



8th February 2017

Principals Report

LOCKDOWN INCIDENT:

There has been quite a number of inaccurate, false and even malicious things said (mainly in social media) about the lockdown incident that occurred last week at Allies.

The facts that I can and will share with you are:

- A threatening phone call was received (it was NOT a bomb threat);
- As per our DET approved procedures we went to lockdown – all students and staff locked safely in buildings. All buildings secured. All people removed from sight as much as possible.
- The police arrived (very quickly after we contacted them) and they assumed control of the situation (the police were in charge for that period not me).
- The police determined that our call was a recorded message and a hoax call. They concluded this after contact with their headquarters that confirmed that 3 other Qld schools had received the same calls.
- The police gave approval for us to send messages out to parents and the school community which we did via Facebook and SMS.
- The police maintained a presence in the school for a while to reassure every one of their safety.
- I took all students and staff to the hall for a parade to fully explain the situation and reassure every one of their immediate and continuing safety.
- Students were 'locked down' for approximately 20 – 25 minutes. I was very pleased and proud with the response from all students and staff who were at school that day – they responded exactly as we would have hoped.

More explicit details of the nature of the threat will not be released as the police wish to try and avoid 'copycat' callers. Some of the 'information' out there (especially

on social media) is just speculation and not to be given any credence for being factual.

A number of families chose to come to the school and take students home for the afternoon. That was their right, however, I believe we had the students' safety and wellbeing well looked after.

We have been questioned (in some cases aggressively and rudely) about why we did not release information sooner or contact individual families by phone. As I said above the police took charge of the situation and that included the flow of information. Calls to the families of 376 students would be highly impractical and is not ever part of our incident planning or protocols.

For those that asked or wondered – if it HAD been a bomb threat we would have evacuated students – initially to the oval and after that to a local street or locality that would take us all out of harm's way.

Berserker had to deal with a bomb threat the day after our incident. They were on their school oval in the sun for about 2 hours while a search was conducted. Thankfully we were able to stay in our cool, safe classrooms.

I strongly believe that the response of everyone at Allies last Wednesday was:

- Very effective in keeping all involved safe;
- Very professional in the way that procedures were followed;
- Very impressive in the response to an obviously unplanned and unnecessary incident when information could not be relayed to staff during the event.

I am very proud of our response and would expect to do the same again if necessary.

LATEST INFORMATION VITAL:

The lockdown highlighted one thing for us – we need to know as soon as families change phone numbers or other personal details that impact on our ability to contact you.

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Deputy Principal - Samantha Howard
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(5.30pm in Staffroom)

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NEWSLETTER

13-33 Upper Dawson Road
Allentown, Queensland, 4700
Telephone 07 4930 0111
Absentee Line: 0749 300166 |
Fax: 07 4930 0100
Website www.allentownss.eq.edu.au
Email admin@allentownss.eq.edu.au

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A few parents did not receive the SMS texts due to inaccurate information. We have updated our records accordingly for these folk and our SMS system database has also been upgraded (this will be a weekly task from now on to ensure we always have the best information loaded up and ready).

Please – if you have changes your phone number, address, emergency contacts or other details call the office and update them as soon as possible.

CLASS / TEACHER UPDATE:

We are currently scouring Queensland for a suitable teacher to take over our new Year 2 class. We are working on the details of which students may be placed in that class and also which other students may be relocated in our re-alignment of resources. We will keep in touch with families as all this is able to be finalised. The new class will not start until a permanent fulltime teacher is located.

Other News



WHY WAIT?????

Why wait until the newsletter arrives at home on Wednesday afternoon. Keep up to date by receiving the latest School Newsletter by email as soon as it is ready.

If you wish to receive the newsletter by email each week please contact the office to have your name added to the bulk email list.



PARKING AROUND OUR SCHOOL

Thank you for not parking in the “Disabled Parking Spaces” or use these parking spaces as a “drop off/pick up zone” for students unless displaying the relevant signage on your vehicle. Every attempt to follow all lawful traffic directions and signs and keep these zones free for people who need them is greatly appreciated.



LOST PROPERTY

If your student is missing a mobile phone, iPod, watches or jewellery from last year please check at the office as there are many “unnamed/ unclaimed” items.



BIRTH CERTIFICATES

It is a Queensland Education audit requirement that proof of age and identity must be sighted in a child's first year of school. Our records show that many students from all year levels do not have a current copy of their Birth Certificate on file so your child's enrolment process will remain incomplete without the required documents as stated in the Education Queensland regulations. Individual letters will be sent home soon to relevant parents/caregivers to request a copy for school records.



PLAYGROUP

Playgroup has started back this year in the School Hall, every Thursday of the school term from 8.45 - 10.45am. All are welcome to attend - Grandmas, Grandpas, Uncles, Aunts, Mums and Dads, and of course, children aged 0-4years. The cost of the session is \$2, which covers morning tea. We ask that you bring a hat and water bottle each week and wear clothes that you don't mind getting messy!

We are currently seeking donations for our playgroup and the following items are on our wish list:

- change table
- baby and toddler toys
- bikes, trikes and baby ride ons
- fold up picnic table and bench seats
- craft items and materials

Or, anything else you think we may be able to use in our sessions. We would be very grateful if you could bring them to Mrs Baldwin in Prep to use in our play space. Thank you and hope to see you at our next playgroup.

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SWIMMING TIMETABLE – Term 1:

	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
8:45 – 9:15am		56B	4B		
9:15 – 9:45am					
9:45 – 10:15am		4A	5A	45C	
10:15 – 10:45am					
10:45 – 11:30am	FIRST BREAK				
11:30 – 12:00pm	P1C	1A	234C	3A	
12:00 – 12:30pm					
12:30 – 1:00pm					
1:00 – 1:30pm	SECOND BREAK				
1:45 – 2:45pm	12B	3B	6A	2A	

QLD TERM DATES - 2017		
Term 1	23 Jan – 31 Mar	10 Weeks
Term 2	18 Apr – 23 Jun	10 Weeks
Term 3	10 Jul – 15 Sep	10 Weeks
Term 4	3 Oct - 8 Dec	10 Weeks

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Brothers Australian Rules Football Club is holding our sign on day on Sunday the 19th February 2017 from 9am till 11am at Kele Park. The Club's home ground is at Kele Park, Millewa St, West Rockhampton (near the Rockhampton Airport). The Club is the only football club servicing South Rockhampton and Gracemere, and also has close ties with our player group in the Central Highlands.

Further information

Website: www.brothers.aflq.com.au

Pam 0417882298

Facebook: Kangaroos Australian Football Club South Rockhampton and Gracemere.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	DETAILS	VENUE
Every Thur	Playgroup 8.45-10.45am	Hall
6 th Feb	Parent Information Sessions	Allentown SS
14 Feb	Book Club Due	Allentown SS
16 th Feb	School Leaders Grip Leadership Conference	R'ton Leagues Club
3 rd March	School Leaders Induction Ceremony	Allentown SS more details TBA
22-25 May	Book Fair	Allentown SS

FAMILY FUN DAY!

SUNDAY 26th February 2017
 9am to 1pm
 Adults \$2 (14yrs+), Under 14 FREE
 Purrey Steam Tram Rides \$2.50

Ride on the world's only Purrey Steam Tram (operates 10am to 1pm)
 heritage railway carriages, steam & diesel engine, rail memorabilia,
 exhibits, live music, market stalls, vintage/Ford/classic cars, lots more.
 Food on sale!

Archer Park Rail Museum
 Denison Street Rockhampton
 (between Archer and Cambridge Streets)

Managed by Friends of Archer Park
 Station and Purrey Steam Tram Museum Inc.
 Archer Park Rail Museum | Denison Street
 Rockhampton | Phone: 0816 5191
 Email: archiepark@igopoint.com
<http://www.archiepark.com.au>

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 #
2017 SIGN UP FOR SOFTBALL NOW!
 Great for fun, fitness & friends!
 Season Start Date: Saturday 4th March
 Where: Softball Grounds, Kalare Street West Rockhampton
 When: We play on Saturdays
 Are you interested in playing Softball in Rockhampton?
 Registrations start from \$30 (T Ball) for the entire March - Sept season! #

Please contact your local club for more info;
BLUEBIRDS SOFTBALL CLUB
bluebirdsoftball@hotmail.com
FRENCHVILLE SOFTBALL CLUB
frenchville.softball@gmail.com
MAGPIES SOFTBALL CLUB
lyn49@gmail.com
OUTLAWS SOFTBALL CLUB
smppreston@bigpond.com
 All abilities and fitness levels for all ages are catered for by quality accredited coaches.
 Ages start from 4years for T ball. All Ages up to Opens, Womens, Mens, Boys & Girls,
 - All with the opportunity to be selected for Rep Teams & Play for QLD!
 Contact our Publicity Officer on 0417 768 714 for more information



ROCKHAMPTON BASKETBALL
 PROUDLY PRESENTS **AUSSIE HOOPS**

Who: Grade 1-2 (Tues 4.00pm-4.55pm)
 Grade 3-6 (Wed 4.00pm-4.55pm)

Where: Heygold Basketball Stadium, Sir Raymond-Huish Drive

Dates: Tues 14th Feb-Tues 22nd March
 Wed 15th Feb-Wed 29th March

Cost: New Players \$77.00
 Returning Players \$60.00

Aussie Hoops is a 7 week Learn 2 Play Basketball program for Grade 1 - 6 students. You'll learn the fundamentals of the sport through a series of fun games, with the goal of building up to playing modified 5 on 5 basketball on our specially designed 8 Foot ring.

What You Get?

- Sessions with quality coaches including Rockhampton Basketball State Representatives and ex AIS Basketball Coach Matt Mason
- An Aussie Hoops Player Pack (including Bag, Basketball, & Reversible Singlet)
- Plus other exciting hand outs

Register online today by heading to www.aussiehoops.com.au and entering 4700 in the location. Want more information? Call BSI Manager Matt Mason on 07 4932 5044

SUPPORTED BY **capricornian**




saverplus

Stressed about back to school costs?

Would \$500 help pay for uniforms, books, excursions, tutoring, a laptop or tablet?

Saver Plus matches your savings for school costs, dollar for dollar, up to \$500!

You may eligible if:

- you have a Health Care or a Pensioner Concession card and,
- you or your partner have some regular income from work such as full-time, part-time, casual or seasonal work.

Contact Kathy Connaughton
 your local Saver Plus Coordinator:
 07 4924 8125 / 0408 490 984
 or kathy.connaughton@thesmithfamily.com.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered in the Rockhampton area by The Smith Family. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government. Find more information at saverplus.org.au

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