



NEWSLETTER

13-33 Upper Dawson Road
Allenstown, Queensland, 4700

Telephone 07 4930 0111

Absentee Line: 0749 300166 |

Fax: 07 4930 0100

Website www.allenstownss.eq.edu.au

Email admin@allenstownss.eq.edu.au

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4th December 2018

Principal's News

CLASS LISTS FOR 2019

These lists went on display on Monday morning. Many parents (and students) have already had a look.

Justine (deputy) and I have had several conversations already about matters that have arisen.

Please – come down to the school and have a look for yourself (the board is outside the office until Wednesday afternoon).

If you have concerns come inside and raise them straight away – you won't get any action unless you talk to someone.

CLASS LISTS NOT SET IN STONE (YET)

Please be aware that there are still a number of factors that could change the class lists. These circumstances could include:

- ✓ Enrolling more students than we expect and needing to start new classes as a result;
- ✓ Enrolling lots of students in one year level meaning that classes have to be re-shuffled to fit them all in;
- ✓ Needing to meet class size rules set down by the Department of Education (DoE). These are up to 25 students in Prep to Year 3 classes and up to 28 students in Year 4 to Year 6 classes.
- ✓ Having a higher than expected number of students exit the school over the Christmas break.

All of the above reasons may cause a change in current class lists – and these changes may occur up until the end of the third week of school in 2019.



VOLUNTEERS MORNING TEA

Each year we say thank you to our valued volunteers by inviting them to morning tea.

This event will be held on Friday (7th December) straight after the Parade of Excellence (which should finish around 9.30am).

The morning tea is held in the foyer of the hall and is just a simple gesture to thank those who have provided us with valuable help throughout 2018.

If you have been involved in helping us out throughout the year please come along and let us thank you for your generous donation of time.

Please RSVP to the office by Thursday 6th December if you wish to attend. This will assist with catering purposes.

PREP 'GRADUATION' AFTERNOON

Next Monday (10th December) our Prep students will have a small and informal 'Graduation Ceremony'.

This will take place in the Prep classrooms starting at 2.00pm. The books which we have been gifted from Rotary will be presented to the Prep students at this time. Please watch the Prep noticeboards for more information.

CYBER BULLYING

It has been brought to my attention that we have some students who are victims of cyber bullying. This is occurring through the use of false accounts on Instagram.

Apparently some students are setting up false accounts under the names of other students. They then use these false accounts to target the other students and

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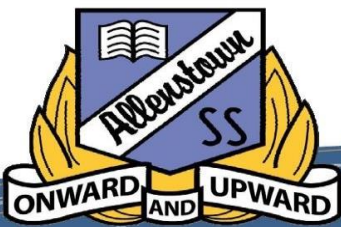
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accuse them of things they can't have done because the accounts don't belong to them.

The families of the victimised students are working with the police to get this matter solved. It should be taken very seriously as it does amount to cyber bullying. I will be cooperating with the police and other authorities in providing any requested information to support this matter.

MOUTHGUARDS:

This is a very early notice for parents who may have students involved in Interschool Sports in 2019. The Department of Education has recently revised its risk management strategies for heavy contact sports (e.g. AFL, Rugby League/Union and Hockey).

These strategies now make it compulsory for students who take part in the named sports to wear a mouthguard. Up until now parents could opt to take responsibility for their own children by writing a clearance for them to play without a mouthguard.

From the start of 2019 that will no longer be possible. Principals, teachers and coaches will have to ensure that all players in the nominated sports are wearing mouthguards before letting them take the field.

I am providing early advice of this as when we return to school in 2019 the first season of sport includes AFL.

Parents may need to consider their options regarding their children's sports choices.

NEW SPORTS CHOICE

In 2019 I will be introducing a new choice for Friday sport. This will be lawn bowls. We will partner with the ROCKHAMPTON Bowls Club to teach interested students the game of lawn bowls.

The Rockhampton Bowls Club members are very excited to be able to offer this opportunity to us. The students will be provided with free coaching, free access to equipment and free transport to and from the Club each Friday.

Students will have to show a genuine interest in learning the game and commit to it for a whole season (approximately 8 to 9 weeks.) More information will be available early in the new school year.

2 WEEKS TO GO

School officially finishes for this year on Friday 14th December. Over the time we have left please keep an eye on the following list of events and activities:

IMPORTANT DATES

- Wednesday 5th December – **High School Orientation morning for Year 6**
- Wednesday 5th December - **Annual Swimming Carnival** (4.00pm start)
- Thursday 6th December – **Year 6 Awards Night**
- Friday 7th December – **Final Parade of Excellence for 2018**
- Friday 7th December – **volunteers morning tea following Parade of Excellence**
- Monday 10th December – **Prep 'Graduation Ceremony' at 2.00pm**
- Wednesday 12th December – **Student Report Cards for Semester 2 sent home**
- Wednesday 12th December – **'Classrooms of 2019' visits for all students** (all continuing students spend 1 hour meeting their 2019 teacher and visiting their intended classroom)

As well as these events and activities you may receive notification of specific events for your child's class or year level (e.g. swimming carnivals for Prep > Year 3 classes). Please watch your child's bag for these notifications that may not appear in the newsletter or on Facebook.

HEAT MEASURES

We are continuing to implement measures to keep the students safe from the heat we have been experiencing.

This includes staying in classrooms during play times, eating only in shaded areas, giving plenty of water breaks and also cancelling swimming on the hottest days. I have had to cancel some swimming days due to

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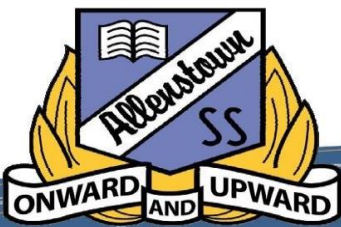
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the lack of appropriate amounts of shade in the pool area. Text messages are being used to keep parents informed of swimming lessons.

PREP ENROLMENTS FOR 2019

We are now taking enrolments for Prep in 2019.

Children entering Prep next year should be born between 1st July 2013 and 30th June 2014.

Please call the office to get the enrolment forms for your child. Let your friends, relatives and neighbours know also – a reminder is always helpful.

The early enrolment of children helps us to make clear decisions about classes for the new school year. We are already holding enrolment papers for 37 Preppies in 2019. This is very encouraging

FAMILIES LEAVING ALLENSTOWN

If you are planning on leaving the Allenstown School in 2019 (except for Year 6 students of course) it would be appreciated if you let the office know.

This information is important in helping us to form classes for the new school year.

Any information received before the end of the year will be treated confidentially.

PROOF OF BIRTH

Parents enrolling students in a Queensland State School for the first time (usually in Prep) MUST provide proof of birth.

This is best done by bringing a birth certificate or birth extract to the office when lodging enrolment forms.

An enrolment cannot be confirmed or accepted **(children cannot attend school)** until the proof of birth is provided.



P & C Multi-Draw CHRISTMAS RAFFLE



The P & C Multi-draw Christmas Raffle will now be drawn on Wednesday 5th December 2018.

Raffle Tickets will be sold under A Block every morning before school or are also available from the office. Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00. You can also get a book or two to sell.

Time is running out to be in the draw for some great prizes. Thank you to everyone who has donated items for the raffle.



Please help raise much needed funds for all our students by supporting the multi-draw raffle.

Chappy Corner

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas.....

Merry Christmas Everybody!! I hope that your festive season is filled with love, laughter and time spent with loved ones and friends. For many, Christmas is a joyous time of reflecting, celebrating and embracing those around us, but let us be mindful that Christmas is not easy for some people. At this time of year, there is expectation of gifts, food and many, many social outings and expenses and a time to reflect on the loss of loved ones over the year, so here are some tips to surviving the holiday season.

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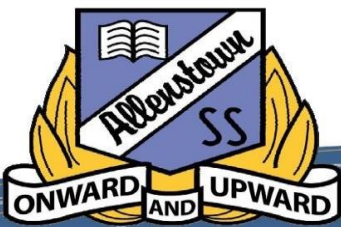
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1. Acknowledge your feelings - if you are feeling stressed, or lonely or depressed its ok to take time out to recover. You can't force yourself to be happy just because it's Christmas. If you are tired, rest!
2. Reach out - if you feel lonely or isolated, seek out community, religious or other social events. They can offer support and companionship. Or volunteer your time to a good cause.
3. Be realistic - the holidays don't have to be perfect, things can change from year to year, families grow, we lose loved ones and traditions can change from "what we have always done", embrace the change and think of new creative ways to celebrate.
4. Stick to a budget - decide before you go shopping what your expenses are and what you need, don't get caught up in the Christmas frenzy. When money is tight, make homemade gifts, look for less expensive options and remember it's not the price of the gift that counts, it's the thoughtfulness behind the gift.
5. Plan ahead - don't leave all the big decisions till the few days before Christmas, things will be forgotten or panic bought.
6. Learn to say no - saying yes when you should say no can lead to feelings of pressure, resentment and feeling overwhelmed. You can't do everything!
7. Take a breather - make some time for yourself, self-care is very important so you don't burn out pleasing others.
8. Seek professional help if you need it - despite your best efforts, you may find yourself feeling persistently sad or anxious, unable to sleep or feeling hopeless, if these feelings last for a while, please seek medical help or the other services to help you.

So take care of yourself and those around you this Christmas, all the best to our Senior students moving on to high school..... You will be missed. And remember Christmas is a time of Love, Joy and Peace, so Peace be to you and your families this Christmas. Stay safe everyone.

I love this quote from Bob Hope "My idea of Christmas whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple:

Loving others. Come to think of it, why do we have to wait for Christmas to do that?"
Chappy Sam xo

Other News

YEAR 6 GRADUATION AND AWARDS EVENING

This important annual event will be held on **Thursday 6th December at 7.00pm** in the hall. Students are to wear full school uniform. The winners of Year 6 awards from the graduation/awards ceremony will be presented to the whole school at the Parade of Excellence the next morning.

PARADE OF EXCELLENCE

The Parade of Excellence for 2018 will be held on **Friday 7th December** in the hall at 8.45am. Awards for students from Prep to Year 5 will be presented on this parade.

Everyone is welcome to come along and celebrate the achievements of all of our talented students at Allenstown and farewell the Year 6 students as they prepare for high school next year.



CHRISTMAS STALL 2018

If your child is looking for something for that special person this Christmas, there are some wonderful gifts for all the family to choose from at great prices.

Gifts are available now from the Blue Room during playtime at lunch breaks and prices range from \$1 to \$8. Gifts are on sale until stocks run out. All money raised is used to buy resources for Allies students.



SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The Annual Swimming Carnival will be held on **Wednesday 5th December** at the Allies Swimming Pool from 4-6pm. Everyone is welcome to attend and cheer on their Sports House (**Phillip, Flinders, Cook, Oxley**)

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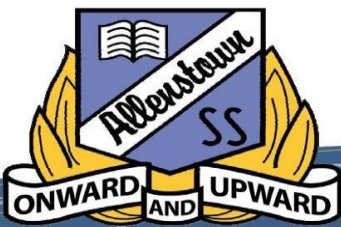
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ICAS English & Maths Results

Congratulations to the following students who recently participated in the ICAS English and Maths Competition.

English

Luke Johns	Year 4	Merit
Jasmine Bartholomew	Year 5	Merit
Toby Milner	Year 6	Credit
Bradley O'Shea	Year 6	Credit
Omar Clark	Year 6	Distinction

Maths

Luke Johns	Year 4	Merit
Lindze Szulc	Year 3	Credit
Jack Corino	Year 6	Credit

Congratulations also to all the other students who participated in the competition. You have all done Allenstown State School proud. Well Done!!

Reminders

TUCKSHOP CLOSED from 10th December 2018

The Tuckshop will not be open during the last week of school. Please ensure your child brings lunch to school for the final week of 2018.



LOST AND FOUND

There are many items still in Lost Property (situated downstairs A Block). Please take the time to check in case any of these items belong to your child.

Anything not collected by the end of this term will be donated to charity.

END OF YEAR EVENTS PARKING

As we are approaching the end of the school year there are many events celebrated at the school. This means there will be more traffic around the school at various

times. Please be mindful when parking that you only park in designated areas and keep local residents driveways clear for them to access.

Your child's safety depends on everyone doing the right thing.



SCHOOL MEDICATION

If your child has any medication (e.g. Tablets, Ventolin Puffer etc.) at the office, please remember to collect it before the end of the school year. If not, any out of date medication will be destroyed

Community News



STOCKLAND ROCKHAMPTON

For many children the excitement of meeting Santa may not always be a joyous occasion. For the children with sensory issues, crowded and noisy shopping centres paired with the unknown man in the red suit can lead to anxiety, tears or meltdowns.

Stockland Rockhampton hopes for this experience to be a joyous occasion for all children and this Christmas will host a Sensory Santa Session; a special sitting with Santa and an understanding photographer in a safe, quiet and judgement free environment.

Bookings are in 5 to 10 minute time slots. Simply contact the Customer Care Team on 4928 9166 to book a date and time that is convenient for you. Limited spots area available.

When: Sunday 9th December 2018

Time: 8am to 10am

Where: Stockland Rockhampton near Coffee Club.

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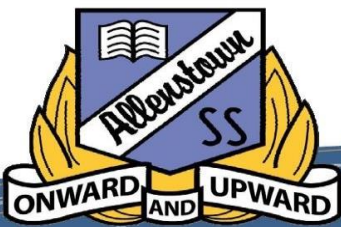
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The Rockhampton Musical Union Choir will present a pre-Christmas musical - Hoodwinked the pantomime adventures of Robin Hood.

Opening night is Friday 14 December 7.30pm and there are matinees on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th December 1.30pm. www.trybooking.com/YTNU for a special prize if booked before 3 December.

A family show for adults and children with plenty of opportunities for audience participation with Robin Hood, Maid Marion, Friar Tuck, The Sheriff and the rest of the merry company in Sherwood Forest.

Upcoming Events		
DATE	DETAILS	VENUE
5 Dec	RSHS Orientation	Rton State High School
5 Dec	Swimming Carnival 4-6pm	Allenstown SS Pool
6 Dec	Year 6 Awards Night	Allenstown SS Hall
7 Dec	Parade of Excellence	Allenstown SS Hall
7 Dec	Volunteers Morning Tea (following Parade)	Allenstown SS Hall
10 Dec	Prep Graduation 2.00pm	Allenstown SS Prep Rooms
12 Dec	Classroom 2019 visits	Allenstown SS
14 Dec	Last day of Term 4 2018	Allenstown SS
29 Jan	First day of Term 1 2019	Allenstown SS

THE SMITH FAMILY
*Who we are! &
 How we Help?*

THE SMITH FAMILY
everyone's family

The Smith Family and your family can partner together to help your children reach their educational aspirations

Who is The Smith Family?
 The Smith Family supports Australian children whose families fit the criteria on the right hand of this form to get the most out of their education, so they can create better future for themselves.

Learning for Life and your family
 Referrals is made by your school. TSP staff will contact you and organise a meeting where necessary paperwork is to be signed and scholarship expectations will be explained to you.

The Smith Family will award your child or children, if our criteria is met, to help with educational expense and with educational opportunities that aim to increase the chance of success at school. Our scholarships are from now until your child reaches yr 12 if our guidelines are followed.

Financial support
 The scholarship amounts you will receive for your child vary according to their year-level. Payments are made twice a year, into your chosen bank account. The funds must be used to pay for education-related expenses such as school uniforms and shoes, stationery, books, equipment or subject fee, school camps and

Helping disadvantaged Australian children to transform their lives through education.

excursions. Payments cannot be used to pay for mobile phones, food, household or medical expenses.
 The following criteria must be met:
 Parent/Student in possession of Health Care Card or Pension Concession Card.
 Parent/Student have responsibility for a child/children regularly attending school.
 Student(s) live or study in the community in which Learning for Life is awarded.
 Scholarships are awarded to students in years prior to yr 10 inclusive.
 Please talk to your Family Partnership Coordinator for further information.

Deanne Holloway
 Program Coordinator | The Smith Family
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2019 School Term Dates

Term	Dates	Length
Term 1	29 January – 5 April	10 Weeks
Term 2	23 April – 28 June	10 Weeks
Term 3	15 July – 20 September	10 Weeks
Term 4	8 October – 13 December	10 Weeks

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