

The Osborne Observer

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Newsletter 1, Week 1

Osborne State School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope that you all had a relaxing and enjoyable break and are ready for another busy year, it was great to see so many smiling faces yesterday as the students returned to school for 2014. This year we have had a small change in staffing, Mrs Haller is no longer working at our school however, Mrs Joanna Marchioni has joined the Osborne team and it is great to have her on board. All other staff have remained the same with Miss Ghobrial working Thursday and Friday, Mrs Nielsen working from Monday to Thursday and Mrs Sartori working on Thursday and Friday. Mrs Laidlow will also be joining us again this year on a volunteer basis on Mondays and Thursday mornings. Mr Nagle will continue on as our groundsman and Mr Thomas will continue in his position as school cleaner.

We are looking forward to a busy term, with our online science program beginning yesterday – we have 7 schools working with us this term, giving the students more opportunities to share ideas and interact with their peers across our district and also into the Ingham district. We will also be continuing our focus on improving the literacy and numeracy skills of all our students. With this in mind, we will also begin our NAPLAN preparations with those students who are in grades 3, 5 and 7. It will certainly be a busy year, but will also be an exciting one for our school during our centenary year.

Emergency Procedures

As you would all be aware, a tropical low is currently developing in the Coral Sea and could develop into a cyclone over the coming days. Should this emergency situation occur, the following procedures should be followed:

Should the cyclone threaten overnight:

- If the decision has been made to close all schools across the region, this decision will be broadcast on the following radio stations at 6:30am – ABC, 4TO/HOTFM 103.1, ZINC 100.7, Mix 106.3, 4TTT, 4K1G and 97.1 Sweet FM.
- If the decision is made to close our school specifically due to dangerous circumstances, this decision will also be broadcast on the above radio stations after 6:45am.

Should a cyclone threaten during the day:

- The school will contact you directly advising of the situation and you will be asked to collect your child from school as quickly as possible.
- Radio stations will also broadcast an advice to collect children from school as quickly as possible.

Although the official position may be that schools are open, parents should make their own judgement on whether it is safe to send their children to school on the day. It is possible, for example, for it to be safe for schools to open, but unsafe or inappropriate for particular students to attend because of individual circumstances.



Welcome!

We would like to welcome these new and returning students to our school – **Clinton McConville** and **Jahlique Gesah**. Welcome to the Osborne family, we hope you enjoy your time at our school!



Working Bee

We will be holding a working bee at school this **Saturday 1 February from 8:30-11:30am**. We will be tidying the school gardens and carrying out some maintenance tasks around the school. Following the working bee, the P&C will be providing a sausage sizzle as a thank you for your help. All parents, carers and students are welcome to come along. We look forward to seeing you there!

P&C Meeting

Our next P&C meeting will be held on **Monday 4th February 2014 at 7pm** in the staff room. 2014 will be an extremely busy year for our school and any assistance you can offer us is greatly appreciated. All parents, carers and friends of the school are welcome to attend.



Centenary Committee Meeting

Our next centenary committee meeting will be held on **Thursday 6 February at 3:15pm** in the staffroom. The centenary events are fast approaching and we need all hands on deck to help with preparation. Please come along and see what you can do to help out.

Home Hill High School Student Leader Investiture

We have been invited to attend the Home Hill High School Student Leader Investiture on **Thursday 13 February**. Our year 6 and 7 students have been asked to attend the ceremony with Miss Laidlow. If you would like your child to attend, please return the attached permission form to school.



Scinspiration 2014

Scinspiration is a science based, extra curricular excursion to Canberra. Scinspiration is open to all students in Years 5,6 and 7 in the Burdekin, Ingham, Charters Towers and Bowen Districts. This exciting excursion will take place during the first week of the June-July school holidays of 2014 from **Monday 7 July to Saturday 12 July**. **Students who attend Scinspiration** have the opportunity to visit numerous attractions, observe working scientists and meet other enthusiastic science students from both districts. Attractions we will be

visiting include: Parliament House, The Australian War Memorial, Royal Australian Mint, Questacon Science Centre, CSIRO Discovery Centre, Geoscience Australia, National Zoo and Aquarium and a day investigating the snow at Perisher Valley. Registrations are now open and a deposit will be required to secure your child's place on tour. Bookings are strictly limited to 40 students and will be taken on a first come, first served basis. The total cost of the trip is **\$1250 per student**, this includes flights to and from Townsville, all transport whilst in Canberra, all meals, snow gear hire and a trip T-shirt.

During 2013, the school and P&C offered a **combined subsidy of \$600 per student, reducing the cost of the trip to \$650 per student**. We cannot guarantee that the trip will be subsidised to this extent during 2014, however, we will be offering some subsidy to reduce the cost (this will apply to students in grades 6 and 7 only). If your child is interested in attending, please return the **registration form with a deposit of \$100** to the school as soon as possible.

Student Resource Scheme 2014



As a school, we have decided to implement a student resource scheme during 2014, rather than sending home individual booklists for each child. In this system the family pays a fixed amount which is subsidised by the school and the school purchases all of the materials / equipment required for school less tax and supplies them to the children. All covering and naming of books etc will be taken care of by the school. The current levy is

\$55 per child per year. This levy will cover ALL stationery items for the 2014 school year. Items that are not covered under this levy are: school bags, hats, lunch boxes, lunches and school excursions.

If you haven't already, please return the attached Resource Scheme agreement to school as soon as possible. All Resource Scheme payments must be finalised by the end of Term 1.

Yours in Education

Hayley Laidlow

Principal

Wonderful Work from Osborne this week...