Dear Norfolk Village State School Community

Thank you students, staff, parents and community members for your warm welcome in my first week at Norfolk Village SS. As you will be aware, Principal Mr Chris Capra has moved into the role of Teaching and Learning Auditor within the Department and I have been appointed to replace him during his absence, which is expected to be until the end of Term 2.

My substantive position is Principal of Boronia Heights State School, where I have spent the last three years focussed on developing a positive and highly effective teaching and learning environment.

This week I have been busy visiting all classes and I have been very impressed by the behaviour and learning engagement of students across the whole school. I believe the explicit teaching of the ‘You Can Do It’ and the School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) programs are contributing positively to the school’s high expectations.

Congratulations Student Leaders

I had the pleasure yesterday to present the new school leaders with their badges at a special assembly held in the hall. Thank you to State Member for Albert, Mr Mark Boothman MP, Deputy Mayor of the Gold Coast, Ms Donna Gates, and P&C Treasurer, Katy Mills, for taking time out of your busy schedules to attend the assembly. Thank you also to our tuckshop ladies for providing a delicious morning tea for this event. Congratulations to the following school leaders:

**School Captains:** Imogen, Jay, Alicia and Jacob.

**House Captains:** Ben and Alyssa (Dingoes), Ashton and Taleah (Great White Sharks), Zane and Courtney (Kangaroos), Tama and Ella (Tasmanian Tigers).

**Student Councillors:** As advised in the previous newsletter.

School Priorities

My time at NVSS will be focussed on progressing the following school priorities:

* Student performance in the priority areas of Reading, Spelling and Number.
* Great Results Guarantee.
* School Wide Positive Behaviour Support.
* Junior Secondary transition.
* Prep readiness.

P&C Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Getting involved with a Parents & Citizens Association (P&C) can be a rewarding and enjoyable experience, but many people may be unsure of how it works. If you’ve never been involved in a P&C before, the Quick Guide for P&C Executive Officers is a great way to get familiar with what they do, and how you can help out. The guide sets out the roles and responsibilities of members in an easy-to-read format. The Quick Guide for P&C Executive Officers has been produced by the Queensland Council of Parents’ and Citizens’ Associations and Education Queensland and is available for download from the Department’s website at [http://education.qld.gov.au/parents/pdf/quickguide-pc-executiveofficers.pdf](http://education.qld.gov.au/parents/pdf/quickguide-pc-executiveofficers.pdf)

The P&C Annual General Meeting and election of the new executive will occur on Tuesday 11 March at 5pm in the Barnell building (6A).

Daniel Duke

*Acting Principal*

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**Student Absentee Line**

Ph: 5549 4266

*Leave a msg any time of day or night!!*

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**Our 2014 Priorities**

1. Improved upper primary reading ability and results
2. Improved lower primary mental maths and number skills
3. Improved ability to cater for the needs of all children including gifted & talented children
4. Creation and implementation of a feedback culture
5. Focus on positive behaviour and consistent implementation of the school behaviour plan

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**Our School Rules**

I am Safe

I am Respectful

I am a Learner

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**SCHOOLS OFFICER (GROUNDS & FACILITIES)**

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

NORFOLK VILLAGE STATE SCHOOL

22.5 hrs per week (3 consecutive week days)

Temporary Part-time Position

3 March – 4 April 2014

(with the possibility of extension)

Information available by contacting 5549 4222 or [www.norfolkvillagess.eq.edu.au](http://www.norfolkvillagess.eq.edu.au)

Closing Date for Applications: 3pm Tuesday 25th February

Applications remain valid for 12 months

The Commission for Children and Young People Act 2000 requires the preferred applicant to be subject to a Working With Children Check.

Queensland State Schools are smoke-free working environments which covers the entire school site including outside the buildings.
Junior School News

I Am Safe
Please take the time this week to remind your child/ren about our ‘I Am Safe’ rule. There have been quite a few incidences this week of children (mostly new Preppies!) who have been playing rough or using their hands to express what they want. This has resulted in some injuries to other children. If you could please take the time to talk about playing safely and what to do if things don’t go your way or another child does something to them. Strategies like ‘say stop it I don’t like it’ ‘walk away’ ‘report to a teacher’ are all ways we teach the children at school. They should NEVER fight back. This could escalate the issue and more children will get hurt or worse sent to Mrs Button (!!). Thank you for your support in this.

Fun Run Fundraising
Our school Fun Run / Cross Country will be run on Tuesday 18th March. All year levels participate and children may wear their house colours on this day (check with the office or your child’s teacher for this information). Please do not allow children to door knock or approach strangers to ask for donations or sponsorship for this event.

Ditto Show – Bravehearts
On Friday 28th March all Prep students will be able to attend The Ditto Show, a performance run by Bravehearts around personal safety. I encourage every parent of a Prep student to ensure they have paid for this performance by Tuesday 25th March. This is a very important program that we run every year and follow up with activities in the classroom and general discussion.

Easter Parade
Our P-2 Easter Parade will be held on Friday April 4th at 9:30am. Every class from Prep-2 will be performing a short Easter song on stage wearing their Easter hats / masks / bonnets / tails etc. It is always a very fun morning and I encourage all parents to attend if they can.

Kimberley Button
Deputy Principal

Senior School News

Student Council
The first meeting of the Student Council was held on Wednesday, 19 February, 2014. We have a very talented group of students, who are eager to be great leaders in the school. They are also participating in a leadership course run by the PCYC. The program focusses on team building skills including communication skills, co-operation, patience, respect, goal setting and decision making. Thank you to Ms Signorini and Ms Knowles for being our teacher co-ordinators for the Student Council. We are looking forward to hearing about the many wonderful things the team does this year.

Senior Shirts
The year six and seven senior student shirts look fantastic and the students are so proud to be wearing them. This is a very special year for our senior students and they are doing a great job at leading our school and being good role models for our younger students. Well done, kids.

Robyn Adair
Deputy Principal
Student Resource Scheme
Thank you to those families that have returned their participation agreement and paid their Student Resource Scheme. If you have not completed a Participation Agreement as yet, you MUST complete this agreement and return to the school office as soon as possible. If necessary please contact the office for a further copy.

If you are struggling with meeting school commitments, please do not hesitate to contact the school office and speak with either myself or Daniel Duke (Principal).

Payment Options
Payment Window - open Tuesday & Thursday 8.15 - 10am ONLY.
Internet banking - direct payment into school bank account. A great way to avoid the queues! School bank details below:
BSB #: 064-401
A/c #: 10546142
A/c Name: Norfolk Village State School General Account
Remember: Child’s surname, initial, class & reference
Centrepay deductions - direct debit of Centrelink payment. Forms available at school office.
Phone - payment by credit card between 10am & 2pm ONLY.
Mail - credit card, cheque or money order.

SAVE TIME STANDING IN QUEUES BY MAKING YOUR SCHOOL PAYMENTS BY INTERNET

Uniform Shop
The school uniform shop is open on a Tuesday & Thursday morning from 8.15am—10am. Save time standing in queues by ordering your uniforms online at www.flexischools.com.au

Kylie Buchbach

Make every day count in 2014

Make 2014 the year when your child doesn’t miss a day of school. Research shows that students who have good patterns of attendance are more likely to achieve at school. If students aren’t at school or don’t stay the whole day, they are missing valuable lessons. Check out the new Every Day Counts videos live on DETE TV., http://www.youtube.com/DETQueensland
Dear Parents and caregivers

Listening to children read aloud is a wonderful activity that is highly beneficial to them. When children read aloud, at the appropriate level, to their parents or other adults, they practice the reading skills they are working hard to develop. Reading aloud helps children to read more expressively, and to better comprehend what they read.

Below are some other ways that you can support your young reader beyond the classroom and enjoy your reading time together.

Beyond the classroom

Learning how to read and write isn’t just for the classroom. Parents and caregivers play an important role in supporting readers. You can provide many opportunities for your child to read, write, speak, and listen that will support his or her classroom learning.

Any activity that spurs your child’s imagination can become a great opportunity for literacy learning. Family discussions, trips to fun parks, word games, and collaborative family projects such as family scrapbooking or storytelling are all great ways to supplement your child’s growing literacy skills.

Reading aloud

Reading aloud together is another great way to build literacy. It provides an intimate, loving, and safe way for your child to practice his or her developing literacy skills. If you already have a time set aside for reading together each day, keep it up!

Here are some ideas to keep in mind:
• Read aloud to your child every day, and continue after your child learns to read.
• Answer your child’s questions, even if they interrupt the story.
• Talk as you read. Ask questions like “What do you think is going to happen next?”
• “Why did that character do that?” and “What would you do?”
• Don’t use books that are not interesting to your child

Encourage your child to write or draw after reading. For example, ask your child to describe his or her favourite part or to draw a different ending for the book.

• Have your child retell the story in his or her own words or draw a picture of that alternative ending.
• After finishing the book, talk with your child about what you read, and invite him or her to reread parts of the story with you.

Same old stories

Sometimes parents and caregivers get frustrated when children want to read the same stories over and over again. However, this is a normal and important step in your child’s literacy journey. Hearing a story many times helps children memorise the words and hastens the day when they will be able to read on their own.

Here are some other tips for encouraging your child’s early interest in reading:
• Learning to read is challenging! Encourage all of your child’s efforts and praise his or her accomplishments.
• Explore the sounds that letters make. Ask questions like “What sounds do you hear in the word library?” and “What letter starts the word green?”
• When your child gets stuck on a word, resist the urge to provide the answer immediately. Instead, encourage your child to look at the picture to get clues or to read the rest of the sentence and then try to fill in a word that makes sense.
• Cheer your child on as he or she attempts to read new words and unfamiliar stories. Each word your child reads is one step further on the journey of literacy.

Venturing into new territories

Here are some suggestions for selecting good books for your child:
• Get books that rhyme and books with clear, attractive illustrations and strong texts.
• Pick books on subjects your child is interested in. If he or she takes a trip to Sea World, borrow a book on sharks or dolphins.
• Ask other parents, friends, and teachers to share favourite book titles with you.
• Check online for lists of award winning books for children. The International Reading Association website (www.reading.org) features Children’s Choices, a downloadable annual list of books chosen by young readers.
• Explore different genres with your child: storybooks, picture books, informational books, fairy tales, poetry, magazines, diaries, newspapers, and more.

Libraries and beyond

• The best place to journey through the world of words is your local library. Take advantage of your library’s reading programs, parent-child book groups, story hours, and resource materials.
• Get your child a library card at the earliest opportunity. This gives your child a feeling of ownership and responsibility. Help your child find books on subjects of interest.
• Never force a book. Instead, give your child a choice among several books, especially titles that a quick check of the bookshelves may have missed.
• In addition to using your library, check book sales, yard sales, thrift stores, and bookstores for stories to add to your family’s collection. Children love having their own books. Give books as gifts for birthdays, holidays, rewards, and special occasions.

Information from the International Reading Association (IRA)

Andrew McCabe - Junior Head of Curriculum
Carly Wilson - Senior Head of Curriculum
2014 NVSS FUN RUN/CROSS COUNTRY

Our school fun run for 2014 is approaching quickly. The event is scheduled for Tuesday 18th of March. For those with children aged 10-13, this event is also used as our school cross country selection trials. The event is a healthy, fun and active fundraiser that ensures we send the right message to our students about getting active, having fun and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. The main focus of this event is on participation. Family support is most appreciated as we encourage all students to get involved.

All students have received a Sponsorship Form to help collect sponsorship on behalf of the school. The funds raised will be used to purchase: new sports equipment to be used during lessons and at school events. Last year our students raised just over $8000. In 2014 our goal as an entire school is to raise $9000. With almost 1100 students at NVSS now, that is less than $9 each!!! When money is returned, it is to be put in an envelope, clearly marked with student name, class and what it is for (school fun run/cross country) and then placed in the yellow P&C box in the office.

Students in grade 2, 3 and 9-13 year olds will follow a predetermined course that forms a 1km loop. Prep run a separate 350m loop; grade 1 run a 500m loop. Different AGE GROUPS run different distances.

- 11yrs, 12yrs and 13yrs run 3km (3 loops)
- 9yrs and 10yrs run 2km (2 loops)
- Grade 2 & 3 run 1km (1 loop)
- Grade 1 run 500m (1 loop)
- Prep run 350m (1 loop)

GALA DAYS

Gala Day teams for semester 1 have now been finalised. We have had a record number of students nominate and make teams. Permission letters and information about equipment needed, times and cost will be coming home later this week. Please read through the information and return the permission slips to your child’s coach by the due date. Payments can be made at the cash window.

RUNNERS CLUB

Runners club is back for 2014! We meet on the oval each Tuesday & Thursday morning at 8:00am. This term our focus is on building our aerobic base and preparing for the school cross country. I encourage any students in grade 4-7 who are interested in improving their health and fitness to come along and join in.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

TAMA from year 6 has qualified for a place on the Brisbane South Baseball Team.
JAYDEN from Year 7 has qualified for Beenleigh District Cricket.

Thanks
Josh Stamp
From the Guidance Officer

Making Friends
You may have noticed your child/children having to make new friendships as they start the year in a new class with different classmates. Parents, carers and teaching staff have important roles to play in helping children develop friendships. Adults set examples for children to follow through the ways they manage relationships. They can also act as mentors, teaching them social skills and problem solving skills.

Tips!
- Provide children with opportunities to play with peers (play dates).
- Teach positive social skills (smiling, eye contact, using friendly voices, sharing).
- Be a coach (prompt, remind and encourage children to use the skills learnt).
- Help children solve friendship problems (talking through problems).
- Encourage children to try all sorts of activities.
- Talk with children about what is happening for them with their friends.

For more information, tips and ideas visit the KidsMatter website: http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au

Nicole Russon

P & C News

Hi everyone

Big thank you to the new people that came to our meeting last Tuesday. Our next meeting is the AGM on the 11th March. If you ever thought of being a member or part of the executive team committee, please come along. You can nominate for positions, if interested please see any of your current committee Annette Noon, myself, Katy Mills or Karen Buchanan.

Our new improved handballs have arrived and are available for sale at the Tuckshop - see Sam or Tracey or on Flexi schools.

We are also inviting parents to express their interest in a fundraiser of a Billy Cart race to be held at the school in Term 3. Parents and children would make a billy cart to race. I will be asking for a poll to be placed on our Facebook page. If you are not a member but are interested, please email me on pandcsecretary@norfolkvillage.eq.edu.au

Take care and stay safe

Christine Keen
P&C Secretary

Tennis Coaching & Competitions have commenced and we are still taking enrolments.

Please contact All Champs Tennis Academy on ph: 5546 2190 or 0421 795 608 to find a class suitable for your child.

To enrol online or view our current classes please visit: www.allchampstennis.com.au.
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