No:1  – Week 2 Term 3
Wednesday, 23rd July, 2014

Theodore State School acknowledges the traditional Willi Willi people, both past and present, on whose land it stands.

VALUE FOR THE WEEK
Respect, Responsible and a Learner

PRINCIPAL’S PIECE

Welcome back to Term Three!!

It is hard to believe that we are now in the second half of the year!

**Attendance**
We have commenced this term very well in relation to our Attendance. Week One saw us reach 96% for the whole school!! **Year 1 and Year 8 reached 98%** for the week. This is great news for both our school and for the individual students who are meeting (or exceeding) our 95% target.

At Theodore State School we firmly believe that **Every Day Counts** and in order for our students to be successful at school they need to be at school every day. We acknowledge that there will be times when students are ill and need to stay home. If this is the case, please **phone the school and let us know** in order for us to update our records.

I thank you for your support in ensuring that your child is at school every day.

**School Opinion Survey**
Each year Education Queensland undertakes the **School Opinion Survey** in every school across the State. This year the survey will be completed **online** and will involve all Parents/ Carers, students in Years 4 – 10 and Staff. This survey is used to inform future planning and assists in setting the strategic direction of the school.

**Parents/ Carers should have received a letter earlier this week** with a unique set of codes which can only be used once. The Survey will open on Monday 21 July and close on **Sunday 3 August 2014**. Letters were sent home in an envelope with the eldest in the family on Monday, if you didn’t receive your letter please ask your child for it.

**Parent/ Teacher Interviews**
The school is again offering **Parent/ Teacher interviews during Week 2 and Week 3** this term. These interviews provide the opportunity to discuss your child’s Semester One Report Card along with any other concerns or celebrations.

Please contact the School’s Office to make an appointment with your child’s teacher.

**School Explicit Improvement Agenda**
Our unrelenting focus remains on our 5 key priorities again this Term:

**Junior Secondary** – We have commenced the transition of our Year 6/7 students with Secondary teachers taking the subjects of English and Technology.

- All students in Years 6-10 are participating in the Choice Curriculum electives being offered this Term. Activities include Macramé, Robotics, Sub Cultures, Cooking and Board Games. These activities offer students a choice as well as covering essential Literacy and Numeracy conventions.
**Literacy and Numeracy** – The School has implemented a Benchmarking system which allows teachers to identify where every student sits in relation to their Literacy and Numeracy development and provides diagnostic information to inform teacher planning.
- A subject allowing the school to address Literacy and Numeracy has been added to the High School Timetable and allows teachers to focus on the development of key skills
- Writing remains a key focus at the school with a structured approach to the development of Writing being implemented this Term

**Pedagogy** – Explicit Instruction continues to be the Signature Pedagogy at the school which is based on sound educational research. Our lessons include a Rapid Recall, Lesson Intent, Success Criteria, I Do, We DO, You Do and Plough back. This approach has resulted in calm learning environments being developed within the school with all students knowing the lesson routines.

**School Culture** – The School has participated in a Peer Review around preparations for Junior Secondary as well as a Teaching and Learning Audit last Term. Both of these processes highlighted the great work being done at the school as well as providing us with areas to improve.
- We undertake our Financial Audit this term which will provide us with information around our Office processes.

**Community Engagement** – The School was involved in the P&C Trail Ride last Term with both Staff and Students giving up their time to assist.
- This year is Theodore State School's 90th Anniversary and we are planning an event later in the Term to celebrate this milestone.

**PRINCIPAL**
Steve Conner

**Junior Secondary**

This term at Theodore State School, we are beginning our transition program into Year 7. Our students in Year 6/7 are participating in a Choice Curriculum program every Friday whereby they are given the opportunity to partake in electives. The electives this term include Creative Cookery, Robotics, Macramé, Board Games and Subcultures and Dance. This transition program aligns with the Junior Secondary guiding principle of Distinct Identity, whereby we are able to support and encourage our students to develop their own identity.

For our Year 10’s in the Senior Phase of learning, we are preparing to introduce SET Planning and Certificate subjects for 2015. This will mean our students at Theodore State School will begin Year 11 with points towards their QCE. Further, we have introduced in Year 10 English and Maths, the Literacy and Numeracy short courses which not only provide two QCE points, but also provides the literacy and numeracy requirements for students’ QCE at the end of Year 12.

Melinda O’Connor – Head of Department
Book Fair

Book Fair will be held again from the 18th Aug in the Learning Centre. The theme is ‘Grow Your Own Book Garden’. There will be more information re Fancy Dress Day in the next newsletter.

Notes from the P&C meeting; 16th July 2014

Irrigator: efforts are being made to repair the irrigator. Lindsay has secured a good deal for parts or, if required, a replacement.
Trail ride: final finances have not yet been sorted. A de-brief meeting will be held soon. If you are interested in the DVD of this year’s ride, or any of the previous ones, then you need to order one from Kris Markey. They will only become available with more than 20 orders; she only has about 12 so far.
90th Anniversary of the school: planning is underway to celebrate this milestone later this term. The school will release further details soon. The ideas so far sound very exciting.
School “inspector”: most of us remember the school inspector coming into our classrooms and assessing the teacher and the school. These days the process is known as an audit. Our inspector made an interim visit about 5 months ago and a final one recently. His report has just been received and indicates considerable improvements from 4 years ago, and even vast improvements from 5 months ago. This is an outstanding result! We should all be very proud of our school, teachers and students! This report will be available to read on the school website soon.
P&C Treasurer: our treasurer, Sharon Scherger, has unexpectedly resigned the position. An election was held at the meeting. Marcus Scott graciously accepted the role and Monica Atfield took on his position of Vice President.
Bank accounts: a few years ago the P&C agreed to put aside a certain amount of money each year into a replacement fund for the bus, mower, etc. This process is continuing.
It was great to see a good number of teachers at the meeting; all of us working together, and understanding each others’ issues, can only be a good thing for education in our community.
Our next meeting will be on Wednesday the 13th of August, at 6.30pm, in the Learning Centre.

90th Anniversary

Theodore State School will be celebrating their 90th Anniversary On the 19th September with an Open Day commencing at 9am and finishing around 12.45pm
Travel Kansai: JR Osaka

Semester One saw students of Japanese explore the language and cultural practices related to introducing others in the popular game ‘Guess Who?’. Your child had the opportunity to guess the identity of a famous person, family member or friend based on their knowledge and understanding of place of birth, age, favourite colours, pets and hobbies. In ‘Travel Kansai: Shopping’, your child learned vocabulary associated with asking for and giving street directions to important shops and buildings in both Australia and Japan.

This term, in ‘Travel Kansai: JR Osaka (Japan Railways), your child is learning key words and phrases associated with asking for and giving train directions to popular train stations on JR Osaka and subway lines. The enhancing and culminating tasks for this term are an aural reading comprehension of written train directions as well as providing written and spoken directions to any popular train station, such as in Osaka Zoo (Dobutsu-en eki).

*Ganbatte! (Give your best!!)*

Richard Jeffers
Languages Teacher - Japanese
Theodore State School

Art News

As part of our secondary art program, Theodore State School has been invited into the "Art Mix", an exhibition of art from the schools of the Banana Shire. After our "Art Off" art competition within our school, which allowed all students from prep to grade 10 to vote for their favourite art work, the following students were selected to have their art work on display at the Banana Shire Regional Art gallery, 62 Valentine Plains Road Biloela.

Congratulations goes to:

Dylan Lavaring Grade 8 "Cattle Truck"
Larissa Kohl Grade 8 "Dawson River"
Georgia Bretherton Grade 8 "Cracow Pub"
Tegan Skinner Grade 9 "Bottle Trees"
Nyssa Ball Grade 10 "Memory Lake"

If you and your family are over at Biloela, be sure to drop in and see this great event!!

**Unfortunately, due the event organiser retiring and our school not receiving the information earlier we have missed the opening night. However, the art works are still on display and will remain so for a few more weeks.**
**Date Claimer**

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<td>29th – 30th July</td>
<td>Yr 8-10 Excursion to Central Queensland University</td>
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<td>18th Aug</td>
<td>Book Fair</td>
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<tr>
<td>22nd &amp; 29th Aug</td>
<td>Dawson Valley AFL (29th Theodore to Host)</td>
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<td>5th &amp; 12th Sept</td>
<td>Dawson Valley AFL</td>
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<td>17th Sept</td>
<td>Geoff Johnston Touch Football Competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>19th Sept</td>
<td>90th Anniversary Celebration at Theodore State School</td>
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<td>19th Sept</td>
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The Theodore Show for 2014 is done and dusted!
Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to make it such an enjoyable event. THE COMMITTEE OF THE THEODORE SHOW SOCIETY INC INVITES YOU TO ITS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD AT THE THEODORE HOTEL AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY, 4 AUGUST. WE ALL WANT THE SHOW TO GROW AND IMPROVE, SO, WE NEED NEW, FRESH IDEAS. COME ALONG, GET INVOLVED AND HELP MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN 2015.

**SAVE THE DATE** - SPINDLE AND SPURS CAMPDRAFT, 13 AND 14 SEPTEMBER 2014. If you are not a camp drafter, remember it is a great spectators sport. There will be two full days of action packed drafting with bar, food, stalls and ENTERTAINMENT ON SATURDAY NIGHT. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HOLD A STALL CONTACT CAITLYN HEWITT 0437189411. FOR MORE INFORMATION FOLLOW THE SHOW'S FACEBOOK PAGE.

**90th Anniversary Photos**

Dear Theodore Community
This year marks Theodore State School’s 90th Anniversary and to assist in celebrating this milestone, the students in the high school sector are preparing a digital presentation. This project consists of compiling various photos of past/present students, teachers and activities.
We request that if you have any digital photos that you are able to share, please don’t hesitate to send it to school on CD/DVD, memory card, USB or email (admin@theodress.eq.edu.au). We thank you in advance for your contribution and let’s make this anniversary one to remember!
If you have any questions and/or queries, don’t hesitate to contact Mr. Emil Prianes via Theodore State School.