Drama Club Shows the Way

Students in Years 5, 6 and 7 have been performing skits on our whole school parade this term. These students are part of our Drama Club. The topics of our plays have been based on our school’s Behavioural Expectations.

By Gabbie Dhu

The first play was called ‘Cinderella and the Four Step Plan’. In the play, Cinderella showed how the Four Step Plan could be used to stop the Ugly Step Sisters from teasing her in class. Holly Biddle played the role of Cinderella. “This has been a great way for the Preppies to understand the Four Step Plan,” Holly said.

Bianca Butt’s group presented a story to the students talking about the importance of wearing our school uniform properly. When asked about what she felt her play’s message was, Bianca said “I wanted to show the students that school’s not a place for wearing the latest fashions.” Bianca made the mistake of wearing (her mum’s) high heels on the day that her class went on an excursion. She even performed her own stunts, tripping over some of the props her team put on the stage.

Overall, we look forward to doing more drama performances at future school parades.

Year 6/7 Camp Fundraising  
Easter Raffle

The Walkerston State School P&C have authorized an Easter Raffle which is to be drawn in the last week of this term. All profits will go towards fundraising for the year 6/7 Sydney/Canberra school trip.

All year 6/7 students are asked to donate an Easter egg product. Hampers will be made up to be raffled. All donations need to be handed into their class teacher as soon as possible. Raffle tickets will be sent home to year 6/7 students to sell. If you require any extra tickets to sell they will be available from the school office. Your support for this fundraising event is greatly appreciated.
**Principal’s Report**

**Seniors’ Sydney/Canberra Trip**

The Senior Students Team is currently finalising planning for the Sydney/Canberra Trip. Currently, here are the guidelines under which they are planning:

- A maximum of 50 students can go. We have more than this number of students in Years 6 and 7, but are restricted by bus sizes. Places can be booked on payment of a deposit. A waiting list will be created for any students who don’t make it into the first fifty.
- Only students with good behaviour records will be allowed to go on the trip. Any student with major behaviour incidents recorded against their name in 2014 should see Mr Horton to determine if they will be allowed to go before paying their deposit. Principal’s decision on this is final. Needless to say, now that this expectation has been published in the school newsletter, any student suspended from school from this point on will definitely not be going.
- A meeting will be held to inform parents of details, including costing, at 6pm on Thursday 27th March. It is hoped that a Committee will be formed at this meeting to assist in fundraising activities.

The P&C has already given the go-ahead for two fundraising activities to help cover some of the trip’s cost: an Easter raffle and a disco.

**Student Performance: no alarms, no surprises**

In an earlier newsletter, I mentioned that the school had received considerable funding to improve our learning outcomes, in the form of the Great Results Guarantee. To better ensure that we are able to meet the outcomes of the Guarantee, we’ve adopted a no alarms or surprises attitude. In other words, we are taking a number of other steps to improve the flow of information to parents to ensure that you are informed as early as possible that your son or daughter is not on track to pass Maths or English.

First, staff will be contacting parents, either via phone or Communication Books, if their child has failed an assessment item for Maths or English. This is so you can receive an early heads-up if your child is at risk of not passing either of these two subjects at the end of Semester. Currently, staff are also busy completing Interim Reports for the very first time. Again, the intent will be to ensure you have some indication as to how your child is going in the subjects studied in class during Term 1, as well as their progress in Reading Comprehension, Reading Fluency, and Writing. These reports will be ready for the end of term, and then Week 2 of Term 2 will be dedicated to parent-teacher interviews. I will speak more at length about this in the next newsletter.

**The school’s Parents and Citizen’s Association: your chance to have your say**

Over the past two weeks I have been fortunate to sit in on the P&C’s AGM and its first official meeting for the year. I was certainly impressed by how thoughtful and welcoming the association was, and it really made clear to me the importance of clear two-way communication between parents and the school. If, much like me, you are new to the school community and want to make a long term commitment, I can strongly recommend attending the next meeting to get a feel for the matters being discussed and have a chance to have your views heard.

Our P&C President’s report gives a summary of the matters that the group are currently looking at.

**School Expectations: uniform and behaviour**

Following on from Gabby’s front-page story about the drama performances that the students have been doing, I have included below the latest two expectations that staff have shared with students in their Rapid Recall Routines.

Last week the focus was on wearing the school uniform properly and stressed the reasons why students should wear their uniform properly.

As noted in the P&C President’s report, we are currently reviewing our uniform policy to ensure there is clarity about what the school community considers to be appropriate to wear to school. I don’t want to pre-empt anything that the P&C decides upon, but could I stress here that it would be inadvisable to purchase any colourful jumper or jacket with the expectation that a child will be able to wear it at school during the winter months. This week, students have been reminded of the importance of ‘put ups’, not ‘put downs’. As students become more familiar of Our Four Step Plan, they should be realising that it empowers them to clearly say to someone else that they want teasing, bullying or harassing behaviour to stop. The flip-side of that, however, is that any student who makes a ‘put down’ is getting the clear

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Walkerston SS Behaviour Expectation for: SCHOOL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wearing School Uniform Properly</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Don’t Do</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrive at school in incorrect uniform.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wear your uniform in an untidy, unkempt fashion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wear unsafe footwear to school.</td>
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McColl Street, Walkerston 4751 • Telephone (07) 4959 4333 • Fax (07) 4959 3111
E-mail admin@walkerstonss.eq.edu.au • Web http://walkerstonss.eq.edu.au
**Walkerston SS Behaviour Expectation for: SCHOOL**

**Wearing School Uniform Properly**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Don’t Do</th>
<th>Try This Instead</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arrive at school in incorrect uniform.</td>
<td>If for some reason you come to school in the wrong pants or shoes, come see the staff in the Office – we’ll do our best to make sure you have a uniform to wear for the day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wear your uniform in an untidy, unkempt fashion.</td>
<td>Be organised for the day – make sure you help out at home by putting your uniform in the wash, and putting your shoes away.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wear unsafe footwear to school.</td>
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</tbody>
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**Walkerston SS Behaviour Expectation for: OTHERS**

**Put Ups Not Put Downs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Don’t Do</th>
<th>Try This Instead</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Go out of your way to find fault in someone else.</td>
<td>Instead of saying something mean, you could:</td>
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<td>Say something mean to someone for no reason at all.</td>
<td>Say nothing at all, or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Find something nice to say – a PUT UP! And, you get the added bonus of actually then feeling good about yourself as well.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Remember the Four Step Plan – if someone tells you “Stop it, I don’t like it”, that’s a warning to you to stop saying something mean.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Respect by Adults while on school grounds**

While I have so far been talking about a number of constructive steps being taken to ensure better communication between the school and our parents/caregivers, it is probably timely to put a reminder out that when on school grounds, we are all bound by a Code of Conduct to ensure that the school is a safe and respectful environment for children to attend. Please read carefully *Respectful Behaviour on School Grounds* in this newsletter.

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**Respectful Behaviour on School Grounds**

Respect for others is one of the most important lessons that we want to teach our students at Walkerston State School. To learn respect children need to be able to see the adults in their lives show respect to each other. It is important that parents/caregivers, as well as school staff, show respect when dealing with each other. It is a way that we create a safe school environment for staff, volunteers, students, parents/caregivers and visitors.

People who enter the school grounds and are hostile or aggressive, this includes using abusive or profane language and threats to school staff or volunteers, students or other parents/caregivers, will not be tolerated.

It is an offence under the Education Act for one adult to insult another adult at a school in the presence or hearing of a student. It is also an offence for a parent to approach and admonish or question the child of another family.

The Education Act provides the Principal with the authority to provide a written direction requiring a person to immediately leave the school premises and not re-enter for a period of time. Conditions may also be placed on a person’s entry to the school premises.

If a member of the school community has an issue or concern the appropriate protocol is to make an appointment with the staff member, outside of student learning times, to discuss the matter in a calm manner. If the matter cannot be resolved the matter should be referred to the principal in the first instance.

All members of the school community are asked to abide by these protocols so that schools can maintain a safe supportive environment for our students to learn.

Matthew Horton
Acting Principal
**Student of the Week Awards for Weeks 3 and 4**

**Prep A**
Calvin Ramos: For an amazing effort learning his letters and sounds and his sight words
Riley Meigan: For always trying his best and having a very positive attitude towards school

**Prep B**
Lily Murdoch: For beautiful handwriting skills

**Prep C**
Maddison Burgess: For showing a keen interest in learning

**Class 1A**
Aria Alderson: For putting in a magnificent effort so far this year
Tamsin Biddle: For working superbly in 1A this year

**Class 1B**
Ethen Williams: For an excellent effort with his writing
Gabrielle North: For always completing her work very neatly and to a high standard

**Class 2A**
Charlotte Harder: For always completing tasks quickly and quietly
Toby Hill: For always attempting all tasks and working well in Maths
Charli Roelandts: For consistently being focused and ready to learn
Eeden Thompson: For being a quiet and conscientious student who places effort into her work
Jordan Morris: For being a quiet worker who tries his best in all areas

**Class 2B**
Dylan Pennell: For consistently being focused and ready to learn

**Class 3A**
Monique Jones: For working quickly and quietly to complete her work
Jayden Richards: For working extremely well in class and completing his work

**Class 3B**
Caden Sayles: For persistent effort in learning his rapid recall facts
Jayce Stanley: For awesome narrative writing

**Class 4A**
Zakk Ponsen: For showing great mathematical knowledge and skill in the Maths test
Lauren Jones: For working consistently well in all subject areas

**Class 45B**
Luke Kucks: For thinking and writing about a clever trick Mrs Twit played on Mr Twit
Brooklyn Valentine: For being a keen participant in all maths activities

**Class 5A**
Dylan Proctor: For always trying his best
Lauren Combridge: For an outstanding effort in her Maths test

**Class 56C**
Brady Blackhall: For working consistently well in all subject areas
Jack Hannay: For always displaying a positive attitude towards his learning

**Class 67B**
Candace Blake: For excellent contribution with class activities

**Class 7A**
Ethan Kay: For writing an excellently constructed and cohesive narrative

**SPORTS TRIALS**

**13th March**
- Girls/Boys Basketball Trials  **12.30 to 2.30pm** Marian S.S
- 12yrs (Born 2002) Rugby League Trials  **12.30 to 2.30pm** Mirani S.S

**14th March**
- 11yrs (Born 2003) Rugby League Trials  **12.30 to 2.30pm** Mirani S.S
- 11yrs (Born 2003) Netball Trials  **12.30 to 2.30pm** Marian S.S
- 12yrs (Born 2002) Netball Trials  **12.30 to 2.30pm** Marian S.S
- Boys Aust Rules 11/12yrs  **By Nomination**

**26th March**
- 12yrs Girls/Boys Hockey  **By Nomination**
- Girls/Boys Soccer Trials  **12.30 to 2.30pm** Mirani S.H.S
- Girls/Boys Touch Trials  **12.30 to 2.30pm** Wests

**28th March**
- Girls/Boys Soccer Trials  **12.30 to 2.30pm** Mirani S.H.S

**Book Fair**
The library is currently hosting a Book Fair this week from Monday March 10th to Friday March 14th. Everyone is welcome to visit the fair and look at the great variety of books that will be on sale.
P & C News
Thankyou to all who attended the P & C Meeting. The new executive committee is President – Andrea Pinkard, Vice President – Naomi Noy, Secretary – Nikki McWhinney, Assistant Treasurer - Kym Scammells. As you can see we still need a treasurer, so if you are a “numbers person” and interested in playing an important role at your children’s school, contact the office or any of the executive.

The P & C will be holding a uniform policy review this Friday at 1pm in the meeting room 2 (behind the kitchen) in the hall. Everyone is welcome. If you are unable to attend, you can leave your comments in the P and C box or contact Andrea on andreaavon@hotmail.com or 49593384.

Walkerston Bakery is supplying our Tuckshop with bread products baked fresh daily. We would also like to thank Megan and her crew at the bakery for donating bread to the Breakfast Club.

Tuckshop is open Monday, Wednesday and Fridays for first and second break. It uses a bag system for ordering. PLEASE ENSURE THAT TUCKSHOP BAGS ARE PUT IN THE CLASS TUCKSHOP BASKET BY 9.30. THEY ARE NOT TO BE LEFT AT THE TUCKSHOP.

Ida and Katrina are always looking for extra volunteers especially on Fridays. Volunteer forms are attached to this newsletter with extras available at the office. Please ring Andrea on 49593384 for further information.

The P & C Committee will be holding a coffee and catch up in the hall on the first Tuesday of every month. This is a chance for parents to catch up with each other and what is happening around the school. Tea, coffee and scones will be provided by the P & C. If anyone would like to contribute a plate of treats it would be most appreciated.

Disco 2nd April 6.30pm – 8pm. All proceeds go to Year 6/7 trip.
Enter - gold coin donation
Food and drinks on sale.
Year 6/7 Trip Easter raffle.
Year 6/7 students will be issued with raffle tickets to sell.
Other students may request raffle tickets from the office to sell.
Raffle to be drawn at the school Disco on Wednesday April 2nd.

Please fill in the blue form attached to this newsletter, it gives you a voice in the P & C committee should you ever want to attend a meeting or have an issue addressed.

If you would like an issue addressed or have a complaint, compliment or enquiry, you are most welcome to attend the P & C meetings, drop a note into the P & C Box at the office or contact Andrea on 49593384. If you see a problem, be part of the solution.

Next meetings: 28th March, 2nd May, 30th May @ 1.30pm in P&C Room in the hall.

Rewards Programs
The following businesses provide benefits to our school through rewards program.

Our School is now part of the Amart Sports Community Kickbacks Programme. Please nominate Walkerston State School on your Amart membership. For more information go to www.amartsports.com.au/community-kickbacks

ezcovers.net.au also offer the school a rebate of 5c for every book cover sold. The durable slip on plastic covers come in many patterns and colours and the range of sizes fit exercise, A4 and scrapbooks. All covers are priced at $1.20 each.

Breakfast Club
I would like to welcome our student leaders who are helping at breakfast club. These year six and seven students have volunteered to guide our younger helpers and assist the parent volunteers. The Club is open from 8.15 to 8.45 every day, in the hall. A free breakfast of cereal, toast, fruit and juice is available to all students and staff. Not only is it a time to fuel up before school, but also a chance for new students to mingle. We are happy to accept any donations of fruit, families would like to give. Donations can be left at the hall before school or at the office. Volunteers are always needed and very much welcome. Please contact Andrea on 49593384 if you can help. We also would like to thank Woolworths Walkerston, Walkerston Bakery and the Chaplaincy programme for their continued support.

ATTENTION: ALL PARENTS OF TEENAGERS/THOSE WHO WORK WITH TEENAGERS
THIS IS CRUCIAL INFORMATION FOR THE PHYSICAL AND LEGAL SAFETY OF YOUR CHILD

An invitation for parents/workers to learn about safe partying, legal risks, safety risks and collaboration in the care and safety of young people

headspace Mackay & Mackay Youth Support Services
Personally invite you to a FREE evening with Paul Stanley from the Matthew Stanley Foundation (One Punch Can Kill).

Listen to Paul recount the personal and tragic story of what happened to his son Matthew, this story is a truly motivating, inspirational, powerful and moving story and should be heard by everyone. Come and see, hear why so many people are touched by Paul’s story and take this message with them into the real world.

The second half of the session will look at a DVD presented by Paul Stanley and a member of the QLD Police Service. We look at a clip of a 16 year old’s party and the issues that can arise for the young people and the parents (based on actual events very eye opening to any parent)

When- Wednesday 19th March
Where- Mackay Masonic Hall, Wood Street (across road from Coffee Club)
Time- 6:15pm-8:00pm
RSVP Essential: Phone Shane Sturdy on 48982200 or email SSturdy@tmml.com.au Tuesday 18th March 2014
HARRUP PARK CLUB AUSKICK
COST ONLY $65.00

Register and pay online at aflauskick.com.au
If paying by cheque make payable to AFL Queensland
Sign on and 1st Session:
4.30 – 5.30pm, FRIDAY 14TH MARCH
Venue: Harrup Park Country Club Oval 9
For more info, contact AFL QLD Mackay
on 07 4951 0622 or Dion Obst on 0424 156 248

FAQ - Kids turning 5 in Calendar year can participate.
If you miss the first session, you can join the following week.
No specialist clothing required (football boots not necessary).
This is an invitation to all children aged 5 (in 2014) to 12 years to participate. This is an excellent opportunity to meet new friends, learn AFL in a fun and safe environment at one of the best sporting facilities in Regional Queensland!

St. George Rookies2Reds
Professional coaching program over 5 weeks
Family pass to a Reds game of your choice (valued at $110)
10% off Reds Merchandise
Rookies2Reds Pack
$60—Valued at over $300

Where: Wests Leagues Club
When: Monday 28/4/14—Monday 19/5/14
Time: 3.30 to 4.30pm
Age Groups: Junior Champs 8-9
Future Star 10-11

BEGIN YOUR JOURNEY FROM ROOKIE2RED NOW
REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.ROOKIES2REDS.COM.AU
OR CALL 1300 QLD RED (1300 753 733)

Registered Family Daycare
Before school care and school drop off.
Breakfast included.
Located in Walkerston.
Contact Kellie on 0403231602

Join Mackay City Central Scout Group!
Cnr Hume & Lagoon St. West Mackay
Contact Group Leader on 0424 696764
or email a4.sbktm@hotmail.com
www.scoutsqld.com.au

Hawks Softball Club
Sign On Day
16th March 2014 — 2pm to 4pm
Theo Hansen Park (Softball Fields)
Beaconsfield Road, Mackay
Games played Saturday’s from 12pm
Season starts mid-May
We offer the following grades
T-Ball/Under 12 (4+)
A, B & C Grades
Men’s
For more information please contact
Cheryl 0428 182 248

COUNTRY UNITED SOCCER
Country United Soccer club is seeking more players for the U12 and U13/14 age groups.
If you are interested in playing soccer please contact our junior registrar ASAP on
0448262891 or email cuscreg@gmail.com.