**Principal's comments…**

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I would sincerely like to once again welcome the twelve students and their families that have joined our school this term. All students have settled in nicely thanks to our caring and responsive students, staff and families. As our enrolment number continues to increase it is important that we continue to focus on our positive school culture, so that our ‘small school’ values are not lost in the growth. I am focused on reinforcing this message with the students at every opportunity, ensuring that they are modelling the school rules (Be safe, Be responsible and Be respectful), as well as our school values, ‘The Six Pillars of Character’ (trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship). This constant reinforcement is necessary so that our safe, positive and supportive environment is maintained now, and into the future. As a staff we are still very committed to the learning and development of every student and also to our partnerships with families. When we work together, we make a significant impact of the lives of our children.

D. Broadfoot
6th August, 2015

A number of students will be attending the Interschool Athletics Carnival this Monday. These students have already been provided with the information they need. We wish them all the best of luck and we know that they will represent our school to the highest standard.

**CHALLENGE GAMES**

Congratulations to a number of our special needs students that participated in ‘The Challenge Games’ last week. There were many great stories about the day and a lot of ribbons were won! It was a fantastic day of sportsmanship, competition, fun, family and unity. Well done to all the students involved!

**CAMP**

Our Year 5 and 6 students are getting very excited that their school camp to Daradgee Environmental Education Centre is only a few weeks away! It is going to be an absolutely amazing opportunity for all of the children that are going.

Please note: School camp is a privilege and requires students to be trustworthy and responsible. They must be able to follow school rules. Therefore, Mr B, Mr Inch and Mr McDonald have discussed with all Year 5/6 students that students that receive three time-outs or a suspension will not be permitted to go on camp.

A reminder to all parents and caregivers that full payment must be made before a child will be allowed to leave for camp.

Students in Year 3 and 5 will receive their individual NAPLAN reports to bring home this week. Our whole school reports have also just arrived and we are looking forward to analysing our school progress. NAPLAN results provide a snapshot of a student’s education and, alongside their in-class assessments and regular report cards, are an important diagnostic tool.

**RESS P&C**

The RESS P&C monthly meeting was held on the 23rd July. It was a very productive meeting, with many things discussed. If you would like a copy of the minutes, simply email us pandc@railestass.eq.edu.au for a copy.

Mr B has given the P&C a purpose to continue working hard for all the kids of this great school...Railway Estate State School. Rather than a heavy focus on fundraising but to hold fun events and help to provide a great environment for our kids to learn and thrive in. We are excited about the P&C’s role in the school’s future.

On this note we really need the school community (mums, dads, grandparents, uncles, aunt’s older brother’s n sister’s) to join in. The more help given by you, the more useful the P&C can be to RESS. You can contact us by emailing pandc@railestass.eq.edu.au or you can track down one of us when we drop off or collect our kids. We promise we won’t bite...well.....maybe just a nibble. :)).

I digress.
Some items discussed at the recent meeting were;
Movie Night - that was a lot of fun. Thank you to everyone that attended and volunteered. I'm sure we will have more of that fun.

Student Council Plans: Thank you to Miss Weir for joining us. Hearing what the students are planning and what help they need from us is always great. It’s a two way street now days. One thing Miss Weir mentioned...something that's exciting we can all help with is..... the school play 'Alice in Wonderland'. Lets gather together and offer our talents to the student council to help our kids have a great experience and hopefully repeat it?????!! I've put my hand up to help with costumes! What about you?

Railway Cafe has a wishlist. Dishwasher and a microwave and as always volunteer help. Please don't let the wheels fall off the train. It really is amazing our little school has an operating tuckshop. Drop by to see Mr Cook I'm sure he would welcome you!

The V8 Parking was successfully driven by the P&C (no pun intended), with the volunteered help of the Youth Network. We needed volunteers and after requests to the school community it was sad to say we were left with no choice but to call for volunteers from the Youth Network to help with support. Parking numbers were
down this year but it has been said the actual V8 attendance this year was all so low. Perhaps next year will be better.

The next P&C meeting will be on the 20th of August. Join us! We could use your talents.
P&C Member Kelly Goodbun

How can parents help a Prep to Year 1 child read at home?

- When reading to your child stop sometimes and ask “What do you think might happen next?” Accept the child’s answers even though they may not seem right.
- Occasionally ask some ‘why’ questions about the story, e.g. ‘Why do you think the author put that bit in the story?’
- Talk about books you are reading together. Compare characters with real life, or from different books.
- Talk about illustrations to see if they match what is in the child’s mind.
- Point out the author’s name before reading a book and encourage your child to read other books by that author.
- Take your child to the local library regularly and to any story telling sessions that are advertised.
- Accept your child’s efforts with praise, concentrate on all the things he/she does right, not on the few errors. E.g. Good work. You used the first letter and the picture clue to help work out that word.
- If your child makes a mistake when he or she is reading aloud, allow time for self-correction. If your child’s mistake makes sense, ignore it. E.g. they might say house instead of home.
- Leave notes around the house for your child to read.
- Encourage your child to write messages to other family members.
- Encourage children to retell stories. Involve the family in swapping stories e.g. “You tell me a story and I will tell you a story.”

Citizen of the Week

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<th>Week ending 24th July</th>
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Harold and the Life Education Van will be at our school from Friday 21st August to Tuesday 2nd September. The cost to visit the van is $7 and is due by Thursday 20th August.

Saturday 15th August 2.00pm under D Block