14th February 2017

CLASSROOM VISITS

We would like to welcome all parents to come along and visit the classes during teaching times. We really value input from parents in relation to their child and the learning of their child. A way that parents can assist in our school is to volunteer their time and to come along and be involved in session with their child. Throughout the term there will be times when our leaders will be available to show the parents through the classes also, however we are happy for organised visits from parents whenever they feel they have some free time. Please ensure you contact the class teacher to organise a visit.

Another way families can become involved in our school and the learning of our students is if they have special talents they can share. This could include another language you can share with the students, art talents or other crafts. We are extremely keen for parents and families to become involved in our school – children learn best when in a “village” style learning environment, where they can learn from a variety of elders.

“Research into the parent engagement effect, a phrase coined by Professor John Hattie, of the University of Melbourne in Australia, is the combination of parental encouragement and high expectations from students. Prof Hattie found that when pursued consistently throughout a child’s development, parental engagement could amount to the equivalent of an additional two to three years’ schooling for a child, adding massively to their overall achievement.” (The National Tuesday 14/02)

Parent engagement is one of the key areas in student success – how can you help your child succeed?

LUNCHTIMES

Safety during lunchtimes has been one of our ongoing concerns as we have extremely large grounds to cover and very few staff to cover these grounds with. We have changed our lunchtime supervisions to ensure we have 1 classroom open every 2nd lunchtime with a staff member supervising and 2 staff members supervising the outdoor areas. This allows us to cover more area and be more alert to any issues quicker.

Students are reminded however, that if they have any concerns they are to find a staff member who is on duty and ask for assistance or if they can’t find a staff member they are to seek one out in the classroom that is open. Parents can assist by reminding their children to walk away from situations they aren’t comfortable with and asking for assistance from a staff member.

If parents have any questions or concerns please don’t hesitate in making a meeting with myself or classroom teachers to discuss this further.

ATTENDANCE

Our same day notification is having a huge effect on our unexplained absences. Please ensure the office has your correct contact details as we need to be able to contact parents in relation to absences, but more importantly if there is ever an emergency situation. Thank you to the families that continue to notify us of absences, remember we can be contacted on either our school phone 4066 5540 or via email admin@murrrivess.eq.edu.au

Ensuring we know of absences allows for us to cater for your child’s learning and assist them to catch up when they have had a break away from school.

Remember, DAILY ATTENDANCE is the key to success.

Kaye
Daily Attendance

Our attendance is a key issue and we need the support of parents to ensure students are attending EVERY DAY. Parents will be notified on the SAME DAY of an absence in 2017 or you can ring, email or send a note if your child is absent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>Unexplained No. of days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>96.54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>95.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>87.92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>95.83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>93.33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>95.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations to our Prep, Year 1, Year 3, Year 5 and Year 6 students – high attendance and low unexplained absences already this year! Well done to our Year 3, Year 5 and Year 6 students will zero unexplained absences also. We currently have 91.4% attendance for our entire school, although this includes flood days as an absences, we can still work on making this better and heading again towards 95% across our entire school.

Let’s work together to make this a reality!!

We need to maintain this focus for 2017 – attendance enables your child to have learning success!!

PRODUCE STALL

Keep those donations for our produce stall coming, they help our small school to offer other activities to our students that wouldn’t be available without these generous donations.

A very big thank you to the families who support our fruit stall, our small school would not be able to offer the programs we do without this valuable support.

DATE CLAIMERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 3rd March</td>
<td>District Rugby League &amp; Netball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 7th March</td>
<td>P&amp;C AGM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 17th March</td>
<td>AFL Gala Day at Mission Beach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 29th March</td>
<td>School Fun Run – during PE 11:30 – 1:30, parents welcome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 31st March</td>
<td>District Touch Football Carnival at Tully</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 31st March</td>
<td>Last Day Term 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 17th April</td>
<td>Easter Monday holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 18th April</td>
<td>First Day Term 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 21st April</td>
<td>SSS Cross Country at MRUSS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PLAYGROUP

Don’t forget if you have children from birth to age 5 years come along every Tuesday from 9:30 to join in with our playgroup. This is a great opportunity for your child to participate in a variety of activities, for you to have a catch-up with other parents and for an outing every week. You can like the Murray Upper Playgroup Facebook page or contact Nicola Pantovic for further details.

Come and join in!!

STUDENTs OF THE WEEK

Week 2

Class B

Riley Moss – for being a good helper in class, helping others and labelling our workbooks.
Breanna Muriata – for great sentence writing, using adverbs correctly.

Class G

Jaiden Mothe – for being an exceptional learner and working independently.
Hannah Beeron – for being an exceptional learner and working independently.
Week 3
Class B

Noah Muriata – for great artworks using straight lines and pattern.
Lamech Page – for writing great sentences.

Class G

Lachlan Mothe – for working well and trying extra hard in reading.
Ella Hudson – for settling in well to our class and being a focussed learner. Welcome to Murray Upper.

SPECIAL VIRTUE AWARDS

Each week we focus on a different virtue, this is shared during our weekly parade and then the information is displayed on our display board in the eating area. Students try to focus on the particular virtue for the week. We present certificates to a few students who have shown the virtue without being reminded throughout that week. Ask your child every Friday what the virtue of the week is and try to encourage them to practice at home too.

Our virtue awards for the last 2 weeks:

Students of the Week 2

Cleanliness Award – Nicholas Muriata and Hayden Finlayson

Students of the Week 3

Caring Award – Breanna Muriata and Shaniece Davis
Newsletter Information

Don’t forget you can view this newsletter via our school website or if you download the QSchools app for your smart phones you can keep up to date with any new items that are uploaded to the website. If you download the QSchools app it will send you notifications of updates to the website and you can add any of these to your calendar in your phone.

If anyone would like further information about how to best use the QSchools app please don’t hesitate in contacting the school.

Website: https://murrives.eq.edu.au/

QSchools app:

Playgroup Facebook Page – search Murray Upper Playgroup

Our New Guidance Officer – Lilian Lo Monaco

Mornings & Lunchtimes in the classroom