Dear Parents,

Firstly, on behalf of the students and staff at QPS, I would like to offer a very BIG and sincere thank you to all of the parents and community members who came together, volunteered their time, money and resources to make sure our Biggest Morning Tea went off without a hitch. It was a fantastic day that was well received by the Queenscliff public and raised a total of $841.60 (after a couple of late donations). This really is a testament to the efforts put in by the students, families and all those involved.

Last week, Mrs Fitzgerald and I went to Williamstown North Primary School for some invaluable professional learning. We firstly worked with their literacy leading teachers to develop reading conference scaffolds for our school, observed best practice in reading and received training in the Fountas and Pinnell reading program, which we have at our school. We were also fortunate enough to do some work with their curriculum team who provided us with a very comprehensive start to our curriculum mapping across reading, writing, spelling and number, as well as liaising with their well-being coordinator who kindly loaned us some resources relating to student well-being and positive behaviour reinforcement. As teachers, it is great that we are able to further develop our professional learning community with schools who are achieving academic excellence in literacy and numeracy, so that we can learn from and with each other in practical and collaborative forums.

Today we were invited to Lonsdale House Kindergarten to participate in a series of Science experiments. Our students worked closely with the kinder children when making ‘Magic Milk’, ‘Homemade Butter’ and ‘Primary to Secondary Colours’. It is very exciting to be building our relationship with Lonsdale House and we look forward to many more cross-facility teaching sessions. I have spoken with Sharon (Lonsdale House Director) and she is expecting approval for the after school care move to our portables in the coming week or so. Once the approval is given, we can begin establishing our Science lab and Japanese dojo.

Mrs Fitzgerald and I will be hosting our Prep Information Evening on Wednesday the 22nd of June. I am very pleased to pass on to our school community that we already have 3 confirmed prep enrolments for 2017 and are optimistic that this will increase by few more in the coming months. There has been some very positive feedback from community groups and potential families. Please keep up your positive promotion of our school and remind our community members that Queenscliff Primary School is a fantastic and unique place to learn and that we are taking enrolments across all years levels as well as 2017 preps. In fact, we have a new year 1 student commencing at QPS in term 3, and of course Keisha will be returning in term 4.

Over the coming weeks, Mrs Fitzgerald and I will be looking closely at the school program budgets and aligning these fiscally to curriculum areas and school point of needs. We will then have more clarity about school resourcing priorities and ensure that the Student Resource Package is utilised effectively for the students at our school with the vision of increasing learning opportunities and improving learning outcomes. Whilst on the subject of increasing learning opportunities, I am very pleased to announce that our students are now participating in weekly ICT skills and Performing Arts lessons as well as their weekly Visual Arts and fortnightly cooking sessions. These have been well received by the students and certainly make use of our students’ talents, our facilities and resources.

Richard Buckingham
Principal
STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Week Seven
Jason Zhang

Week Eight
Beau Broughton
Cullen Broughton
Gully Seafarer

WORKING BEE

In preparation for our 2017 Prep Information Evening, we would really like to have a working bee to ensure that excess furniture is re-located to the sheds, store rooms tidied, gardens pruned, weeded, mulched etc. and maybe even some painting. The working bee will be from 10.00am on Sunday 19th June. Complimentary sausage sizzle provided—please let us know if you will be attending and if you or your families have any particular dietary requirements. We appreciate all of the hard work our parent community put into our school.

EXCURSIONS

In the last week of term we will be attending 2 excursions. Firstly, on the 20th June, we will be going to the Immigration Museum and Captain Cook’s Cottage in Melbourne’s CBD. At a date TBC in the last week, we will be attending the High School Musical performance at GPAC as part of our new Performing Arts curriculum. Notes for these excursions will be distributed in the next day or 2. A reminder to eligible families that they may use the CSEF allocation to cover these costs. Payment for the excursions will not be due until the end of week 2, term 3. Should you need to arrange further payment arrangements, please don’t hesitate to come and see us.

WHAT WE’VE BEEN UP TO
WEEK 14 – GROUP LEARNING TEAMWORK

Wellbeing Element – Relationships and Optimism
Character Strength – Fairness

21st century students crave for a sense of acceptance from their peers as the main way to build their own self esteem. Often, they are more comfortable doing what they know is not the best for them in order to fit in with their peer group rather than stand alone and do what they know is right. Their image is all important to them. Unfortunately, this often translates into students being reluctant to leave their comfort zones to explore other ways of looking at things.

Group learning is an effective way to harness and value a wide range of abilities, points of view and attitudes to issues. It is an ideal opportunity for individual students to use their character strengths. It enables them to obtain the input from students who are intrapersonal and may not normally contribute to whole class activities. It allows students to experience “peer” learning and feel valued for their views and ideas. Collaborative and interdependent habits are cultivated through attentive and empathetic listening.

Keys to a well-functioning group are:

• a valuing, tolerance and acceptance of individual differences; everyone has something worthwhile to contribute; expect it and respect it.

• a clear set of agreed expectations to operate by for the group

• a diversity of character strengths, personalities and talents

• having a mix of Multiple Intelligences and Learning Styles

Effective groups enhance the quality of relationships, investigations and discussions through collaborative “peer learning” and “peer esteem”; use it don’t fight it.
ALL ABOUT KIDS!

LEGO AT THE LIBRARY

Cats, cars, towers, bridges...what can you build? Join other Lego fans and let your imagination run riot! Four weeks of after school fun at the Queenscliff Library.

No booking required. Ages 5+

Thursday
26 May
2, 9, 16 June
Queenscliff
3.45-4.45pm
IN THE COMMUNITY

SIDEWALK FAIR
QUEENSCLIFF
POINT LONSDALE
QUEEN’S BIRTHDAY LONG WEEKEND
Shop Local • Buy Handmade • Support Independent

SATURDAY 11 JUNE AND SUNDAY 12 JUNE
Queen’s Birthday Weekend
• Shopping extravaganza • Roving Entertainment
  • Live Music • Kite Flying Demonstrations

THREE UNIQUE PRECINCTS, TWO BIG DAYS

Borough of Queenscliffe
Queenscliff & Point Lonsdale, Victoria, Australia