registration sheets can be obtained from the Allenstown State School Facebook page and from the Tuckshop  
For further enquiries contact Kylie on 0414 840 877 or Kelly on 0459 202 186 or email [ktuns6@eq.edu.au](mailto:ktuns6@eq.edu.au)  
**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO SUPPORTING THE STUDENTS OF ALLENSTOWN**

**Santa Claus is coming to town!**  
Gracemere Shopping World  
23rd November - 24th December  
Thursday & Friday: 2pm-6pm  
Saturday & Sunday: 10am-4pm  
Santa is bringing Mrs Claus along for the fun this year  
They would love to get a photo with you!  
See You there!  
msp photography  
\*Please Refer to your school's newsletter for a discount voucher\*  
GRACEMERE SHOPPING WORLD

**Play School**  
**50 YEARS**  
HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

## **"Celebrating 50 Years"**

Sunday 5 Nov 2017 – Sunday 28 January 2018  
Mervyn & Moya Gold Room & Range Room  
Rockhampton Art Gallery

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