



Mutchilba State School

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4th April 2024

Dear Families,

Please let me take the opportunity to thank each of you for all your continued support as we work together as a small school in a rural community, raising standards, re-imagining and reimagining our ways of working so that we continue to provide exceptional learning transforming young peoples' lives. As a teaching principal, I am truly fortunate to work with such exceptional and caring staff who are focused on building strong relationships with the students and thinking about ways to bring joy and create unforgettable memories for everyone. Here are some of this month's highlights:



Life Ed on Friday the 15th March Healthy Harold visited our students. We discussed friendships and ways we engage with each other in a positive way. We thank Gemma for a truly engaging session.



Cross Country/Library Excursion on Wednesday 20th March we travelled to Dimbulah to participate in the Cross Country. Following this we travelled to the Dimbulah Library for a story, a tour and really enjoyable easter activity prepared for us by Rachael.

Students of the Week: It is truly a joy to work at Mutchilba State School where the ALL the children collectively aspire to uphold our 3 universal Values: Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be a Learner. Well done everyone. We are so very proud of you all.



Chaplain update Sharee Walmsley is our chaplain who works each Wednesday. We are thankful for having such a committed Chaplain who works so hard supporting our students particularly in the area of well-being. Starting from Term 2, Sharee will be entering into a shared working arrangement with Deb Ishamael-Bimrose. Deb will now be working on odd weeks and Sharee on even weeks. Deb is keen to deliver the PPP parenting program for interested parents. Throughout Term 2, parents have the opportunity to catch up with Deb even if it is for a cuppa at the Mutchilba Shop- our treat!



GOTCHA Term 1 winner. Each week at Mutchilba we reward students for demonstrating our 3 universal rules - we GOTCHA the children with a token. These GOTCHA tokens are then collated and after 10 weeks, used to determine the overall GOTCHA winner/s. Each term our overall GOTCHA Winner will be able to choose from 4 fantastic prizes! We extend a huge thanks to Hungry Pug whose donation earlier this term helped us to prepare an amazing assortment of GOTCHA WINNER prizes.

P and C meetings As a P and C we convened for our AGM meeting on Wednesday 27th March 2024. As per P and C guidelines, all executive roles have now been vacated. I would like to extend a heart-felt thankyou to Share Walmsley (President) and Nathan Walmsley (Treasurer) for their ongoing contributions towards the P and C. We were very pleased to hear outstanding feedback from the auditors about the management of the P and C accounts by our treasurer. Excellent work Nathan. On Wednesday the 24th of April, we will host our next P and C meeting at school and call for nominations to the P and C. We encourage all our parents to join the P and C and become members.

Pick of the Crop Cooking We are a most fortunate to welcome Marija Meyers to our staff this term. Marija joins us on Mondays and teaches the Arts, Health and organizes the cooking as part of the Pick of the Crop program. Marija brings enthusiasm and energy to her role and the feedback from the students is very positive. Our students have enjoyed making the most delicious dishes this term to either enjoy at lunch or take home. In the last week, Marija consolidated various kitchen skills e.g. knife handling and also capitalized the opportunity to make sushi with the students. We are very thankful to our aide Ronnie Ferguson for taking the time to personalize each of the aprons for the children- which look fantastic.



Pick of the Crop I am very pleased to announce that we have been successful in securing additional funds to support our Pick of the Crop program throughout 2024.

There are three key ways we plan to spend the Pick of the Crop Funds this year.

1. Repairing the greenhouse so we can propagate our seedlings for transplanting
2. Establishing a series of raised garden beds to prevent soil washed away from flooding
3. Purchasing materials and supplies to support our interaction with the produce we grow

With all the wet weather throughout the months of December-March, our school fence along the creek boundary has fallen over due to the soil erosion from the flooding. This means that the fence will now need to be shifted further up the bank onto the school grounds. It is unclear whether the new fence will go through into the present garden area. We will need to exercise flexibility and perhaps reconceptualize our garden space if we do lose garden ground. It is our intention to think long term with everything we do in the Pick of the Crop program so we continue to provide a rich nutritional program for our students for many more years to come.

Easter Fun

Our students enjoyed an epic Easter fun filled week in the last term. It was heartwarming to witness first-hand the generosity extended by all our staff to all our children.



Calendar Term 2

Please note some of the following date claimers for Term 2:

- 24th April- Wednesday in Week 2 there will be the P and C meeting (8am), Anzac Parade (9am) and School Photos (12 noon). Information about the school photos will be sent home in the first week back at school
- 10th May- Friday. Although we are not involved, the students do engage for a short period with the runners from the Wheelbarrow race who run past the school
- 25th May – Saturday in Week 6, our students are performing a dance item at the Dimbulah festival
- 31st May- Friday in Week 7, our students are travelling to Chillagoe for the Athletics Carnival
- 10th June- Monday in Week 9, the facilitators from the Tinaroo Education Centre will be catching up with the school leaders at 2pm
- 17th-19th – Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday- Parents have the opportunity to book a session on any one of the days to meet for a parent teacher meeting to discuss their child's ongoing academic progress. Parents will be able to nominate to meet either before, during or after school on these days.

School Dental Van

I have not heard anything as yet about the visit to the school by the school dental van. Parents are most welcome to ring the dental van directly should they require this service. The phone number is 1300300850.

Regular Catch up with the Principal in Term 2

I welcome every opportunity to sit with the parents and will happily catch up before or after school. If parents would prefer to book a time to sit together. I have availability for parents each **Monday (9am-2pm)** and on even weeks **Wednesday (9-3pm)**. Please do not hesitate to contact me by phone on 0466542419. If I am on class, I will endeavour to return your call at next available break time.

Have a glorious holiday and I am looking forward to reconnecting with each of you after the break.

Yours sincerely,

Linda Tomic
Principal