Welcome to Week 6,
This term is flying by.

Small schools are great schools!
Research tells us that the most meaningful partnerships are those where schools, parents, students and the community work together to focus on student learning. Parent and community engagement that is effectively focused on student learning can deliver powerful outcomes. It is therefore imperative that we all play a vital and active role in creating a positive school environment, where children and families feel welcomed and included, and the focus is on working together to maximise student learning outcomes. If you have any issues or queries, I urge you to contact the school. Open communication is key to ensuring that all students have a successful year.

Library Opened
On a trial basis, the Library is opened for students to access between 11:20AM – 11:50AM, Mondays to Thursdays. This is to give students another area within the school to access during their breaks. So far it has been very successful, with a number of students spending their lunch break reading books, playing games or drawing. I supervise the students during this time, and am enjoying listening to students read and teaching students how to play Scrabble. The students are commended on their wonderful behaviour.

Line Up
Due to some behaviour issues that arose at the start of the year a 'Line Up' process after each break has been implemented. When the bell is rung to signify the end of a break, students 'Line Up' in their class groups. This ensures students can be supervised during the transition process from play to learning. It also allows staff the opportunity to address any issues as a whole school. This has been a successful process and will continue for the remainder of the year.

Doors Opened from 8:30am
Due to safety, all classrooms (except the 2/3 classroom) will remain locked until 8:30am. A reminder that limited supervision is provided prior to 8:30am, and those students who do travel on the bus are supervised in the 2/3 classroom in C Block until this time. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this, please contact the office.

Attendance
Attendance is a major focus for each school in Queensland. A massive congratulations to students and families for 'Making Every Day Count.' Our attendance target is 94%, and I am very pleased to announce that we have 'smashed' this target each week since the start of the term. By coming to school each day, students are provided with the best opportunities to improve in their learning. Well Done! Each Monday our previous week's whole school attendance rate is updated on our school notice board at the front of the school. Let's see if we can get back up to 98%. 

Week 4 Whole School Attendance Rate - 96.51%
Week 5 Whole School Attendance Rate - 97.51%

Warm regards,
Mrs Frost
Acting Principal
**Student of the Week**

**Term 1 Week 6** – Wyatt Kruger & Saphyrah Evans (Prep/1), Beau Blewitt (Yr 2/3), Shay Blewitt (Yr 4/5/6)

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**Pet-PEP Visit**

Last week the school participated in the Australian Veterinary Association PetPEP program. The students had Ms Gaynor Schonrock, from the Walker Street Veterinary Surgery talk about caring for pets; Shayne Allanson, from Fraser Coast Regional Council talk about pet registration; and a group of ladies from the Maryborough Dog Obedience Club provide demonstrations on dog training.

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**ICAS Testing**

The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) is an independent, skills-based assessment program which recognises and rewards student achievement.

The tests are designed for students from **YEARS TWO TO SIX**. Students may choose to participate in SOME or ALL of the tests. The tests are conducted throughout the year. These tests include Digital Technologies, Science, Writing, Spelling, English and Mathematics.

A note regarding these tests is included with the newsletter. There is a cost involved for each test. The order form and payment must be given to the office by **Monday 14th March** so that the tests can be ordered. **PARTICIPATION IN THESE TESTS IS OPTIONAL FOR STUDENTS.**

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**Cross Country**

The Parke SS Cross-Country will be held at school on **Tuesday the 22nd of March**. Races will start at 9.15am. Parents and relatives welcome to attend.

- Students born 2009, 2010, 2011 run 500m. (1 lap of course)
- Students born 2007, 2008 run 1km. (2 laps of course)
- Students born 2006 run 2kms. (4 laps of course)
- Students born 2004, 2005 run 3kms. (6 laps of course)

**It is important that students keep training!!!!**

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**Maryborough District School Sport Winter Sports Gala Day**

Year five and six students at Parke have been invited to participate in the Maryborough District School Sport Winter Gala Day. Students will be either playing Football (soccer) or Netball on Friday 11th March. Games will be played from 9.30am to 2.00pm. Parents will need to make transport arrangements to and from the venue. Students will require a hat, lunch, water bottle and sunscreen. Please read the note about the Gala Day as it has additional information. Students who wish to be considered for Maryborough District Selection must be at the Gala Day. They must also have the additional Maryborough District Consent Statement completed as well.

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**In Other News**

Mrs Frost is on the hunt for **milk lids**. Instead of throwing them out, if you could send them to the Year 2/3 class, it would be greatly appreciated.

Mrs Sillitoe is on the hunt for **magazines** for her Arts unit. If you have any old magazines lying around your home that you no longer want, Mrs Sillitoe would greatly appreciate them.
After the ceremony, our newly appointed school leaders were invited to attend a small morning tea, where they gained greater insight into leadership. They were asked, ‘What does leadership mean to you?’ As you can see from their responses below, I truly believe these students will blossom into their roles as the year progresses and make our school community proud.

‘Leadership means a lot to me and I am also ready to stop and help others. I will also think of other students and teachers that are around me and that means thinking of my words and actions.’ - Jade-Elle

‘It means being kind, caring and being friendly.’ - Riley

‘Leadership means a lot to me. To be respectful, to be responsible, and to be nice.’ - Georgia

‘I think true leadership is showing that you care, leading by example, being understanding of others and turning thoughts into actions. Having pride and courage, and lastly showing the good in others.’ - Jemairla

‘Someone who helps others people, uses manners, is respectful and nice.’ - Lachlan

‘Being a leader to me means to follow the school rules and lead others to do their best.’ - Ethan

‘I believe leadership is being respectful, doing what I am told, showing effort and doing the right thing.’ - Kaliyah

‘Leadership means to me, respect, honesty, responsibility, caring, helping out the other kids in Prep and Year 1/2.’ - Blake

It is with great enthusiasm that I introduce you to Parke State Schools P&C Executive Committee for 2016.

President – Tileah Rossiter
Vice President – Justine Brown
Treasurer – Rebecca Gordano
Secretary – Carmelita Spies

Firstly please let me acknowledge and thank the P&C Executive Committee of 2015. Lourene Ashford, Peter Cordie & Kellie King who worked tirelessly behind the scenes with organisation and fundraising for the students of our wonderful little school. THANK YOU!!! To all of the P&C Committee Members of 2015, THANK YOU for also volunteering your time, ideas, skills and input throughout the year.

The P&C Executive Committee Members of 2016 all share a common goal; we are passionate about our school, but more importantly the amazing children who make up our student body. We will strive to make this year a fun, informative and successful year.

We as a committee always welcome new members. We will endeavour to always listen to any suggestions and feedback you may have. I ask that you do however remember all roles are voluntary. Please respect the boundaries between personal lives & the roles that are being fulfilled.

Looking forward to an amazing year ahead!!!
Tileah
Captain's Update

What’s in the Classroom
By Riley Ashford and Jade-Elle Brown

Prep/1: In Maths students are learning about Maths and Measurement. In English, Preps have started their reading books and sight words. In History, they have started to create a family crest. On Thursday, students will be making scones for Technology.

2/3: In English, they are learning to write narratives. Students are in the process of writing their own story about overcoming a fear. In Maths, students are working on improving their number skills by using MAB Blocks to represent numbers to 1000.

4/5/6: The class of 4/5/6 are learning how Australia became a nation. They are learning how to write narratives and are practising their multiplication tables.

Mr Dakin’s Classes (P.E): All students are learning Rugby League skills with Scott, who is a NRL coach.

Mr Hutchinson’s Classes (Music): Students are learning ‘phrases’ in melodies on the IPad.

Interschool Sport

Sizzling Soccer: Last Friday, for the first time this term, 5/6 boys and girls attended soccer for interschool sports. Give yourselves a pat on the back for going! Here are the scores for both the boys and girls soccer: Parke soccer team played five games; won three, tied one and lost one. Great job!

-Nemairla Estreich

Nifty Netballers:
Our first game we played, Parke/Granville lost to Central 1-0. The second game Parke/Granville played West and drew 0-0. The last game we played Parke/Granville played Tinana 2 and we lost 1-0. Well done girls for playing so well in the heat.

- Georgia Walker

School Banking

School Banking Day Reminder

Don’t forget that Tuesday is School Banking day and students should bring in their weekly deposit.

For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a silver Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for an exclusive School Banking reward item in recognition of their regular savings habits.

A big congratulations to Wyatt Kruger, Aaliyah Kruger, Ruby Rossiter, Grayson Rossiter, Cooper Thomas and Riley McPherson who have already redeemed prizes this term. Thank you for supporting the School Banking program at Parke State School.

Did you know that a deposit as little as 5cents counts as 1 deposit? As well as receiving prizes after every 10 deposits completed and learning how to save, school banking will also start running competitions next term for school banking students to win fantastic prizes. If you are interested in being part of this great initiative please see Anne at the office for an account application form.