The level of positive energy in this school community, if bottled, would generate enough power to independently run Quinns Rocks for a whole week! The large majority of this energy is coming from you – parents who are interested in their child’s school and want to contribute to the direction of the school. While the generation of ideas has no ceiling, it is reassuring to see some constructive planning emanating from the ideas. Thank you.

I have just read our 2015 NAPLAN scores and our average scores in years 3 and 5 are well above average scores for the State and in particular, Like Schools. Top Parents + Top Children + Top Teachers + Top Education Assistants + Top Non-Teaching Staff = Top School + Top Results! State Results and Like School results include all non-government schools. While we all understand that NAPLAN is a one off test for children in years 3 and 5, we can take solace from this snapshot of how we are going with the programs and learning opportunities we present.

I would like to present and talk about these results on our Open Night on Wednesday 28th October in the Performing Arts Area at 5.45pm.

Book Week is well advanced in planning and thanks to Liz, Max and Coffee Club for the initial impetus. We have decided on two assemblies to parade children in character – Wednesday for Areas K – 11 (juniors) and Friday Areas 1 – 6 (middle upper). Rather than split A7 they are included in Wednesday Assembly.

Dress Ups need to have some semblance with book characters but not necessarily replicas. I don’t expect you to hire fancy dress as we are looking for creativity and originality. Remember that comics are Graphic Novels so all of our superheroes can be included. Daily stories will be read to the children all week and we will slot in volunteers from different walks of life to read to a junior class (from the Story Telling Rocking Chair) in the library.

We will fit in with your schedule so please let me know your availability as soon as possible. The intent of this exercise is to demonstrate how everyone, irrespective of their vocation, needs to learn how to read. Check out the Facebook Page for a more detailed program.

A Busy Bee is set for September 5th. Essential tasks will include removal of the Play Ground equipment near Tennis Courts, replacement of sand in playground near library, general weeding/pruning and garden maintenance and removal of basketball backboards in preparation for new boards. A more comprehensive list with details will be available late next week.
With an 8.30am start, we should be finished by 12.00 when a BBQ lunch will be provided. Dads attending will have another excuse to be relaxing and snapping fingers on September 6th.

I regularly make reference to my (and your) appreciation of the staff working at your school. In this newsletter I would like to commend Nigel Rogan for his tireless, unselfish and congenial manner in which he undertakes every task and request. I can best describe him as the heart of the school, pumping energy, fun, commitment and reliability into the lifeline of our operations. I am sure you will all endorse my (and your) admiration for this wonderful person and educator.

Speaking of admired people, can I welcome back Margaret Holder after her six weeks travelling through Europe. There really is credence to that saying about not appreciating someone until they are not there! Her bear collection was overjoyed with her return!

It is about this time of the year that bugs thrive with warm enclosed conditions. I have noticed outbreaks of Hand Foot and Mouth, School Sores, signs of possible Whooping Cough and head lice. While this seems more prevalent in the junior school, all parents should be on alert. If you are concerned with any aspect of your child's health, please contact your medical professionals. In the interim, use your discretion and choose to keep your child home if they are unwell or have symptoms resembling those notified.

For those concerned with the Eco Bin on school premises on Rees Drive, I have an undertaking that this bin will be cleared daily. If in future, you have a concern with any aspect of the school, please contact me. Unfortunately, I cannot respond to anonymous people and nor will I.

The School Play (A Fairy Story), has been warmly received by students and parents. For those who have missed the production, there will be an additional performance on Tuesday 25th August at 5.00pm. I hope you can spread the word and get people to come along and sense the enjoyment children experience in participating. A quality performance such as this one should be touring the city, but Tuesday is free admission. Tuesday’s presentation will have an addition that may surprise you.

This extra activity for children is only possible when staff and parents make time to provide the opportunity. While we see a final presentation we take a lot for granted. Can I single out one person who has done wonders with the costuming and the production - Thanks Caili!

We have two busy weeks ahead of us then it’s Athletics Carnival time. Once again the Parent/Teacher/Student Challenge will be a feature. I'm sure the Challenge this year will be spirited and I believe a degree of difficulty around 7/10. Now is the time to organise your colours, your tent and your support. Last year was exceptional. Let’s go one better!

“Each person holds so much power within themselves that needs to be let out. Sometimes they just need a little nudge, a little direction, a little support, a little coaching, and the greatest things can happen”. - Pete Carroll

JOHN NOWICKI - PRINCIPAL
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<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Aug 31 Athletics Carnival Discus Throws Yrs 4-6, 1-3pm</td>
<td>Sept 1</td>
<td>Sept 2 Athletics Carnival Long Jump, TBall, Throws, 400m Run, Football Kick Yrs 1-6 Father’s Day BBQ</td>
<td>Sept 3 Athletics Carnival 800m Events Yrs 4-6, 9 -10am</td>
<td>Sept 4 Athletics Carnival Team Games, Sprints, Relays Yrs 1-6</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Sept 7</td>
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<td>Sept 11 Interschool Athletics Carnival Yrs 1-6</td>
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School Development Day on Monday October 12th
Students return for Term 4 on Tuesday October 13th

**BEAMERS AWARDS**
- Behaviour,
- Excellence,
- Achievement,
- Manners,
- Effort,
- Responsibility and
- Striving

Congratulations to the following students who have received Beammers Award Certificates:

**VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS**

Thank you to the parents who have already paid their Voluntary Contributions. Voluntary Contributions can be paid at the school office. Please pay by cheque, cash or Visa and Mastercard Credit Cards.

- Kindy Children $30.00
- Pre Primary - Year 7 $60.00
- One Child $100.00
- Three or more children $140.00

**FASTPAY FACILITIES**

We now have facilities in the office for you to pay for Voluntary Contributions and Excursions with your Visa or Mastercard Credit Cards. Please see our Registrar Margaret Holder for more information.

Keep your Woolworths earn and learn stickers coming in. This is a great opportunity to get new educational equipment for your school. Drop them into the purple box in the office. Thank you for your support.

**CHANGES TO ADDRESS, HOME, WORK OR MOBILE TELEPHONE**

It is very important that contact information recorded on student enrolment cards is current. In the event of an emergency, or a child becoming unwell during the school day, the school needs to be able to contact the parents immediately. If your telephone numbers (home, work or mobile) address or preferred emergency contacts have changed, the school office and classroom teacher must be notified as soon as possible. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

**QUINNS ROCKS FAMILY LINKS PROGRAM IS HELD IN THE ECE BLOCK**

Our Family Links Program is held each Tuesday between 8:45am-10:30am. All parents and children in the 0-4 age group are welcome. For more information contact the school office on 9305 1500.
HEALTHY IDEAS

Simple Pumpkin Soup
1 butternut pumpkin, peeled de-seeded and cubed.
1 large potato, peeled and cubed
1 large carrot, peeled and roughly chopped
1 onion, diced
2 tbsp olive oil
4 tbsp Massel chicken flavoured stock powder

1. Heat oil in a pan and fry all vegetables until golden.
2. Add 2L boiling water to the pan and stir in stock powder.
3. Bring to the boil and simmer for 20 minutes until all vegetables are soft.
4. Using a stick mixer liquefy all the soup until it’s nice and smooth.
5. Taste and season with salt and pepper accordingly.

New Zealand is second only to the USA for the number of McDonalds Restaurants per head of population.

Hector’s Dolphin is the smallest dolphin in the world, and it is only found in the waters around New Zealand.

Waitomo Caves in New Zealand is popular for tourists to take boat trips along the river through caves to see glow worms (fireflies). There are so many of these tiny insects it looks like a night sky effect when you look up.

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

(Disclaimer - Quinns Rocks Primary School does not endorse the representations made in the community advertisements)

Out of School Kids Care is a family orientated, owned service that provides Before School Care and After School Care programs and Vacation care for all children. We offer fun environments for all children and forward plan experiences accordingly for their age group.

Our centre has been operating at Quinn’s Rock Primary School for the last 6 years and is staffed by highly qualified and experienced educators who are committed to providing quality care for all your children. Give us a call now on 0410 664 332 to book for Before School Care, After School Care or Vacation care program for the next school holidays September / October.

P & C NEWS

CANTEEN - The Canteen is open each Friday at recess and lunchtime.