

ROCHEDALE STATE SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER



No. 39 - 24th November, 2008

November

- 25 P&C Meeting 7pm
- 26 Free Dress Day – Gold Coin Donation
- 27 Instrumental Music Evening
- 28 Year 6 Seaworld Excursion
Year 2 Aussie Helpers Visit & Farm Picnic

December

- 2 Year 1 Swimming Carnival & Craft Stall
- 3 Year 2 Swimming Carnival & Craft Stall
- 4 Year 3 Swimming Carnival & Craft Stall
Christmas Carols 6.30pm
- 5 Orientation Rochedale S.H.S.
Year 3 Bush Christmas Theatre
- 2, 3, 4 Year 7 Activity Week
- 8 Year 4-7 Swimming Carnival
- 9 Year 7 Graduation
- 12 Final Day Term 4

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Thoughts for the Week

‘Your children will become what you are; so be what you want them to be.’ - David Bly

‘Give me a firm place to stand and I will move the Earth.’ - Archimedes

During the recent G20 summit in Washington, leaders from all over the globe were trying to solve the financial woes of the world. Some speculated about greed, the failure of the free market system, while others took the current crises in their stride. How do they communicate? Well, this is an interesting thing. Language and Communication is diverse. French, Italian, German, Russian and Chinese leaders rely on interpreters/translators to get

their point across. Granted, some of the world leaders can speak English, most avoid it. Why? Clearly, a second language is just that... ‘a second language.’ It can rarely be as developed as the first language other than in bi-lingual countries such as Belgium and South Africa, for example. It is when daily exposure to bi-linguality occurs that the best outcomes are achieved. The second best option is of course to teach, already in our primary schools, a second language. The daily or weekly exposure to a second language enables students to understand, not only a new language, but a new culture, as language is inexorably linked to culture. While Sandra Pearson teaches our students French, Enoch Poon teaches Mandarin Chinese to half of our students. Both languages are ‘world languages.’ French was until recently the ‘official language’ of diplomacy and postal communication. Chinese, on the other hand, is spoken by more people on Earth than any other living language. Prime Minister Rudd acquired almost fluent Mandarin Chinese during his many years in public life and communicates with Chinese leaders without an interpreter. Under the subject heading LOTE, [Languages Other Than English], Mrs Pearson and Mr. Poon bring passion to their subject matter. Every student is introduced to basic French and Chinese. How they develop their additional language skills is of course comparable to growth in the gardens. The more you attend your plants, the more they flourish. It is most encouraging to hear parents’ support of our LOTE program. Immersion in a second language from an early start in Primary School makes the process all the more easy as it continues through high school and beyond. Most Arts students at university are required to master at least one foreign language to gain entry into the Foreign Affairs Department, for example. We are keen to improve our language labs and further resource our LOTE Department in 2009. With Mrs Pearson and Mr. Poon onboard we may rest assured that both French and Chinese will resonate alongside English in the hallways of this great school of ours.

School Report Cards are once again on the agenda. It was not all that long ago that these documents would be painstakingly written by hand by teachers, toiling into the night with a kerosene light on the kitchen table. The beautiful handwriting of yesteryear’s teaching corps can be viewed at John Oxley Library. In

the past, it appears *conduct* and *obedience* to the teacher rated ahead of academic areas. Fast forward to 2008 and a whole different ball game emerges. While we naturally value good conduct, we do not expect blind obedience, nor a discipline that curbs the investigative mind of most children. This year Teachers are using the new Education Queensland *One School* data tool (the new SIMS) to report to parents. It is all IT based. It aims to further develop teachers' technology skills. The Report Card 2008 is a valuable document. It should be easily digested by parents/care givers. Intended as a written assessment of your child's progress at Rochedale State School, it is but one indicator. It forms the basis of assessment but becomes further enriched during Parent/Teacher interviews where sections of the Report Card can be further explained 1-1. As always, praise your children's success, encourage their areas of improvements and empathise with their areas of struggle and challenge. Few in life are great in every endeavour. Only XI play cricket for Australia, only one person is P.M. of Australia. Millions, however, are great, successful, wonderful, hard-working people in this great land of ours. Report Cards should be a happy time in families. And as to conduct..., may I assure you that we are immensely proud of the overall conduct of students at Rochedale State School.

Finally, this week my attention turns to our wonderful and hard-working P. & C. As 2008 draws to an end, it is my pleasant duty to formally thank them for their enormous fundraising efforts, their physical and mental support, stamina and perseverance during this busy year. Not all P. & C.'s work the same way. Such is the fact that, when a unique chemistry exists within a P. & C., the best results emerge. Yes, there is much work. Yes, there is much planning and preparation, but the tangible rewards are manifold. Our P.& C. takes their brief to another level. Many students and parents may be blissfully unaware of the true scope of the P. & C.'s enduring support. Discos, fetes, special events require, for their success, the devotion of leadership. On behalf of the entire school community I salute President Anne Dee, Secretary Amanda Coombs, Treasurer Doug King and the entire P.&C. committee for an excellent 2008. We are indeed indebted to your work and generosity of spirit.

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
25/11 Michelle D
Wed
26/11 Kylie P
Thurs
27/11 Lisa J
Fri Kylie S Jackie R
28/11 Kylie P Georgina F
Mon
1/12 **Help Needed Please**
Tues **Yr 1 Swim Carnival**
2/12 **Help Needed Please**
Wed **Yr 2 Swim Carnival**
3/12 Georgina F
Thurs **Carols Night Yr 3 Swim Carnival**
4/12 Douglas K Amanda C
Fri
5/12 Kylie P Kath R Michelle F
Mon **Yrs 4-7 Swim Carnival**
8/12 **Help Needed Please**
Tues
9/12 Michelle D
Wed
10/12 Kylie P Kathy M
Thurs
11/12 **Tuckshop Closed**
Fri
12/12 **Tuckshop Closed**
2009
Mon
26/1 **Australia Day Holiday**
Tues
27/1 **Tuckshop Closed**

Thank you Kathy, Kylie, James, Sylvia, Ashleigh, Mitchell & Joshua for your help last week.

Carols Night, Thursday, 4th December

Mark your calendar for this night as the Tuckshop will be open at 6pm to sell pizzas (Domino's ¼ size pizzas at \$3 each), drinks, chips and ice creams. Help will be needed to please.

Food Stock Run Down

As we always do, now we are approaching end of term, we start to run down our food stock. If we cannot supply your child's food, an alternative will be supplied.

Swim Carnivals Years 1, 2 & 3

The Junior Swimming Carnivals are held over 3 days (Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday) only until Little Lunch. If parents require Little Lunch on these days, you must have your orders in at the tuckshop by 9am sharp. **Tea and coffee will not be available.**

Swim Carnival Yrs 4-7

The Senior Swimming Carnival is being held on Monday December 8th. If parents require food for Little Lunch or Big Lunch, your orders must be in at the tuckshop by 9am sharp. **Tea & Coffee will not be available.**

IOU's

Monies owed to the tuckshop for children's forgotten lunches are to be finalised A.S.A.P. Thank you.

Volunteers Needed for 2009

The tuckshop will need new volunteers next year as parents and their children move on to high school. Please, if you would like to be involved, pop into the tuckshop and see me. Did you know voluntary work looks impressive on a resume?

ROSHCA Program

Monday

Afternoon Tea	Fruit Platter
Craft	3D Fish
Outside Activity	Soccer

Tuesday

Afternoon Tea	Dip, Crackers & Fruit
Craft	Pipe Cleaner People
Outside Activity	Poison Ball
Cooking	Pizza Slice

Wednesday

Afternoon Tea	Pizza Slice & Fruit
Craft	Pet Rocks
Outside Activity	Skipping Competition

Thursday

Afternoon Tea	Fruit Platter
Craft	Kites
Outside Activity	Softball
Cooking	Pinwheels

Friday

Afternoon Tea	Pinwheels & Fruit
Craft	Coasters
Outside Activity	Oval Tiggly

Also available every day –

Sony, Board games, Dress-Ups, Table Games, Colouring-in and Computers.

Please note ROSHCA can now take payments by EFTPOS.

Library News – Term 4 Week 8

Borrowing - for students of all grade levels has stopped. Stocktaking of books will commence in Week 9, so we need all books to be returned by the end of this week.

Library award – last week went to Nichola T Year 7B.

Readers Cup- Last week, students from grades 5, 6 and 7 competed in class teams for our own Reading Cup winners for 2008. Students had to read three books and 5 questions on details from the books were asked.

Winning teams were 5L, 6L and 7B. All students in the winning teams were presented with a certificate and a book at parade and all participants received a certificate.

The Library would like to thank all students who volunteered to take part, out timekeepers and Mrs Francis and Mr Burton (our scorers).

Library Staff

2008 U.Q. Chinese Writing Competition

Congratulations to all our students who competed in the University of Queensland Chinese Writing Competition 2008. Special congratulations to Kaelyn T, who won Second Prize. Well done boys and girls!

Mr Poon

P&C News

Next meeting: Tuesday, 25th November at 7pm in the staffroom. All welcome. Last meeting for the year!!

Raffle Donations I know it's a busy time of year and everyone is looking for donations for one thing or another but we would also really appreciate your help with small Christmas Items for our Raffle. Mrs Parkinson is eagerly waiting

to make up some wonderful baskets for us but is in real need of more items. PLEASE if you can help with anything, you can leave it at the office in a bag marked Christmas Raffle. Thank you, your help is very much appreciated.

Getting organized for next year?? If you are preparing for the next school year, ordering your book packs and uniforms, why not consider personalized labels to make naming those items so much easier? 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!

Carols Night: Not too far away. The P&C will be running a Christmas Raffle that evening, with some wonderful prizes. We have a couple of remote control helicopters. A Cold Rock Ice Cream Voucher, and baskets of goodies. We will have tickets for sale on the night but if you would like to pre purchase for any reason, please just send a note to the office requesting tickets with the money (they will \$1 each) and we will get them to you. Also that night we will have Glow Products for sale and Ice Cream Spider drinks.

Jet Star Fundraiser – We are now collecting Jet star boarding passes!! If you fly with Jet star between August 7, 2008 and January 7, 2009 please hold onto your boarding pass. We are now collecting them to try and receive a free flight voucher that we can use as a fundraiser at a later date. Please leave any boarding passes at the office. Thank you.

Anne Dee, P&C President. Tel: 0402114544

Spare Uniforms

The school has a stock of old uniforms which it supplies to students who require a change of clothes and our supply of shorts is very low. If you have any old school shorts at home that you are willing to donate to the school we would greatly appreciate it.

Christmas Craft Stall

On behalf of the P&C, the Craft Stall will be open during the upcoming Swimming Carnivals.

The Carnivals dates are: Yr 1 – Tues., 2nd Dec, Yr 2 – Wed., 3rd Dec, Yr 3 – Thurs., 4th Dec and Yrs 4-7 on Mon., 8th Dec. The craft stall will be open until 11.30am on each of these days.

We do this to give parents and children an opportunity to buy unique and well-priced gifts for those you care about. Please support your school by purchasing items from this stall. Help is needed to set up the stall from 9am on each of these days. Phone Kath R on 3341 2980.

Christmas Raffle

It's that time of the year again! I am organising the raffle prizes for the Carol's Night. I would love some donations of Christmas food and goodies to fill baskets for the many prizes. These items can be left in the office in the Christmas Raffle Box before Friday, 28th November. Thank you, Jenny P.

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop trading hours this week are Thursday, 2:00 - 3:15pm and Friday, 8:00 - 9:00 am.

If you are unable to visit the Uniform Shop during these trading hours, you may visit our Website and print out an order form, complete it and submit to the Office with your payment. I will then process your order and will advise you of when to pick it or deliver it to your child/ren's class.

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 Mastercard and Visa. No cash out available.

BACK TO SCHOOL UNIFORM ORDERS

If you will be requiring new uniforms for your child/ren for 2009, we only have limited stock available. You can lay-by your requirements and pick up will be in January. Please note the lay-by terms and conditions. The Uniform Shop will be open in January 22, 23 & 27, 2009 from 9:00am - 11:00am. When ordering please allow for growth spurts during the 6 weeks holiday period.

PREP HATS - SLOUCH GOLD HATS

We are now stocking 55cm hats.

NEW STOCK LINES

Blue chair bag with school logo \$10.00

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS

If you have uniforms that no longer fit your child/ren - you may sell this at the Uniform Shop. Terms and Conditions apply. Just a reminder that we no longer accept white emblem uniforms to sell, only the embroidered ones. Please also note that we can only sell second hand uniforms that had been purchased at the Uniform Shop. Please ensure that all uniforms are washed and in good condition prior to selling. There are no refunds on second hand uniforms. Once all your uniforms are sold, the P&C Treasurer will send you a cheque.

If you have any queries, please feel free to contact me through the school's email link:-
Marishell.Scott@eq.edu.au

Thanks

Mari-shell Scott
Uniform Convenor

Christian Religious Education (CRE) News 2009 CRE Student Workbooks

The Student Workbooks that are an integral part of our CRE program at Rochedale State School are now being accessed through our booklist provider, Underwood News.

The CRE Student Workbooks have been included on the 2009 booklists for Grades 2 – 7 and will therefore come with your child's 'book-pack'.

CRE is presented to all students at Rochedale State School unless parents have sent in a written request asking that their child be excluded. If this written letter of exclusion will apply to your child in 2009, please cross off the CRE Student Workbook on your child's booklist order.

Grade 1 students will receive photocopied worksheets during most CRE lessons. Prep children, according to Education Qld's RE policy are not to be offered RE lessons.

For more information, please contact Robynne Turner, the CRE Co-ordinator on 3219 9771,

0408 785 494 or email
camrob@iprimus.com.au.

Christmas Hampers

**November is Food and Gift Drive Month!
LAST WEEK TO DONATE!!!**

This Friday morning a representative from our local St Vincent de Paul society will be coming along to Parade to accept the many boxes of goods and gifts that our school community has so generously donated during this last month. These donations will be used by St Vincent de Paul to make up Christmas Hampers for needy families in the Rochedale and surrounding areas.

Wednesday and Thursday will be our last collection days.

Each classroom has a 'Donation Bag' where children can place any food or gift donations.

We are looking for:



Gifts (must be new) for all ages;



Christmas Items:, eg *especially puddings, cakes*, bonbons,



Any non-perishable 'Special Treat' foods that you think would brighten up someone's Christmas Season or add to their Christmas Dinner table.

Let's work together to try and help this Christmas be a special time for all.

For more info contact Robynne Turner on 3219 9771, 0408 785 494 or camrob@iprimus.com.au

SQUAD BREAK-UP

End of term is coming up and so is the Squad Break-up Party. It will happen from 3.15 to around 5.00pm on Wednesday, 3rd December. We will be having a sausage sizzle and a heap of fun in the pool. All squad swimmers are invited.

LEARN TO SWIM

During the last two weeks of holidays (12th – 16th and 19th – 23rd January), we are offering Learn to Swim Intensive courses. This will be five lessons (one per day) for Monday through

Friday. The cost will be \$54 for a one week course. Payment must be made in advance.

If you would like to enrol your child in one of these courses, please fill out an enrolment form, available either poolside or at the office and return it with payment to the poolside tin or post to:

Rochedale State School P & C
PO Box 697
Rochedale South Qld 4123

Please do this by the last day of term so we have time to get back to you before Christmas.

Thanks.

We are now half way through this term's learn to swim lessons. Sad to say a LOT of people have still not paid their fees for lessons.

Payment was due in the week of your child's first lesson. Fees are as follows: one lesson per week for 6 weeks - \$54; two lessons per week - \$108 etc.

If you have already paid, thank you, if not, please put your payment in an envelope clearly marked with the swimmer's name and place it in the tin marked 'Learn to Swim' which is poolside during all lessons.

Thankyou
Bronwyn King
e-mail: rochedaleswimming@hotmail.com
0409 727557

Mt Gravatt PCYC Holiday Activities

If anyone is interested in a timetable of activities run by Mt Gravatt PCYC over the Christmas Holidays, please collect one from the School Office.