As we approach the half way mark of term 3, I am pleased to report that there is so much happening for the Dunwich State School Community.

**Some important things to note:-**

1. **There is no MAD SCIENCE CLUB** this Monday as it is the EKKA HOLIDAY for the Redlands.

2. **MONDAY 12th is the only holiday that the students have next week.** In the past there was also a Student Free Day during the EKKA week but this day has been relocated to the Easter Break.

3. **TUESDAY 13th August is the year 1 and 2 excursion to the EKKA.** There will be 29 adults accompanying the students. This is a great community event for the students. The Minister for Education has invited our students to meet with him in the Education Pavilion at 12 noon. Special thanks go to Leanore Gregory and Nicole V for organising the excursion and accommodating the Minister into the schedule.

4. **The Garden Committee** are planning 4 raised garden beds in the Prep campus. This is an exciting community project. The school would like to thank Judith Pettersen, Customer Relations Officer at SEQ Ferries for organising the sponsorship for the transport of a vehicle to the mainland to collect the materials that are needed for this project. Stay tuned for further project updates. Way to go Garden Committee!!

5. **On Monday 5th August selected year 6 students attended a Stella Science Day at Cleveland District State High School.** The day is organised as a hands-on, problem-solving science extension day for primary school students. Our students really enjoyed the day. Thanks to David Christie for escorting the students for the day. As this newsletter goes to print our Athletes are representing the school at the Districts Athletics Carnival. We are very proud of the students and looking forward to hearing the outcomes.

We continue to work together to ensure that every day, in every classroom, every student is learning and achieving.

If you would like a tour of our fabulous school please phone the office and make an appointment. I would look forward to showing you around.

Jenny Wilson

---

**Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 August</td>
<td>Ekka show holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th August</td>
<td>Ekka Excursion Year 1 &amp; 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th August</td>
<td>School as normal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th September</td>
<td>School Disco at Dunwich Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th September</td>
<td>NAIDOC Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th October</td>
<td>Walkathon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**The Week’s Behaviour Expectation is:**

*Problem Solving*

---

**AFTER HOURS SCHOOL ABSENCE LINE**

Phone 3409 6320

(it will ring 5 times)

Please say your students name and their year level and why they are absent.

During school hours this phone will be answered by office staff.
On Monday the 5th of August we went on an excursion to Cleveland State High School for a day to learn about science. We were split up in four groups, red, purple, blue and green. Our first activity was making slime. To make slime we mixed borax, PVA glue and food colouring. After that we had lunch. Then we captured and observed bugs. That was fun. After that we made electronic circuits. We made a radio. After our second break we made pasta bridges. Our bridge held 31 weights, about 2kg and the lowest amount was five.

Jack and Oscar

Dr Kathy showed us this sea urchin skeleton and told us that it is related to the starfish. Sea urchins or urchins, sometimes called sea hedgehogs, are small, spiny, globular animals which, with their close kin, such as sand dollars.

Dr Kathy tested how long it would take for a soldier crab to dig itself into the sand. It took eleven seconds for the soldier crab to dig itself into the sand.

Kayla & Lynise

Lyngbya is bacteria also known as fireweed because it kills the sea grass and fish surrounding the sea grass. Pollution such as detergents makes it grow. It has a foul smell and is almost black. It’s tough to pull.

Dr Kathy showed us this sea urchin skeleton and told us that it is related to the starfish. Sea urchins or urchins, sometimes called sea hedgehogs, are small, spiny, globular animals which, with their close kin, such as sand dollars.

Dr Kathy tested how long it would take for a soldier crab to dig itself into the sand. It took eleven seconds for the soldier crab to dig itself into the sand.

Kayla & Lynise

Lyngbya is bacteria also known as fireweed because it kills the sea grass and fish surrounding the sea grass. Pollution such as detergents makes it grow. It has a foul smell and is almost black. It’s tough to pull.

Every Thursday for the past three weeks year 6 has been going to the Moreton Bay Research Station for term 3 science. For the first week we went down to the sand flats with Doctor Kathy Townsend and Doctor Martin and learnt about all the creatures that live around the sandy areas such as; egg mass, soldier crabs, sea urchins, cuttlefish and mussels.

On the second week, we went to One Mile Jetty to gather plankton. After we gathered the Plankton we went back to the research station where we took a closer look at it with the microscopes and found that the most common bug inside the plankton was called a Copepod.

On the third week, we went to the rocky shores and learnt about zonations, they are called the upper zone, mid zone and the low zone. We used a quadrat which has 4 sides that are all 1m long. The zones show the different creatures and their natural habitats. We had a lot of fun! Thank you Mrs. Connell

Jordyn and Shelby

Don’t forget the importance of attending school every day!

More information on the importance of regular school attendance is available at http://education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts/index.html
Get started returns for Round 2

The second round of the Queensland Government’s Get Started program is now open, offering vouchers worth up to $150 to help families pay membership fees for children to join a registered sport or recreation club.

Children with a parent or guardian who holds a health care or pension concession card are automatically eligible to apply, while other families will need to submit recommendations from two referral agents. Applications are processed on a first come, first served basis.


P & C QUICK NEWS

SCHOOL JUMPERS School jumpers are now for sale for $20.

Let your hands do the learning at the Ekka

Visitors to the Ekka can drop by the Learning Fun Pavilion to step back in time and see what Queensland students have been learning in history this year. They can also see the future of dairy farming where robots do the work and say hello to lambs only hours old.

Fact-A-Thon

Thank you to members of the school community for sponsoring Year 3 students in their recent Spellathon. Your generosity is greatly appreciated as it means our excursion to Seaworld will be fully funded. Jenni Turner

Homework Club

Thursdays 3-5pm
All Welcome!
Talking to your child about alcohol and drugs

Tips for parents Part 1

When it comes to talking about alcohol and drugs young people will appreciate your advice and look to you for your views, but they will expect you to be informed, up front and honest, and, if you show you are listening to them, they are more likely to listen to you.

Here are 5 ways to encourage young people to talk with you about issues such as drugs and alcohol.

**Be part of their lives**

Make sure that you make time for your children. Take an interest in their interests and establish a routine for doing things together. Don’t be afraid to ask where your teenagers are going and who they will be with. Spending time together as a family is important. For example, try to talk and eat together at least once a day and find other opportunities to enjoy time together as a family.

**Listen to them**

By showing a willingness to listen will help your children to feel more comfortable about listening to you. Ask for their input about family decisions to demonstrate that you value their opinions. Try not to interrupt or react in a way that will stop further discussion. Encourage them to feel comfortable about telling you their problems.

**Be a role model**

When it comes to substances, there is no such thing as “Do as I say, not as I do”. If you take illicit drugs or drink to excess, you can’t expect your child to take your advice. Don’t underestimate the influence your behaviour can have on your children, particularly any use of tobacco or misuse of alcohol and medications.

**Be honest**

It is important to be informed but don’t pretend to know everything. Be prepared to say “I don’t know but I will try and find out”. Be honest and clear about where you stand so that your children will find it easier to be honest with you.

**Pick your moment**

Choose the right time to discuss the topic by looking for natural opportunities as they arise. This might be watching TV, when talking about someone at school, or in response to something that the media has targeted in regards to substance abuse.

You are very welcome to come and see the school Guidance Officer Veronica Briggs on Tuesdays and Thursdays.