From the Principal

The school term is literally flying past with the students now starting to complete their first classroom assessment items. This Friday marks the half way point of the school term, and with only 5 weeks of school remaining, it is essential that your child continues to attend school all day, every day. Children who regularly miss days of school continually fall behind their class members and struggle with their school work. Please note: We have lots of assessment coming up in the next five weeks. Due to the fast pace of the curriculum, we are unable to catch up your children on key lessons and this can effect their overall mark. I would like to congratulate the Greenvale SS children for their impressive efforts in the classroom to date this term. With the continued implementation of the Australian Curriculum, the children have been introduced to many new concepts, activities and assessment items in their classrooms. The learning curve has been quite steep for many students, yet most children at Greenvale are enjoying the new challenges. I would like to congratulate our teachers and teacher aides for their professionalism and dedication. Students are focused in class and enjoying school; classrooms are settled and productive; and students are learning new concepts each session, every day.

Reading at Home

Improving each child’s reading ability is our number one focus at Greenvale State School. This does not mean we are not addressing other important curriculum areas such as mathematics and writing—we are still focusing heavily on these areas. What we are doing at Greenvale is placing an even greater emphasis on improving each child’s reading levels at school. We are doing this by providing the following:

- Dedicated reading instruction time in each classroom each day, supported by additional teacher aide support. A research proven intervention program has been developed for children requiring further support.

Reading Incentive

We have just introduced a reading incentive program to reward the students who read every night. Students will be rewarded for all of their hard work when they reach 25,50,75 and 100 nights of reading.

School Website

Our new updated school website will go live from the 28th February, please check it out by visiting www.greenvaless.eq.edu.au

Attendance Update!

Our recent bout of illnesses and wet weather has had an impact on our target goal of 95% attendance for this year. With saying this though, the best place for a sick person is at home tucked up in their warm bed. We currently have an overall attendance rate of 93%
Junior Classroom Update

Hi everyone!

WOW, it is unbelievable to think that we are in week 5 already. How times flies when you are having fun learning. We have had a great start to term 1 in the Prep-2 classroom. Here is what we have been doing in our classroom.

Prep

In Prep we have been learning numbers from one to ten. Prep students have been practicing writing the number, learning the number name and showing collections of objects from one to ten. For the next three weeks we will be focusing on sorting and classifying familiar objects based on different attributes. Students will be developing and identifying sorting strategies and explain the basis for classifying objects.

Grade 1 & 2

In Grade 1 we have been learning about addition and subtraction stories. Students have been practicing using strategies such as counting on, counting backwards and using a number line and counters to solve addition and subtraction stories. Grade 2 have completed their assessment task on using the “Part-Part Whole Strategy”. This week the grade 1 and grade 2 students will be starting to learn about 2D shapes. Students will be identifying attributes of 2D shapes to determine what the shape’s name is.

English:

In our first English unit we have been reading, comprehending and analysing story books. Students are currently preparing for their oral presentation on the book “My Cat Maise”. Grade 2 students will be comparing two texts “My Cat Maise” and “Hattie and the Fox”. They will discuss similarities and differences of these two books and make connections to these stories. Students will be presenting their oral presentations at the end of this week.

Reading

Reading is a huge focus in the Prep- Grade 2 Classroom. It is fundamental that students have the foundations of sight words knowledge, understanding of letter-sound correspondence, application of word decoding strategies and comprehension strategies to understand what they are reading. In our reading groups we have been continuing to focus on “Lips the Fish” and “Chunky Monkey” to decode unknown words. Students have been applying the comprehension strategy “Making connections” to comprehend and to make meaning when they read.

Sight words have been a huge focus this term in our classroom. It is the student’s goal to learn their sight words everyday to be able to move to the next level. Next week will be reviewing student’s sight words results to see how much growth has occurred over the first five weeks of term 1. I am looking forward to celebrating student’s results to see how many sight words they now know.

Aleesa Swindlehurst
P-2 Teacher

Students practicing mixing primary colours to make secondary colours in art.
Our Strategies:
Improving student achievement in all key learning areas.
Demonstrate high quality teaching practices characterised by high expectations of all.

Senior Classroom Update!
I’m glad to report students in the senior classroom have settled into the school routines quickly. The majority of students have been caught following the classroom and school rules and rewarded with gotchas. It’s great to see everyone aiming to be safe, respectful learners. Congratulations to our new school captains; Jorden Ford and Kyle Jonsson and our new school leaders. I trust you will all be great role models and represent your school to the best of your abilities. Congratulations to the students on the student council. You all did a terrific job organising and managing the school’s first fundraising event for the year – free dress day.

During the first 5 weeks of school all students have been extremely busy. Within the senior room all students have completed an English assessment task. Students in Years 4 and 5 have also completed a Math assessment task. Results will be discussed with individual students and shared with parents and carers as soon as possible.

‘Sizzling Starts’ is a creative way to encourage the students to start stories with interesting sentences. They are given three words each day to put into a sizzling beginning. Following are some sizzling starts that the students have created to date.

Nightmare, it must be a nightmare; T-rex's can’t be living in my backyard. I stabbed myself with a fork to see if I was dreaming. "Ahh!!" I screamed, like a girl. "Shut up" said Miss Pimples across the road. At least I knew I wasn’t dreaming. I was petrified! I packed my bags and took a taxi to Melbourne because I’m not going back there.

Smash, crack, smash the rollercoaster pulled to a halt. I desperately gripped the safety bar like a madman and hoped for the best. Everyone was screaming, except for me. I was puking up my double choc fudge thick shake that I had drunk earlier. My face was bright like I had just eaten the hottest pepper in the world. I had to get out of there.

SMASH!!! I saw a massive foot in my backyard. It was purple and pink with blue stripes. Roarr!!! It was so loud, seriously! I was washing the dishes. Bubbles were spitting in my mouth. It felt like a bubble bath in there. I could smell morning fresh up my nose. All I can feel is adventure. I was thrilled to have my own pet T-Rex.

Mel List
3-7 Teacher

I don’t think Miss List and Miss S got the flyer explaining that the Student Council organised a free dress day on Wednesday!
Our Strategies:
Confidence and pride in the school’s performance is developed through collaboration and consultation with students, staff, parents and community.

Week 2 Star Students
Jasmine, Mackenzi, Meg, Kelsey, Jordyn, Jorden, Zech, Rachael & Blake

Week 3 Star Students
Meg, Chelsea, Kiara, Wade, Zech, Shianne, Seth, Daniel, Lochlan & Brayden
Our Strategies:
To provide a safe, supportive, inclusive and disciplined learning environment.

School Leaders 2014

Week 4
Star Students

Jorden, Allyson, Wes, Scott & Jyden

School Captains: Kyle & Jordan, Grevillea House
Acacia House Captains: Kelsay & Bethany, Student Council President: Douglas, Student Council Treasurer: Jordyn, Student Council Secretary: Kyle
Our Strategies:
Confidence and pride in the school’s performance is developed through collaboration and consultation with students, staff, parents and community.
Our Strategies:
To provide a safe, supportive, inclusive and disciplined learning environment.