Dear Parents and Caregivers,

What a great start to the school year. Our Preps and new enrolments have settled well into their new school and all of our children have also settled very quickly back into routine. It is an absolute pleasure to walk around our classrooms and playground. The polite, friendly nature of our children as they play and interact with each other and staff has to be experienced to be believed. Visitors to our school often comment on the great atmosphere of our school, which is a credit to our great students, families and staff.

Parade messages:
The following messages were discussed with the students on school parade. Your reinforcement of these messages would be most appreciated.

- Effort and behaviour – expectations of student effort and behaviour are high. It is expected that every student in our school displays high standards of effort and behaviour at all times. We have had a great start to the year, but we need to ensure that this continues now that the hard work has begun. Any child that is not displaying appropriate standards will be dealt with following our Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students. Unfortunately, a few students have already found that these high expectations are enforced through RESS classroom steps, ‘time-out’ at lunchtimes and suspension.

- Pillar of the week – some of our Prep students shared what they think it means to be respectful. Their responses were fantastic!

Parent Information Sessions
Thanks to the parents and caregivers that have attended, or are attending, the Parent Information Sessions offered this week. We hope that they have been informative and responsive to your questions about class learning, routines and expectations. If you have concerns specifically about your child, we ask that you make a suitable time to meet with the teacher.

P&C AGM
Please note that the P&C Annual General Meeting will be in April, the date to be advised. We are very keen to have another great year working with the P&C to further improve our school. We highly encourage you to take an active part in working with us. If you would like to be involved with the P&C you may contact Rachel Cook via the email pandc@railestass.eq.edu.au

Class Information - What your child is learning?
Class newsletters are being sent home this week. Included in this update is a full overview of what your child is learning this term. We hope that you find this valuable as a way to talk about what they are learning in class and how you may be able to assist.

Calling all Prep Parents - Help your child to read
Parents and carers of children in Prep are invited to attend a ‘Parent Ready Reader’ session. This session provides parents and carers with some key strategies to use at home to support their child’s reading.

The training runs for approximately two hours and consists of four modules:
1. What is literacy?
2. Understanding the reading process
3. Stages of reading
4. Listening to your child read

Participants receive a Parent Ready Reader booklet with notes, reading activities and additional resources.

Where: Railway Estate State School Resource Centre (library).

When: Friday 20th February, 2015

Time: 9:00-11:00am

A flyer will be sent home shortly. Please ensure that you send the response form back, which will be attached to the flyer.

There will be supervised activities in the library for children if needed, whilst the session takes place next door in the science room.

Peanut and nut allergies
It is extremely important that schools provide the safest learning environment for students. Peanut allergy is the second most common food allergy in children. We have students in our school who have a significant reaction to peanuts, cashews, peanut butter and foods with traces of nuts. Being exposed
to these foods can cause an anaphylactic reaction, which is an emergency situation.

The school is always looking how it can have the safest possible environment for all children and especially allergy sufferers. Peanut butter, peanuts and cashews are particularly dangerous in the school for allergy sufferers. Because of peanut butter’s stickiness, minute amounts on seats, water taps, stationery, etc., poses as an invisible but highly dangerous threat. Even peanut shells and Chinese takeaway food containers can cause a reaction.

Railway Estate State School prides itself on being an inclusive school and with this in mind we seek your assistance in not providing peanut butter or nuts for your child whilst at school. This would include nuts on birthday cakes or packets of mixed nuts.

**MEDICATIONS AT SCHOOL**

Strict new procedures have been developed by the Queensland Government regarding prescription and over-the-counter medications in schools. If your child requires medication at school you are required to:

- complete a ‘Request to Administer Medication at School’ form which is held at the school office
- ensure the medication has an original pharmacy label with the student’s name, dosage and time to be taken
- collect the medication when it is no longer required.

Under no circumstances are office staff allowed to administer medications to students unless the correct procedure is followed.

**SCHOOL RESOURCE CONTRIBUTION**

Please note that the school resource contribution can be paid at the school office. We strongly encourage your commitment to this important scheme. This contribution helps to provide important resources for the students’ curriculum needs, particularly as we do not use textbooks. The contribution is $80 for year levels 1 to 6 and $100 for Prep. Thank you to those that have paid this already. Please note that the office does not have EFTPOS facilities.

**DATE CLAIMER**

**P&C MOVIE NIGHT**

**FRIDAY 6TH MARCH**

**NEWSLETTERS SPONSORS**

Thank you to the sponsors who have advertised on the back of our newsletter. Please ensure that you support these suppliers whenever possible and tell them you saw their add on the back of our Newsletter.

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**Citizen of the Week**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week ending 30th January 2015</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Week ending 6th February 2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PREPM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toby</td>
<td>P/1MM</td>
<td>Caitlin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alfonso</td>
<td>1M</td>
<td>Cooper</td>
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<tr>
<td>William</td>
<td>1/2E</td>
<td>Brayden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Haylee</td>
<td>2/3A</td>
<td>Kody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madeline</td>
<td>3/4M</td>
<td>Montana</td>
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<td>Brock</td>
<td>4/5F</td>
<td>Connor</td>
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<td>Hayley</td>
<td>5/6I</td>
<td>Tazmin</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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**HOY**

Saturday 28th February at 2.00pm
under D Block

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**RESS ON FACEBOOK**

Have you ‘Liked’ our Facebook page?
[https://www.facebook.com/RailwayEstate](https://www.facebook.com/RailwayEstate) This page will be updated with school events and information throughout the year.

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**Mathematicians Scientists in Schools**

Are you a scientist, IT professional or an engineer? Would you enjoy inspiring teachers and students in science, maths or information technology? Would you like to become a volunteer scientist, mathematician or IT professional? We’re looking for scientists, mathematicians, engineers or IT professionals who are interested in working with staff and students - it would be great to have someone from our local community.

Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools use a broad definition of ‘scientist’ which includes professionals working in a science, maths, IT or engineering-related area, encompassing research and applied scientists, technologists and engineers, medical and allied health professionals and mathematicians.

There are no fixed hours - it's up to you and the teacher to decide how you can contribute.

Register or find out more information online at [www.scientistsinschools.edu.au](http://www.scientistsinschools.edu.au)

Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools is an Australian Government initiative, managed by CSIRO Education and Outreach.

If you'd like to contact the Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools in your region, they're on 47538635 or email them at sis.nqld@csiro.au.