

ROCHEDALE STATE SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER



No. 9 – 23rd March, 2009

Mar	24	P&C Meeting 7.30pm
	25	Yr 7 French Film Excursion
Apr	1	Pizza Day
	9	End of Term 1
	10	Good Friday
	20	Pupil Free Day
	21	Term 2 Commences
	23	School Leaders ANZAC Day Ceremony – ANZAC Square
	24	School ANZAC Day Ceremony 9am Parade
May	29	Brisbane City Council Rochedale Development Information Evening
	7 & 8	Year 4 Maranatha Camp

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Thoughts for the Week

'Associate yourself with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation; for 'tis better to be alone than in bad company.'

– George Washington

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

– Washington Irving

“Near enough, good enough...”

is sadly a term coined in Australia and willingly adopted by many Australians. The term never gained popularity in the tiger economies of East Asia. The term 'near enough, good enough' is naturally obscene when applied to mathematics and pure science, where answers are exact, e.g. exactly right or exactly wrong. Learning new things are by their very nature, hard. They have

always been hard and will always continue to be hard. “Good enough” only applies when students master a subject, when they successfully solve a mathematical equation or have committed to memory chunks of Australian and International history, for example. So how do our children achieve at the “Good Enough” level? Well, they achieve this exalted status through practice, practice and more practice! Schools/Teachers will impart knowledge. Moreover, Teachers will explain formulas, techniques, reasoning, strategies and concepts; i.e. the tools and plans are given to each and every student. Then starts the Practice! If parents do not encourage mathematical tasks from their children – nor let them constantly practice – they will adopt the “Near Enough” idiom in childhood and carry the attitude into adult life. A mother at this school rips the *total amount* line off her shopping docket, gives the top part to her Year 5 child and asks her to add up the 20-25 items. Moreover, she tells me that her child is getting faster and faster all the time. Does the mother accept “Near Enough?” Not at all! If the daughter is out by a few cents or dollars, she is quickly asked to have another go. Another parent at this school asks her son to pick up the UBD Street Directory while they are in the car. “Find Appleby Road, Stafford, please...” The boy leaps into action, follows a formula, finds the street in the index section, commits to memory the page number and co-ordinates and yells *Eureka* to his Mum inside 10-20 seconds. Again, the boy is not “Near Enough”, he is “Good Enough”! After all, Mum did not wish to know where Appleby Road, Maroochydore is! The former two examples may seem trivial. However, in reality, they are not. They are crucial to get the children off the *Near Enough, Good Enough* treadmill of mediocrity. To this end I wish to change the adage to read: NEAR ENOUGH, **NOT GOOD ENOUGH!** Remember, together with your children, practise, practise, practise! Your children's cerebral storehouse capacity is greater than you can imagine. Pack it to the rafters, my friends.

Old meets new

in a host of areas. New players arrive in established teams. Broncos, Brisbane Lions, Cowboys and other teams welcome new players each year. In the corporate world we see similar additions of new team players. Teaching is a profession where transfers frequently occur.

Until a few years ago it was common for new teachers to initially do country service in the outback before being sent up and down the Queensland seaboard's towns and cities. The practice is less common these days. However, we do welcome new teachers to Rochedale State School almost every year. When I refer to our "Teaching Team" there is an equal emphasis on both words. For our new teachers this is most apparent in Term One of each year. They bring to their positions not only their previous teaching experience, but also a willingness to adopt the ethos of our school. The senior staff, in this equation, the staff that has spent a decade or more at Rochedale, is sharing their vast experience with the newcomers. The 'old guard' is simultaneously inspired by new ideas and teaching techniques brought to Rochedale from elsewhere. The fusion of new and old is not automatic. It occurs through team work, mutual respect and overarching professionalism. I am particularly proud to convey that our 2009 Teaching Team, now in its 9th Week of Term One, is singing off the same hymn sheet and reading from the same page. This synthesis does not happen in all schools, nor does it occur in all staff models. Yet, it does occur in our school to the great delight of students, staff and parents. Our dedicated, hardworking and focused 2009 Teaching Team is at the cutting edge of our profession.

Black beaches, dying wildlife...

The media's recent focus on the unfortunate oil spill caused by containers falling off the deck of a foreign ship battling cyclonic winds off Moreton Bay has brought much devastation and misery to South-East Queensland. The cost of the ongoing cleanup, nature restoration and wildlife rehabilitation can only be an educated guess at the moment. This disaster shows how fragile our environment really is. The boundary of our 'little' acreage, Rochedale State School, is a micro environment residing in a much bigger environment such as South-East Queensland. However, would it not be a good idea if we focus on keeping our wonderful school grounds litter free? We are so fortunate in that we have students keen not only to correctly dispose of their own rubbish, but remind other students to do the same. When I hear my dedicated cleaners, Mrs. Rose, Mrs. Potter, Mrs Graham and Ms. Potter tell me that they can focus on cleaning the class rooms as opposed to having to spend hours cleaning the

grounds, I feel great. When parents and visitors alike mention that they are surprised how clean the school grounds are, given the large number of students attending Rochedale State School, I feel even better. We might not be able to do much to arrest a huge disaster such as the recent oil spill on our shores, but we can do much to keep our school environment clean and tidy. From a green Rochedale State School with a hint of autumn in the morning air...

Liam Smith
Principal

CURRICULUM CORNER

There is more to reading than reading the words on the page. Talk to your children about what they are reading. If your child is reading a fiction book, ask them if what they are reading is making a picture in their head.

For the students to show their understanding of what they have read, ask them questions to ensure they are showing an understanding of their reading. Below are different questions, going from answers that are right there in the story to questions that make them think beyond what is in the text.

Right There

Find one like this.

What's this?

What colour is this?

What did the ... say?

What can you see?

Who is this?

The Author and You

What will happen next?

What is ...going to say?

How did he...?

How else could he do it?

How are these the same?

What's your favourite...?

Think and Search

Find one that is ... can...

What's happening?

Who is ...? When did...?

Where's the ...?

What is this for?

Tell me about this thing.

What does this do?

In Your Head

What will happen if he ...?
Why did you pick that one?
How did that happen?
What could he do?
What would you do if ...?
Why is it made of that?
How can we tell?

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

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**

Tues

21/4 Shirley L

Wed

22/4 Suzanne U

Thurs

23/4 Douglas K Amanda C

Fri Interschool Sport

24/4 Kath R Georgina F

Mon

27/4 Amanda R

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

Pizza Day

I know how much you all love Eagle Boy's Pizzas, so we are having a Pizza Day on Wednesday 1st April for Big Lunch. All other food is still available. Enclosed with today's newsletter is an order form. This form must be filled out and returned with money to the tuckshop by Monday, 30th March. The cost will be \$2.80 for a 1/4 size pizza.

ROSHCA Program

Monday

Afternoon Tea	Wraps & Fruit
Craft	Cotton Ball Bunny
Outside Activity	Obstacle Course

Tuesday

Afternoon Tea	Dip, Crackers & Fruit
Craft	Painting
Outside Activity	Handball Competition
Cooking	Gingerbread People

Wednesday

Afternoon Tea	Gingerbread People & Fruit
Craft	Bunny Whiskers
Outside Activity	Little Athletics

Thursday

Afternoon Tea	Fruit Platter & Yoghurt
Craft	Bunny in a Basket
Outside Activity	Cryptic Clue Crawl
Cooking	Coconut Ice

Friday

Afternoon Tea	Coconut Ice & Fruit
Craft	Handprint Craft
Outside Activity	Capture the Flag

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.

Vacation Care

Vacation Care programs are now available from the ROSHCA room. Please ensure the forms and \$20 deposit are back **before** 8/4/09. Also, please return Quality Assurance Surveys by Wednesday 28/3/09.

SUPPORTER READER PROGRAM

We would like to train a group of volunteers as 'Supporter Reader' tutors.

We are looking for people who are able to commit to 3 mornings of the school week between 8.50am and 9.50am during Term 2. The 'Supporter Reader' tutor works with one child at a time focussing on developing reading strategies and confidence. The tutors will be trained and supervised by Jo Burford who is our Learning Support Teacher. Each tutor will be awarded with a certificate for their involvement in this program. The knowledge and satisfaction you gain from working with young children is very rewarding.

The training will be held on Tuesday, 7 April at 9.00am in the school library. If you are interested please ring the school office and leave your name and a daytime contact number.

Calling all artistic children!

Do you want to win a Nintendo Wii **or** a Sony digital camera **or** an 8GB Apple Ipod Nano **or** a Nintendo DS Lite **and** \$500? **PLUS** \$500 for school?

If you do, 'Write4fun' are having a competition. All you have to do is let your creativity go wild on an A4 piece of paper. Use paint, crayons, pencil, charcoal, collage or computer design. Anything you like. There is no theme so you can

create your masterpiece as you please. (Please note no 3D work)

All entries are to be sent to Mrs. Tutin, 3T, by April 30th with your name, age, address and school written clearly on the back.

P&C News

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

Car Park Raffle- And the winner is... The Bromley Family!!! Thank you to all those who took part in this raffle. It was a great success and we have a very happy winner. The Bromley family are now able to park in the winning car park spot until the end of Term 2. Keep a look out for our roving ticket sellers in the last 2 weeks of Term 2 to try your luck for Term 3. A big thank you to our roving sellers Letitia Elliott, our Grade 7 children Samantha, Iyesha, Ben and Jarrod. You all did a great job. I also really want to thank a wonderful parent, Tracy Heath. She very kindly had t-shirts made for our tickets sellers to help make them stand out around the school. It was a great idea and they can now be used each term.

Jetstar Collect 4 schools is back!! We now have enough tickets. Thank you to all those who have brought in the boarding passes. We will now send in our application for our return flight ticket.

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 you order, use our unique code: rss0907. It couldn't be easier!

Election Day Sausage Sizzle- Thank you to all those who came to help on Saturday - Kathy M., Doug K., Mr Smith, Ann M., Andrew M., Kath R., Amanda C., Bronwyn K. and Allan D. I would especially like to thank Jessica D. and Jack M. who came and helped us, setting up, serving and packing up. You guys were great!! Anne Dee, P&C President. Tel: 0402114544 or 3342 5253

SWIMMING NEWS

Please be aware that at the end of this swimming season, all accounts for both Squad and Learn to Swim will need to be finalized. If your family is in credit, you will be entitled to a refund. So if you think you may be in credit, please check with me and I will ask the treasurer to organise a cheque for you. Conversely, if you owe money, please pay.

As I write this, **50 families owe money for Squad or Learn to Swim !** Most of these debts are for less than 5 swims. 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.

Bronwyn, 0409 727 557
Squad and Learn to Swim Co-ordinator

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 appointment will be limited. If you are unable to make it to the Uniform shop during its 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 word "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 the order for you, or this 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

Size 4 & 6 Girls dresses have arrived. If you have ordered and payed for them, they will be

sent to your child's class. The rest of the polos will be arriving at the end of March and will be packed and delivered to your child's class on the 1st week in April.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: We our trying to standardised they 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 our 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 and richer the colour the higher the protection from the sun. Therefore, this means that 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 has 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

are now for sale. For a quick reference, the following are the prices.

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 a '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.

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*

Christian Religious Education (CRE)

News

Student Workbooks

Some parents were unable to purchase the student workbooks for CRE lessons at Underwood News as they had run out of stock. Apparently all student CRE workbooks are now back in stock and are available for purchase.

Please note that Grade 1 students do not need workbooks.

Any queries, please speak to the CRE

Coordinator

Robynne Turner

3341 8427 or 0408 785 494

camrob@iprimus.com.au

Rochedale Rovers Netball

We are looking for girls born in 1996 & 1997 to play in our under 13 team. They play at 2.00pm Saturday afternoon at Underwood Park. If anybody is interested please contact Mandy on 0424 230 226.

National Ride2School Day

This will be held on Wednesday, 25th March. Our school can win fantastic prizes including bikes, helmets, T-shirts and much more. The school gets a free promotional kit including a CD-rom, posters and certificates for participants.

Fundraising Concert

A music concert featuring the Brisbane Regional Youth Orchestra, St Stephens Cathedral Boys Choir, the Young Conservatorium Chorus and Warrigal Road State School will be held at Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 68 Hawthorne Street, Woolloongabba on SUNDAY, MARCH 29TH at 2.00 p.m. Cost is \$8 including afternoon tea. Funds raised will support BRYO and the Lions Medical Research Foundation. Bookings phone 0414 483009 or pay at the door.