Dear Parents,

It was great to greet all the students and parents on day 1. We have some new families joining or re-joining us this year and we are looking forward to getting to know them. It has been great to see all our students return to school and get right into their learning. Comments about how easily the students have resumed studies, and how eager they are to learn, are often heard from staff and visitors, and make coming to school pleasant for all.

If you have not had a chance to speak to your child’s teacher, we will be sending out a schedule next week, offering all parents a chance to meet and speak to the staff. We are happy to discuss what your child will be learning, and their goals for this semester.

The year we have had most students create a SMART goal for their learning and a STRIVES goal. Their SMART goals are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time bound. The goals were discussed with the teacher beforehand to ensure they matched the criteria, and already I have seen students applying themselves to achieve them. You helping them, will make the successful attainment of their goal more achievable, and allow you to help them do something they have decided they would like to do.

Attendance

Congratulations to the year 4-6 class, they have 100% attendance to the whole of 2016 to date! This is a fantastic effort and they have all received an ice block each Friday to celebrate their success.

4-6 Class

This term in English, we are looking at advertisements and the tricks they use to persuade us to do what they want. So far we have studied the layout and features of still ads and some of the language devices they use, such as; smiles and metaphors, alliteration, noun and verb groups, rhetorical questions, personification and evaluative language. We have also looked at cohesive devices such as repetition, replacement and omission.

We will later use these devices to entice you to visit a wonderful holiday place.

Prep-3 Class

Welcome back everyone! A new school year already! It has been great to see all our returning students after the holidays, and also to welcome a new group of Prep students. Everyone has settled into the routines of school well and we have had a lovely first 3 weeks of school.

Magic words (sight words) have begun coming home with our P-3 students in their slimpick wallets, along with a “homework” sheet to help remind students to practise their reading each night. The important thing for you, as parents, is to make this a special and enjoyable time with your child. There are many different ways to enjoy reading books and practising “Magic Words”. Some ideas I have heard is to hide the words around the house for students to find. You might like to cut up the sheets and play bingo, snap or memory games. Maybe you can find magic words in books with your child! It would be greatly appreciated if students could return their folders and magic words each Friday.
Last Wednesday the students brought home Mathletics sign in cards. This online mathematics program is a great way to practise maths at home with your child. If you have any questions about how to log in or work the program please contact me so I can help.

Thanks!
Lisa Burns
P-2 teacher

Playgroup
The Crawford Little Learners Playgroup has commenced for 2016! Trudy from Bushkids will be running Playgroup. Bushkids is an organisation that helps rural kids and Trudy was keen to assist run and promote our playgroup. Playgroup will operate on a Tuesday morning from 9:00-11:00am at the school. All non-school age children are welcome to attend. It is a condition of attending that a parent remains to supervise their child.

WHY TEACH SELF-TALK TO KIDS?
by Michael Grose

Self-talk is the foundation strategy to teach kids to shift their thinking about a negative event. Let me explain.
A negative event happens such as a child’s sibling won’t share a much loved toy. The child immediately feels anger. He thinks, “Not again! I hate her! She never shares and it’s not fair”.
This thinking feeds his anger, which starts to spiral. In a heartbeat he’s lashed out at his sister for inflicting such an injustice on him.

Here’s what happens…..
Our thoughts, often reflected through self-talk, change when we experience and emotion. We tend to focus on the event that caused the emotion. Anger shifts our attention outward to the thing, person or event that caused it. Sadness shifts our attention inwards toward the loss. Our emotions change how we see the world. We are usually more optimistic when we are happy and more pessimistic when we’re sad.

The key is to change your self-talk.
By changing the chatter in your brain from something negative, catastrophic or unhelpful to something more realistic, positive and helpful, can help get you through a challenging situation. Positive self-talk examples include:
“Stuff happens, I can cope”
“It’s no big deal”
“I’ve put up with worse than this”
“I may want it but I don’t need it”

Help children develop age-appropriate self-talk scripts for a variety of common situations they meet so they can avoid an escalation of their emotions. Then encourage them to change the monkey-brain tape in their heads when they catch themselves saying negative, catastrophic or down-right regretful things.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLUE LIGHT DISCO – 12/2/16
Tonight at Kingaroy Town Hall. See attached flyer for further information.

SOUTH BURNETT SAINTS AFL CLUB
Sign on day – Saturday, 13th February from 10:00am-1:00pm. Lyle Vidler Oval. All ages – Mens, Womens & Juniors.

ST. JOHN’S LUTHERAN SCHOOL – TRIVIA NIGHT 4/3/16
See attached flyer for further information
**IMPORTANT DATES CALENDAR**

**COMING EVENTS**

EVERY TUESDAY FROM 9:00-11:00AM - PLAYGROUP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24 March</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 April</td>
<td>First Day of Term 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 April</td>
<td>ANZAC Day - Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 May</td>
<td>Labour Day – Public Holiday</td>
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**ABSENCE NOTIFICATION**

Rip off and return this slip to the school when your child returns to school after an absence.

Dear Crawford State School staff,

My child ..............................................................(name)

was absent from school on...........................................(date/dates)

because .................................................................(reason)

Signed.................................................................(name and signature)

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**Our Vision**

Everyday working together fluidly, to empower our digital natives to reach their full potential in an inspiring, caring and secure environment that provides opportunities, values diversity and encourages excellence and life-long learning.