



Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Quality Teaching

The Queensland Department of Education State Schools Improvement Strategy 2022 – 2026 has a singular goal – **Every student succeeding** – that is driven by a vision of empowering lifelong learners through a student-centred approach. At Proston State School P-10 this goal informs our school's strategic plan and Annual Implementation Plan which is structured around three priorities; Quality Teaching, Engaged Community, Enhanced Wellbeing. This article describes the ongoing strategies we use during our improvement agenda for quality teaching with outcomes measured by individual student engagement and improvement.

Proston's Expert Teaching Team

Our team includes teachers with a broad range of educational experiences and areas of interest which allows us to offer an extensive educational program.

- the fundamental educational goals of improving literacy and numeracy are embedded across all learning areas
- sporting programs throughout the year support students' physical and mental health
- arts programs provide opportunities for creativity using traditional and new media
- science programs have students explore their curiosity and inquiry about how the world around us works
- humanities and social sciences help students to understand the complexities of human cultures around the world and to compare and contrast with our own culture
- technologies is a broad area currently including how digital technologies work and are used, plus practical areas useful for our local context in woodwork and agricultural studies

The organisation of our school has been structured to meet the needs of quality implementation by including Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) focussed on aspects of our improvement planning in

the areas of Pedagogy, Literacy, and Behaviour.

Effective Pedagogical Practices

Teachers participate in a continuous improvement program as a key component of our school improvement model. Pedagogy, the way teachers teach, is undergoing a collaborative review and update to promote and enrich the consistency of practice. This ensure that the range of teachers' practices when delivering the curriculum is of the highest quality and informed by the Department's whole school approach to teaching. Our signature pedagogy, explicit instruction, is an evidence-based model of structured lessons that ensures a gradual release of responsibility as learning activities range from teacher modelled demonstration through to students performing confidently on their own. Each lesson begins with a clear statement of the lessons' goals and expectation expressed as learning intentions and success criteria, and ends with a review of learning. Within this structure are a huge range and styles of learning experiences so that students can access the curriculum using multiple learning styles.

Teachers invest large amounts of their time in professional development (PD) in this area. During semester 2 we are revisiting a PD schedule focussed on deepening our understandings and implementation of the underlying 16 elements of explicit instruction (Archer and Hughes). Within this structure lie a huge range of "pedagogies" or teaching methods. STEM subjects – science, technologies, engineering, and mathematics – have unique requirements for teaching to be truly effective.

Two of our teachers are joining the Aspiring STEM Specialist Regional Network to develop their professional learning in these areas. They will then share their learning through internal PD sessions so that all of our teachers can work collaboratively to lift our capabilities when teaching these subjects.

(continued over)

Diary Dates:

Friday 27th May - Friday 3rd June
National Reconciliation Week

Wednesday 1st -
Wednesday 8th June
Guess the Lolly Jar
(Origin themed)
competition



Wednesday 8th June
Footy Colours Day and Guess the
Lolly Jar winner announced

Friday 17th June
Pyjama Day

Friday 24th June
Last day of Term 2

2022 Term Dates:

Term 2:
Tuesday 19th April -
Friday 24th June

Term 3:
Monday 11th July -
Friday 16th September

Term 4:
Tuesday 4th October -
Friday 9th December

Key Contacts

Acting Principal
Mr Andrew Dobson

Administration
Jess Scanlan, Michelle Sanewski, Rach Jolley

Uniform Shop
NB Inspirations (Ph: 4168 9013)



**Respect our staff,
respect our school**

*Inappropriate language will not be
tolerated at Proston State School P-10.*

"Every day Every Student is Learning and Achieving in Every Classroom"



✓ Be Safe ✓ Be Respectful ✓ Be Cooperative ✓ Be a Learner

94 Rodney St (PO Box 70), Proston QLD 4613 Ph 4169 4333 E Principal@prostonss.eq.edu.au

Website <https://prostonss.eq.edu.au> Office Hours 8am-4pm Monday to Friday

Report Student Absences by 9:30am: Ph 4169 4333, E admin@prostonss.eq.edu.au or SMS Text 0426 305 964

Principal's Message (continued)

Our kindy/prep teaching team has recently attended a conference to develop their early years learning about how kindy and prep may be successfully integrated within the whole school context. This included knowledge about "age appropriate pedagogies" (AAP) for our youngest students which people often know as "play based learning" but which includes so much more.

Inquiry based learning is a form of learning that starts by posing a question or problem. There is a choice of models teachers may use to guide students through the inquiry as they identify, research, and develop knowledge about the subject and develop a solution. Science teachers often use this pedagogical technique but there is also opportunity for teachers, particularly in primary, to pose inquiry questions that cross multiple learning areas. It's a learning process that has been used successfully at our school and, with appropriate new resources in place, may be explored further in the future.

Literacy

Teaching reading has been an explicit area of focus at Proston for the last few years, and literacy is everyone's responsibility. As our knowledge deepens and our processes become embedded our approach is moving to an evidence-based Literacy model. The simple view of reading. Reading comprehension, the ability to make meaning from text, is a combination of word reading and listening comprehension skills. Our timetable includes daily reading routines and the accelerated reading program in primary years which includes teaching a combination of the critical foundation skills. In addition, monitoring of word reading, listening comprehension, and reading comprehension is achieved using benchmarking tools. Next semester the daily routines will be extended to secondary years students with the goal of all students reading at age appropriate levels by the time they move onto senior schooling.

While English lessons may focus heavily on the formal structure of our language and how we use it to convey ideas, teachers in other learning areas explicitly teach about the literacy demands of their subjects. Typically, this is observed in subject specific vocabulary building and spelling activities, developing skills such as inferencing, and building background knowledge to support comprehension of texts across subject areas.

As with Pedagogy, teaching literacy with rigor requires the dedication of teachers to developing their knowledge and skills. Included in our programs have been a synthetic phonics program in primary years that is monitored using regular spelling tests. As we adapted our programs with the inclusion of the Accelerated Reading Program focussed on supporting struggling readers we required additional teacher/teacher aide resources to implement. All teachers will soon be provided with additional PD in the area of teaching reading with a particular focus on the knowledge and skills required to implement a new systematic synthetic phonics program that will support the word reading abilities of students across all year levels.

Implementing the school strategic plan effectively only works if all staff have a shared understanding of the goals and the actions associated with achieving those goals. The Annual Implementation Plan is a shared document, and discussions and collaborative work by all staff are a key component of Proston's success which can be clearly measured with

the improvements in student success we have recorded during the last few years.

Regards,

Mr Andrew Dobson
Acting Principal



National Volunteer Week

Last week was National Volunteer Week. At our school we are lucky enough to have support from community volunteers who set aside time to come into the school and help. Our wonderful volunteers interact with the students and staff during play time and class time. They are always willing to lend a hand at alternative schooling activities, such as Colour Fun Explosion, Rewards Days and Athletics Days.

As a school community we would like to extend a sincere **thank you**.



Premier's Reading Challenge

Our school is delighted to invite all students to join in the 2022 Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC).

Students are encouraged to select a range of fiction and non-fiction books suited to their reading ability and record books read between May 9 to August 26. Your child should have a reader record form from their teacher.

To complete the Challenge, read or listen to:

- Prep - Year 2: 20 books
- Year 3 - 4: 20 books
- Year 5 - 9: 15 books



Student Council

Crazy Socks Day

What a wonderful day filled with crazy socks! All together we raised \$85 and that money is going straight back to the students. We even had a meeting this week to discuss what we might like to buy. Stay tuned on that update - we are certainly excited!



Guess the Lolly Jar

Guess the Lolly Jar (Origin themed) will be running from Wednesday the 1st June to Wednesday the 8th June. During this time, the lolly jar will be in the library at 1st break to look at and to guess. Guesses are 50c each. All money will go back to the students. The winner of the lolly jar will be announced on Footy Colours Day.



Footy Colours Day

Wednesday 8th June is State of Origin and is also a time for you to wear your footy colours to school. This could be Origin, NRL, AFL or any other football code. So, what team do you support?



Administration News

Greetings!

School Hats

New school hats have arrived!!! You can purchase either a Stuart or Boyne reversible hat from administration for \$15.00. When sending money to administration please clearly mark an envelope with;

- Child's name
- What the payment is for
- Amount enclosed

School Facilities

The school was successful in obtaining funds from a Regional School Refresher program. This program was aimed at upgrading facilities around the school. The following will be completed before the end of June.

- Blind installation across the school
- Upgrade to wood-working benches in the ITD Room

Secondhand Uniforms

We have heaps of good quality secondhand uniforms for gold coin donation on hand! Please contact administration and ask if you can see what we have.

Until next fortnight, stay warm!

Miss Jess, Mrs Sanewski, Mrs Jolley



SBC Pop Orchestra

presents:



Kingaroy Town Hall
Saturday 25th June, 3pm

Tickets: Family \$20 (2 Adults, unlimited kids)
Adult \$10 Concession \$8

Ticket Sales: Kingaroy Office Central from 14th May
Online: www.sbco.com.au/concerts
At the door

Kindy / Prep News

This fortnight, Prep students have continued to learn about the structure of a story (beginning, middle and end) and have started to learn the correct formation of writing letters and where they sit in the red and blue lines. They are learning to write the retell of a story in preparation for their upcoming assessment. In the next few weeks students will be transferring all of their learning into their assessments; so, it is very important that they are at school during this time.



Kindy students have enjoyed developing their fine motor activities by using tongs to pick up and sort out coloured rocks. This helps to strengthen the muscles in their hands in preparation for more advanced learning. The classroom now has some new baby dolls, a pram and a dress up corner which the kindy students are absolutely loving.

Just a reminder: As the weather is getting quite cold now, please ensure that your child's name is written on their jumper to avoid it getting lost (and then living in the lost property bin).



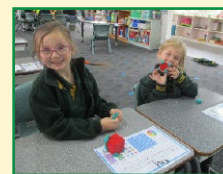
Miss Rhiannon Hutchison

Year 1-2 News

Wow! We have certainly been busy since our last newsletter. We have moulded some birds from clay, painted them in bright colours and decorated them to make them crazy birds. In English we have been busy completing retells of traditional stories and learning to present them using different ways. This week we practised using stick puppets and we made our own backgrounds. Year 2 have also started creating a new story with a familiar character in it. This week the Year 2s and Mrs Niven put their brains together to write and illustrate a book titled, 'How the Echidna got his Friends Again'. Maths has been full of 2D shapes and 3D objects. We have sorted, drawn, made and created 2D shapes like a triangle, all the way to 3D objects like triangular prisms.



Mrs Tatjana Niven

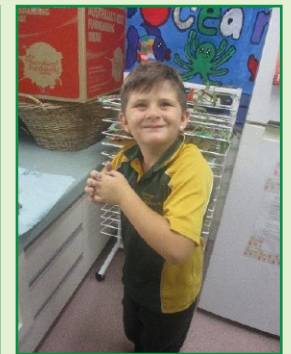


Year 3-4 A News

We are over half way through the term already! Students are currently coming into assessment time and it is very important that they attend every day. They have begun their English assessment and are creating their own superhero comics with all of their wonderful ideas. In Maths, students have just finished their work on patterning and are moving on to learning about odd and even numbers and the properties associated with them. In HASS, students have been learning about the impacts of colonisation and European settlement on Aboriginal life. Students have had an absolute blast in Arts this past fortnight, learning about and implementing two new elements of art including texture and form. They used different techniques to create different types of textures in a nature art, using materials they gathered from around the school. Students also made a collage of a sunset using ripped pieces of different coloured paper. For form, students used different techniques to mould clay into a pencil holder or

pot of some description.

Miss Jessica Gajewski



Year 3-4 B News

This fortnight has been filled with lots of hard work and dedication from the 3/4 B class! Students are powering through their assessment tasks, with HASS and Mathematics tests being conducted on Thursdays and Fridays and their English comic strips and Art projects well underway.

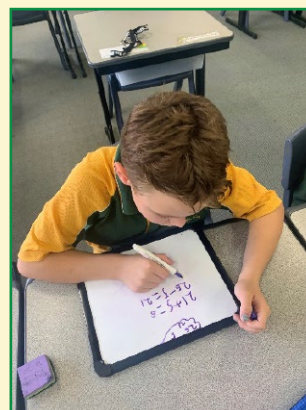
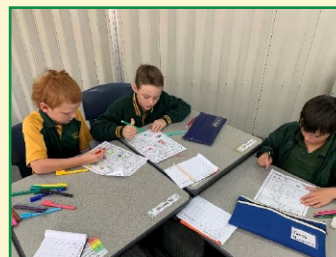
The next two weeks are filled with important learning opportunities that students require in order to complete their assessment tasks effectively. Please ensure your child is coming to school everyday and are provided with a healthy and nutritious breakfast and lunch to best support their learning during this busy time.

Well done to all Year 3 students for completing their NAPLAN tests last week!

Congratulations to all award recipients this fortnight and to our 'PBL Students of The Week' Eli and Willow.

A special thank you to our wonderful Teacher Aide, Mrs Jolley for providing the class with delicious, fresh oranges for fruit break during a busy week of tests!

Miss Ali Kassulke



Year 5-6 News

The Year 5/6 class are working hard on completing assessments at the moment so please make sure your child is at school as much as possible. We are working on a short story in English for a younger audience which has a moral. At the moment students are working on how to present their story to a younger audience which means they are looking at if they are wearing a costume and if they are going to use props at all. They are also deciding if they are creating a book

or PowerPoint to present their story.
Mrs Stacy Love



Year 7 Form

We have managed to fit a lot of exciting and different days and experiences into our Term 2 schedule, including attending an Interschool Sports Day, BP Shield, at Murgon State High School. Despite several rainy days, the class has remained positive and engaged, which has been a very positive experience. It is also great to see the attendance rate for our class continue to increase as we have got further into the term! Remember, every day counts, and missing school on a regular basis can end up equalling missing months of school over the schooling years. Keep up the great attitude and attendance! Please see student highlights from this term below.

Highlights from Term 2:

Kellie: "Going to BP Shield"

Shaniah: "Finding out Mr Blanch is our form teacher"

Trinity: "I love doing art with Mrs Clarke"

Tyler: "Finding loopholes"

Trent: "Football at lunchtimes"

Liam: "Mr Blanch teaching us"

Tristania: "English with Mrs Clarke"

Tessa: "Maths with Miss Hayward"

Monica: "Finding out about CAMP!"

Michael: "Coming 6th at BP Shield for Chess!"

Curtis: "BP Shield!"

Phoenix: "Mathematics!"



Mr Nicholas Blanch

Year 7-8 News

Year 7 English

We have finished our Biography Reading Exam and have begun working on our biographies of a person

who has shown courage. Some students are researching historical figures, sporting figures or even family members to write about.

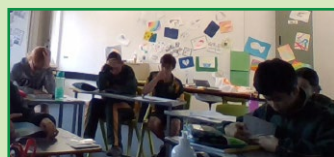


Year 7 History

This week, students will begin learning about Ancient Egypt. We will be exploring the buildings, writing and the importance of the River Nile.

Year 8 English

Students are well on the way to finishing their first drafts of journal entries focusing on teen issues. Students are creating a character set within the class novel and addressing teen issues within the text.



Year 8 History

We will be completing the assessment in class this week and next. After this we will be learning about the Spanish conquests of the Americas. We will learn about building and culture with the Mayan society.

Year 7 and 8 Visual Arts

The class is looking at self-reflection and personal maps this semester. We are completing the reflection section of our assessment and have stated the practical creation of our 2D artwork. Students MUST have 5 photographs of a place that is meaningful to them printed for this artwork.

Mrs Peta-Ann Clarke



Primary Science and Technology

The primary students have been extremely busy and hands-on in Science and Technology. Have a look at what we have been up to!

The Year 5/6 students have been programming their Edison robots to make their way through a challenging track.

The P/1/2 students have created their own moveable toy for Science. Check out Oscar's boat! It moves along in the water while pulling the string. You can also see the 5/6 wind farm. They have been researching renewable energies and have done an amazing job making their own 3D recycled version.



Mrs Amanda Wagner



Industrial Technology and Design

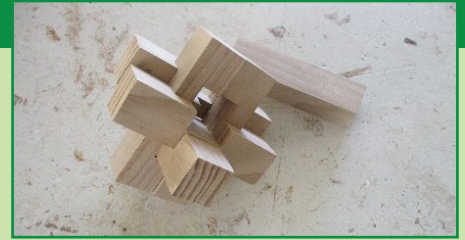
Woodwork Classes

Year 7 have completed their Easter boxes and have begun on their next project a toothbrush and toothpaste holder.

Year 8 are well into cutting out all the required shapes on each of their pieces for their woodwork puzzle. Some students are now in the process of adjusting their cutting to make the pieces fit together.

Year 9 and 10 are well into their sling puck game. Students have adjusted joints, have one glued together and are working on their second set of joints.

Cindy Webb



Japanese

Konnichiwa Minna-san,

Students of Japanese language have learned a lot over the first semester, including how to introduce themselves, count to large numbers and various greetings for different times of the day. Students are beginning to learn about Japanese food culture, and what to say and do when eating a Japanese meal. These skills will be very important for many special activities in Japanese class.

Louise Hawkins



Year 7-10 Agricultural Studies

Year 8 students had a fantastic time cooking up a storm in the kitchen with their homegrown produce. The students harvested their eggplants, zucchinis, carrots, shallots, beetroots and cucumbers and then made an array of tasty dishes to share with the other secondary students. These dishes included spinach and feta triangles, beetroot and eggplant dips, beetroot and chocolate brownie, carrot and zucchini slice, carrot cake pikelets and beetroot and feta tarts. All student enjoyed their surprise morning tea! We are now working on finding some awesome tomato recipes as our tomato plants are yielding a lot of fruit.



Miss Katrina Hayward



Cattle Show

We need to say a massive thank you to the Proston Golden Spurs Camp Draft Committee for donating \$1500 towards our Agriculture Department and Cattle Show Team. This money was raised through the Calcutta at this years draft and we thank everyone who supported the event.



Miss Katrina Hayward



HPE

Well done to all of our secondary students who participated at the BP Shield last week. Here are some quotes from the day.

"It was lots of fun playing against different people who have different skills to me and catching up with people I haven't seen for a long time."

Michael
– Chess –



"Meeting new people from other schools and learning new games like Space Jump and making stuff up – that was fun."

Monica
– Theatre Sports –



A great time was had by all, with Michael and Ned finishing in the top 10 for Chess, the basketballers playing in a grand final mixed team and the touch footballers mixed Year 7 and 8 players also playing in a grand final game. Thanks to our staff for assisting on the day scoring and umpiring



Mrs Patricia Morris

