Hi everyone!

Welcome back to our last term for the school year.

Our fete has been and gone and we are well on the way to planning for Awards Night and Yr 10 Graduation. We have a couple of camps coming up for our secondary students and the Yr 5/6 class are heading off for their camp at the same time.

We have seen a dramatic improvement in our student attendance this term. Students need to be at school every day for their results to improve. Please remember to give us a call or send an email or text letting us know if you child/ren are going to be absent from school. Thank you for your support and assistance in helping every student achieve better results.

I would like to thank the many well-wishers over the last week for your get well wishes to Ray. Last Sunday Ray had a close encounter with a very big kangaroo while coming home from a bike ride and was fortunate to get away with a broken leg, although it is broken in five places. He is currently in Toowoomba Base and awaiting surgery. Consequently I have not been at school this week. Ms McMahon has been doing a fantastic job of holding the fort in my absence and she has been keeping me up to date with Proston happenings over the week. I hope to be back at school for a few days next week but will be back in Toowoomba later in the week after Ray has had his surgery.

Unfortunately, I will not make the Coverty Rural Fire Brigade’s Trivia night this weekend but encourage everyone to go along there are some fantastic prizes to be won. Flyers have been sent out to everyone already with the details. It looks like it will be a great night for our community. Hope it is a successful fundraising night for our Rural Fire Brigade.

The Curriculum, Teaching and Learning Audit will be held on the 12th November and we are expecting to see some improvements from our previous audit conducted back in September 2010. I will be calling for parent representatives to participate in an interview with the auditor on that day. If you are a volunteer at the school as a classroom helper, tuckshop helper or a member of the P&C please keep this date in your calendar. I would like the auditor to have a range of perspectives on our school operations. Please let me know if you would be willing to attend this interview with our auditor.

Our Year 10s are nearing their last days at Proston and I urge all parents to ensure they encourage students to make them enjoyable great days. We have recently had some nasty interactions through Facebook and I cannot urge parents enough to monitor what our children are saying through this social media site. I would hate to see any student suspended at this late time of the year and to miss out on their graduation celebrations. Please remind students that posting offensive and nasty comments on Facebook is a form of bullying and falls under our school policy for managing bullying. Should a student be the target of such comments, please take a screen shot of the comments (wall or message) and forward to the school if you wish us to take action. If a comment doesn’t belong on a billboard then it doesn’t belong on Facebook.

Thanks for your support in making it a great start to the term.

Warm Regards
Ree

Every student, learning and achieving in every classroom every day.

Please note - this Monday 22 October 2012 is a student free day.
Greetings from K Block

This fortnight’s award winners:
Nate Lane - being a great helper at the Show bag and Tombola stall
Ruby Allen - being a great helper at the Show bag and Tombola stall
Louisa Frahm - being a great helper at the Show bag and Tombola stall
Kayla Wills - blue level sight words
Jai Munro - purple level sight words
Harrison Wieland - violet level sight words
Nate Lane - great discussion during our ‘Fairy Tale’ unit
Mitchell Fox - great discussion during our ‘Fairy Tale’ unit
Daniel Roberts - focussed work during reading comprehension
Riley Dunlop - completing all the Indigo and Orange sight words
Reegan Hill - completing all the Purple sight words
Corey McCullough - completing all the Violet sight words
Ethan Jocelyn - completing all the Lemon sight words
Ellie Searies - completing all the Lime and Aqua sight words

WELCOME BACK EVERYONE!!!!!! Can you believe it is Term 4 and the countdown has begun to the end of the year? The Year 2s are looking forward to moving up to the Year 3/4 classroom and discussions are under way to organise some transition afternoons. More about that later in the term.

We'd like to extend a warm welcome to Fraser Mackie as he joins the K Block team. Fraser is a third year Education student at the Australian Catholic University (ACU) and will be joining us for the next four weeks. Feel free to drop in and have a chat with him. He will be teaching various lessons and subjects over the next four weeks as he continues his teacher training.

This term our English unit is focusing on Fairy Tales and stereotypes that are portrayed in these stories, such as the step-mother is generally wicked and nasty. Feel free to support this unit by reading a collection of Fairy Tales at home.

Our Science unit is looking at Movement and in particular toys that are either push or pull. A note has been sent home about this unit. Feel free to contact us at school should you need any more information regarding any of this information.

DATE SAVERS
Thursday November 8th - Prep Open Morning
Friday November 9th - Remembrance Day Service
Wednesday November 14th - Awards Night

FROM DANGORA GULLY

Baby News! Spring has arrived - and so have some of our baby calves.
While we were on holidays, Jenny, Joan and Princess each had a beautiful little bully calf.

You might remember that Princess’s last calf, Gloria, was a favourite with the Show Judges this year and we have high hopes that her new calf will also do us proud.

Faye and Queenie kept us waiting until the weekend – but it was worth the wait with Queenie and Faye having healthy little heifer calves. Then Miss T surprised us on Wednesday morning with another heifer. So, now, we are still waiting on Faith, one of our youngest heifers. What will she have? We will have to wait and see!

Now that our herd has grown in size, the Year 10s have turned their attention to making sure the fences are in good repair.

In addition, they will build a new stretch of fence to try to make sure our cattle keep off the golf course! But, this week, the Year 10s serviced the rotary hoe in preparation for our coming cropping unit.

You will have noticed that the green-house is all but complete. The Year 9s will be chipping out the grass and weeds to put in a raised floor of crusher dust. Then the seedling benches need to be moved back in and it will be ready for use!

As the Poultry associations are regular supporters of our rural activities, all Year 8s contributed to their Poster Competition which closes later this week. Two teams each prepared a poster using innovative designs and incorporating their research and reports.

The four heavy weight steers that we used for the shows this year have now been sold to the meatworks where they returned top dollar with George being the first steer that we have sold to have a B butt which we are very proud of. Thank you to Matthew Smith (Smithys’ Transport) for organising the sale and transporting the cattle to Dinmore.

Till next time

Vanessa Cornish       Stephen Carfoot
**School Wde Positive Behaviour Support**

A letter went home on Monday informing parents that in order to see continued gains in behaviour, a decision had been made by the staff and SWPBS committee to increase the increments this term to 200, 400 and 600+ pennies.

The celebrations for this term will be as follows:
- 200 – 399 pennies – Sport and craft activities
- 400 – 599 – DVD followed by a swim at the pool
- 600+ - Visit to the dam (including fishing, swimming and canoeing)

We hope this new strategy will encourage all students to consistently follow the four school rules and strive to reach their target.

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**‘Every Day Counts’**

To report absences please contact the school by 9.30am using one of the following:
- Phone: 07 4169 4333
- Email: admin@prostonss.eq.edu.au
- SMS Text: 0457 530 680

Thank you for supporting “Every Student in Every Classroom Learning and Achieving Everyday”.

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**WORLD TEACHER’S DAY**

Friday 26 October
10:40am

The P&C will be holding a parade and morning tea on Friday 26 October at 10.40am to celebrate the hard work and dedication of all staff at Proston State School.

It would be greatly appreciated if families could please bring a plate on Friday morning to share after parade.

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**Staff Member of the Week**

**Name:** Richard Cetinich

**Where I went to school:** Keebra Park State High School Gold Coast

**My favourite subject when I was a student and why:** Health and Physical Education - We were able to play so many sports and I loved anything to do with knowledge about the human body, how it works, how to make it work better and how to achieve my sporting goals. Lots of fun!!!

**My favourite subject to teach and why:** English - while this may be at odds with my previous answer, I am interested in how meaning is made. I find it fascinating that every time I look at a text I learn something new about it. Trying to teach kids how to better understand figurative language is my biggest challenge and is right up there with the physical challenges I continually put myself through.

**Something funny that has happened at school this year:** This is not exactly funny but it brought the biggest smile to my face and occurred during an experiment in Science that involved designing and manufacturing a parachute. Students were paired up and given the brief and materials and asked to come up with a parachute that would stay in the air the longest. There were some mixed results but by far the best came from none other than Ryan Duddfield and Dean Jurgenson! Stoked or what? On another track - beating the students in the Volleyball was a most satisfying experience...

**Something my students probably didn’t know about me:** Despite my ungainly appearance and often churlish demeanour, I am actually human.

**My favourite thing to do on school holidays:** Enjoying those moments when I am not thinking about school, usually as I am dropping into a two storey green monster out on the point with the pack screaming their heads off. Pure Bliss.

(That's surf talk for taking off on a really big wave to the appreciative and noisy cheers of your mates).

**Why I love my job:** Those moments when you see the light bulbs go on in a student’s face as they finally get the point of a difficult metaphor. Again, PURE BLISS!

**Something I love about Proston State School:** I get to work with an awesome crew of teachers and a crazy bunch of students who keep me on my rather large toes.

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**Year 3/4/5 Reading Groups with Miss Chan**

The students working with Miss Chan have shown a great improvement in behaviour this term, which is allowing them to earn lots of pennies and work better than ever learning some new reading strategies. On Mondays, students work on their vocabulary by using sticky notes to cover some words in a text and replace them with new ones. Sometimes they make boring words more exciting or make difficult words easier to understand.

Chappy has also been helping us with our reading and this week he was able to read students one of his Mr. Men books.

**Alison Chan**
Inclusive Education Teacher

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Photo Gallery - Recent School Events

Year 10 Careers camp

SWPBS Penny Rewards

2012 Spring Fete

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