From the Principal

**NQ Principal’s Forum**

Last week I attended the Semester One Principal’s Forum in Townsville where all Principals in the North Queensland region attended. The Director General of Education Queensland Dr Jim Watterston was the keynote speaker and gave a very motivational presentation where he outlined the direction of Education in the state. It was very exciting to hear how North Queensland is travelling in comparison to the other regions within the state and he was extremely impressed with the enthusiasm and ambition of the principals in the region.

There was acknowledgement from the Director General and Regional Director that the profession has become extremely demanding and work life balance needs to be something not taken lightly. However, they did not shy away from the fact that the strategic direction and improvement in student outcomes lies squarely on the shoulders of the principal and the instructional leadership qualities they must display at all times. These words can be very daunting, however they inspire me to become a leader who takes staff, students and parents with me on an exciting journey of improvement and ensuring our school is not just a great school but one of the best in the state.

With only four weeks of Term 2 remaining, classrooms are very busy. Report Cards will be issued to all students before the holidays and teachers are busy ensuring students complete their end of term assessment items and preparing student reports. It is therefore vital that all children attend school all day, every day to ensure they do not miss any lessons or assessment items. Students should be congratulated for their continued efforts to learn to the best of their ability every day. Our resourceful teachers and teacher aides are dedicated to ensuring each child at Greenvale is able to learn and improve each day.

**Every day counts**

As we only have four weeks left of the term, parents are reminded of the importance of sending children to school every day. Being at school every day counts, with one day absent each week quickly adding up to two months of missed lessons in a year.

Unless your child is ill, it is expected that your child will be at school learning every day of the school year.

Our attendance data – keeping in mind that we are aiming at reaching 95%

Term One – 93.1%
Term Two to date – 92.6%

We have dropped slightly from last term however we have made a huge improvement from last year which was 85.1%. Congratulations on your efforts to ensure your child is attending each day!

**Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday**

Please note that Monday the 10th of June is a public holiday and the school will be closed.
Ravenswood Social Evening and Soccer Day

On the Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th June, Ravenswood State School will welcome parents and students from Pentland, Greenvale and Homestead State Schools to join in a social night prior to participating in the Soccer Carnival the following day.

On the Monday, Greenvale State School students have a **normal school day up until 1pm** when we will commence travelling to Ravenswood. Students and parents should aim to arrive at Ravenswood between 5.30pm and 6.00p.m when the social evening events begin.

If your child is not attending this event, a home program specifically designed for them will have been created and is required to be completed on the Tuesday. This work is due back on Wednesday to be marked by staff. Please complete attached forms and return to school by Friday 6th June.

Inter-House Athletics

Greenvale State School is holding our Inter-house Athletics carnival on Thursday 26th June (Week 10). All parents and community members welcome. The P&C will have morning tea & lunch available to purchase.

Last Day of the Term

Friday the 27th of June is the last day of Term 2. School resumes on Monday the 14th of July.

Have a sensational month! Please remember you’re welcome to drop in at any time! We would love to see you!

Under 8’s Day

This year our Under 8’s Day will be held on Friday June 13th from 9.30am – 11.35am. All games and activities will be focused around a superhero theme. P&C are catering and we will be having a sausage sizzle for the cost of $2.50 per person. Everyone is welcome to come along and join in all the fun!

Thank You

Thank you to Dallas Struckel for donating some top soil to the school so we can spruce up our garden beds. Thank you to Mr and Mrs Olditch for donating sand to our long jump pit. The students will get a lot of use out it, in the lead up to the Athletics Carnival. We would also like to thank Mr Palmer for making a sandpit board for the school.

Student Council Update

We shouted everybody a slice of cake this month and donated $40.00 to the Biggest Morning Tea. The student Council would like to see if any one has spare paint lying around the house as would like to paint our shop counter. This would be
Our Strategies:
Improving student achievement in all key learning areas.
Demonstrate high quality teaching practices characterised by high expectations of all.

Explicit Teaching at Greenvale State School

This year, Greenvale State School has begun to incorporate explicit teaching models within classrooms in an effort to continue to support students to achieve more than they thought was possible.
Through the evidenced based research of renowned educator John Fleming, lessons now incorporate an explicit learning goal and success criteria for the students to achieve. Teachers write the student’s lesson goal on the board, this allows students to not only prepare themselves appropriately for the instruction and activities to follow, but also allows them to understand what they need to do to be successful in that lesson. To further support student understanding, learning experiences are further scaffolded to include three levels, the ‘I do’, ‘We do’ and ‘You do’ components. I will explain this further in the next newsletter.
P—2 News

Wow it is crazy to think that we are already in Week 7. Time flies when you are having fun learning!

Writing Goals:
In the P-2 classroom students have been working hard to achieve their writing goals. As learners we all have different learning goals and we strive to make improvements to achieve these goals. The process of goal setting provides direction and steps to accomplish and succeed in a particular area. Every step that a student completes reinforces their sense of skill and self-confidence. By knowing what they want to achieve, they know what they have to concentrate on and improve. Congratulations to Lochlan and Mackenzi who have achieved their writing goals this week. Keep up the great work.

We have noticed some fantastic improvements in writing this week. I even have had students working on their writing at home!

Have a look at some of our superstar’s writing from this week.

Written by Luke (Grade 2)
This is the most persuasive book on earth! This book will make your family laugh. This smart and cheeky pigeon can’t want to have a puppy. But when he saw the puppy it was bigger than any pigeon. The pigeon said I don’t want a puppy I want a walrus. It is an excellent book for children to read. It will certainly make your family smart. Everyone should read all the pigeon books in the world.

Written by Jyden (Prep)
At the beginning Rose was happy and she was excited and proud. She was excited because she got to look at the sun. At the end Mr Wintergarten was happy and friendly because Rose came to his home.

Congratulations Wes!
Wes is our bucket filler of the week. Wes is constantly filling people’s buckets by encouraging others and looking after people when they are sad.

Keep up the great bucket filling Wes.
From the Principal

Our Strategies:
To provide a safe, supportive, inclusive and disciplined learning environment.

3-7 News

Students in the senior classroom have been busy writing literary recounts of an exciting time/event within their lives. Last week the topic was The Disgusting Dinner. To generate ideas and motivate creativity, students carefully plan their writing. To engage their audience, students are encouraged to hook the reader, describe actions, thoughts and feelings and use dialogue and sound effects. Enjoy reading the samples of work below.

Mel List

The Disgusting Dinner

I crept down the hall slowly and cautiously. The foul smell getting stronger as I crept closer. Hoping not to hear the dreaded words “dinner is ready, we’re having lentil stew” but the smell was too much, I had to retreat.

Dad came into my room and furiously dragged me down the hall to meet the table. I was fighting and struggling to break free. The plates hit the table like nuclear bombs. The lentils floating on the top like dead bodies on a murky swamp. “I’m not eating that”.

Kyle Jonsson – Yr 7

The Disgusting Dinner

I was in my room minding my own business when “Yuck, what is that horrible smell” I say to myself. Then Mum calls me “Dinners ready” she yelled. I went down stairs as slowly and as quietly as I could. I get to the bottom of the stairs and peek around the corner, dad slopped a big pile of lentil stew onto my plate. “There is no way I am eating that” I whispered to myself. I snuck towards the door to escape from the horrible smell and the disgusting look of the lentil stew on my plate. “Wade where are you going at this time of night?” mum said curiously “Nowhere” I said thinking my life was over.

By Wade Jonsson Year 5

The Disgusting Dinner

It was time for dinner and I could smell something YUCK like a pig and cabbage. Then I heard Mum calling out “dinner is ready.” As I slowly walk into the kitchen, I block my nose. If Dad saw me he would get mad. So I tried to get away as fast I could but Dad saw me and said “Get back to the table we eating now.” I was scared inside as, so I walked slowly back to the table. I saw Dad giving me a big ‘Slop’ on my plate. I looked at it. It was lentil stew the worst stew ever. I thought it was something else that was heaps better than lentil stew but I was wrong. It smelled disgusting. I ran away and said “I’d rather eat my toe nails than that.”

By Jorden Ford - Year 7
Our Strategies:
Confidence and pride in the school’s performance is developed through collaboration and consultation with students, staff, parents and community.

Greenvale State School is now a Better Buddies

This term we have began to implement ‘The Alannah and Madeline Foundation’s Better Buddies Framework’ which is based on several years of research into buddy programs in schools. Buddy systems play an important role in helping to create safe school environments. This programme is sponsored by NAB.

Benefits For Your Child
Buddy systems teach, and give children the opportunity to practise, the important values of respect, care, valuing difference, responsibility, friendship and including others. Through looking after and caring for smaller, vulnerable children who are just starting school, older children learn the skills associated with empathy and compassion through activities in the classroom and in the playground. This helps combat bullying and other forms of antisocial behaviour such as harassment and teasing. Teaching pro-social values and skills can also contribute to the development of resilience, a protective factor for children if they experience hardship or loss.

Better Buddies enables younger children to feel safe and cared for while older children feel valued and respected. A buddy program can strengthen the school community and help to challenge stereotypes, misconceptions or fears that students hold about younger or older age groups. A buddy system can also help students to feel valued and supported, teach important social skills and create a caring ethos in the school. They can create connectedness that enables both older and younger buddies to bond more closely with their school, thereby increasing the likelihood of more positive social behaviour. It has been suggested that when students feel connected to their school, they also feel valued and safe and less likely to either bully or be bullied. Buddy systems help reduce negative behaviours such as bullying.

Ask your child who their Better Buddy is and their secret handshake!

Snake Bites
Several children have reported snakes sightings at home, please see attached pamphlet to assist you in the case of a snake bite. Hopefully no-one will has to use this.

P&C News
Wow, our kids certainly have busy lives! A meeting will be held on Thursday 12 June 2014 at 3:15pm.

We had a very successful State of Origin Game 1 fundraising event, a very special thanks from me, after having a personal loss, to those who organised everything during my absence. Game 2 is on Wednesday 18th June and Game 3 on 9th July. We do need more volunteers for the nights, so if you’re available please let us know.

Friday 13th June is the Under 8’s day, and we need assistance and donations of cakes/slices, remember that all of your help is for the benefit of our kids.

Week 10, the last week of school, is an extremely busy week, with the Cluster School Soccer Carnival at Ravenswood on Tuesday and then the Inter-House Athletics Carnival back here in Greenvale on Thursday.

Don’t forget the Tupperware Raffle is still going and will be drawn on 26th June at the Inter-House Athletics Carnival. Tickets are still available through the School. Thank you to everybody for your continued support.

Bedeliah (Biddy)
Our Strategies:
To provide a safe, supportive, inclusive and disciplined learning environment.

**Memorial Service for Bruce Wetzig**

There is a memorial service being held for Bruce on Wednesday June 11th at the Greenvale Church. The service will commence at 11:00am, afternoon tea will be at Three Rivers Hotel from 3:00pm.

Everyone welcome to attend.

**School Holiday Fun**

**THE WIZARD OF OZ SHOW – QLD Tour 2014**

Following over 3800 performances internationally, *The Wizard of Oz Show* arrives on a tour of Queensland these July holidays. Kids can rap with the Tinman, roar like a Lion, wake up sleepy Shakey the Scarecrow and dance with Dorothy in this interactive, new version of America’s best loved fairy tale. Billed as one of Australia’s top children’s shows, *The Wizard of Oz Show* is about more than giving kids a good time. It spreads a message of hope and self-esteem to the young. Come dressed as your favourite Oz character & bring a new toy or book for our Children’s Hospital Toy Appeal. Suitable: 2 – 10yrs. More details at [www.thewizardofozshow.com](http://www.thewizardofozshow.com). Tickets range from $15-22.