Welcome to Week 4,

School Office
As many of you are aware our wonderful office lady, Anne Faint, has gone on 7 weeks long service leave. While she is away we have Irene Smith with us. I would like to welcome Irene Smith to our beautiful school. Irene comes with a wealth of knowledge. Until the end of Week 10 our office days are Monday, Wednesday and Friday. This is due to Irene working in the office at Tiaro State School on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Our P&C
Words cannot express how truly proud I am of our beautiful P&C. Last week Parke State School hosted a teacher training day, where teachers from around our region came to learn new skills. Our P&C catered for this event. The feedback from the attendees and the presenters was amazing! I was fortunate enough to meet most of the attendees, all of whom commented on the amazing catering, beautiful school and thanked Parke State School for hosting such a successful training day. The presenters of the workshop are from Brisbane, and travel around Queensland upskilling teachers on their knowledge of OneSchool (Education Queensland’s database program). They were very impressed with the catering and asked our P&C ladies if they would travel around with them (they were off to Yeppoon this week), as it was the best, most delicious catering a school has provided them. A massive thank you for making this day a huge success.

We are definitely a small school doing BIG things!

Thank You to Mr and Mrs Thomas
Last week we had Mr and Mrs Thomas come up to the school during lunch to open up the netball/tennis court area. This allowed students to have a variety of options during their play time. They had the oval, adventure playground, library and netball/tennis court to choose from. Small schools are the best schools, however due to our limited staff, we often cannot offer students the range of activities at lunch time that we would like to. Having Mr and Mrs Thomas volunteer their time is amazing and greatly appreciated by both staff and students.

If you would like to volunteer your time, feel free to contact the school. We will never turn down a pair of helping hands.

Attendance
A reminder that students need to be attending school each day. If your child is too ill to attend, please contact the office so we can update our records as this is an ‘explained absence’. Our attendance target is 94%. By coming to school each day, students are provided with the best opportunities to improve in their learning.

Week 2 Whole School Attendance Rate - 95.9%
Week 3 Whole School Attendance Rate - 94.2%

Let’s continue to make every day count!

Warm regards,

Mrs Frost
Acting Principal
**Student of the Week**

**Term 2 Week 3— P/1 Ryker Dietz, 2/3 Chloe Cordie, 4/5/6 Jade-Elle Brown**

**Big Thank You**

Each year 'Big Thank You' asks students to nominate a teacher, carer or staff member who inspires them to read.

We are very proud to have Mrs Lyons receive a Big Thank You nomination.

**NAPLAN**

Students in Years 3 and 5 will participate in the annual National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing, to assess their skills and understanding in the areas of reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The tests will be conducted in all state and non-state schools across the country from the 10th to 12th May. NAPLAN assesses the skills that students develop over time through the school curriculum, and provides additional feedback for parents, carers and teachers on how students are progressing in the key curriculum areas.

What NAPLAN does not assess is all of what makes each of our students exceptional and unique. These tests cannot tell you how amazingly special our students are. These tests don't know that our students love to sing, are good at drawing or can teach others how to use a computer program. They have not seen the way that some of our students can dance with grace or speak confidently to a large group. They do not know that their friends count on them to be there for them when they are sad.

They don't know that our students participate in sports, help their parents or play with their siblings. They do not know that our students are caring, thoughtful and that every day they try their best. Because these attributes cannot be tested.

The scores from NAPLAN will inform parents and teachers how our students did on that day. They inform teachers of areas that students need support in and how teachers can improve their practice to support each individual student, but they will not tell us everything.

So we encourage all students to come to school ready to do their best for the NAPLAN test and remember there is no one way to 'test' all of the wonderful things that make our students exceptional and unique.

**Fabulous Catering**

WOW – Did our school community know just how talented our P&C are? Last Wednesday our wonderful P&C ladies catered morning tea and lunch for a group of visiting teachers involved in a One School training course. Words can not explain the awesome spread these ladies presented. The One School presenters were so impressed that they took photos of both morning tea and lunch and sent them to their boss and other colleagues, to show off. I am told that the photos will end up on their office wall amongst the other photos that the trainers take, trying to out do each other in location, hotels and of course food.
Thank you to all the students and families who represented the school and took part in the ANZAC Day March on April 25th.
Maryborough District Cross Country

On Tuesday the 3rd of May, nine Parke State School students took part in the Maryborough District Cross Country Trials as a part of the Theebine District Cross Country Team. They all ran very well in rather hot and sticky conditions. All students are congratulated for their outstanding effort on the day. Congratulations to Georgia Walker and Luke Murray who were selected in the Maryborough District Team and who will now run at the Wide Bay Cross Country Trials. The Wide Bay Cross Country Trials are again being held at the Maryborough Show Grounds on May 31st.

Congratulations to Georgia Walker and Luke Murray who were selected in the Maryborough District Team and who will now run at the Wide Bay Cross Country Trials. The Wide Bay Cross Country Trials are again being held at the Maryborough Show Grounds on May 31st.