Plenty of work has been happening in Rural studies this term. Yesberg’s Earthmoving have completed 2 days of work; clearing fence lines, tidying up old fence lines and cleaning out empty dams making them bigger for when the rain finally arrives. Thank you to the P&C for supporting the program and allowing us to revamp the area.

Students in all class groups have been working efficiently and well over the road and with their theory. The year 9/10 students are studying beef production and have had a meat tasting afternoon, trying to identify where each cut of meat comes from, tasting it for tenderness and flavour (checking the marbling and fat content prior to the steak hitting the BBQ). They have also been handling the cattle to observe live animals and judging which is better and why. The Year 8 students are looking at Work Place Health & Safety: completing workbooks and applying their knowledge to general maintenance. Year 7s have been looking at the Agricultural industry in general and getting familiar with routines.

Princess and Felicity have returned with their bull calves, named JoeCool and Johnny respectively. We have begun their training and the old girls remember how the students spoil them with grain and affection.

We have also attended Proston Show which is the first show for the year. The students participated in Junior Handling on Saturday morning with many of them competing for the first time. They did the school proud and have learnt so much from the experience. Honey, our school heifer, received a 2nd in her class led by Scott Johnstone. Scott also led our Harrison in the Led Steer and reached the top 5 in Heavy Weights. It is becoming very difficult to compete against the big outfits but with the help of Riverina we still hold our own. I was very proud of the students in the Grand Parade as they looked excellent! Well Done! We also had Guess the Weight of Cow and Calf which was 790 kg. Four people had it correct and the ticket drawn out of the hat was Keith Ramke who donated the money back. We raised a total of $100. We will be off to Murgon Show and then the Goomeri Show and we wish all the students all the best.

We always like to thank our supporters and we could not be participating in the local shows without the help and assistance from Riverina, Brian and Matthew Smith as well as Noel Chesterton.

Sophia Steinhhardt
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SHOW TEAM

Scott Johnstone & Graceanne Waterford with the two led steers

Scott Johnstone with Honey, who went on to place second in her Class
WEEK 8 ALREADY!

Wow the term is flying by! It seems like yesterday I was standing on my first parade of the year.

It has been a great first term of the year and I wanted to personally thank all of our parents, volunteers, and whole school staff who have all contributed into making this a great year so far!

We have seen many positive changes and refinements within the school and the students have certainly responded well to them.

Our behaviour has had a massive improvement from this time last year and the school has become a showcase SWPBS school, sharing our practises and policies with neighbouring and regional schools.

Our spirit within the school is flying and students are demonstrating a real competitive edge amongst their peers and opposing houses.

The diaries have been a massive success and teachers and parents have been communicating on a level never before seen at Proston State School. Students have even been reported reading through the heaps of information in their diaries before they go to bed. Students value these so much that there has not been ONE diary lost to date! Well done!

The P&C has been working hard and is responsible for our wonderful looking paddocks. The rural grounds haven’t looked as good as they do in quite some time.

Now if only the P&C could deliver us some rain!

With two weeks left I encourage you to not let up! Everyday counts at school and students are encouraged to keep up their hard work, homework and insure they deliver their assessments and assignments on time.

Parking

Just a friendly reminder to parents who park across from the school that School Buses use that area to turn around. Please be aware of the ‘no standing zone’ and insure you are not impeding the bus turning.

SWPBS Awards

I have been contacting parents every Friday informing them of your students award and inviting them to the presentation on Monday morning parades. Although I attempt to reach everyone there are still parents I am unable to reach. Along with a phone call teachers will begin using the diaries to inform you if your student has been an SWPBS award winner for the week. Please keep checking the diaries so you can watch your child receive the award Monday morning at 0850.

Congratulations!

A big congratulations goes out to our students who competed in the Proston Show over this past weekend. A few of our students baked some award winning cakes and our Rural Show Team walked away with Scott Johnson and Honey taking out a 2nd place in her class.

Secondary School Camp

Secondary school camp is gearing to be an incredible one! Students are very excited with good reason.

The P&C has been very generous with their support of the camp and the school has provided a massive subsidy to send students. Even with this support we understand that camp is still expensive and within this economic climate difficult for some to afford.

The school would like to remind parents that we can arrange payment plans. If you are experiencing economic hardship please make an appointment to see myself and we will put together a plan that will enable you to pay for camp.

We want to give students all the opportunities we can and hope that with the flexibility the school is offering in regards to payment that every child can attend.
In the last few weeks we have really started to refine our reading skills. The groups have all been changed around and students are now in groups with other students of similar needs rather than similar levels. We have been working on making personal predictions about text and discussing strategies to use to predict what may happen in a text like finding the key words by skimming and scanning. The students have been comparing different kinds of text by looking at the types of text they are reading, different settings, characters and events that occur in the books. Students have also been working on their comprehension skills by reading a text and answering different comprehension questions. Reading groups must be working - the students recently completed a reading test and the data shows that 100% of students in 5/6 have improved in their reading ability! Well done!

The students have also been discussing some different options for lunch time activities. I opened the thinking up to the class by inviting them to write any ideas they have on our inspiration wall. So far the students have come up with some great ideas and we will be implementing some of these activities at lunch time. While we have been talking about lunchtime behaviour we have also been working on our SWPBS lessons and Wellbeing lessons. This week we looked at how you can be an Organised Learner in the classroom. The students came up with this T-graph of examples and non-examples of behaviours that show me that they are being a learner.

As Parent Teacher interviews are coming up soon, make sure you book a time to come and see me. Kind regards, Nadine.
In the last few weeks of Kitchen Garden we have had an amazing number of volunteers come in and help! Thank you so much to those who have been helping out in the Kitchen and the Garden. It is greatly appreciated. Over the last two weeks we have done some baking for the Baked Relief to Our Farmers initiative. The students baked 100s of Anzac and Choc Chip biscuits to send away. We have also had fun experimenting with some different dishes. We have cooked Moussaka using a few different methods. It might not always look amazing but it certainly always tasted amazing as I’m sure Nate could tell you. He and his group had lots of fun making our version of Moussaka last week! We have started getting lots more produce from the garden. Last week we were able to make our first fresh crisp salad using all our own produce! The students are having a great time getting back into the kitchen and the garden, and hopefully with some rain soon we will see much more produce come through the kitchen!

Kitchen Garden Team

The School Wide Positive Behaviour program at Proston is moving along very nicely. We are currently in the stages of checking off everything that we are doing successfully and moving on to the next stage of our journey. Because of a great improvement in behaviour and continuity with all staff at school we can see in the data how effective our positive behaviour strategies have been. All staff have access to the SWPBS wall in the staff room so that we can check out the latest behaviour trends and have a look at what our monthly focus is. This is ensuring that our SWPBS lessons are linking in with our Wellbeing lessons.

This year we will begin to implement some new strategies to improve behaviour outcomes even more. We will be putting posters and other resources up in the PBS room that will focus on re-teaching positive behaviour. It will have an emphasis on how to improve their behaviour so that they can avoid returning to the PBS room. We will also be starting the SWAT program - Social, Wellbeing, Achievable, Target program. This program will run once a week with Mr Pedley and students who have visited the PBS room on multiple occasions for similar reasons. The program will target specific Social and Wellbeing skills for these students so that they can begin to re-learn these acceptable behaviours.

If you have any questions in regards to the SWPBS program please feel free to contact your classroom teacher for some more information.

SWPBS team.
Earlier in the year, I wrote a column introducing parents to the word **pedagogy**, used to describe the methods and practices of teaching. This is the second article to let you know what teachers are doing at Proston in the world of pedagogy.

We are continuing to use **warm ups** in the classroom (fast-paced 5 - 20 minute sessions used at the beginning of lessons), to encourage students to engage in the lesson, activate their prior knowledge, and help them to transfer information from short-term to long-term memory.

From now until week 6, teachers are using warm ups focused on **frequent responses**. This means that the beginning of lessons will be full of a high level of student-teacher interaction via the use of questioning. Having students respond frequently (i.e. oral responses, written responses or action responses) helps them focus on the lesson content, provides opportunities for student elaboration, assists teachers to check for understanding and keeps students engaged, active and attentive.

Some ways teachers are integrating this into warm ups already are...

- Oral responses (choral, partnered, team, whispered, individual, etc.)
- Written responses (using flip-boards, flashcards, mini whiteboards, computers, iPads or individual workbooks, action responses (pointing, thumbs up/down, acting, gestures, movement)

Warm ups are being used every day throughout the school to consolidate learning from the first curriculum units, and to get them working enthusiastically on Unit 2 in some subjects.

Over the next few weeks, ask your students about how they’ve been giving frequent responses in their warm ups, and how it’s helping them learn. We hope they can tell you about lots of interesting and fun ways they are communicating their answers to their peers and their teachers! Until next time, **Alison Chan (Head Of Curriculum)**

---

**Morning Activities Program**

We will be introducing the **Jump Rope for Heart** program as our first Morning Activities Program event for 2014 in Term 2.

The program will consist of learning skipping basics individually and as a team, timing, skipping advanced skills and lots of music. The program will finish with a performance for the whole school midway through Term 2.

So, if you are looking for some fun and energising activity before school on a Wednesday and Thursday morning, watch out for a sign-up sheet coming soon. **Mark Eisenmenger**

---

**Year 10 Home Group**

The focus for school wellbeing and SWPBS in Home Group this week has been on bullying. There are many different forms of bullying so the Year 10 students had a brainstorming session to discuss the various ways that bullying can occur. Our next focus will be on the reasons why people bully and trying to come up with solutions to prevent this. **Selena Salter**

---

**Reporting School Absences**

- Please SMS text 0457 530 680
- email admin@prostonss.eq.edu.au
- Phone (07) 4169 4333
Show Baking Success

This year the grade 7 Food Studies students baked goods to enter into the Proston Show Junior Baking section. They had to plan, prepare and practice their chosen baked good during their food studies lessons and present it for judging. Students could choose to make cakes, scones, pikelets or biscuits. The students had a great time preparing their entries and they all did a fantastic job. After the judging it was Elizabeth Taylor who prevailed as the winner of her class with a marble cake with Shakira Trusz coming in at a close second with a chocolate cake. All the other students followed closely behind. Chayanne Sanderson won the biscuit section and Amber Bingham won the pikelet section. Elizabeth also walked away with a champion ribbon for the whole junior section. Well done to all of the year 7 students! Your teacher is very proud of all your efforts. *Katrina Hayward*

3/4 NEWS

This term 3/4 has been working on a Technology unit to create a sandwich for their friend. All our students had a great time and showed their abilities in collecting data about what sandwich and fillings their friends would love to eat. As you can see in our pictures Rainbow bread is very popular and they enjoyed eating the end result most of all.

Please remember our diaries are an important tool in our school now and these need to be returned every day. Each Friday our class records their Proston Penny tally for parents to be able to see how their child is doing. Please keep an eye out for a parent teacher interview note that will be handed out in the next week. *Remember if you are not able to make the day please don’t hesitate to make another time.* *Belinda Waterford*
Sight words
It is great to see so many of the Year 1s and 2s getting enthusiastic about sight words! There were so many awards in Week 6 it was hard to fit everyone in the photo! As an added bonus, each sight word level that a student successfully completes AT SCHOOL entitles them to 10 minutes of iPad time at one of the lunch breaks.

Clean Up Australia Day
K Block students were very excited about participating in Clean Up Australia Day. It’s the big chance to get into the out of bounds areas and crawl under buildings (with teacher permission and supervision of course). We collected enough rubbish on the school grounds to fill a wheelie-bin! We were shocked.

Writing
Mrs Jones and Miss Gill heard about an exciting writing program at an Early Years Network meeting and Mrs Jones has started implementing it in class. We are amazed at how much better the Preps can write after only a couple of weeks. Well done Preps! Years 1 and 2 have just begun and have set their writing goals.