Welcome to Week 8,

With just over a week left of term 1, we are quickly seeing the term draw to a close.

On Thursday March 3rd, I had the privilege of showing our Regional Director and Assistant Regional Director the wonderful happenings of Parke State School. I shared with them how lucky I have been to experience great support in my first term and how appreciative I am of the staff, students, parents and community members for not only their warm welcome, but their eagerness to share their experiences and knowledge of the school with me. I am very proud to be working within this school.

This term we have made many significant impacts both within the classroom being the outstanding teaching and learning that is visible in every classroom and also within the playground. With a shift in focus for the staff on curriculum delivery, next term we will be exploring at greater depth, the implementation and embedding of a high quality Balanced Reading Program.

Book Fair
What a terrific Book Fair we had in week 7! The P&C and parents put in such an amazing effort in creating a spectacular book week, with terrific displays and marvellous costumes. Thank you again to all parents for their work in the lead up to and during book fair.

Principal’s Business Forum
On Friday March 4th, I attended the first Principal’s Business Forum for the year. This was a great opportunity to discuss and strategize with other principal’s from within our region processes we have in place to ensure every child is succeeding. During this conference Tracy Corsbie, our Regional Director, shared her experience of when she was at Parke State School, calling it ‘the hidden gem of Maryborough’. This is absolutely fabulous! Well done to all students and staff!

Easter Bonnet Parade
On Thursday, March 24th Parke State School will be holding its Easter Bonnet Parade. Students are more than welcome to create their Easter Bonnets at home, however please keep in mind that it is about creativity, enjoyment and creating memories, it is not about who has the most expensive bonnet. Please see the attached flyer for more information. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Attendance
A reminder that students need to be attending school each day. If you 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.

Each Monday our previous week’s whole school attendance rate is updated on our school notice board at the front of the school.

Week 6 Whole School Attendance Rate - 94.68%
Week 7 Whole School Attendance Rate - 93.85%

Let’s see if we can beat our target of 94% this week.

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

**Term 1 Week 7**— Alex Rowland (P/1), Logan Smith (2/3), Georgia Mitchell (4/5/6).

**Term 1 Week 8**—Bridee Mitchell (P/1), Logan Spies (2/3), Gypsy Mott (4/5/6).

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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. There is a cost involved for each test. The order form and payment must be given to the office by **Monday March 21st**, so that the tests can be ordered.

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**School Banking**

Congratulations to the following students who have earned 10 silver Dollarmites tokens through the School Banking program. They are now eligible to redeem these tokens for an exclusive School Banking reward item!

Troy MacGregor, Leila Thomas, Travis MacGregor, Mitchel MacGregor, and Daniel Gordano.

If you haven't already, please complete your rewards card coupon and return it, along with your 10 tokens, on the next School Banking day and the item will be ordered for you.

We will be running a competition starting next term. For all banking students that complete 5 or more deposits between week 1 and week 9 of term 2 will go into the draw to win a Dollarmites Prize pack which will be drawn Wednesday of week 9. Remember you only need to deposit 5 cents to make a deposit count!!

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**P & C News**

Our P&C was happy to welcome a new member to our team yesterday. **We have had such a positive start to the year!** We now have several members, in addition to the executive committee. We are extremely excited at the schedule of events that we have planned for our Parke community. Keep your eyes out in our newsletter next term and for notes coming home for upcoming events. We encourage all families to participate where possible, whether it be participating or helping.

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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 may choose to wear a shirt of their House colour for the races. A reminder that the students should bring a hat, water bottle and sunscreen for the morning.

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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**Prep News**

Maryborough RSL will be presenting the Prep students with a special stationery pack on parade next week (21st March). Preps will have their photo in the Fraser Coast Chronicle next Wednesday (23rd March). This is a special addition with all of the Prep students from across the Fraser Coast. Be quick to purchase a newspaper that morning.

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**Last Chance Book Fair Purchase**

We have sold $847

Let's see if we can make it to $900.

Let's have a little bit of fun!

Everybody who has purchased from book fair will be going into a draw to win themselves a book, to be drawn at the end of Cross Country Carnival on Tuesday March 22nd.

Bookfair will be open for one morning only

Tomorrow, Thursday March 17th from 8.15-8.45.
What’s in the Classroom
By Riley Ashford and Jade-Elle Brown

P/1  Science - students are growing cress seeds.
Art - students are drawing pictures inspired by Mondrian
English - students are learning about the emotions of the different characters in books.

2/3  Science - students are learning about the life cycles of different animals. We love those animals that metamorphosis throughout their life stages
Maths - students are working hard finishing their assessment tasks on number and place value.
English - students have finished writing their stories and are up to editing their work.
History - students are learning about celebrations and commemorations with Mrs Sillitoe.

4/5/6  History - students are learning how Australia became a nation.
Maths - students are learning how to collect and represent data
English - students are writing and new chapter the book the BFG
Science - students are learning about the life cycles of animals and plants

The students are also doing their spelling for this week.

All the students at Parke State School are doing amazing work. Congratulations everyone!

Interschool Sport

Sizzling Soccer:
On Friday March 11th, we had Gala Day.
Parke/Tinana 3 won by Parke 9 Nil
Parke/Torbanlea-Howard won by Parke 10 Nil
Parke/Central won by Parke 1 Nil
Parke/West won by Parke 2 Nil
Girls- Parke-Granville/Tinana won by Tinana 3-1
Parke-Granville/Torbanlea won by Parke 4-2
Parke-Granville/Tinana 2 won by Tinana2 3-0
Parke-Granville/Central tied 2 all
Parke-Granville/West won by West 1 Nil

By Blake Schultz

Nifty Netballers:
Games played Friday 4th March—Due to a problem on court 3 games were reduced to teams playing 2 games each.
Results—Game 1  Tinana 3/Granville-Parke won by Granville-Parke 2 nil
Game 2  Granville-Parke/ St Marys 2 won by Granville-Parke 3—1
Well done girls. Congratulations also go to Georgia, Jem and Krystal who have been possibly selected to try out for the zone team.

Games played Friday 11th March
Results—Parke / Tinana won by Tinana 2-1
Sunbury / Parke won by Parke 8-1
Parke / Torbanlea-Howard won by Parke 2-1
Parke / St Marys won by St Marys 4-2
Girls showed great sportsmanship. We had to use players from Granville, Central and Mungar schools to make up teams on the day. We all had a lot of fun

By Georgia Walker