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Principal's Corner -30 April 2015

Last Friday we conducted a very moving Anzac Day ceremony in our Hall for the whole school. This was attended by special guests, Dr Mark Robinson (State member for Cleveland), Mrs Tanya McNamara (P&C President) and Angela Wolferstan (School Chaplain), as well as a very large number of parents. All of our students, from our very smallest Preps to our Year 6 cohort, conducted themselves impeccably and certainly demonstrated the respect and solemnity that the occasion commanded.

Our school band can be very proud of their performance under the leadership of Mr Ashley Higgins. Similarly the choir under the leadership of Mrs Kate Connors. I, for one, got goosebumps when the choir started to sing. The student leaders and the year level representatives, who read their moving personal accounts of what Anzac Day means to them, are also to be congratulated. Thank you also to Tom Walters for his audio visual expertise, to John Tucker for playing the "Last Post" live, and also to Norm and Ross (our schools officers) for the Hall setup.

A special mention must go to all of our teachers, for instilling in their students the true meaning and significance of this event and lastly, congratulations to Maureen Harvey (Deputy Principal) for leading the overall organization. It was outstanding. Thank you Maureen!!

The big events keep on coming this week with the **Official Launch** of “**Positive Behaviour for Learning**” (PBL).

As you are aware last year the staff, led by an enthusiastic PBL team, were trained in this approach, and this year it is being fully implemented across the school. This **enhances what were already very consistent expectations and responses to behaviour across the school.**

Our PBL rules are:As a learner I will:

Be Respectful

Be Responsible

Be Safe

These rules apply in every context at school, whether that be in the classroom, in the playground, moving around the school, on excursions, using the toilets, using the tuckshop

etc. **Part of the PBL approach is that we explicitly teach the children what these rules mean in the various situations at school so that there is a common understanding of our expectations.** Every week the same focus lesson is taught across the entire school from Prep- Year 6.

The official PBL launch will take place this Friday, 1 May from 2:00 in the Hall. This will be attended by a number of special guests including local politicians. **Parents are also very welcome to attend.** It will be a fun afternoon of celebration to highlight our aim as a whole school community to ensure that **Thornlands SS is a calm, safe, disciplined and happy environment in which teaching and learning are the focus** and where every individual student is supported to be the best they can be. As a memento of the Launch every student will receive a colourful fridge magnet showing our PBL rules and, for your convenience, the school phone number.

NAPLAN tests

A reminder that **the National testing in literacy and numeracy, for Years 3 and 5 students will be conducted on 12 (Tuesday), 13^(Wed) and 14 May (Thursday).** The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) has been an annual event for schools since 2008.

NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four domains of Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how individual students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australian children.

All students are encouraged to participate in the tests. Students with a disability may qualify for special provisions that reflect the support normally provided to them in the classroom.

It is important that students are at school on the testing days, unless they are unwell. These tests are **not something for students to be anxious about**, however the testing conditions are somewhat different from other days at school. To alleviate any anxiety, teachers have prepared our students so that they understand what the testing conditions will be like, in addition, of course, to the **excellent work they do each and every day to ensure the best learning outcomes possible for each and every one of our students.**

My advice for parents wanting to best prepare their children for the testing, is simply to ensure that they get a **good night's sleep** before the tests and eat a **healthy, nutritious breakfast**, as this assists with concentration. However, as I have already said, **ensuring your child is not feeling any undue anxiety is most important. Parents will of course receive a report on the results later in the year** and as a school we will use this information as just one means of gathering information on students' learning needs.

If you have any questions regarding the testing program please contact the school.

Chicken Pox: For your awareness there has been a confirmed case of Chicken Pox in the school this week.

WINTER SOLSTICE FAIR(fete)

As you are aware this year **the P&C are holding a Winter Solstice Fair (fete) on Saturday, 20 June.** There will be lots of fun and excitement on the day – with rides, games and performances aplenty and fireworks for the grand finale!!

How can you help???

- Send along donations on Wednesdays as requested by the P&C . They are happy to take donations other than the specific items they are asking for as well. Watch this newsletter for more details; also class newsletters.
- When class teachers, or the parent coordinating your child's class stall, sends home a note, asking you to donate an hour or two of your time on the fete day – please put your hand up and have a go!!

In this simple way you can take an active part in our great school community and remember that our aim is **to raise as much money as we can- all of which goes directly back to the school to help your children.**

(Thank you to those parents who have already volunteered some time on the day – but we need more helpers!! If everyone gives just a little bit the fete will a great success!! -

Thank you in anticipation of your support!!!

Regards

Robyn

Crimestoppers

You may have noticed a new Crimestoppers sign next to our gate on South Street. This has been provided by the local Crime Prevention branch of the Queensland Police. To assist them to promote Crime Stoppers, included is the link to Crime Stoppers Queensland below.

https://qld.crimestoppers.com.au/cs/queensland_home.jsp

Absence Line - 3821 8181

All absences must be reported [to the office](#)
either by the absent line or directly to office staff
to ensure the accuracy of our records.

School News

DATE CLAIMERS

Money collection days are Tuesday & Thursday Before 10am

Eftpos is available!

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 12-14 May | Naplan Testing |
| 14 - 15 May | Reverse Garbage Incursion Year 2 Click here for more information |
| 1- 5 June | Beginners Music Week - Band Click here for more Information |
| 1 - 4 June | Beginners Workshop - Strings Click here for more Information |
| 20 June | Winter Solstice Fair 12:30pm to 5:30pm Click here |

Click here to view [2015 School Calendar](#)

Curriculum Corner

On Saturday 25 April we reflected on the bravery and sacrifice of the many Australians who have served in wartime, (conflicts as well as peacekeeping missions). Obviously this year was even more significant as it

marked the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli landings. What you may not know is that the significance of the ANZAC tradition is considered 'essential learning' for all students in the Australian Curriculum- History, with a major teaching emphasis in Years 3 and 9. In Year 3, the students learn about and discuss the significance of ANZAC Day, whilst in Year 9 students investigate World War 1 in depth. Australian Curriculum – History is all about the importance of students understanding their own and others' histories, appreciating our traditions and how they have changed. The History curriculum focusses on using evidence to reconstruct the past whilst recognising the past is open to interpretation and different perspectives. Australian History is brought to life through the use of primary resources. The students get to observe and discuss historical evidence including photos and delve in to how a photo really does 'speak a thousand words'.

NAPLAN

About 1 million students around Australia will participate in literacy and numeracy testing, officially known as: The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) from the 12 – 14 May. All of our Year 3 and Year 5 students should have received a note about NAPLAN last week.

NAPLAN tests the skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling and numeracy. NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four areas (or 'domains') of:

- Reading
- Writing
- Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation)
- Numeracy.

To get a sense of the 'look and feel' of the tests and to understand what types of questions are asked, a full set of examples are available via the following link. <http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/the-tests/the-tests.html>

READING AND WRITING GOALS

All students will shortly be bringing home their updated writing and reading goals for Term 2. As in Term 1, the goals will be individualised and based on the current teaching and learning focus in the curriculum as well as evidence from classroom observations and assessment data. If you have any questions about your student's writing or reading goal, please ensure you speak with your child's teacher.

LUNCHTIME CHESS CLUB

Our lunchtime Chess club has started but it isn't too late to join! For students looking for an intellectual challenge, and something to do at lunchtime on a Wednesday, sign up for Chess! For further information, please contact your child's teacher or the office for the information letter and permission form.

THORNLANDS THINKERS

Thornlands Thinkers is about to start! Thornlands Thinkers is our academic extension programme here at Thornlands State School. We utilise a variety of data and teacher feedback to select students for this

programme. Children are selected based on their academic achievement in conjunction with their application and behaviour in class including being a responsible and independent learner. At present, there are approximately ten students in each year level from Year 2 – Year 6 who have been offered positions in this programme.

Throughout the year, the students involved in Thornlands Thinkers will undertake a variety of projects. Some of these projects may include individual or group investigations, participation in online learning projects through the Brisbane School of Distance Education and incursions or excursions. In conjunction with their class teacher, each year level has also been assigned a mentor teacher.

Please note that the groups are not fixed for the remainder of the year. Students can enter and exit the programme at any time based on their academic achievement and the academic focus area for the term.

Once again, if you have any questions or concerns about anything related to curriculum here at Thornlands State School, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Kristy Warriner

Head of Curriculum

Deputy's Desk

It was my privilege to attend the Centenary ANZAC celebration conducted by the Redlands RSL with some of our school leaders on ANZAC Day. There was in excess of ten thousand people at the Dawn Service which was held at the new memorial at Cleveland. We were very proud to be part of the representation of the school. Thornlands was ably represented by our school leaders who were well enough to attend the service, Alex Macnamara, Kara Robinson and Emma Kemp. Pictured are Alex and Kara with the Mayor of Redland City Mrs Karen Williams.

Regards

John Tucker

PE News

Students entering Grade 7 in 2016 are invited to attend the Cleveland District State High School Sports Development Trials. These trials will take place at Cleveland District State High School on Monday May 18 from 3.30pm-5.00pm. Registration will commence at 3.15pm. Students can trial for Football (soccer), Touch Football and Volleyball. Please bring all appropriate equipment for these trials. For more information please contact Tim McKennarney on 3824 9220 or tmcke89@eq.edu.au

To register, head to schoolinterviews.com.au and enter the code MRGFJ, and follow the prompts. You must bring your registration form to the trials”

Library

Premier's Reading Challenge 2015

Our school has registered for the Premier's Reading Challenge 2015. The challenge is not a competition but aims to improve literacy and encourage children to read widely for pleasure and learning. For students to successfully complete the challenge they must read or experience an allocated number of books based upon their year level during the reading period (19 May – 28 August 2015). Students who complete the challenge have their efforts recognised through the receipt of a Certificate of Achievement signed by the Premier of Queensland.

Students participating in I Read @ Home will receive a Reading Record Form and information about how the Premier's Reading Challenge counts towards the school's I Read @ Home Program.

Anyone who is not signed up for I Read @ Home, and would like to join in the challenge please see the Thornlands School Library staff to register.

I have attached a picture if you want to use it. Can you link it to the website?
<http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/readingchallenge/>

Shirley Chambers

Teacher Librarian

Book Club: Orders are due back no later than Monday May 4, 2015.

Parent Loop orders are now open and available online to streamline the ordering process. Log in to Scholastic.com.au and follow the prompts to complete your orders. For those who prefer the traditional method of ordering, please pay by phone or online, before returning your book club order form to the library. A reminder that this school does not accept cash for Book Club.

Chappy Corner

Chappy Breakfast

Students, start your day the healthy way.

Every Thursday morning in the hall, from 7.45am, enjoy a free breakfast.

Brought to you by the Chaplaincy program at Thornlands State School.

See you there!

Music

Bands and Ensembles make up a very important and special part of the Instrumental Music Program at Thornlands SS. These ensembles allow a student to apply the skills they are learning in their instrumental lesson along with new skills for performing in a large ensemble context. These ensembles will also have opportunities to perform as their experience and repertoire grows.

We are able to offer several ensembles to the students at Thornlands SS. In their first year of learning an instrument this is called the "Junior Band". The ensemble rehearses Monday mornings from 7.45am sharp – 8.30am in the music room. For students in their second and third year of learning an instrument this is called the "Senior Band". This ensemble rehearses Tuesday mornings from 7.45am sharp – 8.30am. It is extremely important that all students learning an instrument arrive on time to these band rehearsals to further their skills and get the most out of their experience in the Instrumental Music Program.

If you have any queries at all please do not hesitate to contact me at ahigg3@eq.edu.au

I am very much looking forward to the amazing sounds and wonderful music these bands will make in 2015!!

Regards

Ashley Higgins

Instrumental Music Teacher

P&C News

TUCKSHOP HELP

TUCK SHOP NEEDS YOU! Can you spare some time? Come and say hello!!

We always need helpers, especially on Fridays!! If you can spare two hours or a little bit more on a Friday morning from 8:30-9:00am, then it would be really appreciated. With the new tuckshop menu, we are getting a great response from families, but Fridays are still our biggest lunch day and we are very short handed! Just drop in on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday and catch up with other parents and our tuckshop team. See you there.

MOTHER'S DAY STALL - ALL GIFTS \$5.

Tuesday, 5 of May.

Great new range of gifts for our beautiful mums.

Candles, Wind Chimes, Trinket Boxes, Bottle Coolers,

Mugs, Wishing Jars, Jewellery and much more.

A great way to surprise mum and to say thanks for all the things you do for me.

So don't forget your \$5 on Tuesday, 5 of May.

Fundraising

Thank you to all of the families that participated in our school Fun Run Fundraiser.

The prizes are on their way. A special mention goes to P.Y.C. They took out the 'Pizza Party' with an impressive \$692.00 raised. Your party will organized soon.

* The student who raised the most money will be surprised on parade, so a big congrats will come soon.

WINTER SOLSTICE FAIR

This is our donation schedule - PLEASE DONATE. If you find things on special at the shops,bring them into the uniform shop on Wednesdays - (8.30/9.30)

[Click here for more Information](#)

If your class is doing BOOK STALL or CAKE STALL ... We would love you to join in donating for our other stalls

CHOCOLATES ARE NEEDED URGENTLY!! For our LOB-A-CHOC STALL...

- If you haven't joined in and nominated a time to volunteer already for any stall. Don't worry, please contact your child's teacher now. They need you desperately

Please state time frame – e.g. 9.00 / 10.00am.

If we do not get enough volunteers, we will have to allocate times for each stall...

So please get in before your preferred time slot goes...

- On a final note, I have to congratulate the Families of Thornlands, of how you have banded together bringing in donations. PLEASE Only 2 MONTHS TO GO ... LETS KEEP IT UP.

Our children will love this event, and we will love seeing them enjoying the day.

Volunteer roles in the P&C

If you have a few spare hours each week, the P&C are looking for parents who are willing to help out with the following:

- **Uniform Convenor** – able to manage the stock and opening hours of the uniform shop during the school year.
- **Fundraising support** – assisting with coordination of school fundraising events during the school terms, including new activities and actively working with the school community.
- **Tuckshop assistance** – assisting on tuckshop days for a couple of hours or pick a suitable day of the week to help out. Mostly easy tuckshop items to prepare for children and school community.

Please email the P&C at pandc@thornlandsss.eq.edu.au if you would like to hear more about the positions or are keen to help out. Your help with these roles will be well regarded and help to ensure we have been helping our children to benefit from the funds raised from the P&C.

NEED VOLUNTEERS PLEASE!!!

- CAN YOU HELP? There are a few small fundraisers coming up in term 2. Could you help for a few hours next term? The help needed is nothing too hard. If so, I would appreciate it very much. Without volunteers, our school would not be able to get extra things for our children (improving play areas, school educational equipment).
- Please contact tssfundraising@gmail.com for more information or to just let me know if you can give a helping hand with up-coming events such as Tuesday 28 April meal deal, Mother's Day Stall in early May.

FAIR NEWS !!! FAIR NEWS!!! FAIR NEWS!!!

Winter Solstice Fair

This is an exciting event. After 5 years we are having a fair.....

Class coordinators

- We need parents as class coordinators, please!! This needs to happen to ensure a fun and smooth day out for everyone. Please contact deearnplain@yahoo.com.
- Notes will be going out first week back into the new term for week to week donations.

Facebook updates

- This is a great way of keeping up with everything regarding the Fair. Search for Thornlands Winter Solstice Fair Face book Page (this page is not managed or monitored by Thornlands State School). It is solely set up for the purpose of providing Fair only information and updates. Donations
- KEEP LOOKING FOR DONATIONS OVER THE HOLIDAYS PLEASE!
- Please keep all of those cheap Easter chocolates (small mini egg packets would be great for the Lob-a-choc Stall).
- We are having a Silent Auction and would love donations for prizes to be auctioned off on the day. This could be a voucher or a gift item (anything that people would like to win and bid on).

Stalls

- Arts/Craft Stalls are still available. Please contact steveinaus@hotmail.com for more information on booking a stall.

Finally, from everyone in the P&C, have a fun and safe Easter holiday. Our next meeting is at 7pm on Tuesday, 21 April. All parents, carers and interested community members are invited to come along and get involved in supporting our school.

| CLASS | STALL | DONATIONS REQUIRED |
|---------------|--------------------|--|
| PYA & PYB | Drinks | 375ml Cans 600ml Water Or Vouchers/Cash to buy them. |
| PYC P1N 5M | Ping Pong Pringles | Empty Pringles Tubes, a few ping pong balls, lots of small prizes (lucky dip type) |
| 2B 2SM | Show Bags | No donations needed for this stall so please support the other classes with prizes, books and cake ingredients |
| 2T 4D | Lob-a-choc | Chocolate Bars, Blocks of Chocolate Or Vouchers/Cash to buy them |
| 3J | Lucky Bucket | Lots of Gold coin donations – and a large bucket |
| PYD 1SA 1M 1J | Hamburgers | Gold coin donations to buy product at a later date |
| 2C 1-2P | Book Stall | Children and Adult Books in good condition. Contact Tennille with |

| | | |
|---------------|----------------|---|
| | | any questions craigandtenille@hotmail.com |
| 3R 3G | Hoopla | Prizes – chocolates, Nail Polish, Cards, Cars, Hair Clips/Bands, Stuffed toys, Any Carnival type prizes. |
| Year 4 | Cake Stall | Flour, Sugar, Coconut, Gift Vouchers or Cash to buy ingredients. |
| 5C & 5G | Silent Auction | Items to auction are being sourced from local businesses. Please assist other stalls with coins, prizes, books etc. |
| Year 6 | Lucky Dip | Prizes for boys, girls, Mums and Dads, Paper & Stickytape to wrap (hair ties, cars, nail polish, pens, soap etc etc) |
| Entire School | Book Stall | Children and Adult Books in good condition. Contact Tennille with any questions craigandtenille@hotmail.com |
| Entire School | Cake Stall | We will be looking for keen bakers closer to the fete to bake for the cake stall. |

Thornlands P&C thank you for all your support so far and we look forward to sharing this fun filled day with you all.

Uniform Shop

Opens: Monday mornings - 8.30am - 9.30am

Dental Information

Free Children's Dental Program through Metro South Health. Phone 1300 300 850. Flyers available at office

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[Click here for more information](#)

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