Congratulations to our Year 3 and 5 students and their teachers for the fantastic results in the NAPLAN test this year. We had 93% of our children meet or exceed the National Minimum Standard. On average we had 25% of our Year 3 and 40% of our Year 5 students reach the Upper 2 bands in the five test areas. Our mean scale score was similar to or above the nation in 8 out of the ten test areas. These results show an improvement in our Explicit Improvement areas of Reading and Numeracy. Our focus will be to continue the improvement in these areas as well as develop a whole school spelling program to ensure continuity of practise and learning in this area.

ATTENDANCE

There has been some discussion concerning the implementation of our ‘Same Day Attendance’ procedure which messages parents requesting details of student absences on the day of absence if the school has not been notified of explanations for non-attendance. This procedure is a Departmental initiative and was made effective in July for all schools in our state. The safety and wellbeing of students are the highest priorities for the Department of Education and Training and for the Queensland Government. This policy has been implemented to protect out-of-home care students, but also allows schools to protect all our children, who are identified as absent without explanation, or are missing from school. This procedure allows us to determine whether children are absent or missing (skipping/wagging) from school, and therefore together we can help protect all our children. This procedure has nothing to do with our attendance targets and everything to do with keeping our kids safe.

A report “When a child is missing: Remembering Tialeigh” – a report into Queensland’s children missing from out-of-home care was released and the Queensland Government has accepted a recommendation from the Queensland Family and Child Commission that the Department will implement same day notifications advising parents/carers when a child has an unexplained absence from school. Attendance letters went home recently to children who have been flagged has having an attendance percentage of less than 85%. We did look at all reasons for absences and noted these down. The reason for the letter was merely to make you aware of your child’s attendance percentage to date. There are many varied reasons for our children not attending school. It is our job to ensure that our children are attending school as frequently as possible – every day does count. This does not mean, however, that we want you to send your child to school sick. If they are unwell our advice to you would be to keep them home for the day. If you have any concerns regarding your child’s attendance please contact the school for further information.

Kid’s Shed

Monday – Craft (2nd Break only)
Tuesday – Photography/ Gardening/ Cooking
Wednesday – Robotics / Beebots
Thursday – Craft
Friday – Board Games

Children may also visit the shed just to chill out and listen to music, read, chat…

Suicide Response Training
Together with Lifeline we are offering Suicide Response Training at our school next Monday night, 5-7pm. All community members are more than welcome to attend.

PYJAMA DAY
We are celebrating Pyjama Day on Friday 12th August. Children may come dressed in their PJ’s and Ugg Boots. It is a Gold Coin donation and all money raised goes towards Kids in Care.

We acknowledge the Gangulu people past and present on whose land we walk, we work and we live.
P&C NEWS.

P&C Meeting - Our next P&C meeting will be held on Monday 22nd August at 3.15pm in the library. All Welcome. We will be discussing Smiling For Smiddy and our next fundraising events.

Thangool Fly in - Unfortunately this event was postponed due to the wet weather until the long weekend in October 1, 2, 3. This weekend is the last weekend of the September holidays, the NRL Grand Final weekend and a 3 day weekend for most people. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help us with this event we will let you know if we decide to proceed with our stall at the new event.

Air conditioners - Our next fundraiser (Thangool Races) will help upgrade air conditioning units within the classrooms. Attached to your newsletter today is the roster for the Thangool Cup. Please consider volunteering your time for this event as it is an easy and fun way to raise funds for the upgrading of air conditioners. Please note we have at least two more fundraisers this term. We will also be catering for the Cree Bull Sale on Friday 26th August. We will need donations of cakes and slices for this event. Please let Kim know (49958140) if you are able to assist with the Cree Bull Sale catering.

Tuckshop - Fruit Salad Shakers are available for $3.00 each. Meat and Salad Shakers are $4.00 each and Salad Shakers are $3.00. New this term: Mini Fruit Cups for $1.00.

Workers - 12th August - Donna, Coralie, (worker needed)
Bakers 12th August - Melanie, Connie

Workers - 19th August - Jonnie, Leisa and Zoe
Bakers 19th August - Kelly and Tracey

School Banking - School Banking takes place on a Tuesday. If you wish to join in with School Banking at our school, please pop into the Commonwealth Bank in Biloela and mention School Banking at Thangool School. Please see below the new competition flyer for Term 3.

Uniforms - Black School Jumpers with the logo on them are now in stock. These jumpers are $18.00 each. We also have good supplies of all polo shirts. Uniform Orders will be filled on a Thursday. We are now specialising out the Black Unisex Basketball Shorts for $5.00, orders must be via the red bag. Orders of the new shorts and skorts will be arriving soon.
Reading Hour
Reading Hour starts at 10:00am on Tuesday 16th August. Come along and join our Reading Picnic on the oval. All our classes will be joining together to read on the oval in the warm sun. Parents and Community members are welcome to stay for Morning Tea with the staff afterwards.

Q Parents
Thangool State School is pleased to be providing parents with access to a new online portal called QParents. Parents will have access to their child’s student information, anytime, anywhere through a smartphone, tablet or computer. Parents will be able to notify the school of an absence, update personal information and view academic records and invoices. To access this portal parents must first register for QPARENTS. During the last week of term 2 we sent home the information regarding QParents within the envelope containing the report cards. If you would like to register for QParents, can you please return your forms to the school as soon as possible. If you can’t find them please also contact the school for replacement forms.

Project Club Day and Smiling for Smiddy
Monday 29th August 2016.
Start thinking about your entries for Project Club Day 2016. Our annual day will be held on Monday 29th August 2016 in conjunction with Smiling For Smiddy. As usual the riders are heading this way and will call into our school on Monday afternoon to spread the news about the importance of sun safety.

We will be asking families to donate a plate of cooking (slice, cake, sandwiches etc) for the riders to have for afternoon tea. These events are both really special to our school and fantastic for the students to participate in.

Look out for more information in the next newsletter.

Lost Property
Please take the time to check the labels on your children’s jumpers as there are currently a number of children missing jackets and jumpers. Also there is a large amount of jumpers, jackets and tracksuit pants on the lost property table. If you are at the school, please take the time to see if anything belongs to your child as most of it is unnamed.
What's Happening In Our Classes.

Year 4/5/6

This Term in the 4/5/6 classroom, we have been learning about Rio, Australia and the History of the Olympics. We have decorated the classroom with a running track, over 200 flags of countries that are competing in the Olympics and various different torches to match the Unit. We have to create a portfolio of information on the Olympics, including how they started and some of the traditions.

In Science this term, Mrs Hyde is teaching us about the Human Body and how it works, including the names of muscles and bones and how they work together to create movement. This is connected to our Olympics unit because we are learning how the Olympians move in ways to help them run, swim, jump, throw, or, in general, move.

Year 6 student, Bailey, says that she is looking forward to seeing the finished product when the class has completed it. The whole class is sure to agree.

Reporters: Bailey and Grace
Communication is a key to success at school and for Speech Pathology week (August 7-13, 2016) we are highlighting the importance of communication in **creating futures** for our children. If we think about the classroom it is a buzz of words, explanations, questions, reading and writing. The ability to use language for thinking and learning is important for school success and creating students futures.

Children learn to speak by talking with other people. The more children practice talking, the more they will learn. As parents you begin the teaching language from the very first day often with “mum mum mum” or “dad dad dad”. It is important to continue modelling and teaching language by talking with your child. Conversations are an easy way to boost your child’s language and learning. When you have a conversation with your child, you help them to learn new words and different ways of talking about their ideas and opinions. Conversations can take place anytime, anywhere: while playing together, sharing a book, watching TV together, in the park, at the shops or over dinner. Having conversations with your child will help their language grow in readiness for learning to read and write. Making time for conversation gives your child more opportunities to learn about the world around them. When talking with your child make comments and ask questions about what they are interested in. Take the time to listen to what they say and respond to them and their ideas.
Creating a resilient family

Resilience is the happy knack of being able to bungy jump through the pitfalls of life. When tough things happen, resilience gives you the ability to rise above adversity and carry on. Resilience applies to people, families and organizations. Importantly it also applies to learning. Resilient learners are those who don’t give up when they get stuck, they persist in the face of obstacles.

Characteristics of resilient families

1. Spontaneity and Curiosity
   Resilient families have adults who model that life is worth living, that success is worth aiming for. There is one reliable way for young people to develop a positive sense of themselves and that is for them to live around adults who enjoy their own lives.

2. People are loved for their differences
   Children take on different roles according to their birth order. Don’t expect that what works in parenting the eldest will work for the next.

3. It is clear who is in charge
   Families who do not work well as democracies— they work best as benevolent dictatorships. You consult a lot and then make a decision. No parent wins all the time but even so, it is important that young people feel their parents are in charge of the family and are able to protect. It is not enough to just be a friend to your child.

Young people are protected when they have a diversity of friendship groups. For this reason it is desirable during their childhood to try to have them mix with a few different groups of friends.

5. Involve other adults
   Resilient families also seem to be able to share the task of parenting more broadly. Involving trustworthy adults in your child’s life will help you and them.

6. Consistency
   Resilient families have consistently high expectations for themselves and hold key values about life and the way they live it. Resilient families especially avoid harsh and inconsistent discipline methods that often just teach children to be tough and to rely on and trust no one.

7. Maintain rituals
   Resilient families take time out from the rush of life to celebrate life, anniversaries and birthdays.

8. Teach the skills of self-esteem
   This goes beyond praise and encouragement to asking young people how they achieve the things that they do. Getting them to explain in their own words how they succeeded helps them to see their own strengths.

9. Know how to argue
   Parenting is a 28-year long debating competition. The average parent makes 250 requests of the average child every day and the average child goes along with two thirds of those requests.

10. Be reliably unpredictable
    Parents in resilient families are prepared to do the unexpected. They know that NOTHING WORKS ALL THE TIME! So they try to do things that are fun and help them not to take problems too seriously.

Creating Resilient Families

Parenting Strategies for Raising Real People

Parenting the “Click and Go” Generation

The current generation of young people are the “click and go” generation- the baby boomlets. The generation who were born with a mouse in their hands.

They are different from past generations in several important ways that impact on their families. They have shorter attention spans, are more anxious, have a greater reliance on external sources of stimulation and happiness and expect immediate outcomes. They have grown up in a world of stronger dangers that has taught them to be wary of strange adults and to critique the world. This leads them to question authority. Where previous generations had role models, the click and go’s have only their parents and themselves.

Their attitude towards school is that they want good marks but don’t want to be seen to be working too hard. They often cultivate an image of the “cool kid.” They will live at home for longer and save money (often young) in order to finance text messaging and mobile phones.

Their trust in work is less and they don’t believe adults who suggest they put in the hard yards now and it will pay off later. The words “what’s in it for me right now” could almost be a motto for the Click and Go’s.

Motivating and parenting the Click and Go generation can be tough work. Not only do we need to figure out ways for them to build success and self-esteem away from the eyes of their friends, we need to find some immediate gain for them.

Golden Rules for parenting

1. Don’t do anything for them they can do for themselves
2. Never believe anything they say to you in an argument
3. Never forget that any child has more energy to put into any battle than any adult does.

For more information see Andrew’s books “Tricky Kids”, “Raising Real People” and “Help Your Child Succeed at School”

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