Dear Parents and Carers,

As many of you are aware, in mid-October I had the privilege of traveling to Shanghai, China to attend the International Confederation of Principals Convention (ICPC) with a delegation of principals from across the state. The theme of the conference was ‘Connecting Leaders, Creating the Future’. Many of the keynote speakers focussed on the need to ‘future skill’ our children for a rapidly changing workforce through the development of skills such as co-operation, team work, creativity, resilience and the ability to transfer and adapt knowledge across subject areas. The key question that arose for me from this conference was – how are we doing this at Osborne? I believe that we are working towards building these skills in our children through our strong focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) learning and by working hard to create connections across subject areas and with other schools. We are also working hard to continue to build the skills of our teaching team to ensure that we are on the cutting edge of practice. In future, we will continue to strive to connect our children to students across the globe and further strengthen their chances for success.

We have now passed the half way point of Term 4 and are well on our way to the end of the year and as such, we are now in the heart of completing assessments. It is vitally important that your child is at school every day to ensure that they are able to complete their assessment tasks, as these marks will help to determine their overall marks on their report cards. Children should only be away from school if they are ill; have medical appointments or there are other extenuating circumstances. If your child is going to be away from school, please ensure that you let the school know by 9:30am on the day of absence.

Have a fantastic week everyone,

Hayley Laidlow
Principal

The 2019 QASSP delegation at ICPC, Shanghai.
Save the Date

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 November</td>
<td>- No swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 November</td>
<td>- Buddy Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 November</td>
<td>- Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 November</td>
<td>- Prep Transition Morning, 9-11am</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 November</td>
<td>- Buddy Reading</td>
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<tr>
<td>29 November</td>
<td>- Swimming Carnival, Home Hill Pool</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 December</td>
<td>- Prep Transition Morning, 9-11am</td>
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<td>6 December</td>
<td>- Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 December</td>
<td>- End of Year Celebration Evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 December</td>
<td>- Last day of school</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>23-24 January</td>
<td>- School office open</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 January</td>
<td>- School begins</td>
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P&C News

Our next P&C Meeting will be on **be held prior to the end of the year, please keep an eye out on the school Facebook page for the date, time and venue.** All parents and carers are welcome and encouraged to attend. We will have a number of fundraising activities happening this term so please keep an eye out in our newsletters and on our Facebook page to see how you can help out. Thanks to those families who have been helping out with tuckshop at school, it is a fantastic addition to what we can offer here at school and the children are really enjoying it!

**TUCKSHOP ROSTER – Term 4**

December

**Friday 6th** Hannah

The P&C are now also selling **Zooper Doopers at second break for 50c each** – if your child would like to buy a Zooper Dooper, please send their 50c with them to school.

Attendance

Our current attendance rate for this term at **91.5% (as at 14 November 2019)**. This has dropped from 97.2% in October. Regular attendance at school is vital to your child’s success. Please remember that the only reasons children should be away from school are for illness or medical appointments. If your child is going to be absent, please ensure that you call, send a text message or an email explaining why your child will not be at school if they are going to be absent. In 2019, **we are aiming to keep our whole school attendance above 95%** - remember Every Day at School Counts!

Toys at school

Recently, we have noticed that a number of children are bringing toys to school. Please ensure that your children **do not bring toys to school** as they can get broken or lost and they also cause unnecessary conflict in the playground. We have plenty of toys and equipment for them to use at school.

Prep Open Days and Transition Mornings

Later this term, we will be holding our Prep transition mornings to encourage families to enrol at our school. Please encourage any families you know who may be interested in enrolling at Osborne to come along and see what our school has to offer.

Prep Transition Morning - Wednesday 27 November, 9-11am
Prep Transition Morning – Wednesday 4 December, 9-11am
**School Photos**

Last week we received the printed copies of our school photos but unfortunately, they are very poor quality with many of the individual portraits being blurry and the large group photos also not being properly in focus. Rather than send home substandard photographs, we are currently arranging to have the photos retaken by another photographer. We will ensure that you receive your school photos prior to the end of the year. We apologise for the delay and thank you for your understanding.

**Swimming Carnival**

Our annual Burdekin Small Schools’ Combined Swimming Carnival will be held on **Friday 29th November** at the Home Hill Pool. Please **be at the pool by 8:50am** and proceed directly to your school area in the grandstands. The carnival will **begin at 9:00am sharp**. There will be no entry fee for the pool on the day.

This year we are introducing a new format for our swimming carnival. We will be holding our usual races for those students born 2007 – 2010, however the junior students (born after 2010) will have a variety of water fun events throughout the day. The juniors will also compete in the novelty and kick board races. Attached is a program for the day. Please be aware that the times are approximate only and may change throughout the day as events proceed.

Students will need to wear their **school uniform shirt over their swimming togs and a hat** whilst at the pool. Those students competing in the senior carnival can swim without a shirt during races but must have a shirt and hat on at all other times. Students joining in the junior water fun events will need to have a shirt and hat on at all times over their swimming gear. Thongs are allowed on the day. All students should bring sunscreen, a water bottle and their lunch (if they are not ordering tuckshop).

Gumlu State School will be running tuckshop at the swimming carnival. If you have not yet returned your tuckshop order, please do so as soon as possible. As there will be a limited amount of food available on the day, could you please ensure that your order is the correct. Lollies and drinks will be available at the pool shop throughout the day but please be mindful of healthy food choices.

**2020 Student Resource Scheme**

Please find attached a copy of our 2020 Volunteer Student Resource Scheme. In 2019, our resource scheme will cost **$95 per child** and will include all books and stationery items and one black uniform shirt. If you intend to participate in the Resource Scheme, please return the forms to school ASAP. Full payment will be required by the end of Term 1, 2019.

**School Uniforms**

School uniform shirts are available for purchase from the school office. Shirts cost $30.00 each. We stock sizes from 4 to 16. Hats are also available for $12.00 each.

**Reward Day**

On Wednesday 11 December, we are planning to have our class reward day for the year. Providing the students’ behaviour remains fantastic (as it has all year), we will be travelling to Ravenswood for a surprise day full of fun activities for the children. There will be no cost for this day. Children will need to be at school by 7:30am and will need to bring their swimming gear and a towel. They will need to wear their school uniform in the morning, lunch will be supplied on the day. Invitations for those students who have shown fabulous behaviour will be issued on Monday 9 December.
End of Year Celebration Evening

On Thursday 12 December, we will hold our annual End of Year Celebration and Graduation evening. We would like to invite all families to join us at 6:30pm in the main classroom to celebrate all of our learning for this year. Please bring a plate of food to share for supper – boys families please bring savouries, girls families please bring sweets.

Swimming Roster

Thanks to those parents who have volunteered to assist with swimming supervision this term. Please note that there was a mistake on the original note – the swimming carnival is on the 29th November rather than the 22nd so I have swapped these 2 days on the roster. Please let me know if this does not suit you, Hayley

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Supervisors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 18 October</td>
<td>Roxanne Vass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 25 October</td>
<td>Roxanne Vass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 1 November</td>
<td>Roxanne Vass/Kylie Driver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 8 November</td>
<td>Roxanne Vass/Ruth Forbes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 15 November</td>
<td>No swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 22 November</td>
<td>Roxanne Vass (helping with lessons at the pool)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hannah Cullen (transport and supervision)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 29 November</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 6 December</td>
<td>Roxanne Vass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Leeanne Palmer</td>
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Reading Strategies

As part of the school’s daily timetable, students participate in targeted reading groups that explicitly teach both reading and comprehension skills, depending on their reading level. During these lessons, we focus on both decoding and comprehension skills. We teach the following decoding strategies:

- **Try the other vowel sound.**
- **Skip the word, read to the end of the sentence.** Hop back and re-read.
- **Get your lips ready.** Say the first few sounds.
- **Stretch the word out.** Say the sounds slowly.
- **Look at the pictures for clues.**
- **Look for a part that you know.** Look for a word part, ending.

These explicit strategies assist children in figuring our unknown or challenging words when reading. When students come across a challenging word, this is their opportunity to use one of these strategies to decode and make meaning of what they read. If your child is stuck on a word at home, we invite you to encourage them to use one of these strategies to help figure it out.
What is autism?

1 in 70 Australians are diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. The word spectrum reflects the wide range of difference that people on the spectrum experience and the extent to which they may be affected. No two people on the autism spectrum are alike, and all have unique strengths and interests. All people on the autism spectrum are affected to some degree in two main areas: social communication and repetitive patterns of behaviour. Autism is also often characterised by sensory sensitivities. Autism is a lifelong developmental condition.

The quality of life for many children and adults is significantly improved by a diagnosis that leads to appropriate evidence-informed intervention or support that recognises individual strengths and interests. Aspect supports people on the spectrum and their families by providing information, education and a variety of services that meet the specific needs of each individual. For a person to be diagnosed on the autism spectrum, they must present with social communication and social interaction difficulties. These difficulties are accompanied by restricted or repetitive behaviours, interests or activities.

Characteristics of autism

Social communication issues
- Difficulty understanding non-verbal communication, such as body language
- Difficulty understanding when and how to appropriately respond in social interactions
- Trouble developing, understanding and maintaining relationships with others

Repetitive patterns of behaviour
- Repetitive use of movement, speech or objects
- Easily upset by changes to routine, environment, and the familiar
- Very narrow and intense focus on limited areas of interest

Understanding the lived experiences and needs of people on the autism spectrum

Aspect has been active in researching the everyday life experiences and needs of people on the autism spectrum. This research helps to raise awareness, promote discussion and pave the way for improving the services and supports that are essential for a good quality of life.

For more information about autism visit https://www.autismspectrum.org.au/about-autism/what-is-autism
Magnificent Work this Month

We have had a very busy term so far with our Senior class travelling to Paluma for camp, the kids from C&K Kindy visiting us for Prep Open Day and having fun on our float in the Harvest Festival Parade.
Research shows us that the benefits of reading more improves performance in: general knowledge, vocabulary, reading comprehension, verbal fluency and spelling.
Voluntary Student Resource Scheme 2020

Family Name: .................................................................
Names of students: ............................................................

☐ YES, I will participate in the Voluntary Student Resource Scheme

☐ I wish to make full payment at the beginning of 2020 school year. (Please do not pay this year)

☐ Instalments: I wish to make payments over the first term of 2020 and finalise by the end of the first term.

I / We ................................................................. would like to be a part of the Student Resource Scheme that will provide all of my child’s stationery, commercially produced workbooks, pencils, rubbers, etc. needed for learning throughout the year.

I/We ................................................................. do not want to be a part of the Student Resource that will provide all of my child’s stationery, commercially produced workbooks, pencils, rubbers, etc. needed for learning throughout the year. I/We will provide all the listed materials and equipment and ensure that the products are the same as those specified.

Signature: .............................................  Date: .................

The voluntary contribution for 2020 is $95 per child. In this system, the family pays a fixed amount that is subsidised by the school and the school purchases all of the materials / equipment less tax and supplies them to the children. All covering and naming of books etc. will be taken care of by the school. This levy includes all books and stationery items and one uniform shirt. Once paid, this resource scheme contribution is non-refundable as resources are purchased on a yearly basis.

~Success through Commitment, Community and Caring~