SILKWOOD NEWSLETTER

Issue 2 – Term 4, 2016

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Vision
A community supporting young people to realise their potential: forever learning, forever teaching, in the service of humanity.

Mission
To provide a unique, learning-centred environment that progresses young people through an integrated and developmental approach to education.

Through meaningful student engagement in learning, we aspire to develop interpersonal, intrapersonal, physical and cognitive competencies, empowering young people to lead purposeful, fulfilling lives.

What’s coming up at Silkwood?

Wednesday, 23 November
Summer Music Concert
5.15pm – 6.30pm @ Bellevue Park Primary School Hall

Thursday, 17 November
Silkwood Business Networking Event
From 5.30pm @ Silkwood Pizza Oven
Cost: $15 purchase tickets online https://www.trybooking.com/NSZT

Thursday, 24 November
SCCA Screen Safety Team Meeting
9.00-10.30am @ Hinze Dam Café – all welcome

Thursday, 24 November
Online Safety and Cyberbullying Presentation
7.00 in Year 9/10 Room
Delivered by profession speaker Brett Lee from Internet Education and Safety Services www.iness.com.au
All parents welcome (mandatory for Year 4/5 parents)
Free event

Thursday, 1 December
The Water Fair - Summer Festival
Prep to Year 11
Last Day Term 4

QUICK SCHOOL CONTACTS

Student Absentee Notification
P: 5655 0300 before 8.30am
E: attendance@silkwood.qld.edu.au

School Fee Account Enquiries
E: schoolfees@silkwood.qld.edu.au

Outside Hours School Care – Bookings/Enquiries
P: 0475 824 342 E: silkwood@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au

Class Matters
Please contact your Class Teacher or Syndicate Learning Manager through the School Portal.

ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL

Parents are asked to telephone the School before 8.30am on the morning of absence on 5655 0300 or email attendance@silkwood.qld.edu.au.

Unexplained absences will be investigated. The School requires a medical certificate when a student is absent due to illness for three or more consecutive days.

SILKWOOD SCHOOL PRESENTS

The Water Fair
SUMMER FESTIVAL 2016
Thursday, 1 December

Surrounded by water, we breathe the quiet creek, move with the rivers, thunder like the oceans.
We quench our thirst, look up at a summer sun in aqua skies.
We hear children laughing so loud they snort.
Red cheeks and circles of friends, solidifying a year of trials and tribulations.
High and happy times – another summer comes, we wonder where the time went?
It’s a feeling of excitement, yet melancholic goodbyes.
Life beats around us. The heat soothed by fruit smoothies, iced tea, and water slides.
We share our hearts and imaginations. Our stories. And we give thanks to the water.

PROGRAM IN BRIEF

8.30 – 8.45 ARRIVAL AND GATHERING ON THE OVAL
8.45 – 9.15 OPENING CEREMONY (PARENTS WELCOME)
9.15 – 9.45 STALL AND GAME SET UP
9.45 – 10.00 MORNING TEA
10.00 – 1:30 THE WATER FAIR
1:30 – 2:00 STALL PACK DOWN
2:00 – 3:00 CLEAN UP AND FAREWELL TO TEACHERS
UNIFORM SHOP

2.00pm – 3.00pm  Monday to Friday
Pre-Order items through Qkr! phone app:
1. Download Qkr! app
2. Or visit http://qkr.mastercard.com/store
3. To register, select your country of residence as ‘Australia’ and follow the steps.
4. Find our School – SILEKWOOD
If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

ONLINE SAFETY & CYBERBULLYING PRESENTATION FOR PARENTS
When:  Thursday, 24 November
Where:  Year 9/10 Room
Time:  7.00pm
For:  All parents (mandatory for Year 4/5 parents) – FREE EVENT
RSVP:  Bookings essential – reception@silkwood.qld.edu.au

Please note, this is an adult only event, please arrange a carer for your child/ren.

Delivered by a professional speaker on the topic of digital compliance and internet safety, you will be presented with engaging and powerful information in a way that will bring to life possible online dangers and responsibilities which are a part of your child’s digital world. Strategies of protection and prevention will empower you to reduce online risks within your home. You will be amazed how simple this can be.

Our aim is to leave the audience feeling empowered to take control of technology, set rules and boundaries in their home and work hand in hand with teachers and educators. Every audience member, regardless of technological experience, will walk away with simple, powerful and effective messages.

THIS IS AN EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED – IT WILL CHANGE YOUR THINKING!

Summer Music Concert

Join us for a heart-warming inspiring concert, performed by our talented Silkwood students

Wednesday 23rd November

@ Bellevue Park State Primary School Hall
Slatyer Avenue, Ashmore
5.00pm – 6.30pm

Come and be delighted by the wonderful groups at Silkwood as they present a diverse evening of entertainment including all the Choirs, Intermediate and Senior String Orchestras, Class 3 Strings, Woodwind and Guitar Ensembles.

All performers will be required to be at the venue at 4.00pm, dressed for the concert and with their instruments and music.

Thank you for your support,
Melanie and Sarah

EMPTY TINS WANTED

Empty tins wanted for a Year 7 market stall game at the Summer Festival. All sizes needed.

Please drop donations into the box labelled “TINS Please” at school office. Thank you.

Mitchell – Year 7
CLASSES IN THE SPOTLIGHT THIS ISSUE...

STARBRIGHT PREP NEWS

This year has gone so fast and the end of the year is very soon. Your children are a delight and we are both going to miss their happy little faces next year. How exciting for the children to be journeying up to Year 1.

Next week we will be having the butterfly lady visit us. We have been eagerly awaiting the arrival of the butterflies. At the end of last week, a butterfly will be formed.

We are half way through our Integrated Lesson and have ventured into the world of Bohemian Tales! We began with the well-known tale of “The Princess and the Pea” and have now moved on to “The Wood Fairy”, which is a traditional Czechoslovakian fable. Each day part of the story is revealed as we use our imaginations to role play, retell, and predict what we think may happen next. We have been experiencing some different musical sounds in our daily meditations, such as: Romanian Folk Music and a little bit of Johann Sebastian Bach. Some of the children have been moved to tears by this music, which is certainly something I didn’t expect!

As a result of the whole experience, the children then draw a picture and together we write a sentence that they can copy into their books (most children are coming up with their own sentences). They are all doing such a wonderful job!

We are also practicing our digit formations and recognition of numbers. We have also been working on counting in 1s and 2s, and matching amounts of objects to their numeral. We have been visiting between, in front of and beside. The children have been working with the learning centre I created which has helped the children work independently and challenging themselves with new concepts.

We have finished our pouches and the spring babies. Then it is a time for the children to show their creative skills in creating some Props for our Jack and the Beanstalk play for the end of the year.

The children are demonstrating an awareness of the Habits of Mind and how they can be used on a daily basis to assist them not only in the classroom, but also in the playground and in social situations. We are hearing stories from the Habits of Mind and the children are using the language at home and in the classroom. It sounds like our Preps are great, little Habits of Mind advocates!

Miss Maree and Miss Michelle

YEAR 1 WATTLE NEWS

1 Wattle has been very busy over the last four weeks. We have been inference masters in our very own teddy bear crime scene. We have been writing information reports and making sure our sentences are rich and exciting. We have been mapping and following directions carefully. We have measured the capacity of the three bears’ bowls from Goldilocks. Porridge was flying everywhere!

We have been talking more about the Habits of Mind this term and have decided we are all striving for accuracy in our new Integrated Unit books. 1 Wattle has written a play together and we are making all our own props, sets and costumes. We have learned about the water cycle and are using big words like precipitation. We are also enjoying our Passion Projects. We have chosen something that ignites our hearts and turned that into little projects. So far we have a hairdressing company, a Pokémon restaurant, scriptwriting and moviemaking, a pet food recipe book, projects about Alaska and the Buddhist Monks. It’s such a wonderful way to nurture and encourage the children’s interests. I never know what they’ll come up with next!

Cynthia

DO YOUR LITTLE BIT OF GOOD WHERE YOU ARE; IT IS THOSE LITTLE BITS OF GOOD PUT ALL TOGETHER THAT OVERWHELM THE WORLD. DESMOND TUTU
YEAR 3 NEWS

Year 3 has just completed the Integrated Unit, ‘Wisdom of the Great Spirit’. During this unit we heard many stories and legends and participated in some wonderful craft and art activities. Mia, from Hearts to Hands, came in and showed us all how to make our own dream catcher. They look amazing and the children had a wonderful time carefully weaving in the beads, shells and feathers. We also had a whole day incursion with Alyson Baker who guided us through making Totem Poles. The children did a great job of personalising their Totems and painting them with care and thoughtfulness.

We recently enjoyed an overnight stay at the Midginbil Hill Outdoor Education Centre, near Uki in NSW. Everyone eagerly participated in the activities that were packed into two days. We were blessed with perfect weather, incredible scenery, and surprise encounters with nature! We got muddy and we loved it. The praise from the camp instructors about the attitude and behaviour of the children was just lovely to receive and they truly deserved it. The co-operation and comradery among this group of Year 3 children meant that they successfully solved challenging construction problems. To follow are some of the highlights, in their words:

“My favourite activity was raft building because we got to work as a team and we got to chase Terry [the instructor] while he paddled his canoe.” Masimba

“I loved the lemon myrtle tea and the damper.” Xavier

“Pioneering, raft building, orienteering and camp skills were ALL so fun. I loved the meals because every single one of them tasted delicious.” Sascha

“It was a beautiful sound when the water rushed along the rocks. I liked catching special things in the water. It was awesome.” Sara

“I thought that making mud bricks was really fun because I had never experienced that before.” Ayla

“It was a challenge to push the raft, make the raft and tie the knots, but it was really fun and exciting too.” Raam

Lucy and Clare

We are participating in Redgum Book Club this term and the catalogue has been sent home with your child.

Redgum orders will earn resources and books for our school and with every order your child will receive a free gift.

Open the link Redgum Book Club term 4 catalogue to view the current catalogue. Redgum also have hundreds more great titles on their website, with books starting from $2.00. www.redgumbookclub.com.au. Order and pay online by credit card or PayPal.

The catalogue is now open and closes on Tuesday, 8 November. Ordered books will be delivered free to the school no later than Tuesday, 22 November.

Redgum Book Club has nearly 400 titles and products in this catalogue. Below is a selection of new releases:

- The Bush Santa – Australian author Mandy Foot’s lushly illustrated Christmas picture book.
- Magnus Chase and the Hammer of Thor - The hotly anticipated new book from Rick Riordan.
- Star Wars – Adventures in Wild Space. A brand new original fiction series set in the Star Wars universe.


If you have any questions about Redgum Book Club orders this term, please contact Lesley at schools@redgumbookclub.com.au
SCCA SCREEN SAFETY TEAM UPDATE

By now, you will have hopefully already heard of the Screen Safety Team, and been enjoying our Technology Tips, Updates and Articles in Newsletters. If you missed us in the last Newsletter, take another peek: http://www.silkwood.qld.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/School-Newsletter-Issue-1-Term-4-2016.pdf

- There is an article from Valerie called Understanding Student Learning and Digital Technology Use – The Silkwood Way.
- A three minute video made by our own Silkwood Dad and registered Osteopath Jonathan Evans on Computers, Children & Posture https://www.parenthome.com/p/computervideo1
- An article by our very own Silkwood Mum and Holistic Psychologist Michelle van Namen on The Impacts of Social Media on Children’s Self Esteem.
- A Screen Safety Update detailing ways to be involved with the team other than coming to meetings: Join the new SCCA FB group or email dennzom1@bigpond.com to offer your parental technology tips and ideas or find out more.

Kate Hall (Curriculum Manager) is writing a Digital Literacy Framework for the school and has the following message for parents and carers:

The digital literacy continuum is still in development. However, I am always open to quality research and suggestions. If the Screen Safety Team have any research they would like to share, could they please provide a one-page summary with direct links to the source.

So, if YOU have any research on ANY aspect of children and technology that you’d like to be considered in the development of the Digital Literacy Framework, please forward to dennzom1@bigpond.com for collation with other members’ contributions to be sent to Kate.

If you’d like to learn more about how the school views technology use, read:

- Valerie’s article in the last newsletter
- p4-7 and p42-44 of the Parent Handbook available on the website by clicking Connect on the homepage, or going directly to http://www.silkwood.qld.edu.au/parent-handbook
- three school Policies of particular relevance: Students & ICTs, Learning & ICTs, and Wifi Policy all available by email from the Screen Safety Team: dennzom1@bigpond.com

At present, the Screen Safety Team is focusing on providing information to parents about Cyber Safety, Wifi & EMFs, Blue Light Toxicity and Ergonomics. If you have tips or ideas about how to support parents to support their kids to make safe choices around technology, please join our conversation by emailing dennzom1@bigpond.com.

The next Screen Safety Meeting: 9.00 –10.30am Thursday, 24 November (amended date) at the View Café, Hinze Dam.

But you don’t have to come to meetings to be a part of the conversation! Join the Screen Safety Team directly by emailing dennzom1@bigpond.com to receive updates. Some information is also shared on the new SCCA Facebook page.

SCCA FACEBOOK COMMUNITY PAGE

The SCCA has created a specific Facebook Community Page to provide Silkwood Parents with updates on the parent working groups, when meetings are on and how to access minutes. Please like the page https://www.facebook.com/silkwoodscca/
**COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD**

**DISCLAIMER**

The advertising sections of this newsletter have been submitted by individuals. Silkwood School does not take any responsibility for the content. The opinions expressed in the advertisements and notices do not necessarily represent the views of the school.

**2016 PARENT BUSINESS DIRECTORY**

Click here to view the current directory and to access an application form to advertise in the directory.

**CARPOOLING WANTED**

**UPPER COOMERA AREA**

Carpooling wanted in Upper Coomera area, to share drop off and pick up. If you able to help please call or text Steph 0410 817 979.

**SPRINGBROOK AREA**

Lift home to Springbrook:

We are facing a big decision to leave Silkwood School next year as we have moved to Springbrook and Gus (Year 5) has a new puppy he would like to get home to after school to walk. If anyone has a spare seat in their car to give Gus a lift home to Springbrook after school only, Gus’ mum, Tania, is able to drop to school five days a week and has three seats in her car free in the mornings.

Email: truespirit70@gmail.com
Phone: 0403 655 860

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**PARENT EDUCATION ARTICLE**

**EARNING THE RIGHT**

By Michael Grose from ParentingIdeas

Earning the right and not assuming a sense of entitlement is a life lesson parents, teachers and coaches must instil in children.

On talk-back radio recently I heard a caller tell a timely story about how as a child she was lucky enough to receive riding lessons from a renowned horse expert.

He had one condition. She had to earn the right to be taught to ride a horse. That meant she had to muck out the stables; brush and feed the horse; look after the gear and do everything else required to look after a horse. Only when she’d proved herself could she earn the right to ride a horse under his tutelage.

This caller said this powerful lesson shaped her entire life. It taught that there were no entitlements in life; to work hard and value her achievements. She never took anything for granted.

Contrast this with the extraordinary sense of entitlement of Australian tennis players Nick Kyrgios and Bernard Tomic who routinely treat the public, players and the game that serves them well, with utter disdain. Their attitude of entitlement is mind-boggling, not to say embarrassing to reasonable-minded, hard-working people.

**Our kids should earn the right**

The talk-back caller’s earning the right story is a fabulous lesson for all parents and teachers. If we want to raise a generation to appreciate what they have, then we shouldn’t give children or young people everything on a platter. In an era of small families, child pester power and relative affluence it’s tempting to simply give kids what they want.

The Rolling Stones were right four decades ago when they sang, “You can’t always get what you want!” Those words form a great child-rearing lesson. That is, just because you can provide something for your kids, doesn’t mean that you do.

They need to earn the right to have something by saving, working for or simply waiting until they are old enough to appreciate it.

Similarly, kids don’t automatically have a right to greater freedoms such as going out at night; those rights need to be earned by proving they are trustworthy.

Also, kids who think they are entitled to use a part of the house such as a living room without cleaning up mess are acting with a false sense of entitlement.

In fact, there are no entitlements, only rights. And rights are earned by being responsible.

A child has a right to use the living room but they also have a responsibility to clean up a rather than leave it a pigsty. A night banished to their room is a reminder that spending time in the living room is not an entitlement. It’s a right that comes with conditions.

Earning the right! A simple phrase with so much complexity.

I suspect it’s a phrase that neither Nick Kyrgios or Bernard Tomic heard much when they were growing up. Maybe their parents thought their prodigious talents excused them from having conditions placed upon them. If so, they did them no favours as good manners, gratitude and graciousness appear to be lacking in their social repertoires.

It usually takes a parent, teacher or coach to remind kids that they have to earn the right to have things, to do things and ultimately to be respected. That’s a lesson that stays for life.