

ROCHEDALE STATE SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER



New Phone No: 3340 8333
New Fax No: 3340 8300

No.2 - 4th February, 2008

Feb

12 Yr 1 Parent Info Afternoon – 3pm
District Swimming Carnival
Rochedale High Swimming Carnival
(In our School Pool- No Swimming)
15 Yr 5 Outdoor Education Program

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Thoughts for the Week

“Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep.”

“If you don't know where you're going, you'll end up somewhere else.”

An unusual six-pack needs explanation. Attending Rochedale State School you are able to access, free-of-charge, the most valuable ‘six-pack’ in the world. I am of course talking about our *six core community values*

inculcated from years 1 to 7. The initiative found a favourable response in the polemic of New South Wales Chief Justice James Spigelman, the other day. Not that our learned friend would know much about a Brisbane suburban primary school, but what was brought out in the public domain was a recognition that all is not well in society. Spigelman's premise, that a pervading rudeness ‘can be stopped’ – ‘should be stopped’, found fertile ground in many quarters. While Spigelman had little to say about reality TV, broadcast obscenity or tricked-out music videos featuring young ladies wearing outfits made entirely from dental floss, he did make some top-drawer points. The Chief Justice called for us to temper "the assertion of self-interest". As anyone who has braved the express lane at Coles can attest, this is a very good idea. There is nothing wrong with an appeal for a little garden-variety kindness. Author Lynne Truss made an international bestseller last year from her equally practical call for compassion in *Talk to the Hand: The Utter B*** Rudeness of the World Today*. Not before time, a growing chorus of erudite voices is urging a *Please, May I?, Thank You* singalong. If it were reasonable to blame television for a culture overblown with conceit and rudeness, I would. It's a convenient bit of reverse engineering that would easily unshackle me, and all the others, from time to time, accidentally rude people, of blame. Sorry, sir, Big Brother made me do it. However, that is too far from the truth for comfort. Reality check suggests MANNERS begin in the home, are developed in school and society at large only to be perfected, as an ongoing challenge throughout adult life. By adhering to

common principles, moral values and codes of ethics can we temper excess and hand down to our children those traits we all embrace but intermittently forget. (1) Respect; (2) Honesty; (3) Responsibility; (4) Consideration; (5) Co-operation; (6) Fairness. This six-pack begins with common definitions at Rochedale State School. It ends with... No, it does not end! It endures, as our Year 7 students take this 'six-pack' on to high school and beyond. Our parent/school partnership is vital to its success. When the 'six-pack' of values enjoy the same priority in home and school we will have achieved that turnaround sought by Justice Spigelman, and dare I say, the silent majority of Australian families.

And the band plays on

As advised in last week's newsletter our instrumental music program kicks off over the coming weeks. Mr Brian Pearson, our intrepid instrumental music teacher for brass, woodwind and percussion is on leave for the first term of 2008. I would like to welcome Mr Sean Butler who will be replacing Mr Pearson for the duration of Term 1. We welcome Mr Butler and look forward to our musicians developing their skills over the coming weeks.

We are building a great school better

You may have noticed the motto above our school last week on the front sign. It is clear as I walk around the school that together with parents our teachers are actively working together to make our great school even better. I was astounded by the new Prep students and Year 1's as I walked through their classrooms last week. Students were hard at work with their teachers within minutes of the school day, indeed year commencing. This theme of rigorous

application to learning and teaching was repeated in every class that I visited. Whilst we are hard at work in the classrooms, parents could not miss the level of new construction that is being undertaken around our school. D Block is in the process of being rebuilt and we hope to have our upper school ensconced in their 'old' classrooms by the end of June. The swimming pool, out of action for the past week has had a major refurbishment and will be operational by the end of this week and finally Mr Jeffery's 'treehouse' prep classroom is nearing completion, with only external work to be completed. 2008 will also see a new oval constructed at the 'farm' and a new Administration Block constructed on our present oval. It is always exciting to receive new facilities which will enhance the learning outcomes for students, but they also bring some disruption to the school's operations during the construction period. We will endeavour to ensure that it is 'business as usual' at Rochedale State School during this time.

Liam Smith
Principal

TUCKSHOP NEWS

If for any reason you are unable to work on your rostered day, please give Norma a call on 0400 701 051.

Tues

05/02 Michelle D

Wed Help Needed

06/02 **Today Only**

Thurs

07/02 Kathy M

Fri Kath R

Needed

08/02 Melissa T

Volunteer

Mon

11/02 Lyn L

Tues

12/02 Helen W

Wed

13/02 Cathy O

Thurs Volunteers Needed (2)

14/02

Fri Kath R Kylie P

15/02 Jo Glannville

Mon

18/02 Kaye S

Tues

19/02 Michelle D Shirley L

Wed

20/02 Kylie P

Thurs

21/02 Sue V Cathy W

Fri Melissa T Kylie P22/02 **Volunteer Needed**

Thank you Kylie, Kath, Kathy, Shirley & James for your help last week.

Price Changes to Items Not on Price List

Pkt Sultanas - .60c

Quelch Ice Blocks - .50c

JJ's Chips - .80c

Red Rock Chips - .90c

JJ Noodle Snacks - .40c

Popcorn – \$1.00

Snakatas - .90c

Ovalteenies - .70c

Streets Paddle Pops

Effective from today, chocolate, banana & rainbow paddle pops will cost \$1.20.

Preps – Tuckshop

Parents please note that preps will be able to have tuckshop 2nd term. Thank you.

Volunteers Needed

Thank you to parents who have offered to volunteer for tuckshop. I still need

help on a Thursday and 3 Fridays.

Maybe there are 2 friends out there who would be able to work a Thursday once a month, please I need help. You would need to be here around 8.30am and leave at 1.30pm. Lunch is provided and you can drink as much tea and coffee as you like. One bonus is the tuckshop is air conditioned. Give me a call on my mobile or pop into the tuckhop. Thanks.

ROSHCA Program

Monday

Afternoon Tea Dip, Fruit & Crackers

Craft Window Deco's

Outside Activity Kai

Tuesday

Afternoon Tea Fruit Platter

Craft Crazy Aliens

Outside Activity Ball Games

Wednesday

Afternoon Tea Dip, Fruit & Crackers

Craft Clay

Outside Activity Station Games

Thursday

Afternoon Tea Fruit Platter

Craft Alien Headbands

Outside Activity Cubby Building

Cooking Cakes

Friday

Afternoon Tea Fruit & Cake

Craft Plaster Painting

Outside Activity Continuous Cricket

Also available every day –

Sony, Boardgames, Dress-Ups, Table Games, Colouring-In & Computers

Library News- Week 2

We have been busy getting all the student's cards ready so they can begin to borrow for this year. Borrowing should begin for most students this week. Library bags are essential for Prep classes to Grade Three but it would be appreciated if older students

used a library bag as well so our books are protected from damage.

Lunchtime Activities – These will start this week.

Monday – Games

Tuesday- Strategy Games

Wednesday – Movie day

Thursday – Movie Day

Rochedale State School Netball

It's that time of year again and the netball season will be starting very soon. I am on the look out for any Grade 3 children interested in joining a team. I would really like to set up a Grade 3 team as I already have a few interested girls **but for this to happen I also need a volunteer coach.**

Without a coach, this cannot happen. The teams train for an hour once a week and play at Underwood Park on a Saturday afternoon. We all have a lot of fun and if you think you might like to help, please contact me. Myself and other coaches will be able to help and support you.

I am also looking for a few Grade 5 players and a coach for this term. Our school had 5 teams last year and I would really like to achieve that again this year. I need to register my teams by Saturday. Any queries, or if you can help us or your child would like to play, please call Anne Dee: 3342 5253 & 0402114544.

SWIM SQUAD RETURNING 11TH FEB

Mr John Austin will be back on pool deck ready to coach on Monday 11th February.

We are very excited to have new starting blocks and a very impressive looking new filtration system.

We would love to have any new families at the school come and join us. Please see the enclosed flyer about session times and costs.

Cross Training will also be returning. This has proven to be a very popular addition to the squad program. Bookings essential for this.

Please Note: Junior Squad on Tuesday, February 12th will be from 3:30-4:15pm.

Any enquiries call Anne Dee (P&C rep): 3342 5253 or 0402 114 544

Swimming Club Members

Swim Club will be operating as normal from Friday the 8th of February however,

because negotiations had already begun, Mount Gravatt Swimming Club will host the home carnival for the 9th of February. Those members nominated for this carnival will be notified by phone.

Hi 5 Program

There is a lot of talk around Rochedale State School about the "Hi 5". Students are using this strategy in the classroom and in the playground. Hi 5 is an effective strategy to develop problem solving strategies for our children. It is used to build student's social skills and resilience. The Hi 5 program together with our 6 Rochedale values (respect, responsibility, consideration, co-operation, fairness and honesty) will have a positive impact and shape our School Code of Behaviour.

The 5 steps of the Hi 5 program are:

- ❖ Ignore
- ❖ Talk friendly
- ❖ Walk away
- ❖ Talk firmly
- ❖ Report

These steps are modelled and taught to the children so they take them and apply them to real life situations within the school environment and beyond. The Hi 5 program is a whole school approach. The success of this program will occur when all children can not only *talk the talk but walk the walk*.

CURRICULUM CORNER

This *Wednesday 6 February* a workshop for parents focusing on preparing the students for living in the 21st century. This workshop will be held in the library at **9:30am** and **6:30pm**. Please advise the office if you are attending either of these sessions.

Our students are encouraged to be *inquirers*. All children have natural curiosity and this needs to be encouraged. They need to acquire skills to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. They actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout their lives.

To develop the skill of inquiry in your children, encourage them to ask questions about what they don't understand. Instead of answering their questions immediately, guide them to discover the answer for themselves. Visit the library, read books, experiment, test theories, and search the internet to assist in finding out answers to their questions.

Gayle Healey

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop will be open with the usual trading hours of Thursday and Friday from 8:00am - 9:00am. We are situated in a demountable on the oval behind the tuckshop.

We are also looking for parents to assist in the Uniform Shop - it will be on a roster basis so if you are able to spare an hour, please come and see me. We are considering opening an afternoon to cater for parents who work.

Due to the busy period last week, some uniforms are sold out. These uniforms have been ordered and should arrive in a few weeks. I will put a notice of its arrival in the newsletter for your convenience. Thank you for your patience. School Captain blouses and polos have arrived. Please come and see me. Cost is \$17.50.

For Sale: Near new Ladies clothing sizes 8-10 for sale. Prices range from \$5.00.

From casual, to business wear. All proceeds go towards orphans in Uganda. If you are interested please visit the Uniform Shop on Thursdays and Fridays where items of clothing will be on display. Thank you

Thank you to Julie J. Karen, Marzieh and Shirley for your help last week.

Thank you
Mari-shell Scott
Uniform Shop Convenor

Christian Religious Education (CRE) News

The CRE team is happy to announce that all classes in Years 1 through 7 at Rochedale State School will be incorporating CRE lessons into their weekly schedule.

Weekly CRE lessons will begin in Week 4 this year.

Each class will welcome a volunteer who represents the local churches in our cooperative group. Our CRE Teacher volunteers present a weekly 30 minute lesson taken from a non-denominational CRE curriculum that follows guidelines set by Education Queensland and is endorsed by all the churches in the cooperative. The lessons are age-appropriate, relevant and promote the same ideals that are seen in our school's value system. The Teacher Manuals are available for perusal by parents, please contact the CRE Coordinator.

If you would not like your child to participate in CRE lessons we require a written letter requesting your child be excused from CRE lessons.

Our CRE program utilizes colour student workbooks in Grades 2 through 7. These were included on this year's school booklists. The workbooks represent good value (\$4.98 for two) and provide the materials for the fun activities that form part of each CRE lesson. If your child is participating in CRE and has yet to pick up their workbooks can we encourage you to purchase them as soon as possible. The booklets (Part 1 and Part 2) are available from IGA Underwood News, 473 Underwood Road, Rochedale South. (Grade 1 student activities involve photocopied worksheets; there are no workbooks in Grade 1)

If any parent/guardian would like more information or would like to see our curriculum please contact the CRE Coordinator Robynne Turner on 3219 9771, 0408 785 494 or camrob@iprimus.com.au .

Have you been wondering whether you have what it takes to Teach CRE in State Schools?

Well, RETOP is coming... RETOP is a comprehensive 'Religious Education Teacher's Orientation Program' and this year it is being presented locally in February through the RENEW group.

The six *self-contained* units cover various aspects of CRE teaching. RETOP is perfect for anyone new to CRE teaching as well as anyone needing to update their skills.

Feb 15th & Feb 22nd & Feb 29th 2008

9.00am – 2.30pm (BYO lunch)

Rochedale Baptist Church

Cost: It's Free! (Pop in & see what you think – no obligation!)

Please contact Robyn Payens on