Principal’s comments…

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

What a great couple of weeks we have had at Railway Estate SS! Our school has been a buzz of activity and excitement with so many events, along with the completion of unit assessment tasks. It is an enormous privilege to lead such a dynamic and student-centred school. As I go about doing my morning duty, classroom visits and playground walks, I see the amazing culture of happiness that our students contribute to. As a teacher I always said that if students in my class are happy, they will learn. As a Principal, I can say the same about our school… Our students are happy – and they are learning – our academic improvement is outstanding! We are focused on ensuring that our students enjoy school events and lunch time activities, and as a result our academic results are improving. Sure, not everything about school is fun and sometimes students don’t get on with everyone … but we are all part of something great at Railway Estate! If you haven’t already ‘liked’ our school Facebook page, you should definitely check it out! It showcases some of the great events and really celebrates the positive school culture that we have!

Thanks for being a part of this wonderful school for another semester!

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D. Broadfoot
25th June, 2015

CLASS RESTRUCTURING

As you may be aware, our school has rapidly increased in enrolments this year. Our class sizes have continued to grow over the semester. The number of students in every one of our classes has now reached/passed capacity and we have now been provided with confirmation from Regional Office that we will gain an additional teacher and we will need to form an additional class. Making a new class will reduce class sizes across the school significantly. It will also allow for the predicted growth over semester two. There will need to be a number of students moving to a new class.

Whilst it is unfortunate to have to move students at this time of year, it is crucial that class sizes are acceptable. This way we ensure that support for our students is maximised.

The new class will be a Year 3/4 class, however there needs to be changes in every class in order for this class to be formed. There will have to be students moved from each class. The new classes will be:

- Prep M – Miss Miller
- Prep MM – Mrs McDougall and Mrs McCloskey
- Year 1M – Ms McDonald
- Year 1/2E – Miss Eaton
- Year 2A – Miss Adcock
- Year 3/4M – Miss Morrison
- Year 3/4B – To be advised
- Year 4/5 – Mrs Fisher
- Year 5/6M – Mr McDonald
- Year 5/6 I – Mr Inch

Parents of students that will be moving class have been notified today via a letter provided to students.

We apologise for the short notice, however we have been waiting on confirmation of additional staffing from Regional Office.

NO STUDENT FREE DAY

Please note that students return to school on Monday 13th July. There is no student free day.

REWARDS DAY

Congratulations to the 238 students that earned the right to participate in Railway Rewards Day. There were 10 students that were unable to attend due to our ‘3 strikes’ time-out rule. It was a fantastic afternoon, filled with a wide variety of fun activities for students to choose from. Unfortunately the ice skating was cancelled by the venue due to issues with the ice. Refunds will be provided early next term.

Inter-house Athletics Carnival

A big congratulations must go to all of the Railway Estate State School community for an outstanding inter-house athletics carnival. Well done to all students for the excellent behaviour, sportsmanship and athleticism! Congratulations to the Stuart house team, who won with 1292 points. Second place went to last year’s champions, Castle. Only 24 points behind was the mighty Elliot house. Thanks to all the families that came to support this event and well done to all the parents that ran in the parent and staff vs student races!

REPORT CARDS

Report cards have been sent home in sealed envelopes today. These reports provide a great opportunity to talk with your child about his or her progress. Most students have continued to work hard in the challenging curriculum. Please ensure your child is trying to the best of their ability. This will be evident in the ‘effort’ result for each learning area (except in Prep reports).
SWIMMING LESSONS

This year we are again able to offer swimming lessons for students and have extended the program to students in Years 1-6. As children in Townsville have access to many aquatic environments, it is essential that they have the highest knowledge, skills and attitudes that enable them to be safe and confident in and around water. Drowning is the second highest cause of accidental death amongst children, therefore it is important that young children learn to manage themselves confidently and safely in aquatic environments.

The lessons will be held at the Castle Hill PCYC, West End and lesson times will be published in the school newsletter closer to the time.

The cost of 7 lessons is $55.00 and is to be paid at the school office on or before Monday 3rd August. Student’s whose full payment has not been received by this time will be unable to attend.

PARENT/CAREGIVER SURVEY 2015

You are invited to participate in this year’s School Opinion Survey. Participation in the survey is anonymous and all information that you provide will be treated confidentially. The online survey will be available until 31st July 2015. Further information is attached to this Newsletter.

SCHOOL WATCH

School Watch is a community based awareness and crime prevention program aimed at safeguarding schools against vandalism, theft and arson. Schools are at high risk of deliberate damage because of their very nature and design. Because they are regularly left unattended and unprotected they are vulnerable. Schools are community property so we must all work together to protect them.

We depend on students, parents and all members of the local community to:

1. LOOK
2. LISTEN
3. REPORT

Do Not take any further action. If you see or hear suspicious behaviour, report the incident immediately by ℡ 131788.

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