



# Rollingstone State School

## Principal's Report to Parents and Citizens Association

Thursday, 16 August, 2018

### Learning:

- English teachers participated in planning time with the Principal yesterday to unpack the next units of work. This is an important process as it ensures teachers have clarity around what they are teaching and therefore students will be clear about what they are learning and what the expectation is. I am personally proud and pleased that we continue to evolve and adopt best practice in our teaching methods.
- Teachers are also participating in professional development around the teaching of writing across the curriculum at staff meetings. Teachers are becoming engaged in professional conversations about what students should be demonstrating in their writing at each year level. This helps support the teaching of students of all abilities.
- One of the priorities for the year is writing. Teachers continue to implement a number of strategies to improve writing within units of work such as using learning walls, learning intentions, success criteria, feedback, observation of student work against purpose of lesson and the gradual release of responsibility.
- Teachers will be utilising the Literacy Continuum to improve students' writing. Teachers will be using evidence of student work to plot individual students on the continuum. From there, teachers will explicitly teach concepts that students need to work on to move up the continuum. Teachers will provide feedback to students based on the class goal and their individual goals. Classes will have a dedicated writing time, just like we currently have for reading.
- Intervention and extension groups have commenced to improve writing.
- Intervention lessons for reading have been organised based on need.

### School:

- We are currently engaged with our cluster schools to improve writing standards, particularly with regards to high school. Currently, data shows that writing standards actually drop when students commence high school. Schools are collaborating to discuss and observe best practice in order to ensure standards continue to improve.
- Information about the Ready Reading Program was sent home in today's newsletter and will also appear in the Rolly Rag. I urge people to get on board. To improve outcomes for children in our community, education is the key. This program will assist in adding to our processes at school to improve student outcomes, but it will also provide opportunities for parents of children not yet at school to develop their child's skills prior to school. Learning starts at birth so this is critical. As a community, our vision should be putting our kids first. This is one way this can happen.
- Our students represented the school well at Red Track. They also performed well on the day with the girls taking out the Aggregate Trophy.
- There is a need to raise some funds to support having Chappy Travis in our school. I received an email outlining that the additional money that he needs to raise is in deficit. Any suggestions?
- Improvements to the school grounds continue to take place. The final garden is nearly complete.
- The recycling project has been well supported, particularly by the Mystic Sands Golf Resort. Thank you for the containers. We will need to register the P&C to be eligible for payment.
- A range of activities have been organised for the term including the disco, movie night, red track, beach walk, Junior Leos Breakfast, Water Safety visit, Rail Safety visit, Indonesian Day, Bike Ride support, Gymnastics and Soccer programs.
- School Opinion Surveys were sent home on August 1. Can I ask parents to take the time to complete them?

- **Bunnings have offered their support to continue establishing gardens and greenhouses. This will be followed up.**
- **Thank you for everyone's assistance at the disco. It was an enjoyable evening.**

**Workforce:**

- **We now have a regular Guidance Officer at our school.**
- **Ms Nina has returned from her holiday.**

**Cash at Bank: \$104 333.33 - Please see me if you would like a run down on the school budget.**

Keith Poulter  
Principal