Dear Parents & Caregivers

Happy Holidays

As this is the last newsletter for the year I’d like to wish each and every family a safe and peace filled Christmas season and a prosperous New Year. We look forward to working with you and your students again in 2017.

Classes for 2017

Currently staffing arrangements for 2017 are as follows:

Prep-Miss Baker
Prep/1-Miss Rosier
Year 1-Miss Berg
Year 2-Mrs Roche
Year 2- Miss Wilton
Year 2/3-Mrs Collis
Year 3-Mrs Levy
Year 4-Miss Johnson
Year 4/5-Mrs van Hattem
Year 5/6-Mrs Ritter
Year 6-Mrs Wilton/Miss Allan

While draft classes have been completed, students will not be notified of their 2017 teacher until the commencement of 2017. Each year new enrolments come in over the holidays and so changes to classes and sometimes class structures need to be made. To avoid disappointment (when classes change due to changing enrolment numbers) students are allocated classes on the first day of the 2017 school year.

Break Up Day - Thursday
All classes have organised their own food for break up day so you should have received a letter from the class teacher. All classes from years 1-6 will be enjoying an additional swim on Thursday.  
**Please note that students still need $2, their togs & towel for this swim.**

Students are permitted to wear free dress on Thursday.

**Clean Up Day Friday**

On Friday staff and students will be cleaning, tidying and setting up the school in readiness for the 2017 school year. Students will need to be in school uniform on this day.

**Uniform Shop - Opening Hours**

The uniform shop will be open on Wednesday 11th January 2017 from 9:00am until Midday alternatively it will open again on the first day of term 1, Monday 23rd January 2017 from 7.00am until 11.00am. Please note the tuckshop is a cash only facility.

**School Starts 23.01.17**

Please note that school resumes on Monday 23rd January. On Thursday 26th January students will enjoy a public holiday for Australia Day.

Regards,

Sandy Christensen

Principal

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**CURRICULUM CORNER with Mrs Rowlands**

Published by Admin Rosewood State School

The holidays are almost here! Fun times can be exhausting and costly. Here are some ideas for the holidays that are fun, inexpensive and have educational value by providing your child with new experiences in their world. 
New experiences will help your child to develop the skills of a PAL.

1. Go camping in the garden or backyard, or even just in the living room. If you already have a tent, this doesn't cost a thing. Serve up some hotdogs and tell stories until you fall asleep.

2. Have a movie day if you don't want to head outside. This is perfect for a rainy day. Rent a few kids movies and stock up on popcorn.

3. Plant vegetables with the kids. You don't even need a garden for this. Most of the fun comes from finding containers to recycle as pots, painting them, and planting the seeds. Choose something that grows fast (like radish or lettuce) and start on the first day of holidays, so the kids can see them grow each day.

4. Take a day at the beach. The only expense is the fuel and snacks while you're out in the sun.

5. Take a day out at the water park in Ipswich

6. Queens Park is great day out for the kids. Be warned though – it will need a full day to enjoy it all!. The park boasts 22 hectares of parklands with inviting picnic spots, a café and the Children's playground – a favourite with its flying fox and fixed model train additions. One of the real attractions though is the Ipswich Nature Centre which is housed within the parklands.

7. Robelle Domain also features tree top walks, a lake and the country's first Icon on Galaxy interactive play equipment in an all abilities playground. If you are after a more serene visit there are the land art pyramids and artwork to discover, exhibition gardens and many wonderful, shady picnic spots with fantastic bbq facilities. If the kids are not completed exhausted by all the incredible things to do here then stick around as by night the park is transformed by feature lighting and light shows between 7-8pm. [http://www.brisbanekids.com.au/2011/07/robelle-domain-springfield/](http://www.brisbanekids.com.au/2011/07/robelle-domain-springfield/)

8. The Orion Shopping Centre in Springfield has a mystical play centre aptly named The Enchanted Forest. The first of its kind in Australia, this indoor playground boasts a 3m tree for the kids to climb and slide down from, a log to crawl through, a bridge to scramble over and lots of beautiful creatures to tumble onto and between.

9. Ipswich Art Gallery is said to be one of the most-visited regional art galleries in Australia. With an ever-changing calendar of events, displays, family activities, complimentary art workshops and performances this is always a great place to visit. Best of all – the centre has a dedicated Children's gallery with workshops and displays that are sure to
captive and hold your child’s interest and fire the imagination. To see a list of current workshops as well as free school holiday activities check out their webpage here: http://www.ipswichartgallery.qld.gov.au/kids

10. Brisbane and beyond Brisbane has some of the best Museums and Galleries in Australia with all of them offering some inclusion for Brisbane Kids. They also have child centric exhibitions from time to time and we list them on our calendar to ensure that you will be able to find them easily. Not all museums are free but the main one at South Bank is.

A reminder that some suitable apps and websites that you might like to check out were posted in the last newsletter.

Enjoy this precious time with your children, they really do grow up very fast.

Dagmar Rowlands
Head of Curriculum


3P Parenting support for families
A free program to help families
http://www.triplep.net/glo-en/home/

Round up from the Big Veggie Garden

This year we started Garden Club with a blank canvas of weeds and hard ground. After much hard work this year we have continued to grow vegetables as well as remake the outer edges by installing a pond and growing lots of plants that have different shaped leaves, flowers, scents and growth patterns. This is now an area actively used by science classes when studying living things and observing how plants grow, defend themselves, host and repel animals. Our stock of fish have grown from 5 to 18 at last count. We have great hopes for the future to create an outdoor classroom for art lessons and health lessons.

From this…….. To this…………………

Busy gardeners harvesting a crop of potatoes and other vegetables.
Children and Media: Tips for Parents

By: American Academy of Pediatrics

In a world where children are "growing up digital," it's important to help them learn healthy concepts of digital use and citizenship. Parents play an important role in teaching these skills. Here are a few tips from the AAP to help parents manage the digital landscape they're exploring with their children.

- **Treat media as you would any other environment in your child's life**
  - The same parenting guidelines apply in both real and virtual environments. Set limits; kids need and expect them. Know your children's friends, both online and off. Know what platforms, software, and apps your children are using, where they are going on the web, and what they are doing online.

- **Set limits and encourage playtime**
  - Tech use, like all other activities, should have reasonable limits. Unstructured and offline play stimulates creativity. Make unplugged playtime a daily priority, especially for very young children. And — don't forget to join your children in unplugged play whenever you're able.

- **Families who play together, learn together**
  - Family participation is also great for media activities — it encourages social interactions, bonding, and learning. Play a video game with your kids. It's a good way to demonstrate good sportsmanship and gaming etiquette. And, you can introduce and share your own life experiences and perspectives — and guidance — as you play the game.

- **Be a good role model**
  - Teach and model kindness and good manners online. And, because children are great mimics, limit your own media use. In fact, you'll be more available for and connected with your children if you're interacting, hugging and playing with them rather than simply staring at a screen.

- **Know the value of face-to-face communication**
  - Very young children learn best through two-way communication. Engaging in back-and-forth "talk time" is critical for language development. Conversations can be face-to-face or, if necessary, by video chat, with a traveling parent or far-away grandparent. Research has shown that it's that "back-and-forth conversation" that improves language skills — much more so than "passive" listening or one-way interaction with a screen.

- **Create tech-free zones**
  - Keep family mealtimes and other family and social gatherings tech-free. Recharge devices overnight — outside your child's bedroom to help children avoid the temptation...
to use them when they should be sleeping. These changes encourage more family
time, healthier eating habits, and better sleep, all critical for children's wellness.

• Don't use technology as an emotional pacifier
  • Media can be very effective in keeping kids calm and quiet, but it should not be the only
    way they learn to calm down. Children need to be taught how to identify and handle
    strong emotions, come up with activities to manage boredom, or calm down through
    breathing, talking about ways to solve the problem, and finding other strategies for
    channeling emotions.

• Apps for kids: do your homework
  • More than 80,000 apps are labeled as educational, but little research has demonstrated
    their actual quality. Products pitched as "interactive" should require more than "pushing
    and swiping." Look to organizations like Common Sense Media for reviews about age-
    appropriate apps, games and programs to guide you in making the best choices for
    your children.

• It's okay for your teen to be online
  • Online relationships are part of typical adolescent development. Social media can
    support teens as they explore and discover more about themselves and their place in
    the grown-up world. Just be sure your teen is behaving appropriately in both the real
    and online worlds. Many teens need to be reminded that a platform's privacy settings do
    not make things actually "private" and that images, thoughts, and behaviors teens share
    online will instantly become a part of their digital footprint indefinitely. Keep lines of
    communication open and let them know you're there if they have questions or concerns.

• Remember — kids will be kids
  • Kids will make mistakes using media. Try to handle errors with empathy and turn a
    mistake into a teachable moment. But some indiscretions, such as sexting, bullying, or
    posting self-harm images, may be a red flag that hints at trouble ahead. Parents should
    take a closer look at your child's behaviors and, if needed, enlist supportive professional
    help, including from your pediatrician.

• Media and digital devices are an integral part of our world today. The benefits of these
  devices, if used moderately and appropriately, can be great. But, research has shown
  that face-to-face time with family, friends, and teachers, plays a pivotal and even more
  important role in promoting children's learning and healthy development. Keep the face-
  to-face up front, and don't let it get lost behind a stream of media and tech.

Liz Jumelet
Literacy Coach

CHAPPY CHAT with Chappy Krystal
Published by Admin Rosewood State School

Hi Everyone,

Welcome to the final week of school for 2016. I’m sure you're all very excited for a well-earned
break, and some fun time with family and friends over Christmas.

As some of you would be aware, I am due to have my second baby in March next year. I will be
away for at least part of next year, so this will be my last newsletter for a while.

I will be sending through an email to Mrs Christensen when the baby is born so she can keep
everyone who would like to know informed and will come to school for a short visit sometime after
baby arrives.

I look forward to returning to the school after my leave, and hope everyone has a very good 2017 at
Rosewood State School.

May your Christmas be filled with fun, joy, and many blessings.

A thought to ponder… “Always laugh when you can. It is the cheapest medicine.”

Happy Holidays,

Chappy Krystal
Christmas Greetings from P&C

The P&C would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your valued support of our school and your students throughout the year. We wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and look forward to working with you in the new year.

BRINGING OUR BEST

Year Six Graduating Class 2016

CONGRATULATIONS

Best of luck to our graduating year six students as they begin their journey into high school.

Premier’s Visit

Recently we were very lucky to have a visit from Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk MP and Jim Madden MP - Member for Ipswich West. They took a tour around our school and met with the Year 6 students to wish them well for their graduation.
Science Fun

Final Science lesson in 2016 for 2A and 2/3 C "Mix, Make and Use" unit. What else but - Chocolate Crackles. They measured, mixed, made and used (ate!)

Royal Life Saving Queensland

Last week our upper school swimming classes were involved in sessions with Royal Life Saving Queensland. Students were taught safe ways to enter the water, different recovery techniques and what to do if you encounter trouble in the water. Another great experience for our students!
Parade 30th November

Congratulations 1B for achieving the highest attendance award for the week ending 25th November.

Students from our lower grades were awarded with certificates for “Bringing Their Best” in the classroom.

Well Done!

The Maths Whiz Kids competition saw these students excel in their year level. They were awarded for their efforts on parade last week.
Year six students and their families enjoyed a wonderful night celebrating their graduation.