Dear parents and carers,

Last week saw our school P&C conduct a cake stall outside Home Hill News. This was a very successful venture with $180 raised for our school. Thank you to everyone who baked cakes and biscuits, donated baking and manned the stall on the day. It truly was a great effort and your efforts are very much appreciated by the staff and students of our school.

This week has seen the students complete unit 4 of their English curriculum and all students have now started unit 5. Unit 4 was the first time that we had used learning walls in our classroom. These walls were used to display the criteria sheets and modelled responses, as well as any other posters that related to the assessment tasks that the students had to complete this week. It was great to see the students interacting with these learning walls. They were comparing their texts with the modelled responses and checking them off against the criteria sheets which resulted in them improving their own work through their self-reflections. This has resulted in most of the students producing their best work so far this year. In unit 5, these walls will be here to stay. Come in and see what your child is learning. They will also be expanded to show what they are learning in maths as well.

In Unit 5 English, the P-2 students will be writing an information report on an animal. The prep students will have to write in simple sentences and will have to spell simple words with the correct beginning and final sounds and capital letters and full stops. The grade 1 students will need to write simple sentences with correct punctuation and will need to spell simple words correctly with their spelling of harder words showing a knowledge of phonics. The grade 2 students need to write complex sentences about their animal and must correctly spell most words and use phonics when attempting to spell words that are specific to their animal (e.g. feathers, pouch, pointed ears).

The upper grades have also started their new unit. The grade 3 and 4 students will be learning to write a traditional story with a moral. To be successful in this assessment task they will need to sequence events, have a distinct beginning middle and end, have a moral that is meaningful to their audience and use their senses to form noun groups to describe their characters, settings and storyline. The grade 6 students will be writing a letter to the future. The students have done this informally earlier in the year. They will need to write in past tense, use noun groups and adjective groups to add description and use words that show time and place.

**Behaviour**

While our students do their best work most of the time, some of our students are deciding to behave inappropriately both in the playground and in the classroom. There has been an increase in the number of incidences where students have been physical with other students, yelled at other students, disrespected staff by yelling at them or ignoring their instructions. This has resulted in a variety of consequences being applied to these children while those students who are doing the right thing are being rewarded.

We all want our students to want to come to school and have the best opportunity to learn. All of these students have currently been learning about teamwork where they have had ample opportunity to learn about what
behaviours make a good friend and a great team member. I have also spoken to the students on many occasions about how their behaviour impacts the learning and emotional well-being of others. Can you please talk to your child about what they need to do to get along with others and possible strategies they can use to avoid situations escalating. I am not saying that everyone needs to be friends but I am saying that everyone needs to be friendly.

Finally, if your child has been subjected to less than desirable behaviour, there are a number of ways that they can become resilient to this behaviour. Students can walk away from the problem, choose to keep doing the correct behaviour and ignore poor behaviour. It is also important that students can identify behaviour that needs to be reported to a teacher and behaviour that does not. Not all poor behaviour needs to be reported on as most of the time it can be resolved by the students without teacher intervention and therefore does not take away valuable learning time from other students.

Snow White and the Seven Cool Dudes

On Tuesday 18 August, our school will be going on an excursion to the Burdekin Theatre to view “Snow White and the Seven Cool Dudes”. It costs $12 per student for their admission fee. Admission fees were due today but we will accept fees that are paid on Monday. Please pay these fees to the school office by Monday.

P&C Meeting

Our next P&C meeting will be held on Monday 7 September 2015 at 5:30pm in the staffroom. Please come along and don’t forget to join the P&C so that you are covered by our insurance when you help our school at our various school functions. We are very fortunate to have an active P&C as many small schools do not have this luxury.

Earn and Learn

Many of you would have noticed our Earn and Learn banner out the front of our school. This is a promotion that is run by Woolworths. For every $10 that you spend in Woolworths, you will receive 1 sticker. These stickers can either be placed in our box at Woolworths or you can bring them in to the school. These stickers are collected and are exchanged for school supplies such as sports equipment, new computers, teaching aides and educational games. Please keep up the great support and encourage all of your friends and family to ask for their stickers when they shop at Woolworths and support Osborne State School.

Drama – School Play

This term, the students have been learning about performing in their drama classes as a part of their art curriculum. They have been learning about being aware of their surrounds on stage. The culminating activity for this unit will be a whole school play where parents, family and friends will be invited to attend and watch the students perform. Mr Lequerica has been working hard with the students and I am sure that the play will be spectacular. The play will take place on the Thursday before the end of term.
**Attendance**

Well done to all of our students and families on such high levels of attendance over the past 3 weeks. This has increased our attendance rates which are now above the goal of 92%. Our attendance for this year so far is now 93.5%. Keep up the great work. I’m sure that it is no coincidence that this improved attendance has happened at the same time as students are producing their best work so far this year.

**Combined Schools’ Athletics Carnival**

The Combined Schools’ Athletics Carnival will be held at Clare State School on Friday 14 August. All students are required to attend, just like any other school day, and will have to make their own travel arrangements. If you cannot transport you child/ren please organise with other parents and family members to transport them. If you are able to transport other students, please make this known to other parents and carers.

**Water Festival Float and Sausage Sizzle**

The Water Festival is on 5 September this year. It will be a big day for Osborne State School with us hosting a sausage sizzle at Woolworths in the morning as well as decorating a float for the main parade in the afternoon. We will need to have all hands on deck to pull this off. A note will be sent out next week to ask for your help with the sausage sizzle and float decoration. Please help us make this a very successful day for our school.

**Dale Last visits our school**

On Tuesday, we were lucky enough for Burdekin MP Dale Last to visit our school. Mr last spoke at length with the students about his role in the state government. He listened to there questions and gave plenty of insight into how the three levels of government work in Australia. The students asked many intriguing questions, especially about the laws that State Governments make. In response to this interest shown by the students, Mr Last has organised for the local police to come out and speak with the students at our school. He was also particularly intrigued with a proposal made by Austin about installing a bike path in the main street of Home Hill to make it a safer place for bike riders. Mr Last has asked Austin to write a letter to him asking for this bike path to be made and he has promised to take it to the State Government. Many students thought that this was a great idea and, as a result, they have all commenced writing a letter to Mr Last to ask for a new bike path.

**Owing Monies**

Thank you to those families who are up-to date with their payments of any fees. This is greatly appreciated by all of the staff. Families that owe money have been sent a reminder with this newsletter. If this money is not paid by August 18, your child may miss out on going to the Burdekin Theatre to watch “Snow White and the Seven Cool Dudes”. In cases where a lot of money is owed, please make a payment plan with the school to ensure that your child/ren can attend the play.

Yours in Education

*Troy Patti*
Principal
Wonderful Work from Osborne this week...

This week has seen the students start their new English Units. Here are some photos of them starting these units.