From the Principal’s Desk

Welcome to all of our families, both new and returning. Thank you to those who took the time to come to the meet and greet on Tuesday afternoon. It was wonderful to see so many parents and staff there with an informal opportunity to meet and talk.

Today is officially Day 8 of the school year and ‘census’ day for enrolment numbers. By midday today I have to list all students enrolled in all year levels, who have been attending this year. Our total number of primary enrolments is 206 and our secondary enrolment is 110, making our total student numbers 316. Based on these numbers a ninth primary class will be formed. The new class arrangements will commence on Monday 6 February.

Thank you to all parents who responded to my earlier letter, indicating this possibility. All primary parents will receive a letter tomorrow indicating the slightly revised model from that published earlier in the week and in which classes their children will be. Where possible parent requests have been considered, however it is not always possible to meet those requests.

Our newsletter is taking on a slightly different feel with a focus on a particular primary class, subject area and new staff member as well as the regular reminders for upcoming events. The subject area article this week will focus on Reading. Our improvement agenda for the year is firmly focused on reading. Our whole school targets are:

- 100% of students achieving the national minimum standard in Reading in NAPLAN
- 85% of students achieving A to C levels of achievement in English
- Increasing the percentage of students achieving the Upper 2 bands of Reading in NAPLAN by 10%.

Teachers have been requested to set individual reading learning goals for all students, enact our pedagogical framework which incorporates explicit instruction and focus on all aspects of the literacy continuum.

Later this year, our school will have a quadrennial review. Two or three reviewers from the department’s school review unit will visit the school for a couple of days, interviewing staff, students and parents and looking at all of our documentation and data. Based on their findings against the nine school improvement areas, the reviewers provide a report which then forms the basis for our strategic plan for the next four years.

The nine school improvement categories are:

- Analysis and discussion of data
- A culture that promotes learning
- An explicit improvement agenda
- Systematic curriculum delivery
- Effective pedagogical practices
- Expert teaching team
- Targeted use of school resources
- School and community partnerships
- Differentiated teaching and learning

I look forward to continuing the strong school and community partnerships that already exist. Our P and C Association is heavily involved in supporting our school through a range of fund raising including the Chip Van at the show, book club and book fair, mother’s day and father’s day stalls, and the mango fundraiser as well as this year’s major fund raiser the Rock’n’Rods planned for August 26. The AGM of P and C association is Tuesday 14 February at 5.30 pm in the school library/resource centre.

The performing arts are alive and well here at Millmerran. A couple of our secondary teachers have planned an acting opportunity for our secondary students, by putting on a play in term two, which is really exciting. Miss Licence is also organising singing opportunities by offering to lead a choir. Our instrumental program is already up and running with band rehearsing earlier this week. Term three will have a dance focus, just in time for Rock’n’Rods.

You may have noticed that the basketball hoop has been relocated at the end of cricket nets, the volleyball posts have been shifted and netball posts have reappeared. Along with our focus on swimming this term, we hope to encourage students to participate in a range of sporting opportunities.

I would like to thank all students who were prepared to take on leadership positions and delivered wonderful speeches at various times over the last weeks of last year and the beginning of this year.

Our investiture of 2017 leaders will be held on 22 February at 10 am in the school hall. Our school captains also receive invitations to a mayoral morning tea in Toowoomba in the weeks leading up to our investiture. Nominations for the positions of school councillors will be finalised in week 3, due to the changes in our primary class structure. 2017 is going to be a great year.

Ms Jenny Kent
Principal
DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY
Friday 3………………………………..Playgroup: 9-11am
Friday 10……………………….….….Swimming Carnival
Friday 10………………………………..Playgroup: 9-11am
Tuesday 14……………………………..P&C AGM
Wednesday 15…………Native Bee Presentation
Thursday 16……Primary Leaders’ Mayoral Morning Tea
Friday 17………………ID Primary Swimming Carnival
Friday 17…………………………….Playgroup: 9-11am
Tuesday 21……..DD Swimming Carnival 13-19yrs
Wednesday 22………………….Leaders’ Investiture
Thursday 23….Sec Leaders’ Mayoral Morning Tea
Friday 24…………………………….Playgroup: 9-11am

SWIMMING PERMISSION NOTES
Please return these as soon as possible.
Thankyou.

STRIVE
Fluency, Phonics and phonemic awareness, Comprehension, Vocabulary and Knowledge of the World are often identified as the five pillars of reading. This year at Millmerran State P-10 School we will be focusing on each of these pillars. This week I want to share with you what we will be doing when we focus on vocabulary.

Strive is an explicit teaching approach for vocabulary development. All students across the school will be involved in STRIVE vocabulary instruction this term. Each week teachers will focus on five words and explicitly teach the meaning of these words using a formal definition as well as a user friendly definition. Children will have daily exposure to these words through a series of activities.

Why not ask your children, what are their five STRIVE words for this week.

Congratulations to our School Leaders for 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Piper Girdler</td>
<td>School Captain and Gore House Vice Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Lindemayer</td>
<td>School Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophia Antonio</td>
<td>Primary School Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travis Gibbs</td>
<td>Primary School Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Briese</td>
<td>Gore House Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Antonio</td>
<td>Gore House Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kahra Connors</td>
<td>Fletcher House Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyle Commens</td>
<td>Fletcher House Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott Grundon</td>
<td>Gore House Vice Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eden Strickland</td>
<td>Fletcher House Vice Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harry Casey</td>
<td>Fletcher House Vice Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taitum McConville</td>
<td>Primary School Vice Captain and Gore Primary House Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chais Pearson</td>
<td>Primary School Vice Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olivia Lawlor</td>
<td>Fletcher House Primary Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan Fletcher</td>
<td>Fletcher House Primary Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Cann</td>
<td>Gore House Primary Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma Christensen</td>
<td>Gore House Primary Vice Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelsie Wilkes</td>
<td>Fletcher Primary House Vice Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kai Ratana</td>
<td>Fletcher Primary House Vice Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malachi Stewart</td>
<td>Gore Primary House Vice Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma Fletcher</td>
<td>Band Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zane Linwood</td>
<td>Band Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imogen Linwood</td>
<td>Primary Band Captain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3/4D News

Welcome to 3/4D!! Term 1 is busy with many events involving 3/4D including the swimming carnival, cross country, show entries, voting for school leaders (including a Year 4 student council representative from our class!), school photos and preparing for Naplan.

This term we will be learning about Persuasive Writing in English, Celebrations and Commemorations in History and in Science we will be learning about living, non-living and once living things.

Students born in 2007 and 2008 will be participating in the School Swimming Carnival on Friday 10th February, the School Cross Country held at the Golf Club and all the track and field events in the School Sports Day coming up in Term 2. Students born in 2009 will participate in the Little Legends Swimming Carnival which will be held in Term 4, the Junior Cross Country which will be held on the school oval and will be in the sprints, relays and ball games at the School Sports Day which will be coming up in Term 2.

Homework has already begun and home readers are changed each day except Fridays. Spelling homework will begin next week, folders are sent home on Mondays and are to be returned for testing on Thursdays. Homework is sent home on Mondays and is collected and marked on Fridays. Number Facts homework will start in a fortnight and will be tested on Fridays. Some students are expected to do sight words homework as well. Sight Words are tested and sent home on Mondays. If you have any queries about homework, please contact me on 46953333.

3/4D’s library day is Friday so please remind your child to return their library book each Friday!

Swimming lessons for 3/4D are held on Thursdays from 11.20 am – 12 noon and started today. Parent helpers are needed, so if you are available, please come along and please note – parents are not always required to get in the pool with the students. Also if your child has not returned their swimming note, they will not be permitted to go to the pool for the carnival or lessons. Please ensure your child has their swim bag on Thursdays containing their togs, sun shirt, towel, goggles and sunscreen.

Congratulations to the winners of our Australia Day colouring in competition – 1st Rhianna Gaal, 2nd Hannah Lawlor and 3rd Gwyneth Fernando.

Some students still don’t have all their necessary school supplies for the year. Please check with your child to ensure they have all the equipment and books needed for this year’s learning.

We will also be working on art and handwriting pieces for the Millmerran Show which is held on Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th March at the Millmerran Showgrounds.

Finally, don’t forget Parade is held on Friday afternoons from 2.25 pm onwards at the hall and all parents are most welcome to attend. Please note – parade will begin this Friday. I wonder who the first student of the week for 3/4D in 2017 will be???

Thanks for reading!
Jo Dines

If you have any spare broadbrimmed /bucket hats at home you are not using, we would love you to send them into school to help support sun safety!

Thankyou.

Friday 10th February
Looking forward to a very exciting carnival and all the students having a go!
Remember - drink plenty of water, hat, sunshirt, sunscreen and snack regularly,
Parents - If you are able to help out with timekeeping during the day please see Mrs Van.
Thankyou!
REMEMBER - STUDENTS NEED TO RETURN THEIR TUCKSHOP ORDER BY WED. 8TH FEB.
NO TUCKSHOP AT SCHOOL ON THE DAY.
HOW DO YOU FEEL WHEN YOU LOOK IN THE MIRROR?

The culture of body loathing and body shaming has reached epic proportions worldwide.

Lose weight, reduce wrinkles, fight cellulite; we’re constantly told to fight a battle to be someone other than who we are. EMBRACE is a social impact documentary that explores the issue of body image.

Told from the point of view of director, Taryn Brumfitt, as she traverses the globe talking to experts, women in the street and well-known personalities, this film explores the alarming rates of body image issues that are seen in people of all body types, and the possible solutions.

Special local screening of this inspiring film, proudly brought to you by Millmerran Wellness:

6pm Wednesday 8th February 2017
Millmerran Sports Centre

Tickets $5pp, including drinks and nibbles
Health and wellness discussion forum to follow the film.
For more information phone Holly: 0411 954 513
Postcard Competition
Design a Postcard to acknowledge students for the great things they achieve throughout 2017.

Divisions:
Year 1 to Year 3
Year 4 to Year 6
Year 7 to Year 10

Paper size must be A4 - landscape. May be computer generated or hand designed.

Entries close Friday 10th February.

Playgroup
Held every Friday
The first playgroup session will be held on Friday the 3rd of February
9:00—11:00 am
In the School Hall
See you there!

Come along and try out the great game of footy.
When: Wednesday 8th February
Time: 3.00pm - 4.30pm
Free sausage sizzle
Where: Millmerran Football Grounds (behind pool)

Meet David Fa’aloga (past South Sydney, NZ player)

Registrations are now open for this upcoming season of rugby league. We look forward to welcoming new and returning players to our new look, new name, club. Our Junior Rugby League Club offers teams from Under 7’s through to Under 16’s. We are also looking for girls interested in playing the Under 16’s Leaguetag team. Girls from 11 to 16 years are eligible to play. Call 0427 715 258 with enquiries.
Meet the teacher

Hi! My name is Miss Anderson and I am very excited to be joining the team at Millmerran State School. I am thrilled to be the Health and Physical Education and Year 8 Maths teacher, and I am looking forward to a year of learning, fun and adventure. I can’t wait to learn more about the community and the school but for now I will tell you a little about myself.

I was born in Townsville and moved approximately every 3 years until high school where I went to boarding school in Brisbane. I taught swimming in Brisbane for 15 years at a number of swimming schools. I completed a Bachelor of education at Griffith University as a mature age student. I have taught a variety of subjects and year levels over the past six years at three different schools Richmond State School, Bluewater State School and most recently Capella State School).

I have family nearby and I also have grown up in Dalby, Tara, Warwick and Kingaroy. As a child I spent a lot of time in Goondiwindi, Toowoomba and Laidley. I really enjoy the Darling Downs area and I am looking forward to a positive and exciting new year.

I can’t wait to meet you all and start the new year.

A FEW OF MY FAVOURITE THINGS

- Favourite Colour: Blue
- Favourite Subject: Math and HPE
- Favourite Fruit: Lychee and Mango
- Favourite Food: Chocolate
- Favourite Drink: Ginger beer
- Favourite Animal: My dog Freckles and Wombats
- Favourite Hobbies: Gardening and Swimming
- Favourite Movie: Holiday
- Favourite Books: Biographies
- Favourite Holiday Destination: Iceland

Dental Van
For any enquires please call 0408 382 466.
The van number for our school is 38/151.

R.C PLUMBING & GAS
0400 348 045
- MAINTENANCE / BLOCKED DRAINS
- ROOFING / GUTTERING / FACIA
- NEW INSTALLATIONS
- GAS FITTING

Carinloch Cabinets
ABN: 30 375 081 307
Address: “Carinloch” MS 720 Millmerran, QLD, 4357
Phone: (07) 4695 1115
Fax: (07) 4695 1117
Mobile: 0427 008 739
Hello, my name is Fiona Flegler, and I am your School Based Youth Health Nurse. Many new parents may not be familiar with my role, as Youth Health Nurses are only based in State High Schools. I have been the Youth Health Nurse here for over 10 years and facilitate a variety of initiatives in the HIGH SCHOOL only (years 7-10), to promote positive health and well-being at Millmerran SS.

I am an employee of Queensland Health, and service Pittsworth State High School TWO days per week and at Millmerran State School ONE day per week. I am a Registered General and Mental Health Trained Nurse, with my service available to ALL HIGH SCHOOL students, parents and staff of the School.

What do I do? How can I help you?
Fiona provides confidential support, guidance and advice, and generally just someone to talk to…. to any HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT (years 7 -10), their parents or staff members within the School. You can make an appointment to see Fiona in private to talk about issues which may be worrying you such as:

- bullying; depression and mental health;
- friendship issues;
- family breakdown;
- general health concerns;
- sexual health;
- eating & nutrition issues;
- relationships - personal and/or family problems;
- smoking, alcohol &/or drug use;
- feeling unhappy or stressed;
- puberty & growing up;
- or just simply to assist you to get in touch with the right external community service……. basically anything that affects a HIGH SCHOOL (years 7-10) student, parent or staff member’s general well-being.

Confidentiality is a major issue for young people seeking health information and advice. The SBYHN is a ‘neutral person’ within the school system, and as an employee of Queensland Health, adheres to a strict confidentiality policy which is discussed at the start of each appointment.

Do you need a referral?
No referral is required. Just simply contact Fiona or the school to make an appointment.

How do I make an appointment?
Fiona is available every Thursday. Students are able to make appointments themselves via the School Office. Alternatively, parents are also able to make appointments with Fiona by phoning the School on 46953333.

What other things does the School Youth Health Nurse do?
Delivers health promotion and education sessions and programs to students, staff & parents including classroom education, health days and various other opportunities to promote positive health and well-being within the school.

Where am I in the School?
My office is located upstairs in the Secondary School block with Student Support Services and I am at the School every THURSDAY. I can be contacted on these days by phoning 46953333.

Look forward to seeing you in 2017.

Fiona Flegler
School Based Youth Health Nurse
Qld Health
2017 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS

Once again this year we offer students the opportunity to participate in these International Competitions. Students may choose to do all or any number of assessments offered, or to simply choose the subject they enjoy the most. Participating gives students another experience in testing conditions and helps to build up confidence in these situations. Every student entering ICAS receives a certificate acknowledging their participation.

Please write your child’s/children’s name in the column next to the Learning Area you would like them to participate in. Please send total payment of cash/cheque by Friday 24th March, to the school office with completed form in an envelope marked with students names.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Area</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Name of Student sitting test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>Wednesday 24 May</td>
<td>3 to 10</td>
<td>$ 8.00</td>
<td>1, 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Wednesday 31 May</td>
<td>2 to 10</td>
<td>$ 8.00</td>
<td>1, 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Wednesday 14 June</td>
<td>3 to 7</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
<td>1, 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing-</td>
<td>Wednesday 13 June</td>
<td>3 to 10</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
<td>1, 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Wednesday 2 August</td>
<td>2 to 10</td>
<td>$ 8.00</td>
<td>1, 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Wednesday 16 August</td>
<td>2 to 10</td>
<td>$ 8.00</td>
<td>1, 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL MONEY ENCLOSED</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Players turning 8 years and up are invited to join the Pittsworth & District Wildcats Netball Club.

We are affiliated with the Toowoomba Netball Association and will compete in the 2017 Saturday fixtures.

Registration is to be done online. Uniforms and membership to be paid for on this day.

Please bring Birth Certificate and Medical Details if applicable.

Date:
Thursday 9th February 2017

Time:
3.00pm-5.30pm

Where:
Club Pittsworth
Short St

Pittsworth & District Wildcats Netball Club
Incorporated

Contact persons:
Belinda McKinlay
0427932033

www.nprsrlnd.gov.au
‘Vocal Buzz’
Choir Workshop
Year 6 - 12
Pittsworth Function Centre
Thursday, 16 February - Saturday, 18 February 2017

Thursday, 16 February 2017: 3.30pm – 9.00pm
Friday, 17 February 2017: 3.30pm – 9.00pm
Saturday, 18 February 2017: 9.00pm – 5.00pm

Talented senior primary and secondary school singers are invited to participate in a three-day choral workshop – ‘Vocal Buzz’. This is an awesome opportunity for young adults to get together to learn new songs, experiment with harmonies and perform in a high quality vocal ensemble.

Cost: $5.00 per person (payable on arrival)
Meals: BYO (kitchen and microwave available)
Requirements: USB, water bottles, meals and snacks
Concert: 3.00pm Saturday, 18 February (gold coin donation)
Performance Uniform: Black, white and red

To register for ‘Vocal Buzz’,
please email Beth Wheeldon bwhee1@eq.edu.au

RSVP: Friday, 3 February 2017
[Please return Registration Form with RSVP.]
QUEENSLAND CRICKET
COMMUNITY
COACHING COURSE

All coaches & parents throughout the Darling Downs are welcome.

Date: Sunday 19th February 2017
Time: 9am – 4pm
Cost: $120
Females Free
Venue: Heritage Oval, Toowoomba

Register at: www.community.cricket.com.au/coach/courses/

For further information contact: Anna Paton—0419 725 884
Anna.Paton@qldericket.com.au

DUNLOP
SUPER DEALER

Jason Elborne
Elborne’s Tyres
83-85 Campbell St
Millmerran
Queensland 4357
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Fax: 07 4695 2700
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ja88540@bigpond.net.au

Call 131 631 for your nearest store

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MILLMERRAN PHARMACY

43 CAMPBELL STREET, MILLMERRAN

OPEN
Monday to Friday- 8:30am- 5:30pm
Saturday- 8:30am- 12:00pm

Phone: (07) 46951458
Fax: (07) 46951178