Hi

Data, data, data - I have had a chance to look at some of the school data in more depth. As I mentioned in the last Newsletter the school has begun piloting a new spelling program with the goal of improving our students spelling outcomes. However, there is one aspect of improvement data that, you the parent/carer, has a direct influence on. Your child's attendance at school plays a very vital part in improving their academic results. It has been proven through extensive research (as seen below) that higher attendance rates equal to better student outcomes.

With our new Australian Curriculum being largely based on prior student learning, students can ill afford to miss even a small amount of time at school. Students can become very frustrated in class if they are unable to grasp certain concepts due to time out of the classroom. This frustration can then blossom into possible behaviour incidents. We all understand that students get sick and it is often in the best interest of the student and school to keep them home on these days, however, apart from being sick and certain exigent circumstances, students need to be at school as often as possible.

Staffing 2014 - Staffing positions for Proston State School have been set for the 2014 school year. We are thrilled to be entering the 2014 school year with the majority of staff we had for 2013. This consistency is vital in maintaining classroom expectations and behaviours. The school is happy to announce that Belinda Waterford and Mark Eisenmenger have been made permanent employees and will remain with the school for the foreseeable future. We also welcome Susan Jones to Proston State School. Susan joins us from Kingston State School and brings a wealth of educational experience to our team and is very eager to join the school and embark on the next leg of her teaching career.

With the good, often comes the sad... Proston State School will deeply miss Ms Sonia Steele as she transfers to her new school and begins a new teaching adventure. Please continue reading through the newsletter as we remember all of the great things that Sonia has brought to the school in her time here.

Classes have also been determined, however, as most of you know subject to change depending on the school’s enrolment at the start of next year.

The classes are tentatively set as follows:

Primary: Fiona Gill - Prep, Susan Jones - Years 1/2, Belinda Waterford - Years 3/4, Nadine O’Sullivan - Years 5/6

Secondary: Katrina Hayward - 7/8 Jnr. Sec, Selena Salter - 9/10 Eng/SOSE/Career Studies, Kyle Fazakerley - P-10 HPE, Maths, Mark Eisenmenger - 7-10 IDT/Business/Maths, Sophia Steinhardt - Science/Maths/Rural
Student Leadership 2014 - There is exciting news for our prospective student leaders in 2014. I am currently negotiating with the Sunshine Coast University which will see Proston students being mentored by University student leaders. This is a wonderful opportunity and will equip our student leaders with the tools they need to be successful as they lead their student body in 2014. Students will travel to the University to be mentored and will remain in contact with their mentor throughout the school year. I am also arranging in-house leadership courses that should help our leaders excel in 2014.

We would encourage any students interested in taking up the role of student leader in 2014 to let your teacher know.

Ryan Pedley (Act Principal)

Student of the Week

Week 3 - P: Hayley Beasley, Year 1: Kayla Wills, Year 2: Billy Davies-Taylor, Year 3: Ethan Jocelyn, Year 4: Jess Harrold, Year 5: Brendan Smith, Year 6: Amber Bingham, Year 7: Madeleine Waterford, Year 8: Ezrin Walker, Year 9: Jessica Wyles, Year 10: Madison Smith

Week 3 - P: Darren Blanch, Year 1: Michael Ward, Year 2: Eliza Humphrey, Year 5: Colby Smith, Year 6: Elleana Caswell, Year 7: Ivana Fuller, Year 8: Lily King, Year 9: Scott Johnstone, Year 10: Cody Merritt
Starlab

This week Starlab came to visit our school. Starlab Education provides inspiring astronomy and earth science presentations throughout Queensland. Fully trained presenters visited our school with a ‘Starlab Planetarium’ to provide an educational program tailored to suit our level of interest and understanding.

Firstly they set up a big air filled tent in D-Block, we had to squeeze through a small tunnel to get into it! Once we were all inside the show began. Each show was different for each year level depending on what we have learnt in Science this year.

The students saw how the earth rotates around the sun. The constellations in the sky and even got a close up view of many of the different planets. It was just like being at a planetarium, but this time it came to us!

Nadine O’Sullivan (Coordinator)
Year 5/6
This week we have started our new Words their Way trial in 5/6. Our testing has proved to be very interesting and our students have now been grouped according to what spelling areas they are needing extra help in. If you would like to know how the program works please let me know and I can have a chat with you regarding this new program.

Students have been having a great time with their new Rural subject and I believe they are doing well so far.

Just another reminder about water bottles it is important that all students please bring one to school for use in class time.

Mrs Waterford
Danni Lane – having a go at writing words by sounding them out

Nathaniel Flick – great locating of THRASS pictures. Well Done!

Nastassja Soanes – great work in art lessons

Harrison Wieland – following instructions accurately when ordering numbers. Congratulations!

Jake Harrold – green sight words

Darren Blanch – indigo sight words

Nastassja Soanes – purple sight words

Hayley Beasley – blue sight words

Daniel Roberts – writing a great set of instructions

Leighton Blanch – always working to the best of his ability

Kayleigh King – great concentration in a noisy environment

Jake Harrold – writing great sentences

During our Science unit this term we are exploring push and pull toys. The students have had fun over the last fortnight experimenting with different items in the classroom to race down a ramp and thinking about playground equipment and discussing if it works due to a push or pull movement.

When using a ramp made out of a cardboard box, students had to determine which object raced faster and why they thought it went faster. Was it because one object had wheels and the other didn’t? Was it because one object was heavier than the other so it moved down the ramp quicker? Was it because of the height/angle of the ramp?

Before heading out into the playground to check out the equipment, students needed to hypothesise whether the motion made to use it was a push or pull motion.

We looked at videos and discussed the movements. We then headed outside to test our theories. Later this term students will be required to come up with their own push and pull toy and discuss with the group how they move.

In Art, we practised the technique of shading with pencils. The students were absorbed with testing out this technique and comparing it the effect of colouring in with the tip of a pencil.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to Miss O’Sullivan for organising the Starlab visit. What an experience!! The students all enjoyed themselves, with only a few of them getting a little bit scared of the dark! Be sure to ask your child about the visit.

Don’t forget to tell your friends that K Block is open for Pre-prep orientation on Thursday morning from 9.00 – 10.30. Come for the whole morning or just drop in for a little bit.

Parents do need to stay with their child.

Fiona Gill and Sonia Steele
**Proston Scouts**

**Special Deal**

No Joining Fee for children 7-15 years if joining Scouts before 31st March 2014. Please note membership fees still apply.

Please contact Zig and Sharon on 4168 9473 for more details.

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**Scout Cans**

We would like to thank the Proston Community for kindly donating aluminium cans to the Proston Scout Group. Through this we raised much-needed funds for our group. Activities like this have enabled our group to offer free joining fees for any children aged 7-15 years until 31st March 2014, so please take advantage of that great discount.

We would greatly appreciate the continuing donation of aluminium cans so please leave your empty cans in tied plastic bags in the bins provided beside the Scout shed in Rodney Street Proston.

Thank you for supporting Proston Scout Group

**Proston State School**

**Garage Sale**

Friday - 8 November

2pm – 6pm

*If you have any items in reasonable condition you would like to donate to the school it would be greatly appreciated*

**Items for sale include**

- Filing Cabinets
- desks
- trolley
- couches
- computer desks
- bookcase
- children’s chairs etc

**All money raised will directly benefit the students of our school**

**Student Council Cricket Day**

Where: Proston State School, Primary Oval

Saturday: 2 November 2013

Time: 9am to 3pm

Why: To raise money for student council

Cost: $3 per player, under 12’s Free

- P & C are holding a BBQ & Drinks Stall -

All welcome for this great family day out but players must be 12 years of age or older to play with the hard ball (for safety measures.)

For under 12’s there will be a game of cricket on the tennis courts.

This edition is proudly sponsored by

**Proston Health and Beauty & Wondai Pharmacy**

For friendly service, prescriptions, gifts & photographics (07) 4168 5411
Friday Afternoon Sport

During Term 4, students in the secondary school have been given the option of participating in the AASC sport of Golf or participating in a Recreational Archery Unit.

After the initial excitement of shooting arrows at a target wore off, students have really knuckled down to get the technique of Archery correct. Certain students are starting to stand out and are hitting the target most of the time.

This week, (Friday 1 November) will be our last week of practice before the official competition begins. This will see groups of four compete against each other to win the Archery Prize at the end of the Term. Good Luck to all students participating!

Kyle Fazakerley (AASC Coordinator)

Proston Post Office is having a Jewellery and Candle sale.

All jewellery just $3.00 per item and candles half price.

Call in and grab a bargain.

Julie Berry - Ph/Fax 4168 9347

MELBOURNE CUP

5TH November 2013
PROSTON BOWLS CLUB
10.00 am
$12-00 per head
Bookings Please

Tickets available from Margaret at Proston Library

PRIZES FOR: BEST HAT AND WINNING JOCKEY COLOURS

RAFFLES & SWEEPS
COME ALONG AND HAVE FUN

PROSTON QCWA & COVERTY SOCIAL CLUB

Contacts (for bookings)

Coral Graham: Mobile Phone 0429689558

Judith Marek: (07) 41689540
It has been a busy couple of weeks over at rural with the arrival of 24 point of lay chooks and the birth of 2 beautiful bull calves. The chooks have settled well into their new pen that the students worked so hard on rebuilding. They took a while to explore the entirety of the pen as the millet and Lucerne was 3 foot high and jungle thick. They have slowly eaten their way through and are now starting to lay. The students will be selling the eggs as part of their business at $2.50 a dozen. We are only collecting a few now but I’m sure it won’t be long before they all start and we are collecting 2 dozen a day. The Year 9 and 10 students have also been working hard to produce tomatoes and trial plots of pasture. Unfortunately the dry weather means we are watering around the clock. We have also discovered that cut worms like beans and have completely annihilated the trial plots of two groups of students. I would like to thank Kingaroy Garden Centre for helping us out with a reduced price on the tomato and basil seedlings.

The birth of the calves has been very exciting, they are now finding their feet and interacting with the students. The old girls that went home to Mr Chesterton’s farm have also had calves, both of these being heifers. The challenge now is to name all 4 with names that start with J. We need to thank Mr Carfoot and Mr Chesterton for conducting the Artificially Insemination of Gracie, Gloria and Faye and watching out for all of our cattle. Heidi has also been sold for $400 and will be leaving the school soon.

I would also like to thank the entire community for the support at the Mega Bowls function. It was so lovely to hear the support and enthusiasm that everyone has for Rural Studies.

As with many programs we can only continue to run because of kind donations and volunteers as well as grants, so we are currently working on a PHILMAC water grant that is promoted through face book. We have included the promotional photo that we will use. So stay tuned with how you can support us by voting on facebook.

Let’s hope more rain falls over the next few weeks. Till then, Sophia Steinhardt.