Principal News

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

This week, I have been joined by Chantelle Bauer, Lisa Maslen and Janet Cosgrove, 3 key staff members from Drayton SS in Brisbane at a course designed by the late Steven Covey entitled The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People. Some of you may have read his best sellers or indeed, have an understanding of the 7 habits.

As a leadership team, as a school team, we are going to start to really unpack and break down the 7 Habits for us in our role as family members, along with our dual role as educators. The 7 Habits will further allow us to continue to ensure that we, as a school, further the ‘right’ journey, especially about knowing each FACE and knowing the strengths and areas for improvement of all students. This is part of our work in Putting FACES on the Data.

For those interested in knowing more about the 7 Habits, they are:

1. Be Proactive, the habit of personal responsibility
2. Begin with the End in Mind, the habit of personal vision
3. Put First Things First, the habit of personal management

These first 3 habits lead to Dependence – a sense of the Private Victory. Then, in moving to from Dependence to Independence is the necessity of making deposits into our Emotional Bank Accounts.

The next 3 habits form our Public Victory:

4. Think W in-W in, the habit of mutual benefit
5. Seek First to Understand, Then to be Understood, the habit of emphatic communication
6. Synergize, the habit of creative cooperation

From here, and tying it all together, strategically moving from Independence to Interdependence, is the 7th and final habit 7. Sharpen the Saw, the habit of daily self-renewal

This is important for all of us, maximising our health and wellbeing and reflecting on what is the most important aspect of our lives.

The 4 of us who attended the workshop and training session in Brisbane also completed a 360 Degree Feedback, which is where we invited others (including staff and members of the Department) to provide confidential frank and fearless feedback to us on how well they believe we enact the above 7 habits in our personal and professional lives. We will continue to debrief from these ‘results’ of the assessment over the coming weeks with our trainers from the course. This will help us look at areas of strength and indeed, the 1 or 2 areas that we will focus on improving in our lives.

I am really looking forward to being able to apply the 7 Habits in both my personal and professional lives, along with investing in the emotional bank account of others, making me more effective in my roles of father, educator and Principal.

I would like to offer my thanks to Chantelle Bauer who acted for me in my absence last week, along with Stacey Ormsby and Fay Gregory over the past couple of days whilst the leadership team have been at our training in Brisbane this week.

In completing our professional learning journey, we have today been fortunate enough to visit Durack SS, who, ironically, are known as the Durack Dragons. This school visit enabled the leadership team to further review our own mission statement, Explicit Improvement Agenda and see the operational aspect of a school on a similar path to ours, but outside our Region. I would like to thank Principal Beth Peterson and her staff for showing us around during our time at Durack.

A Reminder: Students Enrolling or Departing for 2017
If you have any children who will be leaving Drayton SS next year, or who are enrolling at Drayton SS for next, could you please let the office know ASAP. This will greatly assist our planning and preparation for classes. We are really excited at the prospect of adding a 14th class to our school for 2017. However, we do work on student enrolment numbers. Hence, if your children won’t be here, or if you know of children who will be here next year, please contact the Office on (07) 4637 7444. Thanks in advance! We are excitedly looking forward to next year.

**On That Note …**

Have a great rest of Week 7. I am looking forward to seeing so many students and families at the Swimming Carnival this coming Friday!! Gooooooo DRAYTON!!

**Aleksandr Taylor-Gough.**

**PRINCIPAL**

**Canberra Update**

Hi everyone, just a couple of quick updates regarding our Canberra trip in 2017:

- A reminder from the office that a payment of $150 is due by the end of this term. Once this payment has been made, a total of $550 should have been paid by each family. Can you please ensure that these payments are up to date?

- If you know that your child won’t be returning to Drayton next year, can you please notify the office ASAP so that we can notify students on the waiting list of a possible available place on the bus.

- If you are a new parent to Drayton with a child currently in Year 4 and 5 this year, and would like to place your child on the waiting list, please contact the office.

Kind regards,

Stacey Ormsby.
Service Name: Drayton  Phone: 0422 005 470

What we’ve been up to in the past fortnight!

This fortnight we have continued learning about Bangladesh through games, playing true or false with Bangladesh facts, pin the Bangladesh flag on the map, and playing a popular game among Bangladesh children called Kabaddi where children take it in turns to be a “Raider” and try to tag as many people of the opposite team while holding their breath. The children have done an amazing job decorating bookmarks and calico bags to send to Bangladesh for under privileged children.

The children loved making balloon sculptures and animals; it was great to see them take the time to learn how to make their own and the smiles on their faces when they had achieved the desired results.

Paper dolls were very popular this week making different characters and different outfits.

With the warmer weather setting in the children have loved learning and creating new outdoor games to help cool off such as drip, drip, drop a variation on duck, duck, goose and water balloon cricket and tennis.

We have also started creating our beach Christmas display in the foyer it won’t be too long before we have enough items completed to start putting up the display.

What we have planned for the next fortnight!

Over the next week we will be finishing off the last of the presents to send to Bangladesh. As of next week we will assign garden monitors to ensure the continuation of care for our vegetable garden. We will be continuing to create our foyer display showing a beach Christmas. As we make Christmas decorations children will be able to store them on the foyer display for everyone to admire before taking them home for the Christmas holidays.

We are still offering homework club if you would like to have your child/ren do it at after school care. We have it running from 3.30pm – 4.30pm

Important Notices:

Holiday Club is open for Christmas holiday bookings at Toowoomba East and Middle Ridge. Middle Ridge will be closed the first week of the holidays due to building maintenance. Programs are now available in the hall foyer.

What to do if your child is absent from After School Care:

Please remember parents if your child/ren are going to be absent from the service or have gone home sick please call us on 0422 005 470 or notify the customer experience team on 1300 105 343.

Educators: Keryn, Bianca, and Tahnee

Service Fees and Times

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<th>Service</th>
<th>Opening hours</th>
<th>Full Fee</th>
<th>Out Of Pocket</th>
<th>Casual Booking</th>
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<td>After Care</td>
<td>3.00pm - 6.00pm</td>
<td>$21.80</td>
<td>$5.81 - $10.90</td>
<td>Add $5</td>
</tr>
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School Finance - PLEASE NOTE!

Requests for Refund forms will be sent home for those who paid for swimming lessons and did not attend them. Please note that the school requires the paperwork in order to process the request.

Statements of money owing will also be sent home. Please attend to these as soon as possible, if you have any questions regarding amounts owing please come into the office and speak with Chris Jones.
Dear Parents and caregivers,

Assembly this week will be on Thursday the 17\textsuperscript{th} November (tomorrow) due to swimming carnival being held on Friday.

This day is also our Naidoc celebration day, as we missed celebrating Naidoc week this year.

The activities we have organised are;

- Dusty from the PCYC is coming in to do some Indigenous Games with us. Grades 2 – 6 will get the opportunity to play modified traditional aboriginal games, while learning about culture and history of Indigenous people.
- The children will be doing some aboriginal paintings that will be displayed around the school.
- A few children will also be performing an aboriginal dance they prepared themselves and a presentation on assembly.

So please come along to assembly on Thursday 17\textsuperscript{th} to watch our performance!

Kate Johnston
Community Liaison Officer
Drayton State School
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