



**PIMPAMA STATE
PRIMARY COLLEGE**
Creating Pathways to Opportunity

Welcome to 2016

Welcome back to our existing families, and welcome also to all new families joining PSPC in 2016. We have had an exciting, yet warm start to the school year.

To start 2016 we have 11 classrooms housing our 270 students. We welcome a number of new staff to our College: Mrs Amanda Strickland (Prep SC); Mrs Alison Ryan (1R); Ms Kym Bobbermien and Mrs Paula Musson (2BM); Mrs Kym Rosewarne (2/3R); Mrs Sheridan Burley (Music).

With the increase in students comes an increase in traffic. After a shaky start we appear to have all traffic moving in the correct formation around the parent carpark. Please be aware that all parent traffic must turn right when you enter the carpark. The left turn carpark is for STAFF ONLY. This is for safety reasons as the main pedestrian crossing feeding to the road passes in front of this carpark. No staff are leaving or entering at the busy school entry and exit times and therefore the risk to those crossing the road is minimised.

Our formal uniform has now been introduced, and looks great. The expectation for uniform compliance in 2016 is that formal uniform will be worn 4 days/week and the sports uniform worn ONLY on the scheduled PE day. Information about which day is PE for each class will be sent home next week.

Staff Contacts

I encourage you to make a relationship with your child's class teacher. They are the first port of call for anything you need to ask/question/raise concerns. Please respect that teachers are very busy before and after school and would require prior notification to make a meeting time with you to give you the time required to discuss any topics you wish. To this end following are the departmental email addresses of our teachers:

Mrs Bell (Prep B) kabel0@eq.edu.au

Mrs Woodcock (Prep W) jwood493@eq.edu.au

Mr Mitchell Campbell (Prep SC) mcamp299@eq.edu.au Mrs Amanda Strickland (Prep SC) astrick41@eq.edu.au

Miss Lansdowne (1L) calan9@eq.edu.au

Mrs Alison Ryan (1R) aryan101@eq.edu.au

Ms Kym Bobbermien (2BM) kboobb1@eq.edu.au Mrs Paula Musson (2BM) pmuss2@eq.edu.au

Mrs Kym Rosewarne (2/3R) krose81@eq.edu.au

Mrs Michelle O'Brien (3/4O) mobri138@eq.edu.au

Ms Claire Richardson (4R) ceric0@eq.edu.au

Mrs Kristi Walsh (5W) kwals89@eq.edu.au

Miss Bridgette O'Donnell (5/6O) bodon4@eq.edu.au

Stage 2 Construction Update

Please take the time to read the construction update notice that is attached along with this newsletter.

Student Resource Scheme 2016

Information and invoices will soon be sent home soon for the 2016 student resource scheme which costs \$125 per student. All families who opt to participate will receive an invoice electronically. By paying for this scheme your child/ren will have access to the online learning programs; Mathletics and Reading Eggs, consumable materials to support classroom learning experiences and for students in Years 5&6 a PSPC student diary. Please arrange to pay this money by the required date on the form. Anyone requiring a payment plan should speak to Ms Sharon Laverty, Business Services Manager to arrange options for payment.

Playground Etiquette

Our playgrounds are very tempting play areas, we request that you assist us to keep the playgrounds safe by ensuring your child does not play on them before or after school. Signs are in place to reinforce the use of these only at playtime. The students are learning to use different muscle groups on the various apparatus and it is great to see them try and try again on challenging pieces.

Staying in contact:

Please note the following means of communication for our College:

Email: is your email address correct in our system? Are your settings enabling pdf documents as attachments?

Phone: School number is 5549 5333 – please store in your phone.

Facebook: Like us on Facebook- Pimpama State Primary College

Website: <http://pimpamaspc.eq.edu.au>

QSchools App: enables you to receive updates and push notifications from our website through a phone app.

QParents: have you signed up to access our database to see monies owing?

Parents & Citizens (P&C)

Our next meeting will be on Feb 10th at 5:30pm. All are welcome to become members of the P&C at this time.

The current P&C Executive Team include:

President: Mr Robert Bloss

Vice President: Miss Debbie Flaherty

Treasurer: Ms Jasmine Davis

Secretary: Cassie Stirling.

The P&C's first fund raiser for the year will be a hot cross bun drive. Please look out for details in the upcoming week.

Dates to Remember:

Friday weekly – 9.15am for this Friday 5/2 and then 9am each week after- Assembly

Wednesday 10th February 5.30pm P&C Meeting – school administration block

Week of 15-19th February - Parent Information sessions – stay tuned for year level meeting times from teachers.

Kind regards

Donna Gosling

Principal

From the Guidance Officer: Mrs Kirsty Thiesfield

Welcome to the new school year! I felt that this article was relevant and interesting considering we are all starting 2016 with a new class and teacher. Enjoy the year with your children and assist them in feeling 'connected' to school.

When kids feel part of their school community and are cared for by people at their school, they are less likely to get into trouble. They also have higher levels of emotional well-being.



This feeling of belonging, often called "connectedness," can be especially important during times of stress or when difficult decisions have to be made.

Adults and peers, curricular and extracurricular activities, policies and practices all affect the level of connectedness your child feels at school.

This article:

Defines school connectedness.

Explains the importance of being connected to the school.

Suggests ways for parents and teachers to help kids feel more connected at school.

What Is School Connectedness?

These are some of the major elements that help kids feel they belong and are cared for at their school:

- Teachers who support and care for individual students.
- Good friends at school.
- Parents and students caring about current and future academic performance.
- Discipline policies that are fair and efficient.
- Participating in extracurricular activities

Benefits of Connectedness

Some of the benefits of helping students feel a sense of connectedness to their school community are listed below.

- Academic benefits: "Connected" kids are more likely to attend school regularly, pay attention to their grades and pursue post-secondary education.
- Reducing risky behaviour: Students who feel a sense of belonging to the school community are less likely to be involved in activities such as smoking, alcohol and substance abuse, early sexual activity, drinking and driving, suicide attempts and weapon-related violence.
- Mental well-being: Connected kids are less likely to have emotional distress or experience abuse. They are able to handle stress effectively and are more resilient (that is, they can bounce back from stress).

How Parents Can Help Kids Feel More Connected At School

The first step is to recognize the importance of school connectedness in your child's life and development. Second, use the information in the "What Is School Connectedness?" section above to assess your child's school situation.

As a parent, you can take these steps to influence your child's level of connectedness:

- Attend parent-teacher meetings and get to know all of your child's teachers through regular conversations.
- Be involved with the school. Go on field trips, volunteer and know what is happening at the school.
- Get to know your child's friends and their families, and encourage positive peer relationships.
- Talk to your children about their grades and effort, and access resources to help you ensure they are reaching their potential and taking ownership of their performance.
- Discuss the school's discipline policy with teachers and administrators.
- Encourage your child to get involved. Most schools offer a wide variety of extracurricular options, from band to basketball.

Your child's sense of belonging to school (connectedness) plays a key role, not only in academic success but also in decreasing risky behaviour and supporting mental well-being.

Talk with your children about how connected they feel at school. Above all, involve yourself in their school lives and be aware of what happens there, both negatively and positively.

(Feeling Connected at School <http://www.healthyalberta.com/HealthyPlaces/660.htm>)

Warm regards,

Kirsty Thiesfield

Guidance Officer

From the Professional Learning Leader: Mrs Nicky Holmes

Welcome to another exciting year of learning. A special welcome to the Prep students who join us for the first time. It is wonderful to see all students around the school engaged in a range of learning activities. In the upcoming weeks the teachers will start to send home learning activities to be completed as homework. They activities may include sight words, reading, spelling, writing tasks, maths tasks and/or life skills. Our students who are included in the resource scheme will also have access to Mathletics and Reading Eggs at home and this may be included in the homework.

It has been found that when parent take an active interest in their child/ren homework they are more successful at school. It shows the child/ren that you value what they are learning too. Helping with homework could be as simple as demonstrating study and organisation skills (setting a good example), positive encouragement including encouragement to take a break if it is needed or explaining a tricky concept. Here are some tips to help you establish a positive homework routine:

- Set up a homework friendly area- a well-lit area is best, complete with supplies such as paper, pencils, glue and scissors.
- Schedule homework time- this could be in the afternoon after a snack or play time or in the evening after dinner. Make the schedule with your child so they know what to expect and when.
- Keep distractions to a minimum- this means no TV, loud music, unnecessary devices.
- Make sure the child does their own work- children learn from mistakes too
- Be a motivator and a monitor- give positive encouragement, check that the tasks are complete and be available if they want to ask for help.
- Let the teacher know if there is continuing concerns with competing the homework.
- and IMPORTANTLY praise your child/ren work and efforts! Homework is not supposed to be stressful so praise them for what they can do or have attempted to do!

<http://kidshealth.org/parent/positive/learning/homework.html>

Bringing Up Great Kids With ASD

PARENTING COURSE

**A tailor-made course for families
with children with autism**



Weekly for 6 weeks Term 1 2016:
**Wednesdays 17th February to 23rd
March**

Time: 9.30am to 12 noon

**Coomera Family Central, 3 Jowett St
Coomera**

No cost

Bookings /Enquiries:

55194129 or 55029797

or familyresourcing@fsg.org.au



The 6 week Bringing Up Great Kids Parenting Course was developed by the Australian Childhood Foundation.

Additional content has been added to meet the specific parenting needs of families with children with ASD (Autism).

A practical and inspiring approach that assists parents to review and enhance:

- Effective communication with children
- Respectful interactions
- Development of children's positive self-identity
- More in-depth understanding of how ASD affects the child
- Effective strategies for parenting children with ASD

Oral Health (Dental) Services

Gold Coast Oral Health Services are offering free dental check-ups to children. This service will be provided **off-site** at Hotham Creek Road (Pimpama State School) by a mobile dental clinic.

To arrange an appointment for your child telephone:

The Oral Health Client Service Centre

☎ **1300 300 850**

Monday – Friday 8.00 am – 4.30 pm

Excluding Public Holidays

Child Dental Benefit Schedule Vouchers are accepted. When your child's \$1000 cap is reached, there will be no out-of-pocket expenses provided your child meets *eligibility criteria.

* Eligibility – All Queensland resident children aged four years or older who have not completed year 10 of secondary school.

Further information on public funded oral health services can be accessed via URL:

<http://www.health.qld.gov.au/goldcoasthealth/html/services/oralhealth.asp>



Ormeau Bulldogs
Australian Football Club



Sign on Days 2016 Season

Juniors

(Children born from 2011, families of 3 or more children get 5% discount)

Masters

(Adults over 35 years of age)

Sunday 14th and Saturday 27th

February 2016

10am – 2pm

Ormeau Sports Park

Upper Ormeau Rd, Kingsholme



Join us for a sausage sizzle and a kick of the footy!

Paid Umpires Wanted

Please apply

Send us an Email: info@ormeauafl.com.au
or call 0432 271 798 for further information

Visit our website for more information

www.ormeauafl.com.au

Or follow us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/OrmeauBulldogs

HOCKEY SIGN ON DAY



Roosters Hockey is an amalgamation of
North Gold Coast and Coomera Hockey Clubs.

Saturday 6th February, 8am to 10am
Gold Coast Hockey, Musgrave Avenue Labrador

Ages: Hookin2Hockey (5 - 7), Under 9, 11, 13, 15, 17 – Juniors
Men's and Women's Divisions 1, 2, 3 & 4 – Seniors (aged 18 and above)

Roosters Hockey Club welcomes all new players whether you have played
before or not.

Send us an email: registrations@roostershockey.com.au
or call 0417 078 626

Register on the Sign-on day or at a training session

Training is every Wednesday night at Gold Coast Hockey
5pm-7.00pm Juniors, 7.00pm-9.00pm Seniors
Training commences 10th February for Seniors and 17th February for
Juniors

Follow us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Roosters-Hockey-Club/644647185647042>



Queensland
Government

Be Safe

Be Kind

Be an Active Learner