

ROCHEDALE STATE SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER



No. 8 – 16th March, 2009

Mar	18	Adrian Schrinner - B.C.C. Visit
	21	State Election – P&C BBQ
	25	Yr 7 French Film Excursion
Apr	1	Pizza Day
	9	End of Term 1

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Thoughts for the Week

'It is a mistake to think that moving fast is the same as actually going somewhere.' - Steve Goodier

'Procrastination is the thief of time.' - Edward Young

The importance of a full school day cannot be stressed enough. The duration of school days at Rochedale State School is from 08.50 a.m. to 02.50 p.m. It is not from, for example 09.15 a.m., nor does it end at 02.30 p.m. So, why are we seemingly being pedantic about start/finishing times? It is not as if we are catching a plane to Bangkok or a train to Cairns! True. However, the school days are structured in such a way that Teachers, after welcoming students to their class each morning, do the class roll; a legal document filled in at the start of school. Secondly, like a billboard, announcing an event, the start of the teaching day gives an outline what 'we will do today.' Likewise, at day's end, teachers recapitulate on the day's study, praise students' achievements and answer questions from the class. This sounds pretty straightforward. Imagine, however, when some students repeatedly arrive 10-20 minutes late. The class is then interrupted as the Teacher has

to get the roll, mark the late student present AND spend a few minutes explaining to one individual that which was already imparted to the class at 08.50 a.m. Now, imagine further, that the same students repeatedly engage in the same practice, and you will understand that we need to ask for parental co-operation. Clearly, we understand that families can run late; have medical appointments and a host of perfectly legitimate reasons for late arrival. Moreover, we also understand that the same perfectly legitimate reasons may warrant early departure from school. It is to the other, thankfully small minority, I direct my observations about the school day, as you know I have your children's best interests at heart and thank you in advance for embracing the above matter.

Reading, the greatest gift of all

Universal literacy is a fairly recent phenomenon. A couple of hundred years ago it was the reserve of the rich and powerful which not only discouraged the ability to read among the working classes, but it was considered dangerous for common folk to be able to read, to understand, and perhaps to question the status quo. Thankfully, people realised that power came from knowledge, learning and... of course, literacy. A century ago most non-verbal communication was written communication. From 1870 until the tail end of the 20th Century, written communication still dominated before being usurped by television, radio, I-pods, and a host of other communication gadgets. The fact remains, however, that *Reading* and *Writing* still have prominence as an overarching communication mode, alongside verbal dialogue. To this end I would like to return to the first topic I wrote about at the beginning of term – Reading! Every Child, Every Night Reads. The acronym E.C.E.N.R. should feature prominently in every home not only throughout 2009 but beyond. No, we do not have unrealistic expectations. Mrs. Wardle's wonderful Year 2's are not required to digest Tolstoy's *War and Peace*, any more than Mrs. Ireland's little darlings are expected to conquer Alexander Solzhenitsyn's *Gulag Archipelago!* What they are expected to read is designed and pitched at their age level. From the *Adventures of Spot*, to *Mr. Gumpy's Motor Car* to *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, not forgetting the wonderfully – and appropriate for the times – *Henny Penny*, the tale of a hen on her way to the king with the news that 'the sky is falling in.' You see, every

teacher (and every parent) knows what is appropriate material for their children. As a rule of thumb, the material needs to be fun, interesting, captivating... and challenging. Nightly reading needs to be, not a chore, but a treat. It needs to be routinely engaged in just like brushing one's teeth before bed etc. If children see parents taking an interest in their reading, encouraging them and explaining certain words and phrases, it becomes a 'joint adventure' and quality time between parent and child. The ability to read is more important than ever before and will largely determine life chances and employment opportunities beyond school. So, ECENR to you all!

Voluntary Contribution Scheme is a wonderful initiative at Rochedale State School. We invite parents to contribute \$25.00 per child with a maximum of \$50.00 for two children or more. Where does this money go? It is channeled into additional educational resources, air-conditioning running costs and ink cartridges for our many computer printers, to mention but a few. So, why should this be necessary...? Why should we have to reach into our pockets when education is supposed to be free? Firstly, let me direct you to the first word in this paragraph – Voluntary. Secondly, however, let me paint you an aviation analogy. Wedged into Qantas' unforgiving 'cattle class' economy section on a long haul flight to London or Los Angeles is a memorable experience if you are short and skinny. If you are tall and bulky, perish the thought! A few metres forward lays Business Class. The seats are wider; the leg room greater, the food better and the list goes on. Granted, Economy class lands at the same time as Business class! However, examining the passengers at the other end is most interesting. Superimposed on Rochedale State School, your kind, generous Voluntary Contribution Scheme enables our wonderful students to 'fly business class' in their educational flight path, a long distance journey much greater than the Brisbane-London haul.

Appropriately green for Saturday

St Patrick's Day organisers must relish the thought of the first Green, Green landscape for many years. The Parade through Brisbane went ahead last Saturday. Tomorrow, 17th March, is of course the real St. Patrick's Day, a day celebrated not only by the Irish at home and abroad, but by an increasing number of people

around the world. The dreadful happenings last week in Belfast galvanised a nation who soundly rejects a return to the futility of previous violence. Our thoughts go to the many school children in the Emerald Isle. And as for tomorrow at Rochedale, I wish 'a top of the morning to ya.'

Outstanding levies

While on the topic of money, may I just remind parents that String Instrument levies are due for payment, as is Prep Year levy. Thank you for your co-operation.

Liam Smith
Principal

CURRICULUM CORNER

Through speaking to the students it is fantastic to see so many students embracing our school goal reading every night

Some more ways to promote the love of reading are to:

- Have a family reading time—find 15 minutes a day when everyone in the family reads together silently.
- Develop the library habit—take your children to the public library every few weeks.
- Encourage a wide variety of reading activities—make reading an integral part of your lives. Have them read menus, road signs, recipes, games directions.
- Show enthusiasm and interest in your children's reading

I had the pleasure this weekend of reading some Year 5 students writing. Their creative ideas, ability to build suspense in a story is amazing. Well done Year 5 authors!

Over the past few weeks, in this column, I have been revising the Learner Profile that Rochedale embraces. This week I am recognizing some students who I have seen around the school practicing these skills.

- Jack W from 6W – for being a risk taker by being an active and willing participant in small group discussions. He is always willing to have a go at answering questions.
- Chloe M from 7R – for being open minded and willing to look at situations where people have different opinions.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Gayle Healey
Curriculum Coordinator

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

17/3 Michelle D

Wed

18/3 Tracy S

Thurs

19/3 Deana Z

Fri Interschool Sport

20/3 Richelle H Michelle F

Mon

23/3 Amanda R

Tues

24/3

Wed

25/3 Suzanne U

Thurs

26/3 Douglas K Amanda C

Fri Interschool Sport

27/3 Kath R Georgina F

Mon

30/3

Tues

31/3 Michelle D

Wed

1/4 Cathy O **Pizza Day**

Thurs

2/4 Anne W

Fri Volunteer Needed

3/4 Kylie S **Interschool Sport**

Mon

6/4

Tues

7/4

Wed

8/4 Tracey S

Thurs

9/4 **Volunteer Needed**

Fri

10/4 **Good Friday**

Mon

13/4 **Easter Monday**

Tues 14/4 – Fri 17/4 Holidays

Mon

20/4 **Pupil Free Day**

Thank you Sylvia, Kylie and my Year 7 girls for your help last week.

Pizza Day

We will be having a Pizza Day on Wednesday 1st April. Order forms will be sent home soon.

Interschool Sport

Children attending Interschool Sport, please place your orders in the plastic container marked 'Interschool Sport' and also write 'Sport' on your orders. Thank you.

ROSHCA Program

Monday

Afternoon Tea	Sandwiches & Fruit
Craft	Bookmarks
Outside Activity	Touch Football

Tuesday

Afternoon Tea	Fruit Platter
Craft	Blind Drawings
Outside Activity	Team Ball Games
Cooking	Lasagne

Wednesday

Afternoon Tea	Lasagne & Fruit
Craft	Marble Paintings
Outside Activity	Sand Castle Cities
Cooking	Coconut Ice

Thursday

Afternoon Tea	Coconut Ice & Fruit
Craft	Backpack Buddies
Outside Activity	Blind Man's Bluff

Friday

Afternoon Tea	Fruit, Dip & Crackers
Craft	Jumping Judy
Outside Activity	Basketball

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.

Due to the fee increase for 2009 we are now charging over the maximum rate of Child Care Benefit. **ALL FAMILIES PLEASE CHECK THE A-Z ACCOUNTS BOX LOCATED BESIDE THE PARENT COMMUNICATION BOOK FOR YOUR ACCOUNTS.** Accounts are generated weekly (Monday) for that week of care. Maximum rate for non-school child - \$3.47 - Maximum rate for a school aged child is 85 per cent of the maximum non-school child rate.

Also just a reminder to the families using direct deposit, we now have a new bank account number, please see ROSHCA staff for new details. Vacation care bookings are now being taken for the Easter Holidays from Tuesday, 14 April to Friday, 17 April. All bookings must be made prior to 8 April with a \$20 deposit per family.

Scholastic Book Club

Book club catalogues were sent home last Wednesday. All order forms and money are to **BE HANDED TO CLASS TEACHERS THIS WEDNESDAY.** PLEASE DO NOT send money on a different day. DO NOT send money to the Office. All cheques to be made payable to SCHOLASTIC AUSTRALIA. Unfortunately late orders cannot be accepted as orders are processed the day of collection. Thank you for your co-operation.

Band and Choir Music Shirts

We are currently doing a stocktake of the music shirts. If you have a shirt at home could you please return it to Mrs Davidson in the Teacher Aide's room, as soon as possible? Thank you.

School Chaplaincy Committee

The school Chaplaincy committee is looking for some new members. This group provides oversight and accountability for the Chaplaincy service within our school, and meets monthly. If you think this might be for you, please contact Andrea Eames (Chairperson) – on 0407 831 126 or a.eames@optusnet.com.au.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Chaplaincy service, or making a donation – pick up a brochure from the office or from Mr James our school chaplain.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Is it just me, or does this term seem to be flying by a little quicker than usual? Inter-school sport is underway, and I would love to congratulate all of our sporting teams for their great displays of sportsmanship during the first round of games. That's what I love to hear when it comes to Rochedale sporting teams (and I don't mind congratulating you when you win as well).

Don't forget that as School Chaplain, I am always here to help if I can, so come find me for

a chat or give me a call via the School Administration. I am available Mondays, Tuesdays & Fridays, and via email at almost anytime. I am here for the whole school community, and that includes families, staff and students.

Have a great week!

ON THE RADAR

Triple P Parenting Courses: This program is a practical course looking at Positive Parenting, good relationships, behaviour issues, routines family survival tips, etc. Courses are 8 weeks or the special one day course. Next courses for parents of teenagers (12 years & over):

One day Special – Sunday, March 21st
9:00am – 5:00pm

8 Week Course – Mondays, April 27th -
June 15th 7:00-9:00pm

Both courses held at Logan Uniting Church, 129 Dennis Road, Springwood.

(\$25 donation per family. Bookings can be made with the church office: 3290 1277.)

Games Rangers: Your training sessions have been locked in! On Tuesday, March 31st you will need to report to the hall at the end of Morning Tea. You will need your hats, drink bottles and the best attitude you can muster. It is going to be a lot of fun!

B Strong: B Strong is well underway for Term 1, and I am already looking out for interested participants for Term 2! Term 2 will be your last chance to participate in this fantastic program for 2009 as it will be the girls' turn in Term 3 & 4. Don't miss out – let me know if you are interested.

Chappy Cafe: This lunchtime activity program gives 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: Rochedale Prayer Crew meets in the Chaplain's Room at Morning Tea on Mondays. Everyone is welcome, and it would be great to see you there!

**Mr James (jamesh1@chappy.org.au)
School Chaplain**

Thought for the day: 'Always be a first-rate version of yourself, rather than a second-rate version of someone else.'

Library News – Week 8

Borrowing- Prep to Grade 3 please remember to bring your library bags. Grades 4-7 – it would be appreciated if you could use a library bag too.

Visit from Logan North Librarian – Packs were given out to the students in Year 6 and 7 who are not presently members and I would strongly encourage parents to sign the card and form and return both to the school. This will give their child access to a wide range of online resources that Logan Libraries offer as part of their service to the community. If your child is a member of a Brisbane Library please be aware that they too can access a wide range of online services.

Library award – last week's award went to Bailey W of 3T.

Happy Reading
Library Staff

P&C News

Our next meeting will be held in the staffroom 7.30pm, 24th march.

FIRST AID COURSE: The first aid course we ran on the weekend with Mr Mat was a great success. Thank you to all those that attended and thank you to Mr Mat.

Car Park Raffle-LAST TICKETS BEING SOLD THIS WEEK- DRAWN ON FRIDAY PARADE!!

Tired of battling the traffic (or the 'carpark' as it becomes) each morning? Sick of getting your daily exercise in the distant walk once you do get a park? Then we have the solution. Mr Smith has generously donated the use of his car space, yes right outside the admin building, as a raffle prize. We will be running the raffle every term with the first lucky winner being able to use it from the drawing date for the rest of first term until the end of second term! They will have exclusive use of this space complete with registration sign posting, each school day from 8-9am and again from 2.30-3.30pm. Tickets are just \$1 and are available from roving ticket sellers each morning and afternoon. One will be around the prep/ library area and the other around the tuckshop area. Tickets will also be available before parade begins. They will go on sale for 3 weeks starting Tuesday 3/3/09, with

the first drawing at Parade on Friday 20/3/09. So keep your eyes out for the people with the raffle tickets and support the P&C who in turn are supporting your legs & your sanity!

Jetstar Collect 4 schools is back!! – WE ONLY NEED 2 MORE TICKETS!!

If you're planning holidays this year, or you have family and friends that are, or taking a business trip, please make sure you keep your boarding passes. Jetstar is running a promotion to benefit schools where every 25 boarding passes collected can be submitted for one return domestic flight and 50 boarding passes for two return domestic flights. Schools receiving Jetstar flight vouchers might choose to raffle them off for a fundraiser, donate tickets to a family in need, or provide the flights to students competing at interstate school events.

All boarding passes must show travel taken between 19 February, 2009 and 19 May, 2009. The promotion runs until 19 May, 2009 or until the total pool of \$100,000 runs out, whichever is earlier. If you want to find out more, visit jetstar.com/collect4schools.

Please leave all Jetstar boarding passes at the office. Unfortunately last time we missed out on tickets as they were all gone by the time we had collected the necessary amount, so we would really like to succeed this time.

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!

Election Day Sausage Sizzle- The P&C will be hosting a sausage sizzle at the school this weekend for the election. Please come along and support us. We would greatly appreciate any help; even an hour to come and help us would be much appreciated. We will be starting at 7.30am and finishing at 1pm or earlier if we sell out. Please call me if you can volunteer some time.

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

SQUAD NEWS

Well done to all our swimmers who braved the wind and patchy rain to come along to Squad last week! The weather was not too appealing for swimming but the pool is still warm. Now we have some sunshine back so let's make the most of it and have three strong weeks of swimming to end the season. As end of term is approaching, all accounts will need to be finalized soon. Even if you have only missed paying for one or two swims, those one or two swims multiplied by several families will make all the difference to helping us cover our costs. Both Mr Mat and Bronwyn are able to let you know where you are up to as far as fees are concerned.

LEARN TO SWIM

It's great to see the improvements made by all our keen learners! All are gaining confidence and becoming stronger swimmers. Some are even venturing into junior squad. Well done everyone!

For any queries regarding Squad or Learn to Swim, please call Bronwyn on 0409 727 557.

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop will be open with the usual trading hours of Thursday 2:00 - 3.00pm, and Friday 8:00 - 9:00am. Please also note that this is a voluntary position therefore out of hours appointments will be limited. If you are unable to make it to the Uniform shop during normal trading hours, we have a website that you can utilise. Uniform price list and order forms can be downloaded by visiting www.rochedalss.eq.edu.au - and clicking on the words "Uniform Shop" on the left hand side of the page. Once the form is completed, please submit this to the office with your payment and we will process your order that week. You may opt to get your child to pick up the order for you, or it can be sent to class. A receipt will be enclosed with the order. If you are paying by cheque, please make the cheques payable to Rochedale State School, P&C Association.

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. The fee applies whether it's a credit or savings account.** We accept Mastercard and Visa. No refunds or cash out available.

UNIFORM BACK ORDERS.

I have been advised that due to material shortages, there was a delay in shipping the uniforms. We apologise for the inconvenience caused, we are trying our very best to ensure that these delays are minimised, however at times it is beyond our control. We do appreciate your patience. **I have been advised that the girls dresses will arrive on 20 March.** If you have ordered these and have fully paid for them, they will be delivered to your child's class. School Polos are scheduled to be delivered at the end of March. In the meantime, I have been advised by Mr Burton, that if you are waiting for Uniforms, your child may wear a short sleeve shirt either yellow or blue in this instance.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: We are trying to standardise the way we order our uniforms, and as such we have changed our supplier for the School Polos. As you may or may not be aware, the Qld Cancer Council last year has strongly recommended that all school uniforms especially the shirts have a UPF (ultraviolet protection factor) rating of more than 20%. It is stated that the closer the fabric's weave, the higher the *UV radiation protection*. It was also stated that the darker/richer the colour the higher the protection from the sun. Therefore, you will notice a slight change in our School Polos, especially the colour Jacaranda. Please do not panic. This just means that **ALL** our school polos have a UPF Rating of 50+ which gives excellent protection and greater than 97.5% UV blocked. For further information about UPF Ratings, please log on to www.sunsmart.com.au.

OUT OF STOCK 30 Ltr bags will be arriving mid May. I am currently sourcing a new supplier for our bags. Size 12 Waratah Sports Polos. We appreciate your patience.

WINTER UNIFORMS

We are trying to think of new ways of improving our customer service and one of the changes this year is that you are now able to purchase Winter uniforms without ordering them. In saying this, we have only ordered as much as we have sold last year and a little bit extra to cater for the new enrolments. **First in, first served.** If we do run out of stock, you can always place an order. As we have a new

supplier for all our winter gear, you will notice that prices have changed. Better quality, cheaper price. The order form can be printed out on website. For quick reference the following are the prices for our winter uniforms:-

Microfibre Jacket - \$40.00
V neck jumper with logo - \$20.00
Sleeveless vest with logo - \$20.00
Baseball Jacket with logo - \$40.00
Microfibre pants - \$20.00
Fleecy trackpants - \$16.00

Whilst you are able to purchase 'royal blue' winter gear, at a much cheaper price than the one we offer, the advantage of purchasing winter uniforms at Rochedale is the quality of the fabric and its durability, warmth and anti-peel fabric. Apart from the Microfibre, we have our school emblem on our winter uniforms which is a great way for identification, professionalism and a sense of pride.

VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to those of you who have expressed your interest in volunteering at the Uniform Shop. We still require 1 or 2 parents that can volunteer on a Friday, if you are able to spare a few hours on a Friday, please contact me asap.

Roster:

If you are unable to volunteer on your rostered day, please give me a call on 0413 033 093.

19/3 David W., Karen E., Ki Sook K.
20/3 Shirley L., **Volunteer required**
26/3 Karen E., Ki Sook K.
27/3 Shirley L., **Volunteer required**

Please note: We have had a recent systems upgrade. Consequently I have lost all my contacts. If you have tried to contact me via email, and I haven't replied, please accept my apologies. If you are able to re-send your query to Marishell.Scott@eq.edu.au and I will attend to it asap.

Thanks
Mari-shell Scott
Uniform Shop Convenor - *Volunteer*

Parent Prayer Group

The Parent Prayer Group is starting up for the year this week.

The Parent Prayer Group is non-denominational and we would love to welcome anyone who would like to join us on an occasional or regular basis.

We will be meeting *every second* Wednesday afternoon in **The Chaplain's Room** just near the area between the Grade Three classrooms, from 2.30pm till 2.45pm, beginning this week.

Just a reminder, there is a *Prayer Point Box* for use by anyone within the school community who might like the Parent Prayer Group to pray for specific needs. The *Box* (with pens and paper) is located on the CRE Bookshelf in the area between the Grade 3 Classrooms.

Please call us if you have any queries.
Carolyn 3841 2933 or
Robynne 3341 8427