Hi Everyone,

Well the year is rapidly coming to a close and students have completed their final assessments for the semester. Teachers are organizing activities that are engaging and consolidating this year’s learning as well as being fun for everyone for this final part of the school year.

We are also doing a major clean-up of our classrooms in preparation for pest control and carpets to be cleaned over the school holidays. This will ensure our classrooms are fresh, clean and ready for the start of the new school year.

We’ve had an incredibly busy few weeks with our Awards Night being another successful night of celebration of those students who are consistent and persistent in their learning.

Last Thursday we held our Year 10 Graduation ceremony and it was fantastic to see so many family members join together to share in this milestone for our students. On Friday we said our final farewells with our traditional locking the gate ceremony. While it is a load of fun for the younger students and our Year 9’s stepped up to take the lead for 2013, it is also a very sad occasion as we said goodbye to our Class of 2012 for the very last time. A very special congratulations must go to Aaron Graham who is our only student for 2012 to have begun his education at Proston in Preschool and graduated last week. Our long term staff have watched Aaron grow from little tacker into a fine young man and we were all very proud of his success.

This week all our supporters and helpers are invited to our Volunteers Morning Tea. I was going through the list of helpers and supporters for this year and we have just on sixty people supporting and working in our school making a difference for our students. What a wonderful “village” is our little Proston that we have such fantastic support for raising our children! Thank you to everyone who has helped us throughout the school year to improve outcomes for our students.

Next week we have Penny Celebration Day and we wrap the school year up with the P&C’s Christmas breakup BBQ on Friday. I believe there is someone special coming to visit us on the last day of school. Please note the change of day for this event as the P&C support our message that “Fridays Do Matter as much as Mondays”. We are united in our hopes that in 2013 our only absences will be genuine ones with the school office being contacted by 9:30am on the day of the absence.

We are just about ready to launch our new school website. Ms Gill has done a great job getting our new website ready for going live towards the very end of next week. If you have a chance during the holidays please visit our new website. Please do so as we would appreciate your feedback. You will find our Prospectus, Responsible Behaviour Plan and a range of different documents available to you which provide you with information about our school. We have also posted the Executive Summary for our recent Curriculum, Learning and Teaching Audit for all families to access.

Next week Report Cards will be posted home to families. I have been reading through many of them this week and am so pleased to see many improvements in learning this year. It is delightful to see this shift towards academic excellence and I know we will grow in strength in 2013 and see an even greater improvement in our student results.

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Golden Spurs Hotel — Proston  (4168 9272)
Relax and enjoy a friendly drink and meal — see Anne, John & their friendly staff.
Farewell - Each year we have staff move on for a range of different reasons and this year we have farewelled Mr Irvine, Mrs Cornish, Mr Hams and Mrs Leacock. Next week we say farewell to our teachers who have obtained transfers - Ms Mahoney and Mrs Anderson. We also farewell Mr Cetinich, Mrs Wintour, Ms Devantier and Mrs Allen who have been running our Breakfast Program for the last year as well as working in our Tuckshop as a parent volunteer. Mrs Janette Scanlan is also taking a well-earned break for 2013. We wish each of our staff members all the very best with their chosen directions and say Thank You for the contributions you have made to our school during your time with us.

While we have staff members are moving on we also have a few families who will be leaving us this year. I would like to thank all of these families for the support they have given our school during their time with us and wish them well in the future.

Preparation for 2013 - Our secondary timetable has been arranged for the new school year and booklists have been prepared. We don’t anticipate any changes to our Primary classes at this point in time however there will be some changes in staffing across the Secondary Department with Miss Hayward taking up a role with Junior Secondary classes. We are yet to confirm her replacement. Mr Mark Eisenmenger (Manual Arts, Business & Maths), Ms Yuki Fumimoto (Japanese) and Mrs Wendy Dillon (Music) will be joining us in 2013, Mr Fazakerley will remain our HPE teacher and Mrs Steinhardt returns to our Rural Program. We are also very pleased to let you know that Miss McMahon will continue in her role as Head of Curriculum, leading the implementation of the Australian Curriculum across the school as well as supporting teachers to meet the individual needs of our students in all year levels.

Finally I would like to thank each and every family and members of our local community for their support throughout 2012 and wish everybody a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May you all travel safely and enjoy the break.

I look forward to seeing you back with us in 2013 as we work together to achieve our vision:

EVERY DAY EVERY STUDENT LEARNING AND ACHIEVING IN EVERY CLASSROOM.

Merry Christmas,
Ree

Chappy’s Corner

Spent last night at the Kingaroy carols and I really enjoyed myself. Probably overate; had too much coffee; did avoid the soft drink; and sang my head off. Great night, at least for me.

Next Sunday, there are the Murgon Carols in the Town Hall. Past experience says I will have a good night. And I will love the carols and I will sing my head off.

There is something about Christmas and the Festive Season that gets to me. It is not simply the carols and the dramas that go to make up a Carols Night. It is not simply my love of the music and the choirs. It’s the change in attitude that I feel. It’s the goodwill displayed; it’s the peace that is projected; it’s the family get togethers; it’s giving everyone a good wish and a good time.

In old language there are occasions when me thinks, “What a pity that all the goodwill; all the peace; all the joy; all the happiness that goes into making Christmas couldn’t be part of our lives everyday, everywhere?”

Me-thinks that is a good idea. What do you thinks?

Cheers Chappy.

Aussie Christmas

in our School Library

Oh! Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way, Christmas in Australia on a scorching summers day, Hey! Jingle bells, jingle bells, Christmas time is beaut!, Oh what fun it is to ride in a rusty Holden Ute.

Boxercise

Where: Proston Town Hall

When: Each Tuesday & Thursday nights. Classes begin 6pm.

Last Class will be Thursday 20 December 2012,


Who: Male and Female, 14 and up. (under 18 will need a parent or guardians signature)

Bring: Water and towel

Cost: $7.00 per person.

Enquiries: Jodie 0457 361 219

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Greetings from K Block

Our award winners this week are:

**Brendan Smith** – focused learning with double digit subtraction using trading

**Lorna Smith** – golden sight words and independent and focused work during reading groups. Well Done!

**Lyddia Silk** – trying really hard in all areas of learning. Thank you and Congratulations!

**Harrison Wieland** – finally remembering there is no ‘cat’ on the bus and aqua level sight words

**Ollie Thomas** – green sight words

**Riley Dunlop** – lime and lemon sight words

**Eliza Humphrey** – participating enthusiastically in maths activities and lime, lemon, purple and aqua level sight words

**Ned Madden** – great script writing for ‘Pete the Cat’

**Toby Lane** – red sight words and participating enthusiastically in maths activities. Congratulations!

**Chloe Scanlan** – great script writing for ‘Pete the Cat’

**Billey Davies-Taylor** – orange sight words

**Corey McCullough** – purple sight words

**Kayla Wills** – orange sight words

**Dominic Malone** – green, orange and indigo sight words

**Jai Munro** – lemon and lime sight words

**Harrison Wieland** – lime sight words

It’s hard to believe that another year is almost over! The students are getting very excited about moving up a year level and the Year 2s are very eager to move into a new block! We wish them all the best and know they will be in very capable hands in Miss O’Sullivan’s class.

Meanwhile, we are still working hard with our lessons. On Friday December 7 we will be conducting our “Toy Fair”. Students have made their own push and pull toys and will be presenting them from 11:30 am. It would be lovely to have parents/grandparents/carers come and visit.

**Fiona Gill & Sonia Steele**

From the Paddock

The rural program is winding down for 2012 as the students are following an alternative program for the last 2 weeks of the school year.

Rural farewells Mrs Vanessa Cornish and wish her all the best for the future, I have thoroughly enjoyed working with Mrs Vanessa Cornish throughout the year and thank her for her participation at the shows. I will miss her laughter and jokes.

The Year 10 students have also departed and we wish them well for their future endeavours. To the Show Team members who have left I thank them for their effort over the time they were involved with the Show Team and in particular to Steph Johnstone, the Show Team captain in 2012. I would like to thank Steph for all of the extra work that she carried out throughout the year, especially for organising the cattle and students for each show Stephs’ assistance certainly made life easier for the staff at the shows.

The cattle will be holidaying at Noel and Fay Chestertons’ property over the Christmas holidays and we thank Noel and Fay for all of their help throughout the year. We also thank all of the community members who have assisted with our program during 2012 and in particular we thank Brian, Gloria and Mathew Smith (Smithys’ Transport) for their continued support of the rural department.

The rural department wishes all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

**Till next time, Stephen Carfoot**

Proston State School Tuckshop

- There will be no tuckshop Wednesday 12 December
- There will be no Student Council Tuckshop Thursday 13 December

Please remember to pack your child’s lunch on these days.

**Break Up Lunch**

- Friday 14 December
- Lunch is provided by the P & C at no cost to the students
- Parents and families welcome
- Santa will be arriving at 11.30
Year 10 Graduation

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