Parent Meetings

Thank you very much to the parents who have already participated in parent meetings. These have been a great way for us to share information about the school with parents and for parents to keep us informed about their child. As part of these meetings we have been sharing some school work already completed by your child and also asking that everyone involved signs a contract to ensure consistency with our involvement with your child’s learning. These meetings are meant to be informal and a way to discuss any concerns or ideas you may have to help your child to achieve their best whilst at Murray Upper.

There are still many vacancies for meetings and we ask that parents send the forms back to book a time in. The value of these meetings is in how your child views their education and that they know you are serious about assisting them to achieve. Outside of these meeting times the teachers always welcome any contact with parents. Please don’t hesitate to contact your child’s teacher to arrange a time.

P&C AGM

We will be holding our P&C Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Thursday 10th March at 6:00pm. We will be hosting an afternoon tea for parents to come along and find out about the P&C and how you can help us to have a successful Parents & Citizens committee. We are looking for keen people who are happy to assist us with selling of tickets, making of cakes or generally helping out so that the P&C can fundraise to make our school a better school. Please come along and get involved!!

District Netball and Rugby League Carnival

This Friday 4th March our keen year 4 – 6 students will be competing either in the netball carnival at Tully State School or in the Rugby League carnival at St Clare’s School. The students have been practicing and learning the skills of both games and are really keen to participate on the day. If the students haven’t sent back their tuckshop forms they need to be sent back by Wednesday (tomorrow) at the latest.

Good luck to our students participating in the carnival this Friday.

Differentiation

Differentiation considers learner behaviours, abilities and interests to meet individuals’ needs through modifying and adapting resources, curriculum, pedagogy and assessment. It is a process that uses high expectations to create engaged, successful learners.

As part of our learning over the past 6 months we have been working with staff from our District Office and teachers from other small schools to develop our skills in differentiating learning for all students within our classes. We believe that this is our main job and are therefore very keen to gain further insights into this learning. We are also very interested in working with experts around multi-age teaching, a very different style of teaching that we are constantly evaluating and enhancing our skills.

In line with this we ask parents to keep us informed about any information that helps us to teach your child, this includes any medical testing (like eye tests) that your child is involved in. The more information about your child that we have, the easier our job of teaching them becomes.

Kayte
Daily Attendance

Our attendance is a key issue and we need the support of parents to ensure students are attending EVERY DAY. Please remember you can ring, email or send a note if your child is away.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>Unexplained %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>97.83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>94.44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>98.55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>93.84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>94.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>94.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>95.17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations Prep, Year 2 and Year 4 for having more than 0% unexplained absences! Our current school attendance rate is 95% (this is exceptional and we need to maintain this all year).

Students of the Week

Week 4

Class B:  
Lachlan Mothe – for keeping his table clean and organised and for concentrating in reading groups. 
Mitchell Davis – for keeping his table clean and organised and for concentrating in reading groups.

Class G:  
Monique Gardiner – for being patient and showing perseverance with her online writing program. 
Zélie Gillinder – for being patient and showing perseverance with her online writing program.

Week 5

Class B:  
Neil Leo – for always trying hard to write his letters. 
Noah Herrod – for getting more confident with coming to school each morning.

Class G:  
Kayley Machan – for showing exceptional leadership skills and assisting the teachers. 
Mhetaya George – for showing exceptional leadership skills and assisting the teachers.

GARDEN CLUB

There are a limited number of recipe books for sale. These are available at the office for $25.00

P&C AGM

Next Thursday (10th March) we will be hosting our P&C AGM in the library from 6:00pm. An afternoon tea will be provided. Parents are invited to attend. Come and make a difference in your school.

DATE CLAIMERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 4th March</td>
<td>District netball and rugby league carnivals at Tully SS and St Clare’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 10th March</td>
<td>P&amp;C AGM 6:00pm Library</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hats at school

Our school is a ‘sun safe’ school and it is our policy that students must wear a hat in the playground. Remember, ‘No hat, No Play’. Hats (with our school logo) are available from school for $15.00.
We were very privileged to have a visit from a drummer today, he talked about the variety of drums he has in his collection – their heritage and uses. He then taught us a few drumming patterns and we were able to participate, even the teachers, in a performance.
Senior Leaders Badge Presentation

Last Friday we presented our Senior Leaders with their badges. They are all wearing these very proudly. Congratulations! We look forward to watching your leadership skills grow in 2016.

Getting results when telling kids what to do
When children refuse to cooperate, it may be related to the way instructions are given. Here are some common traps:

Too many: The more instructions given the more opportunities to forget
Too few: Unclear instructions can lead to confusion and misbehaviour
Too vague: Saying “stop that” leaves an open interpretation. State clearly what behaviour you find unacceptable

Asking, not telling: When an instruction is asked as a question, like: “would you like to go to bed now?” be prepared to hear “No”.
Poorly timed: Asking your child to do something while they are busy watching their favourite television show will probably result in them ignoring the instruction.

Shouting from a distance: Instructions shouted from one room to another provide an opportunity to be ignored. You are more likely to get a response and be heard if you move in and get close.

If you want your child to stop doing something, remember to tell them what to do instead. Explain the consequence and give them an opportunity to cooperate. Praise them when they do so – or carry out the consequence if they refuse. Being kind, firm and consistent will work.

For help/ideas chat to your Parenting Promotion Officer: Jolene 0488321605 F everyfamilycassowarycoast

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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://murrrivess.eq.edu.au/