

## From Deputy Principal Prep - Year 1



The Australian Curriculum focuses on the importance of children knowing that we use writing to communicate with each other. In Prep the children are learning about the power of words. Learning to write is a very exciting skill. Our Prep teachers work really hard to teach children all of the literacy building blocks for writing. The teachers help children grow their confidence and skill and create "writing mileage". This includes an understanding that written text has meaning, that we can share ideas and messages through writing, that letters make sounds and sounds make words, that illustrations match our words to add to our ideas. Many children use drawing to plan their ideas for writing. They then write a few sentences to tell the story about their picture. This is a great way to help children to use their imagination and to begin to experiment with new and interesting words in their writing. At Silkstone, we use a handwriting program called "Casey Caterpillar" to help children copy the correct shapes for letters and to begin to form their complete letter shapes properly. Preppies have been learning how to hold their pencils correctly and to form letters correctly. Correct pencil grip is important because it supports children's muscle development and helps them to write more without tiring. This is an important skill as they progress through school. Correct pencil grip and letter formation helps children to write so that others can read their writing easily.



Year One

It is great to see our Year 1 students learning through hands on Maths activities. While participating in these activities, students are working mathematically and collaborating with their classmates to solve problems. Increasing your child's Mathematical skills is something which you can encourage and build in everyday life. You can get your child to set the table and count the plates and the cutlery (When you remove the plates they can practise their subtraction skills), you can add items in the grocery trolley, your child can measure ingredients as you cook together, you can check the time to leave for school and discuss the big and little hands to increase an understanding of time, you can identify three dimensional shapes in everyday life.



Rae-Louise Colbert  
Deputy Principal Years Prep-1

**Every day counts**

**MOST STUDENTS ATTEND SCHOOL EVERY DAY**

It's important that children are at school all day, every day.

1% of students miss school every day.

1 day off school each fortnight = a year of learning lost.

Good attendance begins in Prep. It's where good habits begin.

Go to the Every Day Counts website: <http://education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts/>

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**Date Change**  
The Year 5&6 Cyber Safety Talk has been changed to **Wednesday 19th June**

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# SILKSTONE STATE SCHOOL

## Newsletter

13 June 2019

Term 2 Week 8

**Mission Statement:** We at Silkstone State School, in partnership with the community, aim to create an environment of active learners. We believe all children are capable of reaching their full potential. We commit to building resilient students who strive for excellence and become responsible, respectful citizens.

### Principal's Report

Dear Parents and Carers  
Its been so nice to be back at school in full capacity after being struck down with an illness that I couldn't seem to shake! Thanks to the Deputy Principals and staff for doing a great job in my absence. Well it is almost that time of year when you will receive your child's report card. Our teachers are currently in the process of marking end of semester assessments and assigning grades for each of the Australian Curriculum subjects. Report Cards will be emailed to parents in the final week of this term. An important reminder for parents is that a C grade on a report card means that the student is achieving as expected against the Australian Curriculum achievement standard for that year level. Our target at school is for at least 70-75% of our students to achieve an A, B or C in semester 1 reports for Maths and English. We expect this percentage to rise at the end of semester 2. If you have any questions about your child's upcoming report card, please contact the school to make an appointment to discuss. Huge congratulations go to our Harmonies Choir, which will participate in this year's Metropolitan Region Choral Fanfare Final. This is an achievement that we all should be very proud of. Our school will compete, as the only Ipswich school, against 7 other Brisbane schools. I am very much looking forward to seeing the Choir perform on Thursday. Congratulations also go to all our students who attended the last Principal's Morning Tea, and those who have been invited to attend the next one on 20 June (week 9). This is always a great celebration for those students who consistently uphold our four school expectations: Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Active Learners. Remember, we are a uniform school and we have a school dress code. I am very pleased with the standard of uniform across our school. We will continue to reinforce the message that in the cooler weather, children need to wear a navy blue jumper. If children arrive at school in other colours, they will be told to remove them and invited to borrow a blue one from our collection if they need to. Thank you to all parents and families for supporting our school dress code. On the sporting field, next Friday, our younger students participate in the annual Junior Cross Country. Fingers crossed that the weather stays as beautiful as it has been recently for this fun sporting event. As I write this, I have received a message

### Principal's Report continued

from Mrs Weise informing me that the Year 6 Camp is going really well. We have a great cohort of year 6 students this year. Huge thanks to all the teachers and teacher aides who attended Camp. It is a big ask for them to give up their evenings with their own families. I know our parents, families and students appreciate their commitment.

**Mike Sawbridge**  
Principal

### From the Music Room

**Choral Fanfare Results**  
Congratulations to Girls' Choir, BRASSS Boys' Choir and Harmonies Choir for their great performances at the Ipswich heat held at our school. Wonderful results and the children should be very proud of themselves.  
**Harmonies Choir – Gold Award; Girls' Choir – Silver Award, Boys' Choir – Gold Award. Congratulations to Harmonies Choir who was selected to go onto the Regional Finals** being held today, 13 June at The Old Museum, in Brisbane. Eight Gold Award recipients have been selected from the 90+ choirs who sang in the Metropolitan area to go onto Regionals. Other Regional finals are being held around the state. We will let you know the results in the next newsletter!  
**District String Camp**  
Some of our String Ensemble children experienced 2 days of workshops at Brassall SS this week, along with children from other Ipswich schools. This is always a great experience to build skills and have the opportunity to play in a string orchestra and make new friends. Thank you to Ms Hampson for supporting our children in this experience.  
**Linda Weatherhead**  
Head of Music Department

SILKSTONE STATE SCHOOL PRESENTS  
**Silkstone Under The Stars**  
FRIDAY 25 OCTOBER 2019  
4PM TIL 9PM  
CALVIN HEGVOLD OVAL, SILKSTONE S.S.

CARNIVAL RIDES • SHOWBAGS  
SIDESHOW ALLEY • RAFFLES  
MARKET STALLS • FOOD TRUCKS  
FIREWORKS FINALE

## From Deputy Principal Years 2,3&4

At Silkstone State School, assessments are designed to meet three broad purposes.....

### Assessment for learning:

Enables teachers to monitor student knowledge, understanding and skills development, so as to target their teaching to support students' progress in meeting learning goals.

### Assessment as learning:

Enables students to reflect on and monitor their own progress and to inform their future learning goals.

### Assessment of learning:

Assists teachers at the end of learning experiences to gather evidence of student knowledge, understanding and skills, as described in the relevant Achievement Standards for the year level.

This monitoring tracks student progress to know where each student is in their learning and what needs to come next. The pace of learning is linked closely to the development of each student. In doing this, teachers build on students' individual strengths, activate prior knowledge and offer different entry points into a planned teaching and learning sequence. This conscious, purposeful and reflective teaching practice is evidenced in the large percentage of our students, not only showing improvement in effort over this Semester, but also achieving at a high level across all curriculum areas.



Year 4 Teachers collaboratively planning to improve the quality of teaching and learning.

I am also pleased to convey how impressed I am, at how strongly most students are motivated to achieve their best. Congratulations to years 2, 3 and 4 students who have demonstrated a positive attitude towards learning and in doing so, have achieved improved academic success.

### Semester 1 Report Cards

Silkstone State School reports on student progress and achievement against relevant achievement standards. Our school's reporting processes are clear and transparent for parents, so they understand:

- the learning expectations for the student.
- the student's achievement against expected standards.
- how well the student is engaging with the expected learning.
- how the student may be able to improve.

In some instances, students will receive an N rating on their Semester 1 report card. An N rating is awarded when there is insufficient evidence to award a grade for the learning area. In most instances this is due to absence during assessment periods.

**Shaida Rojc**  
Deputy Principal Years 2,3&4

## From the Sports Desk

Just a reminder our Cross Country dates are as follows:

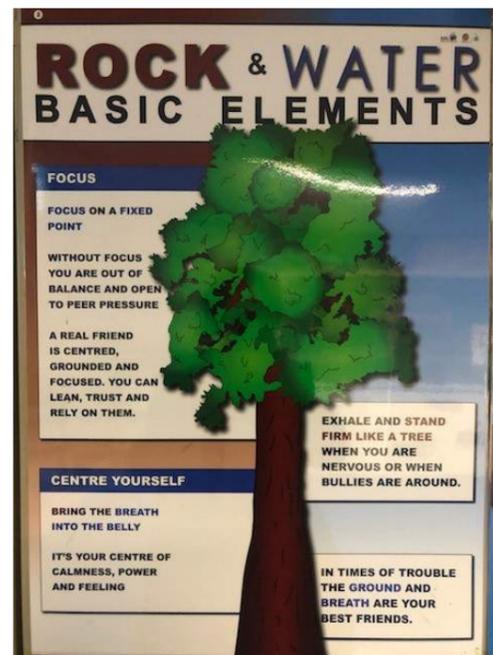
Junior Cross Country: Friday 21 June, 9 – 11am  
Senior Cross Country: Tuesday 25 June, 9 – 11am

Students are not allowed to participate in the Cross Country unless a completed permission note has been returned to the class teacher.



## From the Chaplain

Following on from the last Rock & Water update.....We are focussing on FOCUS and being aware. Being aware of our surroundings and of our feelings and emotions can help us Self Regulate and change a potentially unsafe or negative situation. The diagram below helps you understand our Basic Rock and Water Elements. FOCUS and CENTERING ourselves. In our program the children learn the physical affects of thinking and emotion through physical training. We are using the pads and gloves to focus on our centres and remain in control, calm and strong in the face of uncertainty. If you have children in the Rock & Water Program, please communicate with them about what they are learning and how they can calm down if they are feeling anxious, stressed, unhappy or over excited. We do always end our sessions with a beautiful Meditation from the Peaceful Kids School Mindfulness Program. This is a wonderful tool to use and helps the children be open to being mindful and more aware of what is going on around them. I use the Insight Timer App on my smart phone as this one has the Peaceful Kids Mindfulness and you may access it for free. If you would like any more information please call the School so you can be put through to me.



Please remember Breakfast Club is on a Monday and Friday morning at the hall. I am always appreciative of donations of spreads, cereals and tinned spaghetti. Thankyou to those wonderful Parents who have donated to me. If you would like me to catch up with your child, please email myself or their classroom Teacher.

**Claudean Uamaki-Mu**  
Silkstone State School Chaplain  
claudeanu@chappy.org.au

## From Deputy Principal Years 5&6

### Cyber Safety Talk – Wednesday, 19 June

On **Wednesday 19 June** *Eyes Open Social Media Safety* will be visiting Silkstone to talk to our Year 5 and Year 6 students about cyber safety. *Eyes Open Social Media Safety* are an experienced cyber safety provider, registered with the Office of eSafety. The following topics will be covered in the session:

- Age appropriate use social media sites, apps and games
- Inappropriate material (current laws), digital footprint, identity theft, bullying and predators
- Behaviours that make children vulnerable when using social media, online games and the internet and the impact of poor choices
- How to manage issues if things go wrong, i.e. who to report to
- Recommend protective behaviours to allow students to enjoy the benefits in the digital world

Please contact Sally-Anne Weise on 3437 2111 if you have any concerns with your child/children participating in this program.

### Fundraiser for RSPCA – Free Dress Day

One of our Year 4 students, Gracee Fraser, has requested that Silkstone fundraise for the RSPCA by doing a Free Dress Day with a gold coin donation. This will occur on Wednesday, 26 June. You may also like to donate animal food or blankets/towels. Please send any of these donations to the school office from now until the end of this term. The RSPCA is a community based charity that works to prevent cruelty to animals by actively promoting their care and protection.



### Year 6 Camp

The Year 6 kids had a wonderful first day settling in at camp and were very much looking forward to the activities to come!



**Sally-Anne Weise—Deputy Principal Years 5 & 6**

## Coming Events

### June

Fri 14 Year 6 Campers return  
Mon 17 Met West Track and Field  
Tues 18 Met West Track and Field  
Wed 19 Cyber Safety Talk—Years 5&6  
Thurs 20 Principal's Morning Tea—10.15am  
Fri 21 Junior Cross Country (9.00am-11.00am)  
**Last day to pay** Year 5 Camp  
Senior Cross Country (9.00am-11.00am)  
RSPCA Free Dress Day (gold coin donation)  
Bremer Science Excursion  
Silkstone Prep Art Gallery in Hall  
**Last day to pay** Sports Development Camp  
Report Cards emailed home  
**Last day of Term 2**

### July

Mon 15 **First day of Term 3**  
Wed 17 Year 5 Camp (Currimundi Rec Centre)  
Thurs 18 Prep Hearing Screening  
Friday 19 Year 5 Campers return  
Tues 23 Keeping Kids Safe—presented by Mr and Mrs Morcombe  
District Bandtastic Workshops  
District Bandtastic Workshops  
Interschool Sport commences  
Sports Development Camp

### August

Thurs 1 Sports Development Campers return  
Bremer Science Extension Program  
Tues 13 Whitehill Church of Christ Seniors Concert—Harmonies  
Evening Instrumental Concert (all instrumental children)

### September

Tues 10 Junior Sports Day  
Thurs 19 Bremer Science Extension Program  
Evening Variety Concert

### November

Tues 26 Junior Swim Carnival (Year 2&3)  
Wed 27 Junior Swim Carnival (Year 1)  
Fri 29 Senior Swim Carnival

### Money Window

Open Monday to Friday **8am - 11am only**

### Direct Debit Payments

BSB: 064-417 Account Number:00091102  
(Include child's name and what payment is for)

### Uniform Shop

**Terms 1 & 4** Monday 8-10am & Thursday 1.30-3.30pm

**Terms 2 & 3** Thursday 1.30pm—3.30pm

(Cash and EFTPOS are accepted)

The uniform shop opening hours for this term are Thursday afternoon's from 1.30pm –3.30pm. Uniforms can now be ordered online via Munch Monitors. Click on the "School Shop" section to place your order. Please be aware that any orders placed via Munch Monitors will not be processed until Thursdays.

## Unexplained Absences

Unexplained Absence Letters are coming home with this newsletter. Please complete and return to the office as soon as possible, or alternatively you can phone the office to update any details. These absences are reflected on your child's report card and need to be as accurate as possible.

## Accompanying Handouts

Namiado School Holiday Soccer Camp  
Cross Country letter and permission forms  
Unexplained Absence Letters