

Small enough to care,  
big enough to succeed!



# Aratula Adviser

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**Successful Students \* Exceptional Educators \* World-class Learning Environment**

## From the Principal's Desk

I was exceptionally proud of the conduct of our students when we attended Boonah Show Ed on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June. All student displayed our school expectations being safe and respectful as they listened carefully to learn from the presenters. Thank you to the parents who volunteered to help supervise small groups of students on the day. Your time and efforts are truly appreciated. We cannot participate in activities like this without your help.

Last Thursday we welcomed 23 educational leaders from South East Region to our school for a professional learning day. The visitors were impressed with the presentation of our school, including the high standard of uniform dress, and with the warm welcome they received from students. The performance of *Aratula: Gateway to Learning* was a highlight! On behalf of all visitors, I extend my sincere thanks to P&C Executives Mrs Mulligan and Ms Little for catering the event and to the parents who assisted with baked goods for the morning tea. It is not often that we are asked to host these events and I feel very proud that, as a team, we all pulled together to show what a magnificent school Aratula State School is.

This is the last newsletter for this term so I wish you all a safe and relaxing Winter break. We will miss our assembly next Monday so the final assembly of the term will be held on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 2:50pm in the Year 3/4 classroom.

### Playgrounds are out of bounds outside school hours

Please be advised that children are not permitted to play on the playgrounds before/after school or during events run by P&C. We are bound by Work Health and Safety legislation at all times and, as such, must ensure the safety of all staff, students and visitors. This Friday evening we have the Starbeque so it is timely to remind parents and carers that children are not permitted on the playgrounds.

### Cleaners' Day

This Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> June, Queensland state schools acknowledge the tireless efforts of school cleaners. On behalf of all staff and students, I would like to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU to Mrs Diane Orford, our cleaner, for her dedication and commitment to ensuring that our school facilities are well maintained and looking their best. We appreciate all that you do, Mrs Orford.



## Dates to Remember

ECAP—each  
Wed—9am

Starbeque—  
16th June

P & C Meet—  
Mon 19th  
June—5:30pm

Sport's Day—  
Mon—19th  
June

Chaplain's Visit  
- 21st June

Final Assembly  
for Term 2—  
Thursday  
22nd—2:50pm

### Term 3

Triple P Pro-  
gram— Wed  
July 19, Wed  
Aug 2, Wed  
Aug 16

Chaplain's vis-  
its —19 July,  
2, 16, 30 Aug  
and 13 Sept

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### **Small Schools' Athletics Day**

Aratula, Maroon, Mt Alford and Roadvale State Schools' sports day will be held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June at Boonah State High School and Coronation Park Oval. Due to the high school oval being unsuitable for use, track events will be held at Coronation Park. Field events and minor games for junior students will commence at 8:45am at Boonah State High School. We will take the short walk to the oval at approximately 10:15am where students will have morning tea before track events commence. Once all events have finished, a presentation will be made at Coronation Park.

**Parents are required to transport their child to Boonah State High School in the morning and collect from Coronation Park at approximately 2:45pm when the day concludes. If you anticipate any problems with transport, please speak to your child's teacher or the principal as soon as possible.**

Last year we won the sports day for the very first time! Mrs Skewes, who has been to almost 20 sports days, was away last year so we need to do it again this year so she can celebrate with us! This means that **we need all students attending on the day and participating**. In the event that your child is sick, please contact the principal on 0405 302 315.

### **Reporting**

In accordance with the revised Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Framework (February 2017), students will be given an overall grade and a mark for effort on their report card which will be issued in Week 10. There will be no lengthy comments as in previous years. Instead, the context of learning for the semester will be provided which is a statement to inform parents about what was taught and assessed across the semester. A marking guide with clear expectations for effort and behaviour has been developed collaboratively by staff and has been discussed with students. All children have been provided information so that they understand how they will be assessed and how this will be shared with parents.

Parent, teacher and student conferences have commenced and will be held this week and next. A form detailing the timeslots teachers have available was sent home last week. Please select your preferred times and teachers will do their best to accommodate. A copy of the timetable is available outside the classroom and you can record your preferences directly on here if you wish. Please then hand the note to the class teacher indicating the time chosen. If you have any questions about the process, please speak to your child's teacher.

### **Every day counts at school**

The pizza party for students with greater than 94 % attendance was very well received by the 18 students who had less than three absences for Term 1. Some children were upset to have missed out on the event and parents have spoken to me about the possibility of exempting students who are ill or lowering our expectation of 94 per cent.

In consultation with staff, parents and students, it has been decided that it is important to maintain our focus and promote the importance of attending every day. This was passed by our P&C at the meeting on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. With flu season upon us, we do not wish to disadvantage any child but there needs to be a consistent and fair criteria for all. The Student Council decided that this term the award would be free 'meal deal' for every child whose attendance for the term is greater than 94 per cent plus a games afternoon with the principal. The good news is that if a child was sick during term one they can still achieve the goal for term 2! Additionally, because it is meal deal, if a child misses out due to illness his/her parents can purchase meal deal so as not to disadvantage the child.

With only 9 school days left, we currently have 25 students eligible for the attendance reward! That is 7 more than last term! Well done and thank you for supporting this priority. Congratulations to Onyx, Conner, Kailey, Chloe, Emma, Sophie, James, Mason and Byron for 100% attendance!

Currently, our whole school attendance rate is 90.2% which is slightly improved but still well below our target. Attendance so far this term:

Prep – 91.16%

Yr 1 – 85.64%

Yr 2 – 86.20%  
Yr 3 – 94.10%  
Yr 4 – 88.43%  
Yr 5 – 94.70%  
Yr 6 – 91.47%

Please ensure you call or email to let us know that your child is absent.

### **Lost Property**

Please ensure that all items of clothing worn to school are clearly labelled! The cold weather is only just beginning and already we are gathering quite a pile of lost property. Parents, your assistance in helping return these lost items to their rightful owners is appreciated. Items are outside the Year 3/4 classroom each morning.

### **School Watch**

The School Watch Program is a partnership between Education Queensland, the Queensland Police Service and the State Government Protective Security Service. It aims to reduce criminal activity in Queensland schools and encourages everyone to look out for after-hours crime in our schools.

**Entry to the school outside of hours requires the prior approval of the principal.** Let's work together to help create safer school communities. If you see anything suspicious, please don't attempt to intervene. Call the School Watch number – [13 17 88](tel:131788)

### **Grants for Reconciliation in Queensland Schools now available**

Have you got an idea to promote reconciliation in our school? Talk to the principal today!

The Reconciliation in Queensland Schools initiative is offering grants of up to \$5000 for projects that strengthen reconciliation and support understanding for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures in Queensland state primary schools.

This program is part of the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games [Reconciliation Action Plan](#). It is designed to promote a lasting legacy of reconciliation, building stronger relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in the lead up to and beyond the Games.

Applications close 14 July. More information is available at [Embracing2018](http://www.embracing2018.com) ([www.embracing2018.com](http://www.embracing2018.com)).

### **Feedback**

If you ever have any feedback you would like to provide, or any ideas or suggestions for our school, I would love to hear from you! Please come to see me, call to make an appointment or email me anytime at [aarms55@eq.edu.au](mailto:aarms55@eq.edu.au).

Have a fabulous fortnight!

Angela Armstrong  
Principal

## Chappy News

Thank you to those parents who responded to the Triple P Interest Form.  
I plan to run the following seminars in Term 3:

"THE POWER OF POSITIVE PARENTING"	Wed July 19th - 1.30pm to 3pm
"RAISING CONFIDENT COMPETENT CHILDREN"	Wed August 2nd - 1.30pm to 3pm
"RAISING RESILIENT CHILDREN"	Wed August 16 <sup>th</sup> - 1.30pm to 3pm

All Seminars will be held at are for parents of children 0-12 years.

I plan to be at Aratula State School on the following Wednesdays next term:

19th July;  
2nd, 16th & 30th August;  
13th September.

As this is my last Chappy News for the term I hope you have a safe and happy holidays with your family.  
I look forward to working with you again next term.

Kind Regards,  
Karen Turner, Chaplain

## P&C Patch

Hi again for the last time this term...it sure does fly by!

I hope everyone is keen for the Starbecue this coming Friday! It should be a fun and informative night. Please RSVP for catering purposes and bring along some change on the night as glow sticks and lucky dips will be available. Thank you in advance to our P&C volunteers for their contribution to making the night a fabulous time.

Thank you to our tuckshop volunteers for a wonderful term of delicious food. It is fun to see the kids beaming faces when it comes times for lunch. If any parents have time to spare, we are always happy to see new faces and welcome new menu ideas.

Thank you also to our brilliant Principal and dedicated teaching staff for an action packed term.

***There are still a few outstanding uniform accounts which should be settled by the end of term. Thank you for your cooperation with this.***

Our next P & C meeting is **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017** at 5:30pm in the administration building. We have a friendly and welcoming P&C committee so please come along as we would love to see you!

Have a wonderful holiday break (this is the last newsletter for term 2). I look forward to your continued support and our continued success next term.

Nicki Mulligan  
P&C President