

ROCHEDALE STATE SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER



No. 02 - 2 February, 2009

Feb	
2	Prep 2010 enrolments open
6	Rochedale S.H.S. Swimming Carnival (No School Parade)
10	Kids Hope Morning Tea
24	P&C AGM

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Thoughts for the Week

'Decide what you want, decide what you are willing to exchange for it. Establish your priorities and go to work.' - H.L. Hunt

'Little minds are tamed and subdued by misfortune; but great minds rise above them.'

- Washington Irving

Reminder: Enrolments for Prep 2010 are now open. You may collect an Enrolment Pack from the School Office and then return the Enrolment form, along with a copy of your child's Birth Certificate.

Last month of summer, heat waves down south, but at Rochedale... business as usual! Reflecting on the first four days of term last week, I have to compliment teachers, administrators and general staff, not forgetting our 850 students on a smooth settling in period. It was a period where teachers could get to know their new classes while students had the chance to thoroughly familiarise themselves with their teachers for 2009. In short, it was a roaring success where I feel we hit the boards

running. As I already mentioned in my first editorial last week, 2009 is going to be a full-on year where already high academic expectations will be pushed higher so that we attain, bypass and become the vanguard of literacy and numeracy at Rochedale State School.

Expected building activity

I am happy to announce that the erection of the school's Administration Building has gone out to tender. The long awaited project, replacing the age-old current Administration Building, affectionately known as the 'rabbit warren' on account of its poor design, dysfunction, cramped conditions and general unsuitability for a school of this size, is a welcomed step in Education Queensland's modernising efforts. The new State-Of-The-Art Administration Building will feature a professional ambience befitting our great school. The front counter and adjacent reception room will lead to a wide, brightly lit corridor featuring the school's trophy cabinets, shields, historical photographs and other valuable mementoes accrued over the school's 77 year history. Apart from my own office and those of my two deputies there will be a new office for the school bursar, conference rooms, a modern, air-conditioned sick bay/withdrawal room, chaplaincy facilities and a permanent office for the school's Head of Curriculum. In short, the long awaited facility will launch in a new era and be enjoyed not only by its staff but also by the countless visitors, parents and students who up to now have had to endure the old rabbit warren. Naturally, as work commences, there will be slight interruptions to certain adjacent areas as earthworks and construction commences. As always, we shall try to minimise any inconvenience wherever possible.

Looking back at my previous years at Rochedale, by Week 2 I have had to plead with parents about cars, road safety and the daily drop off and pick up routine. 2009, with more students than ever before, started wonderfully well. The combination of disciplined motorists in busy Rochedale Road, the watchful eye of Queensland Police, parents' acknowledgement that only authorised vehicles enter the school grounds turned, what could have been a Los Angeles grid-lock affair, into a smooth operation. Motorists showed great patience, often brandishing a smile as they watched eager Prep students cross the road, or took in the sight

of little Grade One students with school bags almost as big as themselves! I thank everyone for this great effort and pray it continues throughout the year, so that we do not have to waste space for Traffic Sermons in our Newsletter. Well Done!

Languages other than English taught at Rochedale State School are Chinese and French. While I stressed our total focus on Literacy and Numeracy last week, I am quick to remind parents that L.O.T.E. are Board Subjects at this school, e.g. they are compulsory. They are not an option or extra-curricular activity such as Instrumental Music or Rugby Union after school. Rather, they form an integral part of the overall instruction at this school. We are privileged to have on staff Mr Enoch Poon, who heads our Mandarin Chinese Studies and Mrs Sandra Pearson, who imparts French with a passion. And while on the subject of compulsory subjects – as opposed to extra-curricular activities – I am at pains to explain to parents that Swimming is part of the curriculum at Rochedale. The fact that our school has a swimming pool is unique. Not even one in ten State Schools has swimming pools! Moreover, the fact that students learn to swim, improve their strokes and generally enjoy our aquatic facility is undisputable. I urge parents whose children, for whatever reason, may be hesitant about swimming, to abandon any hesitation and join in this worthwhile curriculum activity. All our lessons in the pool are keenly supervised by our teachers, many of whom are former champions in the pool from a few decades ago.

Q150 is a concept we will hear much about in schools and the general community this year. For people unfamiliar with Q150 it means *Queensland 150 Years*. Our State of Queensland separated from New South Wales 150 years ago. The fledgling Crown Colony was of course nothing like the vibrant, modern state we live in today. Education Queensland will stage many ongoing Q150 activities throughout 2009 to mark the event. Visiting the Q150 web site is most interesting. Not surprisingly, Queensland Railways will feature prominently with steam train rides planned throughout the year, chugging along almost forgotten tracks. A century ago railways and river systems played a pivotal transport role in Queensland. Kicking off in April 2009, the Q150 train will travel throughout Queensland, reaching more than 30

communities, from Cairns to Mt Isa to Quilpie and Toowoomba. Many short rides will take place in and around Brisbane. Local communities will welcome the train to their town and celebrate Queensland's 150th with events and activities. On track for 2009 will be welcome ceremonies in each location; events and activities at each stop celebrating our unique culture, heritage and the aspirations of local and regional communities; travelling messages of goodwill, carried by school students from one location to the next; short local trips on board the Q150 Steam Train in most locations; '150 tree boulevard' - carbon offset initiative and a Q150 legacy project in each location. In short, 2009, as a jubilee year, promises much for students of all ages. All aboard...!

Have a wonderful week...

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

03/02 Michelle D

Wed

04/02 Cathy O

Thurs

05/02 Anne W

Fri

06/02 Kylie S Shendelle W

Mon

09/02 **Volunteer Needed**

Tues

10/02 **Volunteer Needed**

Wed

11/02 Tracy S

Thurs

12/02 **Volunteer Needed**

Fri

13/02 Sylvia B Kath R

Mon

16/02 Kaye S

Tues

17/2 Michelle D

Wed

18/2 Cathy O

Thurs

19/2 **Volunteer Needed**

Fri
20/2 Richelle H Michelle F
Mon
23/2 Amanda R
Tues
24/2 Shirley L
Wed
25/2 **Volunteer Needed**

Thank you Allan and Anne for your assistance with compiling the new price list.

Volunteers Needed

We are in need of volunteers to help serve the children and make sandwiches etc. If you are interested, please phone Norma on 0400 701 051.

ROSHCA Program

Monday

Afternoon Tea	Dip, Crackers & Fruit
Craft	Pipe Cleaner Creatures
Outside Activity	Dodgeball
Cooking	Cakes

Tuesday

Afternoon Tea	Cakes & Fruit
Craft	Backpack Tags
Outside Activity	Basketball

Wednesday

Afternoon Tea	Fruit Platter
Craft	Spiders
Outside Activity	Flying Dutchman

Thursday

Afternoon Tea	Wraps & Fruit
Craft	Silly Snakes
Outside Activity	Spud

Friday

Afternoon Tea	Dip, Crackers & Fruit
Craft	Big Tree
Outside Activity	Fitness Mania

Also available every day – Board games, pool tables, Sony, colouring, self-selection from collage trolley, reading, computers, quiet area in Library, self-selection sporting equipment, homework.

Please note ROSHCA can now take payments by EFTPOS.

Message from Kerry Rea MP, Member for Bonner re the Education Tax Refund (ETR)

I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents to make sure that you keep your receipts if you wish to claim the Education Tax Refund

on your next tax return. If you don't need to lodge a tax return you can claim on a special form which will be available from the Tax Office in July.

If you receive Family Tax Benefit Part A you can claim up to 50% back on the cost of things such as laptops and home computers, printers, software and internet connections; textbooks and other printed learning materials; and stationery and trade tools for school-based trade courses.

Eligible families will be able to claim up to \$375 per child per year for each child undertaking primary school (ie a 50 per cent refundable tax offset every year for up to \$750 expenditure for each child), and up to \$750 per child per year for each child undertaking secondary school (ie a 50 per cent refundable tax offset every year for up to \$1500 expenditure per child).

To find out more visit the Tax Office website at www.ato.gov.au or phone **13 28 61**.

IMPORTANT – PROOF OF PAYMENT/REFUNDS

Please ensure you receive and hold on to your receipt for payments made to the school office, especially for large amounts of money e.g. Prep Levies. The office cannot accept word of mouth regarding payments being made.

Also NO refund will be given for excursions etc. unless parent can supply copy of receipt. These receipts are normally kept at the office until after the excursion and then sent home through the class.

CURRICULUM CORNER

The enjoyment of reading for leisure or for information begins at a very young age. Think about toddlers who quickly recognize a well known shop or brand when driving in the car. This is the child who is beginning to show an understanding of reading. Reading is a skill that we need right throughout our lives.

Here are some ideas to help instill in your children the very important skill and love of reading:

- Encourage your children to read every day

- Read to your children on a regular basis – reading aloud to all primary school age children assists in developing their reading comprehension, vocabulary and working out unknown words
- Let your children see you read regularly
- Take your children to the library
- Have lots of different reading materials around for your children to read.

DO YOU HAVE A 'MACMILLAN AUSTRALIAN STUDENT DICTIONARY' at home that you don't need?

The dictionary was used by Year 4 & Year 5 in 2008. This year our Year 5's have been asked to buy 'The Australian Integrated Primary Dictionary & Thesaurus.'

So if you would like to sell the Macmillan dictionary to the school, please leave it at the office with your name and a contact number. Depending on condition we are offering between \$5 and \$10 for these second hand dictionaries.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

It seems as if 2009 has got off to a flying start, and I almost missed the opportunity to welcome you all back from the summer holidays! Now that I am back on my feet, I can start spreading the word about what Rochedale's Chaplaincy Service will be trying to achieve this year, and the fun activities and programs you can join in.

The most common question that I hear (especially from new parents to the school) is "what does a Chaplain do?" The short answer to that question is 'student support and pastoral care' but in reality there is so much more to it than that. As Chaplain, I am part of the support network for *all* of Rochedale State School students, staff and parents. This includes mentoring, student development programs, family support, and spiritual support, among many other things. Basically, it means that my door is always open to Rochedale's students, staff and parents and if there's anything that you think I might be able to help with, don't hesitate to contact me via the Administration Office.

2008's greatest hits (Strength & Shine) have had a name change and a face-lift for 2009 and will be starting shortly for a whole new bunch of participants.

B Strong will be offered in the Term 1 & 2 for the boys, and Amelia will return to run Sparkle in Term 3 & 4 for the girls, so watch this space for more info. The Chaplaincy Mentoring Program will be up and running again soon and a whole new batch of Games Rangers will get their chance this year as well. With everything that is going on, I'm certain that 2009 will be bigger, better and bolder than 2008 & I am very excited about being a part of it all!

Have a great week!

ON THE RADAR

Games Rangers: Attn all Year 6 Students! Anyone interested in becoming Junior Leaders in the 'Games Rangers' program should meet in the Chaplain's Room (upstairs in E Block) during Morning Tea on Friday. This is a fantastic opportunity to develop some leadership skills in preparation for your senior year at Primary School, and you will help make lunch time fun for some younger students at Rochedale!

B Strong: B Strong is an after-school program for Year 7 boys, and will be held Monday afternoons for 5 weeks commencing Monday 16th February and concluding Monday 23rd March. The main focus of B Strong is on social skills and self-esteem, and it gives the boys the chance to have some fun in a positive environment. Grab a permission form from the Chaplain ASAP!

Chappy Cafe: This brand new lunchtime activity program will give interested participants the chance to hang out with friends, read the bible, ask questions and hopefully find some answers. Come and grab a permission form from the Chaplain!

RPC: I'm hoping that our student prayer group (Rochedale Prayer Crew) will get up and running again. We meet in the Chaplain's Room at Morning Tea on Mondays. Everyone is welcome, and it would be great to see you there!

Please note: I will be away from the 23-27th February, so there will be no Chaplaincy Service activities during that week!

**Mr James
School Chaplain**

Thought for the day: ‘The difference between ordinary and *extraordinary* is that little bit *extra*.’

Library News – Week 2

Borrowing-Will begin for all students in Week 3.

Library award – Students displaying our Rochedale values in the library will have the chance to be given a library award. Each week we will draw out one winner and they will receive a \$2 voucher to spend at the tuckshop

Lunch -Time Activities – Will start in this week

Monday – Games

Tuesday- Movie

Wednesday- Movie

Thursday- Share a Book Day

Friday – Games

Happy Reading

Library Staff

Year 5 French Book

Year 5 parents will have received a letter at the end of last year stating that \$22 will need to be paid for a required French Book. This book is due mid February, however we ask that parents start paying the fee to the school office now. Thank you, Madame Pearson.

Rochedale State School Interschool Sporting Teams

This Friday afternoon students from year levels 5-7 will begin to trial for Interschool Sport Teams. Those who are interested in playing sport for our school have the opportunity to trial for the following sports:

- Touch Football for girls
- Flag Footy for boys
- Tennis for girls & boys
- Soccer for girls and boys
- Netball for girls

Cross Country Training for our School Team

Mr Coote will be training our school cross country team on Mondays & Wednesdays at 8.00am. You will be required to bring running shoes, training clothes and your swimming gear each training day.

The school team will be selected from the trainings which last for approximately 9 to 10 weeks and this will condition our students for the upcoming district carnival in May next term.

Rochedale State School Club Basketball

Rochedale State School Club Basketball Team information afternoon will be on Tuesday 3rd February at 3pm in the school hall.

Students who want to play Club Basketball on Saturday mornings and who are between 8-13 years old are welcome to come and receive information on what is required to play basketball.

Mr Brown

P&C News

Next meeting: Tuesday, 24th February 7pm – AGM. Election of new committee for 2009.

Fundraiser: Rochedale State School is registered with You Name It Labels and for each order placed with them we receive a percentage. What a convenient and great way to help your school! Just visit www.younameitlabels.com, check out the great products available and when you place your order, use our unique code: rss0907. It couldn't be easier!

ROCHEDALE STATE SCHOOL NETBALL: Grade 3 onwards...Are you interested in playing netball?? We are seeking players and coaches for our teams that play at Underwood Park on Saturdays. Games start March 14th, those in Grade 6 onward will have a grading day Feb 28th. Please be aware parents, as much as we want to put together these teams we do need volunteers to coach. It really is a lot of fun, and the children really appreciate it. Come join us for the season.

Supachicks Netball Team: Are having a training run for their 12yr olds (grade 7) on Wednesday at 3pm – 4.30pm at the netball courts (behind Grade 1). There will also be a sign-on for girls aged 11 and 12, including girls turning 11, from 3-3.15pm. Any inquiries, please call Kathy 0413 126 151.

Grade 2 (Age 7yrs) – Interested in Netball?? Fun Net will begin at Underwood Park Netball courts on March 14th. Fun Net is a fun way to

learn the basics and skills required for playing Netball. Team games start at age 8yrs. Cost for the season is \$60. Further info call Underwood Park Netball Association on 3341 3813

If you would like any further information on any of the above, please contact me:

Anne Dee, P&C President. Tel: 0402114544 or 3342 5253

SWIMMING NEWS

Here are just a few reasons why you should enroll for the P & C's Learn to Swim and Squad training. It's convenient, friendly, healthy, economical and is open to everyone, not just Rochedale State School families.

SQUAD

Squad training is back in full swing this week. Mr Mat would love to see all our current swimmers and some new faces too this term. Come along to the pool for some great fun and fitness. Times are the same as last term. Every existing squad family will be able to find a record of where they are with their squad money (as at the end of last term) with the money tin. These notes will show how many swims have been paid for, swims used and remaining credit / amount due.

LEARN TO SWIM

Enrolments and assessments for this term's Learn to Swim classes will take place from 3.00pm tomorrow, Tuesday 3rd February, at the pool. If your child attended lessons last term, they will not need another assessment but a new enrollment form will be needed. All new students will need to be assessed by Kobie to determine their swimming level so bring along your child and their swimming gear.

Kobie will once again be conducting lessons on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays after school and on Saturday mornings with lessons commencing from Monday 9th February for an eight week block finishing on Saturday 4th April. Lessons will cater for children with a range of swimming abilities from bronze level (beginners), silver (progressing to all strokes) and gold (all strokes and preparation for squad). Cost is \$72 for the eight lessons with fees due in full on or before the day of your child's first lesson.

Information and enrolment forms are available from the office. Any questions? Phone me, Bronwyn King, on 0409 727 557 and I'll do my best to answer them.

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop hours has resumed its usual hours:

Thursday 2:00 - 3.15pm and Friday 8:00 - 9:00am. If you are unable to come during these hours, please visit our website and complete an order form and submit it to the office enclosing your payment. Once processed, we will give you a call for you to pick it up.

OUT OF STOCK:

Size 4-12 Polos

Size 4-6 dresses

These uniforms have been ordered and should arrive in 6 weeks. To avoid disappointment and frustration, please place your order with payment. If you have already placed an order for your polos prior to school starting, we anticipate that the order will be received Mid February. Orders on 29 January onwards, should arrive Mid March. For your convenience, if you have fully paid for your order, once it has arrived, I will send it to your child/ren's classroom. While every effort and care is made when orders are being delivered to your child's class, the Uniform Shop cannot be held responsible if the order gets misplaced or lost. If you would like to personally collect your order, please advise. Thank you for your patience.

EFTPOS NOW AVAILABLE!

For your convenience, the Uniform Shop now has EFTPOS. For every transaction there is a fee of 1.25% of the purchase price. We accept Mastecard and Visa. No refunds or cash out available!

SCHOOL & HOUSE CAPTAINS Uniforms will arrive shortly. A letter to parents will be sent out detailing the cost asap.

Please note that the Uniform Shop is run on a voluntary basis. We are looking for parents to assist us in the Uniform Shop, it will be on a roster basis so if you are able to spare a few hours a week, please come and see me. Thank you to those who have already expressed their interest. I will be giving you a call sometime

this week to arrange a roster. Your help will not only assist in the smooth running of the Uniform Shop, but an opportunity to support the school community. If you have any queries, please contact me via the email school link: Marishell.Scott@eq.edu.au

Thanks
Mari-shell Scott
Uniform Shop Convenor

Australian girls choir



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Thinking of playing
Rugby League this year?
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Open to boys and girls aged
5 to 13 years who DO NOT
play club rugby league



Meet Karmichael Hunt

PRE - Registration essential

To book your spot: Phone Kate 3858 9127 or
email katec@broncos.com.au

FREE showbag for participants & Info session for
parents

When: Sunday 8th February – 9.30-11.30am

Where: Broncos Leagues Club, Fulcher Road, Red
Hill