From the Principal

2013 SCHOOL PLAN
I would like to highlight our focus areas for this year. Obviously teaching and learning occurs across all subjects, however we direct funds and attention to areas of so that staff skills can be developed and student learning outcomes enhanced. This helps us to remain sharp and focused on teaching and learning and maintain improvement over time. In 2013, we will focus on developing Reading Comprehension skills and improving student achievement in Mathematics. More information about these strategies will be available on our website.

SWIMMING
Swimming will take place every Thursday, unless it is cancelled due to poor weather. Because students are now transported to and from the pool for swimming, can parents please always pack their swimming gear each Thursday. This term, swimming will occur every week until Week 8 (as Week 9 is the Cross Country in Homestead). A big thank you to Theresa Curr who has volunteered to help with swimming instruction so we can take the trophy away from Greenvale at the upcoming carnival on 15th March. Details about the carnival will come home with the next newsletter, including permission notes.

PRINCIPAL ABSENCE
I will be away from the school on the following days to attend meetings and workshops. Where possible these have been arranged while Miss Campbell is at Ravenswood.

15th February 28th February 1st March 27th March

COMMUNITY GARDEN EVENT
There will be an event held at the Community Gardens in Ravenswood on 3rd March for Clean Up Australia Day. All community members are welcome to attend, there will be craft, tree planting and a BBQ provided by Morris Catering. More information will be in the upcoming Community Newsletter—Ravenswood Round-up.

CONTACT
A reminder to parents that should you wish to speak with Miss Campbell or myself about an issue with your child, please contact the school to make an appointment. Due to Miss Campbell spending time away from Ravenswood on alternate weeks, appointments will only be made in the weeks that Miss Campbell is at Ravenswood. 8.55am is not an appropriate time to ask how your child is going in class.

The start of the year is a challenging time for everyone. Over holiday periods, routines are changed and coming back to school can be difficult to get used to for students. Please also consider that this might be the same for adults! Change is also a constant thing in schools. Effective teachers and schools are those which are constantly evaluating the effectiveness of their programs, methods and resources. The start of the year is often when the majority of this change takes place—if there are issues, please speak to us.

STOP, DROP, GO / STOP, PICKUP, GO
On Tuesday I had a meeting with Charters Towers Council about the front footpath. In the coming weeks, council will be constructing a new drop off and pick up zone at the front of the school. Further details of when will come as these works are confirmed.

Regards,
Cameron Warne
Principal
In the Classroom
Students have spent the past week learning new sounds in Prep, counting and adding numbers in Year 1 and 2. Learning how to tell time in Year 3 and analysing Short Stories in Year 4, 5 and 6. It is so impressive to see students putting in a big effort during school. Remember that any questions for the classroom can be written into your child’s Communication Books.

We would like to thank all the parents who brought in photographs of their families for history lessons, and for everyone’s participation in the Garden Buddies and Backyard Explorers projects at home.

There are updated photos on the front page of the school website of student learning in the classroom.

NAPLAN practise for Year 3 and 5 will be scaled back to the first 10 minutes of play time on Mondays and Tuesdays at 1st break. This is so that students have plenty of time for a break during the week as well as prepare for testing in May.

Students have done an excellent job with completing their homework the past two weeks and we hope to see more hard work through the term.

Thanks,

Mr Warne and Miss Campbell.

P&C News

SUPPORT LOWMEAD STATE SCHOOL
Ravenswood State School P&C Association are helping the community of Lowmead by raising money for their P&C. Lowmead State School was completely flooded during the events near Bundaberg in January. There is a $100 board in the office - $2 buys you a number to win. P&C are also accepting cash donations to provide additional support.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The Ravenswood Parents and Citizens Association would like to extend an invitation to all community members, parents, carers and staff to attend the P&C Annual General Meeting.

The P&C Association provides valuable support to Ravenswood State School. If you would like to learn more about the P&C, or would like to volunteer your time to contribute to the P&C, please attend the Annual General Meeting on Monday, 25th February 2013 at 3:05 pm.

Thank you.

Diane Hood
P&C President

EVERY DAY COUNTS—Is your child getting to school on time?

But he / she is only missing...

10 mins per day...which equals...50 mins per week...which is...nearly 1.5 weeks per year
20 mins per day...which equals...1 hour 40 min per week...which is... 2.5 weeks per year
30 min per day...which equals...Half a day per week...which is ...4 weeks per year
1 hour per day...which equals 1 day per week...which is... 8 weeks per year

The best learning time is at the start of the day. That’s when every minute counts!

School instruction starts at 9am...students can be dropped off from 8:30am...

Why not get a head start to your day?