Welcome to term three. I hope you all enjoyed a welcomed break from routine and had a chance to catch up on all things family. We, the staff, are excited about the term ahead. This term will again be a busy time and we look forward to your continued support in order to achieve improved outcomes for all of our children.

The catch word for the term is ‘ATTENDANCE’. This year the school’s attendance rate has increased significantly which is really pleasing. Thank you to the parents who ensure their children are here every day. It is vital that all children attend school each day; that they arrive on time and are well rested. We can’t teach the children if they are not at school. Every minute of every day counts!

School Attendance: A Key to Success
One of the most important things your child can do to achieve academic success is also one of the most basic: attending school every day and arriving on time. Being at school every day also assists children with their social interactions and development. It is therefore important that children develop habits of regular attendance right from the commencement of the Prep year.

School participation is important as it maximises life opportunities for children. It helps children to develop important skills, knowledge and values which set them up for further learning and participation in their community.

Parents are reminded that our first school bell is rung at 8:50am for an 8:55am commencement of instruction. It is important that children arrive on time. Ideally it would be great if all of our children could arrive at school by no later than 8:30am. The twenty minutes prior to instruction enables the children to put their lunch away, prepare themselves for the school day and catch up with friends. Once instruction commences those children who have had this opportunity, are mentally prepared for the learning that is about to occur.

School wide literacy instruction occurs in the first session of each day (9:00am – 11:00am). It is entirely possible that those children who consistently arrive late may miss out on their reading instruction for that day and perhaps for the whole week thus impacting on their ability to achieve at classroom standard. Arriving even ten minutes late can have an impact on a child’s outcomes. (See table below)

I thank those of you who regularly ensure your children attend every day. It makes a big difference!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>He/She is only missing just...</th>
<th>That equals...</th>
<th>Which is.....</th>
<th>&amp; over 13 yrs of schooling that’s...</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 mins per day</td>
<td>50 mins per wk</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 wks per yr</td>
<td>Nearly ½ year</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 mins per day</td>
<td>1hr 40 mins per wk</td>
<td>Over 2.5 wks per yr</td>
<td>Nearly 1 yr</td>
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<td>Half hr per day</td>
<td>Half a day per wk</td>
<td>4 wks per yr</td>
<td>Nearly 1½ yrs</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 hr per day</td>
<td>1 day per wk</td>
<td>8 wks per yr</td>
<td>Over 2½ yrs</td>
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Cont. on page 2
How parents can support their children to arrive on time every day:

- Be encouraging. Give the children something to look forward to.
- Assist with and check homework.
- Take an active interest in your child’s school life. Enquire about their day each afternoon.
- Locate any potential sources of anxiety.
- Keep in regular contact with your child’s teacher.
- Keep updated on school events and news.

Your support and assistance with this very important issue is greatly appreciated by the entire staff as it makes a big difference to your child’s progress and ultimately their future.

School Improvement Agenda:
During the past four years, our school’s improvement agenda has focussed on improving reading outcomes for all students. Being able to read and comprehend effectively is the key to all learning. To this end, school resources have been targeted to support this agenda.

This year, whilst still continuing with this agenda, writing, too, has been targeted as an area for improvement. Good readers are usually good writers and vice versa so the two areas complement each other really well. In each classroom teachers are working to increase and improve our student’s acquisition of vocabulary which benefits both the areas of reading and writing.

Please feel free to visit the school and ask your class teachers what they are doing, how they are doing it and most importantly, how you, as parents, can support your child/ren’s learning at home. The support and encouragement children receive at home has an enormous effect on student learning outcomes. Make an appointment to visit your teachers TODAY. You can make such a difference to your child’s learning!

Staffing:
Mr Marco Trovalusci, and Mrs Kris Nolan are both taking long service leave this term. Mr Trovalusci will resume his duties as Deputy Principal on Monday, August 10 and Mrs Nolan (Head of Curriculum) will return on Monday, August 3. I wish them both a lovely break and look forward to their return in a few weeks.

School uniforms:
At White Rock State School children are expected to wear their full school uniform each day. When children are in uniform they are more focussed, have increased pride in their school and are often more comfortable. Parents are encouraged to support us in our endeavour to ensure all children wear their uniform each day. Should any families need to purchase new uniforms, the school’s uniform shop is open each Wednesday and Thursday morning – 8:30am – 9:30am. Thank-you for your assistance with this.

School Opinion Surveys:
It is that time of year again when schools all across Queensland seek information from the school’s parent, student and staff bodies in order to make our schools stronger. Please see distributed with this newsletter a letter informing parents of how they can participate in this very important survey. Once again, parents are asked to complete the survey online. Provisions have been made to support families who do not have home access to the internet. Please see the letter for details and I thank you in advance for your participation.

Upcoming Events:
Tuesday, August 4: John Fleming Visit (Educational Consultant)
Wednesday, August 5: - School Performance - “A Taste of Vaudeville” - $4:50 per child
August : School Opinion Surveys returned
August 17 – 19: Whole School Review – more information in the next newsletter

Sports Day:
On June 25, our school held its annual Interhouse athletics carnival. What a wonderful day! The weather was fine and the competition was keen. Congratulations to all of the competitors on their team spirit. All students demonstrated a very high level of good sportsmanship which contributed to the success of the day.

Thank-you to Mr Peter Rowe for organising the event and all of the staff who assisted in ensuring the events ran smoothly. Thank-you also to the P&C volunteers, Mr Steve Gower and Mr Noel Gibbs for assisting with preparations and wonderful tuckshop workers for their tireless efforts during the day. What a wonderful feast was prepared for the hungry hoards. Thanks also to the many parents who attended to cheer their children on to the finishing line, thus creating a spirited atmosphere in which the children

Continued from front page

White Rock State School
Guyala Gazette
were able to compete. A great day was had by all! Congratulations to Trinity House who were the victors on the day and to Michaelmas House who won the ‘Spirit of the Competition’ award. We now look forward to next year’s event.

Opti- Minds Competition:
This term our school is entering the annual Opti-MINDS competition. The Opti-MINDS Creative Sustainability Challenge is an inclusive team challenge which EMPOWERS participants to think, create & communicate. The team must select a challenge from one of three categories – literature, social sciences or mathematics and engineering. During a six week period the children solve the challenge and perform their response.

The challenge commenced on the first day of term 3, July13, and will culminate in the regional challenge at James Cook University on Sunday, August 23. The following children have been selected to undertake this challenge: Ariel, Christopher, Sukmarmi, Isabella, Amika, Ella and Mikayla. I wish all of these children all the very best for the challenge and congratulate them on their commitment to the task.

School Camp:
This term our year 5 classes are participating in the annual school camp. They will be travelling to Daradgee Environmental Education Centre for this year’s camping experience. Camping is a marvellous experience for children. They learn to be more independent, more resilient and develop the ability to cooperate and compromise. They gain many skills and find themselves challenged and extended in ways they may never be otherwise. As the year 5 campers will be departing on August 26, the parents of the students who have elected to participate in this are reminded that the final camp payment is due on Thursday 6 August. It is important this deadline is strictly observed. Should any family be experiencing difficulty with this deadline, please contact your class teacher as soon as possible.

Continued from page 2

Our much awaited (and needed) Working Bee is Saturday 01 August from 8am to midday. Everyone is welcome and it is a great way for you to make the school a tidier place for your kids, while meeting other parents and staff. We are putting out a special call for any concreters who can assist with a small slab on the day. A sausage sizzle lunch and drink will be held after.

Are you a concreter?
We would love your help at the Working Bee.

We are also looking for someone to run the BBQ at the Working Bee. If you are a concreter who BBQ’s then we need you…..

Cheers
Bill Schutz, President
Tel: 0417 210 835

Next P&C meeting is NEXT MONDAY and then will revert to the usual 2nd Monday of the Month. We would love to see new faces. Everybody is welcome.

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Tel: 0417 210 835

Coming Soon - A great opportunity to enjoy live entertainment!

Whole school performance – Prep to Yr 6
When: Wednesday 5th Aug 2 to 3 pm
Cost: $4.50 per student
Where: School Hall

Flyer and payment envelope coming home in the next few days

Parents Citizens’ Association

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We are also looking for someone to run the BBQ at the Working Bee. If you are a concreter who BBQ’s then we need you……
Three of our students were selected to play netball competitively on the Gold Coast during the school holidays. Petrina, Laneeka and Tamea joined The Australian Indigenous Schoolgirls Netball Carnival which is an initiative of the Budgies Australian Netball Indigenous Corporation (BANIC) and were all on the overall winning team.

Petrina, Laneeka and Tamea

Laneeka has been selected to travel to Perth in a few weeks time to compete at the next level. Well done to all three girls.

Congratulations to past student David Elia who has been selected by Jonathan Thurston for The Cowboys Rugby Academy 2016.

David currently plays not only for the Bentley Park school team but for The Cowboys Junior Team here in Cairns. He will leave home to board full time at the academy in Townsville from next January.

Mr Prior, Grade 4/5 teacher, who coached the White Rock team in the local rugby league last year said “David had a natural ability and he was one of those kids that you could just tell could star with some solid training”.

Well done David, from all of us on your achievement.

Your guide to Term 3

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<td>26 Yr 5 Camp Book Week</td>
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What’s on at White Rock regularly?

Guyala Playgroup, Tuesdays 9-11am
Parents with children under school age are most welcome.

Coffee Club, Tuesdays 2-3pm
All parents are invited to join us and meet with others, organised by Mission Australia

Free Breakfast for children
Tue, Wed & Thurs 7.45-8.30am
Thank you to Woolworths Mount Sheridan and The Rock Impact Group

FAFT—Families as First Teachers
Thurs 9-11am
Free Dinners. Kahl Park 6.15-7pm.
EVERY DAY For hungry children and all under 21’s
Run by Street Level Youth Care

School Dentist News
The mobile school dentist is still on site and is continuing seeing students who have returned their forms on Thursdays (starting again from next week). It is not too late to come to the office and fill out your form - remember the check up is FREE

IF YOUR CHILD NEEDS TREATMENT the dentist makes contact with you and you are offered an appointment at one of the static school dental clinics in town.

There has been a disappointing take up on these treatment appointments once parents have been advised they are needed. If you have been contacted but need help making the appointment come and see the school office staff who will help you. Remember the treatment is also FREE

Let’s get these kids to the Dentist

HAVE YOU HEARD??
We now have a clinic open in EDMONTON
WHERE: 7 STOKES STREET, NEXT TO IGA
CONTACT: 40 40 3100

“Keeping Our Generations Growing Strong”

It’s back!

Woolworths earn & learn

Please start collecting tokens from today and bring to school. There is a box in the school office.

Free student breakfasts
Will start again next week - Tue, Wed and Thurs.
With our thanks to Woolworths, Rock Impact and the volunteers from Sheridan Gardens.

School Banking
There will be no school banking this week.
Keep saving up for next week!
**Garage Sale**
7am - 1pm
Saturday 10th September

*Something for everyone*

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**Community Youth Group**
Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30
Grades 4 - 12
Call Steve for more details 0407 127 204

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**complete**

Peter Wood
T: 07 4045 1551  
F: 07 4045 3737  
M: 0419 735 447

P.O. Box 14040  
Mt. Sheridan QLD 4868  
193 Bruce Highway  
Edmonton QLD 4868  
peter.wood@completeba.com.au

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**Bentley Park**

**Outsite School Hours Care**

**Quality Services**
Before School Care 6:30am - 9:00am  
After School Care 3:00pm - 6:00pm  
Vacation Care 6:30am - 6:00pm

**Enquire Today**

PH: 4055 4000
Drop off & pick up from White Rock State School

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**MT SHERIDAN NEWSPOWER**

MT SHERIDAN PLAZA (opposite Woolworths)  
PHONE: 0740-363699 FAX: 0740-363599  
E: bevvallee@yahoo.com.au

For cool school stuff, come and see us.

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**Trinity BAPTIST CHURCH**

Community Youth Group  
Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30  
Grades 4 - 12  
Call Steve for more details 0407 127 204

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**PICCONES SUPA IGA**

Over the past 12 months, Piccones Supa IGA and the Piccone Family have donated in excess of $200,000 to local schools, charities, and community and sporting clubs.

Piccones Supa IGA Edmonton  
Ph: (07) 4045 3915  Fax: (07) 4045 5241  
Email: edmonton@picconessupa.com.au

Piccones Supa IGA Mancora  
Ph: (07) 4042 6200  Fax: (07) 4053 5700  
Email: mancora@picconessupa.com.au

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- Fitness For Everyone  
- Self Defence/Lifestyles

Contact Lindsey: 0414 392 901  
www.crdedmonton.com or  
Email: info@crdedmonton.com

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PHONE: 0740-363699 FAX: 0740-363599  
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**White Rock State School**

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