Sydney/Canberra Trip Fundraiser
This Sunday, 1st June, the year 6/7 Sydney/Canberra Trip Fundraising group are hosting a Family Fun day at the school from 11am till 4pm. Attractions will include:-
- Jumping castles kindly donated by Just4Kids
- Mini Golf
- Face Painting
- Cent Sale (from 2pm)
- Meat trays and raffles
- Trash and treasure sale
- BBQ/Pizzas/Drinks
- Bake sale
- Tea/Coffee
- Magician shows throughout the day
- Jumping castles—Unlimited entry for $10 (max cost 3 or more $30), One Jump $4

If you are able to assist on the day, please contact Kerry Tass on 0439 077 607.

All Wheelbarrow raffle tickets (sold or unsold) are to be returned to school by tomorrow at the latest.
Principal's Report

Semester 1 – entering the homeward stretch

This week marks the second half of Term 2, and so we are entering the homeward stretch for completing assessment. In line with our 'no surprises' policy, staff have been reminded to call home if they believe a student in their class is at risk of not achieving a C standard for their year level’s English or Maths this term.

Maths – teaching and assessing

To better ensure our students are prepared for the demands of the National Curriculum standards for Maths, staff recently completed a Maths Twilight Professional Development session. One clear goal of the session was to ensure that we as a staff all have a consistent and firm handle on how Maths assessment criteria based on the national standards can be used to determine a student’s level of achievement for a subject. This should help ensure that any discussion about how a student needs to improve to better their Maths result is based on specific knowledge and/or problem solving skills.

The second goal of our Maths PD session was to develop a clear strategy to improve our students’ mathematical problem solving skills. The need for students to improve their ability to read and complete problem solving questions comes from a recognition that these skills will help students better meet the demands of many high skilled jobs in the future. Students will gain more exposure to problem solving questions, and the strategies to help them work them out, in both Maths classes and our GRG-funded STAMS classes. Our Year 2, 4 and 6 students are the first groups to gain the opportunity to participate in STAMS classes. Modelled on our successful WAVe Reading program, STAMS has students organised into like-ability groups, where they spend time revising and refining many of the basic skills needed to be successful mathematics students – skills like estimation, number sense and pattern recognition.

Maths – support for students at home

It is common to hear from parents when talking about Maths that Maths nowadays is different to how it was taught when we were at school. I guess I might be too close to the chalkface to see any distinction between what we do now and what has gone on before, but I am open to any discussion about what schools can do to bridge any perceived gap. Last term I met with a group of parents to discuss how we might clarify for parents both the ‘what’ and ‘how’ of Maths at Walkerston, and we have subsequently been looking at how we can take on board some of their suggestions. This will include improvements in how Maths homework sheets are structured, and providing parents with opportunities to visit the school and learn about some of the ways that Maths is taught, so they can have more confidence to help their children with their Maths homework. We are currently reviewing our Term 3 calendar to identify a time to host a parent/guardian Maths afternoon or evening. Having said that, could I flag at this early date that we have booked a reading expert, Pat Hipwell, to hold a Parent Reading Information Evening next term on Thursday, July 31st.

Fundraising around the school

I have been truly impressed with the dedication and commitment many parents and other family members have provided to organise and support fundraising ventures that assist our school and students. As you will see from our front page, the Sydney-Canberra Trip fundraising committee have a major fundraising event coming this Sunday with their Family Fun Day. Also, by the time of this newsletter’s publication, we will have begun installing a huge ceiling fan in the hall. This fan will play a critical role in ensuring the hall remains a comfortable learning area during our hot months. Funding for the purchase and installation of the fan has been made possible through the hard work of our P&C committee.

No Dogs on School Grounds

It has been brought to my attention that families have been bringing pet dogs onto school grounds when doing the morning and afternoon drop-off and pick-up duties. I am here making a Principal’s Directive: no dogs should be brought onto school grounds, irrespective of whether or not they are on a collar and leash, for reasons of safety and hygiene. The only exception would of course be a seeing-eye dog for someone visually impaired, but in such an instance I would ask that the parent or caregiver contact me beforehand so I have forewarning. I spoke to students on last Friday’s parade about the risks of having dogs on school grounds, particularly in relation to the potential risk to their safety. I would ask parents to consider that even though a small pet dog may appear to be seemingly harmless, it would provide a strong attraction to any other larger dog in the area, either on a leash or out and about exploring.
Principal’s Report continued

Notification - Nationally Collection of Data on School Students with Disability

Included in this newsletter is notification for all parents and caregivers that the school is currently conducting a survey to identify all students at school with a disability, and the level of support they are currently getting. I would stress that, for matters of privacy, all students are de-identified when we complete this data collection – that is, I might indicate that Student A has a physical disability and receives a modified learning program, but at no time do I actually name them in the report. If, however, if you would prefer for your child’s information to not be submitted, you have that right. If this is the case, I would ask that you contact me. More details are available in the Notification below.

National Collection of Data on School Students with Disability

Collecting data on school students with disability helps teachers, principals and education authorities support the participation of students with disability in schooling on the same basis as students without disability.

All Australian Governments have agreed to work together on the annual collection of data on school students with disability.

In 2013, 10% of Queensland state schools participated in the first year of implementation. In 2014, two thirds of Queensland schools will participate and all schools will be collect data from 2015. Our school will be involved in the nationally consistent collection of data from this year.

Please be reassured that the Department will not pass on to another organisation any data that can identify an individual student. The only data being collected at the school level to be reported nationally is the:

- number of students in the school who are provided with an adjustment to address a disability;
- level of adjustments we provide for those students; and
- broad category of disability.

Consultation with parents is important not only for the data collection but also to ensure you aware of the adjustments being provided to support your child. We will therefore continue to consult with you.

While only data that cannot identify your child will be submitted outside of the Department, if you do not wish for your child’s details to be included, please let me know.

Information and fact sheets are available to help you make a decision from the:


Alternatively, if you have any queries about the collection or use of this data I encourage you to contact me directly.

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Fire Ed for Preps

On Tuesday 27th May, the local Fire Brigade came to speak to our Preps and Year 1’s about Fire Safety. Topics covered included talking about a safe meeting point at home, “Stop, Drop and Roll”, Get down low and go, go, go”, “Get out and Stay out”, and an inspection of the fire engine.
Athletics Day

Our school athletics carnival for 2014 will be held on Wednesday 18th and Friday 20th June at the school grounds to allow for maximum participation.

Wednesday’s events will be 800m, Discus and High Jump, with possibly 200m heats also. **Wednesday will involve only participants for safety reasons while the rest of the school will be in class.**

Friday will start off with the sprints which will allow all year levels to partake, before the lower school (Prep to year 2) head back to their rooms for other learning around 10am. Students in Years 3 to 7 and 8yo in year 2 will then take part in Long Jump and Shot Put before finishing the day with 200m sprints and relays. The Prep to Year 2 students will be invited back to cheer the relay teams on.

To ensure that the Prep to Year 2s get a chance to participate in their own field events, we will be organising a Junior Olympic Sports Afternoon on Tuesday 24th June from 12pm to 3pm. Activities the students will be participating in include:

- Shot-put/beanbag/tennis ball throwing
- Long Jump
- High Jump
- Discus/Frisbee Throwing
- Ball Games
- Novelty Races (sack race, Hurdles, etc)
- Gymnastics

Pioneer Valley Cross Country

Tuesday of last week 20th May, we had a group of students from Walkerston representing the Pioneer Valley at the Mackay District Cross Country Trials. To be selected to represent Mackay, the top 7 from each age group were selected. Our students came in the following places.

- 10 Yrs Boys – Koby Townsend 25th
- 10 yrs Girls – Tatarnya Poli – 21st
- 11 yrs Boys – Kodie Stebbeings – 6th
- 11 Yrs Girls - Alice Pullen 3rd, Aleayah Caygill 6th
- 12 yrs Boys – Calum Squires 11th
- 12 yrs Girls – Rebecca Kucks 13th, Alexandria Gall 10th

We have received confirmation that Alice Pullen has made it in the Mackay and District Team.

Congratulations Alice!

A big thank you to the parents for taking these students to the trials and supporting them throughout their training for this event.

Alice Single—PE Teacher

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

A Slice of Vaudeville

Thursday 5 June 2014
Cost is $4.00

If you haven’t already done so, please return envelope with monies to class teachers by TOMORROW, Friday 30 May 2014
**Student of the Week Awards for Term 2 — Week 4 and Week 5**

**Prep A**
- Lyla Proctor for working very hard and making AMAZING progress with her sight words and reading.
- Tammin Mackay for working very hard and making AMAZING progress with her sight words and reading.

**Prep B**
- Felicity Matthews for working hard in Maths.
- Chloe Parker for working hard in literacy.

**Prep C**
- Seth Piper for trying really hard to learn all his letters and sounds.
- Cooper Galea for showing improvement with his letter and sound knowledge.

**Class 1A**
- Abby Austin for setting out her spelling test work very neatly.
- Adaleen Bell for trying very hard to tell the time on an analogue clock.

**Class 1B**
- Kayde Murphy for always working conscientiously with a positive attitude to his work.
- Kareama Gartner putting in such a great effort in all areas, especially literacy.

**Class 2A**
- Willis Cawood for working with a positive attitude and placing effort into his work.
- Chloe Nolan for a huge improvement in English, especially reading.
- Max Mole for placing effort into his class activities and having a go.

**Class 2B**
- Chelsea Meigan for being a diligent worker and enthusiastic towards all class subjects.
- Kyal Sorensen for trying harder to complete all tasks on time with more effort.
- Samuel Springis for always being a happy and positive student.
- Tahlya Kennedy for trying hard to use learnt strategies to improve his reading.

**Class 3A**
- Corey Blackburn for trying so hard during writing activities.
- Dustyn Bath for working like a super trouper and being so enthusiastic in class.
- Charlie Smith for her stupendous effort to include fancy words in her writing.
- Damian White for his awesome effort in class.

**Class 3B**
- Hayley Draper for using her Words Their Way knowledge to spell tricky words.
- Sasha Newman for fantastic fraction work.

**Class 4A**
- Atahlia Grennan for being a polite participant in all class activities.
- Aprile Benson for being keen and interested in her learning.

**Class 45B**
- Caitlin Morris for trying to think of good explanations to write for Reading Comprehension questions.
- Hayden Blackburn for working well in written expression on his traditional tale.
- Layla Proctor for working well in written expression on her traditional story.

**Class 5A**
- Joey Ping for wonderful participation in our Science lesson on Space.
- Tyshanna Leijen for wonderful participation in our maths lesson of fractions.

**Class 67B**
- Thomas Watkin for making positive choices in the playground.
- Dorothy Ghee for settling into her new class so well.
- Kayla Schneider for achieving and participating very well in maths this week.

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**Walkerston SS Behaviour Expectation for: SCHOOL**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Don’t Do</th>
<th>Try This Instead</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Add scribble, doodles, sketches or other graffiti in your workbook – save that for Art classes!</td>
<td>Write headings for all work, and underline them</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use one book for all of your subjects – all your work is going to get mixed up</td>
<td>Rule margins in RED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rule the top and bottom of each page</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Write the date in the left hand margin at the beginning of a day’s work</td>
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**P & C NEWS**
The next P & C Meeting is tomorrow Friday 30 May at 1.30pm in the meeting room in the hall. Everyone is welcome.

Did you know Walkerston State School P & C now has a Facebook page? Please like us to keep up with all P&C events happening.

**SCHOOL DISCO**
Thursday 12 June
$2 Entry Fee
Lucky Door Prize
Canteen Open
Theme: TBA

**SCHOOL FAIR**
The P & C Association has commenced organising this year’s school fair, which will be held on Saturday 26 July 2014, 4pm – 8pm. It is an exciting time for us with everyone coming up with lots of fun ideas. The fair is our major fundraiser for the year and needs support to make it a success. Please contact Tracey Kucks on 0438 155 093 if you are able to help out in anyway with donations or sponsorship or would like to become involved in organising this years fair.

**COMPETITION TIME**
Each year families are asked to make small donations towards their classroom stall at the fair. To help with some of the stall ideas that are popular at the fair, we are asking the whole school to come on board with donation of items.

Our wish list is:
- Bottles or jars filled with suitable items e.g. bottle filled with hair accessories, bottle filled with dishwashing tablets, bottle filled with lollies. Let your imagination run wild.
- Grocery items (please no out of date items)
- Items suitable for cent sale and raffle prizes

For every item supplied by students, points will be allocated to each class. The class with the highest points will win a pizza party.

1 point – grocery item
2 points – a filled bottle or jar
3 points – cent sale item

Your support and contribution is greatly appreciated.

**UNIFORMS TO BE RETURNED**
A reminder to parents to return uniforms their child has borrowed from the school as we are running out of spares for our students to use in an emergency.

If anyone has any unused uniforms, the school is in desperate need of shirts, shorts, skirts and underwear, particularly in smaller sizes.

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**CHAPLAINCY NEWS**

**Breakfast Club**
It has been another busy week at breakfast club. I would like to thank Walkerston Bakery, Walkerston Woolworths, and Kelloggs for donating all of the supplies and our student volunteers and parent helpers who make the process run smoothly.

Parents are always welcome to come and help us at breakfast club. I am at the hall every morning between 8am and 9am if you would like to come and say hello or give a helping hand.

**Lunchtime Activities**
I would like input from students and parents for lunchtime activities. If you or your child has any ideas, please come and see me or leave a message at the office.

**Consent Forms**
The correct chaplaincy consent form is with this newsletter. Again I apologise for the confusion caused by sending out the wrong consent form. Please complete and return these to your child’s class teacher or the office.

**Chappy Hours**
Remember, I am available every Monday and Wednesday from 8am until 3pm and Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at the hall between 8am and 9am.

Thank you to Prep A for sharing “The Wonky Donkey” with me.

Have a great week

Chappy Andrea

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**DUTTON STREET ROAD WORKS**
The Department of Transport and Main Roads wishes to advise that road works will be taking place along Dutton Street (Peak Downs Highway) at Walkerston to carry out safety upgrades as part of the Safer Roads Sooner program from:

**Tuesday 27 May 2014 to October 2014**

Motorists should expect minor delays and some temporary, single lane closures. Additional information on traffic changes will be provided in the lead up to the works.

The works will deliver safety upgrades for motorists and pedestrians including pavement repairs, dedicated turning lanes, median strips to separate traffic plus pedestrian refuges.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads will continue to provide regular updates as the works progress and thanks motorists, residents and businesses for your patience while these essential works are delivered.

If you require further information, please contact our Mackay office on 4951 8555 from Monday to Friday between 8am and 5pm or visit www.tmr.qld.gov.au. For the latest information on road closures visit www.131940.qld.gov.au or call the Queensland Government’s 24 hour hotline on 13QGOV.