Dear Parents, Students and Community Members,

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

We are already half way through the term with many teachers now having their students complete the first range of unit assessments to gauge the success of teaching thus far. During the term our teachers also like to complete a reading assessment on your child in order for us to track progress throughout the year. In years Prep, One and Two we use a tool called PM to assess reading levels whilst in other year levels we are introducing a tool called Probe to assess the children.

The last couple of weeks have not provided us with the best weather and it is particularly challenging in schools when we cannot let the children out to play. Generally the wet weather has forced us to remain indoors or under shelter. Of course with so many students playing in confined spaces there is added pressure for students not to intrude on other students handball games or the like. It really asks students to exercise great self-control and be cooperative and understanding of the situation. The great majority of our students are fantastic, however, there will always be a couple of transgressors. I’ve made it very clear to the students that I will not tolerate any form of physical aggression towards another student. No one comes to school to be placed in situations where they may be hurt or injured. Students who do not cooperate will find themselves facing a lengthy suspension from the school. I urge parents to support me by counselling children about the need to harness their aggression.

Swimming commenced this week for the students in years two, four and six. Swimming is conducted over at the Guardian Angels pool with lessons provided by our own PE staff, Ms. Mitchell-Cowen and Mr. Alexander and two other qualified instructors. The swimming program runs for six weeks so it is important that students not miss any of the lessons. The year four classes have their lessons on a Monday which is a challenge for all to remember to include swimming attire in bags of a Monday morning.

Last week our junior school deputy, Mrs Dendrinos, organised an information session for parents of students in Prep. It was a healthy attendance considering the inclement weather and parents would have left with some new knowledge of the teaching and learning that takes place in our junior school. More of these sessions will take place during the year. Watch out for news regarding these sessions and try to attend where possible. The Preps have been with us for five weeks now and their development in such a short time has been phenomenal. I’ve shared with you the news of the phonogram program which is being run in our junior classes to teach initial sounds to help students with their reading, writing, spelling and vocabulary development. The Preps can tell me the three sounds that “A” makes and the three sounds that “O” makes as well as many others. Try it out yourself if you have a child in Prep.

As part of our Workplace Health and Safety commitments we have in place evacuation procedures at the school for events such as fire or bomb threats. This is a required part of safety practice in every single school. We also have a procedure called “lockdown” which is invoked in times of threats from parents or members of the general public who come into schools and act in a manner that requires police intervention. We practice these regularly to assess our procedures and ensure children are adept in carrying out drills efficiently. Don’t be alarmed if your child comes home and reports that an evacuation drill has been called – it will occur each term. If parents are in the school during our drills we ask them to be a participant in our drills. One of our staff will direct you to the assembly area.
Next week we have the ceremony to present badges of office to our school leaders and school councillors. This will be held Monday afternoon.

Have a great weekend,
Mike Kelly

CLASS AWARDS (SENIOR PARADE)
Mia and William – 4A, Maia and Matthew – 4B, Lilijana, Angus, Jayden and Jasmine – 4C
Jacob and Ella – 5B, Tiah and Summer – 5C, Rawiri and Julia – 5D, Ashleigh and Alex – 5/6A
Mia and Felisi – 6A, Sean and Adam – 6B, Maddison and Nicholas – 6C, Sophie and Olivia – 6D

GOTCHA’S
Ella – 5B, Tahlia – 5B and Rebecca – 6C

WHOLE SCHOOL PARADE
Monday, 2 March 2015 - 2:10pm
Badge Presentation for School Leaders

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<th>Presenters</th>
<th>Sharing Items</th>
<th>Social Skill</th>
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NEWS FROM THE P&C
Come along and be inspired by a dynamic group of parents doing great things for your school. The Arundel P&C will be holding their Annual General Meeting on Monday 9th March at 3:30pm in the staff room. These meetings are informative and interactive - everyone is welcome to attend and contribute. The committee positions will be up for election so if you are interested in nominating yourself or someone else for a position, please complete the form below and return to the school office in an envelope labelled P&C. Positions include President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Grants Officer, Database Manager. We will also be introducing a Social Media Secretary position.

You may not want to be on the committee but you can come along anyway and contribute as much or as little as you are able. Refreshments will be served.

P&C Election Nomination Form:
I, ______________________________________ wish to
nominate ______________________________________ for the position of _______________________________
on the Arundel State School P&C Committee.
Signed: ______________________________________
Dated: ______________________________________
Mobile contact no: ______________________________

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Emershay PHOTOGRAPHY

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LIBRARY NEWS

Library Opening Times
The library is open to students and parents from 8:30 in the morning to borrow and quietly read. It is also open for exchanging books after school Monday to Thursday. Lunchbreak opening times are: Year 1 and 2 - Tuesday and Thursday 2nd break, Year 3 – Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 1st Break, Year 4 – Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 1st Break, Year 5 – Monday and Thursday 1st Break and Year 6 – Monday and Tuesday 1st Break.

Book Club
The library offers students the opportunity to purchase books through Scholastic Book Club. Brochures will go home via student’s classroom teacher. Issue 2 will be handed out this week. Completed order forms are to come to the library by the due date. This date will be placed on the school’s website. A notice will also be placed in/near the student’s classroom and at the library. Payment can only be via credit card online or by phone (option 2), or a cheque or money order made out to Scholastic Australia (option 4). We are unable to accept cash (option 3). We have not opted-in to LOOP as yet, so option 1 is not available. Issue 2 is due to the library by Tuesday 10 March.

COMPLETION OF ORAL HEALTH (DENTAL) SERVICES
Gold Coast Oral Health Services have completed dental check-ups and treatments for eligible children at this school.

If you have not arranged for your child to receive a free dental check-up please telephone the Oral Health Client Service Centre -

1300 300 850
Monday – Friday 8.00 am – 4.30 pm
Don’t wait to treat a problem, arrange a check-up for your child at least once a year.

* Eligibility – All Queensland resident children aged four years or older who have not completed year 10 of secondary school. Further information on public funded oral health services can be accessed via URL:

NEWS FROM 4A
As Mother Nature seemed to be in a more reasonable mood on Monday, the class of 4A was the first cab off the rank to travel by bus to the Ashmore Pool for swimming lessons. The children were divided into 3 groups, which were under the strict supervision and instruction of professional coaches, one of whom is an international coach. Not only did they benefit from the coaching and exercise, they seemed to really enjoy the outing.

Back in the classroom, the students are striving industriously to improve their speed and accuracy in their basic facts and operations. They are also looking to expand their vocabulary, and to be as descriptive in their writing as they can.

In history, we are studying exploration and colonisation. We are all fascinated and in awe at the bravery and skill of the explorers in the 15th century. The class is also thoroughly enjoying the new skills they are learning in technology, which involves embedding a voki on their EdStudio.

Time is certainly flying by and Easter will soon be upon us. Until then, we’ll continue to strive to reach our individual potential.

PE NEWS
Learn to Swim and Life Saving Units have commenced for Year 2, 4 and 6. Thank you to parents for their great response in returning permission forms and payments. Haven’t returned your form yet? It’s not too late. Extra swimming permission forms are available at the front office. Any exclusion from this assessable PE program requires a note from parents.

Arundel School Swimming Team
On Wednesday 18th February I had the pleasure of accompanying and managing a small group of swimmers who had qualified to swim at the Broadwater Districts swimming carnival at the newly completed Southport Aquatic Centre. Congratulations to Ocean, Ricquelle, Emily, Jasymne, Sophie and Noah. You all swam extremely well in your events and did the school proud, not only in your efforts but behaviour as well. From this carnival we have 2 students who have now qualified to swim at the South Coast Regional carnival, which is a fantastic achievement as the qualifying times were decreased this year making it harder. Congratulations Ricquelle and Noah.
Everyone at Arundel wishes you well at this event. Swim fast and have fun. I would also like to thank Mrs Salmon for assisting on the day and all of the wonderful parents that made my job an enjoyable one. Mrs Whybrow

‘Go’n’Run’ starting Tuesday 10th March 8:00am-8.30am
Go ’n’ Run is an incentive badge running program and Arundel State School is taking on this running program to help improve our general fitness levels. A child can choose to walk or run and their aerobic fitness will still improve with consistent weekly sessions. Sessions occur on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8:00am. First session is Tuesday 10th March on the School oval. Encourage your child to set a badge distance goal for the term. When they reach set goal distances, children purchase a low cost iron on-badge which acknowledges the distance travelled by the individual and iron it on their school hat. Students participating in this program should show a positive change in their aerobic fitness, attitude, weight and concentration levels. Acquiring these badges assists students to set attainable goals. Students purchase a badge at 10, 25, 50, 75, 100, 125, 150, 175, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450 and even 500 kilometres.

Soccer X is back - Year 3-6 Development Program starting Wednesday 4th March 2015 for 5 weeks for $50. Why choose Soccer-X? As well as fun filled Soccer sessions, players learn new skills and techniques and also improve social skills, team building, fitness and a sense of achievement. For more information call Justyn on 0451 162 346 or email Soccer.au@gmail.com

Breakpoint Tennis - Exciting new tennis program! Spaces available for Prep & Year 1 at 3.00-3.30pm. First 2 lessons free. Call Peta Starr 0411 866 069 to book.

TUCKSHOP
Online ordering via Flexischools (www.flexischools.com.au) is the best way to order lunch for your child/ren. Flexischools ordering is so convenient – you can place your orders anytime up to 3 weeks in advance or set recurring orders for the same day each week. There is a computer available at the front counter of the tuckshop for you to access flexischools if you don’t have ready access at home or on your phone. We are more than happy to help... if you have any queries, please let us know.