Principal’s Report

The wet and wild weather that was predicted has caused minimal disruption to our school. When there is a flood event it is important for people to be informed about school arrangements. The ‘Schoolstream’ app is handy to have on your smart phone and generally if there are any changes I will let the local radio stations know. Also, I know there are a few parents who I can contact who will put information on Facebook for me.

Uniform

I continue to be impressed by our kids every day (and their parents!) when I look at the whole school sitting before me and every single child is in school uniform every day!

Head Lice

There have been a couple of cases of headlice reported to the school by responsible parents in the past week. Please take the time to check your child’s hair regularly, particularly if you notice them scratching, and treat accordingly.

Swimming representatives

Well done Jasper, Campbell and Simone who represented the Small Schools at the Clarence district swimming carnival last Thursday. Although none of our swimmers will progress to the next level, there were some personal best times achieved and all reports about the behaviour and sportsmanship of our students were, as usual, excellent.

Cross-country

Our next sporting challenge will be the cross-country running carnivals. Our school and the small schools carnivals will both be held towards the end of term so the kids should start training now! 5-7 year olds: 1km, 8-10 year olds: 2km and 11-12 year olds: 3km.

Cheers,
Andrew.

Coming Events

Feb 24 - Responsible Pet Program K-2;
Feb 27 - Clean Up Australia – whole school
Mar 17 - Visiting Performance - ‘The Samba Experience’,
  Permission Note attached
Mar 20 – Young Leaders Year 6 – Brisbane Excursion

Copmanhurst Hall Committee AGM

Date: Monday 2nd March 2015
Time: 6.30pm
Venue: Copmanhurst Hall
Contact person: Sandra Fahey, Ph: 6647 3136
New members welcomed!!

Canteen – Roster – Term 1

Feb 23  Tara Newman & Callie Bulman
Mar 2   Paula Clausen & Franca Scalia
Mar 9   Callie Bulman & Casey Williams
Mar 16  Michelle Roberts & Casey Williams
Mar 23  Liz & Rick Heilers
Mar 30  Paula Clausen & Franca Scalia

COPMANHURST PUBLIC SCHOOL’S

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27th

K- 2 Students will clean the school grounds &
3-6 Students will clean around the village starting 1.30pm
Mufti clothes not sport uniform, joggers or boots no thongs.
They will need a pair of gloves, plastic bag and hat!!
Parents are welcome to come along and participate.
The Samba Experience Performance

I give permission for my child/children ................. to attend the Visiting Performance ‘The Samba Experience’ — March 17th, 2015.

Cost per child $4.00 (normally $6 however, the school is subsidising the performance)

I include ............... 

Parent signature:........................

Kiara is about to shave off her wonderful locks to support the Leukaemia Foundation’s World’s Greatest Shave.

The school will support Kiara by having a ‘Crazy Hair Day’ March 17th. Students are asked to bring along a gold coin donation. There will also be delicious cakes for sale and a 10c Ex-Library Book Sale.

Mufti dress, so kids start thinking of what you can do to your hair or wear to support Kiara.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA PERMISSION NOTE

I give permission for my child/children ........................................ to participate in the Clean Up Australian Campaign - Friday, February 27th.

Signature:...........................................
Changes to the NSW Department of Education and Communities Attendance Policy
Friday February 20th 2015

Dear Parents,

This year there have been some changes made to the Attendance Policy which applies to all NSW government schools. It is important that parents are aware of these changes and how they will be affected.

First of all, school is compulsory – it is not an option that kids or parents can choose not to participate in. Children who have a significant number of school absences tend to end up with significant gaps in their learning. This has been shown to lead to significant disadvantage in later life.

Sometimes children will need to miss school due to illness or other acceptable reasons. When this happens the school needs to be contacted as soon as possible, with a note to the child’s teacher, explaining the nature of the absence.

Please take note of the points below which outline Attendance Policy procedures for schools and families to follow:

4.1.2
Parents are required to explain the absences of their children from school promptly and within seven school days to the school. An explanation for absence must be provided to the school within 7 days from the first day of any period of absence

4.2.2
Principals will ensure the school has effective measures in place to monitor and follow up student absences

4.2.3
Principals or their delegate will undertake all reasonable measures to contact parents promptly and within two school days of an absence being unexplained, if contact has not already been made. An absence is unexplained if parents have failed to provide an explanation to the school within 7 days.

4.2.5
Principals, must ensure that for students with attendance problems, the learning and support needs of those students are addressed in consultation with parents
4.2.6
Principals are responsible for ensuring that when frequent absences are explained as being due to illness that:

• consultation occurs with parents regarding the health care needs of the student

• medical certificates are sought for the absences

• consultation occurs with medical professionals regarding the student’s health care needs and strategies are developed to address the student’s learning and support needs to ensure their attendance at school.

4.2.8
Principals, must ensure that any matter relating to school attendance where safety, welfare or wellbeing concerns for the student arise:

• consideration is given to the requirements of the Protecting and Supporting Children and Young People Policy

• all required reports are made to the Community Services Child Protection Helpline or the Child Wellbeing Unit (as required by the Mandatory Reporter Guide).

**Bottom line:**

- A note must be sent in to your child’s teacher explaining their absence from school.
- If a note isn’t received after 7 days, schools are required to send a note home requesting an explanation.
- If a child’s absences are frequent and explained as illness, schools may need to consult with parents and doctors over the health care needs of the child and a medical certificate may be requested.
- Frequent unexplained or unjustified absences, particularly where there are safety, wellbeing or welfare concerns, may lead to reports being made to the Community Services Child Protection Helpline or the Child Wellbeing Unit (as required by the Mandatory Reporter Guide).

These measures will be taken in the interests of our children. Please don’t be offended when a note is sent home requesting an explanation of absences – it is what we must do. If there are issues relating to student absences, these need to be discussed with the school as early as possible in order to find a suitable solution.

Cheers,

Andrew