

This year we have seen our student numbers expand to capacity with a number of new families moving into the district. We have adjusted our timetable to make some new initiatives work.

### **JAPANESE LESSONS**

This year we have been able to organise Japanese lessons for all grades. The Prep, 1 and 2 grades all get one 45 minute session with their grade (not class). The 3/4/5 class and 5/6 class both get 2 x 45 minutes sessions per week. This has come at a minimal cost to the school budget. These lessons are going really well and the students are enjoying them. We thank our Japanese teacher, Michelle Smith, for her ongoing commitment to Aloomba by extending her hours to teach all classes.

### **GROUNDS CARE**

With a significant increase in our grounds care budget we are now in a position to have a Schools Officer—Facilities. Last week we welcomed Paul Gibbs who will take on this part time position for a few hours per week.

### **ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

Every year we have an opportunity to review the operation of the school by working on the Annual Implementation Plan. Our improvement priority across the school is 'writing' and our documents and practices will support this. Writing has been chosen because many of our students are average and we want to challenge them further to be 'above average' in this area. We are also aware of the demise of writing in our daily lives and the need to focus on grammar, punctuation and spelling. All teachers have undertaken professional development in the writing area and we have specialist writing lessons for grades 2-6 every Tuesday. These have proven to be an impressive way to improve our students' skills.

### **NAPLAN**

Every year we review our Naplan data carefully and when we looked at the 'relative gain' of our students' writing from grade three to five—all had made positive gains except a few who were already well above the national average. Relative gain is the progress students have made between grades three and five, taking into account the gains they would have made just by 'maturing' in those two years. As a staff, we are very pleased with the achievements of the students and we can see the benefits of these specialist writing lessons.

### **OTHER PRIORITIES**

Reading comprehension is also a priority along with Maths, Science, ICT and subject areas.

### **INVESTING FOR SUCCESS**

Our 'Investing for Success' document is an agreement for funding from the State Government to improve student outcomes. It supports our Writing improvement agenda and funds the Writing Extension Program and teacher professional development. It also funds the before school Teacher Aide reading / sight word program.

### **ICT PURCHASES**

At the end of last year we purchased a new photocopier (\$5860), 10 laptops (\$10144); and a smartboard (\$5230).

This is addition to a new smart board for 1/2 class purchased last year.

### **SCHOOL PERFORMANCE TOURS**

Please make your payment (\$25 per child) before tomorrow, Wednesday 21 February.

### **CHANGE OF DATE**

Gala Day is now being held on Friday 14 September.—not Friday 7 September as previously advertised. School Performance Tours will now be on Friday 7 September instead of Friday 14 September.

### **TUCKSHOP MENU**

After much discussion at the P & C Meeting, parents have decided to change the menu for Tuckshop. Please refer to the Flexischool website for the most up to date menu options. We thank Kari Moller and Candy O'Connor for making the necessary changes to make this happen.

### **OBSTATHON**

We are hearing some really positive reports from students about their Obsthathon fund raising efforts. Don't forget every child has to receive sponsorship to take part in this student fund raiser. Forms and money are due in before Wednesday 14 March.

### **2018 NAPLAN DATES**

If you have students in Years 3 or 5 please ensure you do not make any medical appointments or plan days off from Tuesday 15 May—Thursday 17 May.

### **MOBILE PHONES**

Reminder : If parents require their child to have a mobile phone at school then it must be handed in to the office at the start of the day and collected at 3pm.

### **HEAD LICE**

This pest has reappeared once again. We ask all parents to check all their children's hair every Friday to help control the spread of Head Lice in the school.

If you haven't got a



what is going on at the school on June 2, keep reading. The P & C are bringing the school to



by hosting a Trivia Night to raise



for the students of our school.

Many parents go to a lot of



to make the night a huge



success.

You got it. We need your help! Please don't miss your



to get involved. Phone



0409053824

if you would like to give helping a



You won't be



as it

will be more than

a



The theme for this year's

**Trivia Night** is

“ It's Game Time “

Here are some ways you can help :

Decorating

Working Bees are scheduled at the school on the following Saturdays commencing at 10am.

3, 24 March, 28 Apr, 26 May

Prizes

We need the donation 100+ Packs of Six prizes for prize winners. These items can be small in value and are used for Trivia round winners. Eg. 6 pens, 6 drinks, 6 packets of seeds... let your imagination run wild and look out for bargains. Please leave at the school office.

Auction Items

If you know of a business house who would like to donate an item to be auctioned on the evening, please let us know.

Catering

As we draw closer to the evening, we will be asking for assistance in this area.

Setting Up and Cleaning Up

This is always a big task so many helpers will be required.

Helpers on the Night

Don't want to be part of a Trivia Team? How about helping out on the night. We need 20+ people.

Promotion

Start talking to your family and friends and get as many teams of 6 together as you can.

**Term 1 Key Dates**

|           |         |                         |
|-----------|---------|-------------------------|
| 22-23 Feb | Thu—Fri | School Captains' Camp   |
| 23 Feb    | Fri     | School Performance Tour |
| 9 Mar     | Fri     | P & C AGM Meeting       |
| 22 Mar    | Thu     | Obsthon                 |
| 29 Mar    | Thu     | School Cross Country    |

**Tuckshop Roster**

| Date   | Tuckshop           | Home Bake            |
|--------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 23 Feb | Kyli F, Chandell v | Jodie T, Candice O'C |
| 2 Mar  | Charlene P, Elly P | Kristy McA, Megan S  |

**P & C ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Our AGM is being held on Friday 9 March in the school Library at 3pm. At this meeting all positions will be declared vacant with a number of our executive retiring from their positions. Some are willing to help for the next year. We are in need of a new Treasurer.

The full executive consists of a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. They are supported by a Tuckshop and Uniform Convenor.

**ALOOMBA CROSS COUNTRY**

**Parent Volunteers Wanted**

Our school cross country is held for all year levels with our Prep – Yr 2 children running a modified course. With the race being held in Robert Rossi Park and the road verge along Fixter Road, we need a number of volunteers to help stage the race. If you are available to help, please complete the slip below and return to the office.

Yes,  
I can help with the Cross Country on Thursday 29 March.

Name.....

Mobile Phone Number .....

Please return to the office by Friday 2 March.