Dear Parents,

Please be aware that there is no supervision provided for non-bus students before 8.30 am. All staff are busy preparing for the day’s lessons and it is unfair to them to drop your child off five or ten minutes early. No student, who does not arrive on a bus, should be left at school 8.30am.

Reading Report
With our major improvement agenda being reading this year, it may be time to look at some reasons why reading is important and how it can change our lives.

Although it doesn’t always make you a better communicator, those who read tend to have a more varied range of words to express how they feel and to get their point across. This increases exponentially with the more volumes you consume, giving you a higher level of vocabulary to use in everyday life.

Unlike blog posts and news articles, sitting down with a book takes long periods of focus and concentration, which at first is hard to do. Being fully engaged in a book involves closing off the outside world and immersing yourself into the text, which over time will strengthen your attention span.

Two excellent reasons for reading and how it can positively change lives.

Book Week 22-26 August
To celebrate book week and all of the fantastic stories and the characters from those stories, children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character for school on Friday 26th August. We will have a parade of costumes at 9.00am before moving into a classroom to work on a book using all the characters of the day.

Costumes must be appropriate for school and it is preferred they are characters from books, not from television or movies that have been put into books for commercial reasons.

What We Are Doing Now

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 4 – Weeks 4 &amp; 5</th>
<th>P-3 class</th>
<th>4-6 class</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>English</strong> – Preps – Assessment – response to a Rhyming Story. Reading poems.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Analysing persuasive media texts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yrs1,2&amp;3 – Reading narratives and finding facts from the narrative to write an information text.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Geography – Yr3-4 - the importance of environments to animals and people. Yr 5-6 - interpret data to identify patterns and draw conclusions about the diversity of places.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maths</strong> – Patterns using shapes, objects and numbers, Days of the Week, number and place value.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Technology – creating a maze game using Scratch.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Prep-3 – Visits from the Firemen

The Kingaroy Fire Service has visited Crawford twice this term to teach our students about Fire Safety. On the first visit we learnt how to:

- Stop, Drop and Roll.
- Get down low and go go go!
- Decide on an Escape Plan at our homes.
- The importance of knowing our address and phone number in the event of an emergency.

The firemen then returned a few weeks later to check on our progress. We were then given a guided tour of the firetruck and had a chance to use the hose to spray water.

They were great visits and the students had a good time. Thank you Kingaroy Firemen!
Crawford Olympics
The Crawford Olympics were hotly contested last Friday with the blue team taking the gold medal with 64 points, the yellow team taking out the silver with 60 points, the red team the bronze with 58 points, and the green team winning 52 points. The athletes swam, ran, wrestled, shot, threw, twisted, rowed and rode their way to glory in a variety of Olympic type events during the afternoon. Project Club provided sausages for lunch and there were many spectators watching and cheering. Thank you to everyone participating in the afternoon and making it a success.

See some photos from the afternoon at the end of the Newsletter.

Attendance target – 93% of students at school every term.
Every day matters! Coming to school every day makes a difference. All absences add up and make a difference over time.

ATTACHED STATE SCHOOL CONSENT FORM
Please find attached a copy of the State School Consent Form – 1 for each student. We have updated this form in order to add permission for our Mobile Sign at the front of the school as well as our School Facebook page which should be up and running in the very near future.

Please take the time to read the form carefully and fill in all sections completely. Please note when deciding on permissions, that the local newspaper can be viewed on the Web as well as our Newsletter. We only use students’ first names in Newsletters, Newspaper articles etc.

It is important that a form is completed and returned for EVERY student so that our records can be updated.

BOOK CLUB
Please find brochures attached. Orders need to be returned to School by Friday, 26th August. Parents may also place their orders directly with Scholastic using Book Club LOOP (Credit Card). Visit: scholastic.com.au/LOOP.

The pitfall of using other children as benchmarks

By Michael Grose

Benchmarking children’s progress with that of other children is not a wise parenting strategy. Inevitably, it will lead to parent frustration as there will always be a child who performs better than your own on any scale you use.

Have you ever compared your child’s behaviour, academic progress or social skills with a sibling or your friend’s children?
Comparing your child with others is a stress-inducing and, ultimately, useless activity.

But it’s hard to resist, as we tend to assess our progress in any area of life by checking out how we compare with our peers.

When you were a child in school you probably compared yourself to your schoolmates. Your teachers may not have graded you, but you knew who the smart kids were and where you ranked in the pecking order.

Now that you have kids of your own do you still keep an eye on your peers? Do you use the progress and behaviour of their kids as benchmarks to help you assess your own performance as well as your child’s progress? Or perhaps you compare your child to yourself at the same age?

Benchmarking children’s progress with that of other children is not a wise parenting strategy. Inevitably, it will lead to parent frustration as there will always be a child who performs better than your own on any scale you use.

Kids develop at their own rates
Each child has his or her own developmental clock, which is nearly impossible to alter. There are slow bloomers, early developers, bright sparks and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom. The slow bloomers can cause the most concern for parents who habitually compare children to siblings, their friends’ kids and even themselves when they were in school.

The trick is to focus on your child’s improvement and effort and use your child’s results as the benchmark for his or her progress and development. “Your spelling is better today than it was a few months ago” is a better measure of progress than “Your spelling is the best in the class!”

Gender matters
It’s no secret that boys’ and girls’ brains were developed by different architects. One major difference lies around timing, or maturity. The maturity gap between boys and girls is anywhere between 12 months and two years. This gap seems to be consistent all the way to adulthood.

Quite simply, girls have a developmental head start over boys in areas such as handwriting, verbal skills and relationship skills.

Boys benefit greatly from teaching strategies designed for their specific needs. They also benefit from having teachers and parents who recognise that patience is a virtue when teaching and raising boys, as it seems to take longer for many boys to learn and develop.

Kids have different talents, interests and strengths
So your eight-year-old can’t hit a tennis ball like Novak Djokovic, even though your neighbour’s child can. Avoid comparing the two as your child may not care about tennis anyway.

It’s better to help your child identify his or her own talents and interests. Also recognise that the strengths and interests of a child may be completely different to those of his or her peers and siblings.

Avoid linking your parenting self-esteem to your child’s performance
As a parent you should take pride in your children’s performance at school, in sport or their leisure activities. Seeing your child do well is one of the unsung pleasures of parenting. You should also celebrate their achievements and milestones, such as taking their first steps, getting their first goal in a game or getting great marks at school.

However, you shouldn’t have too much personal stake in your children’s success or milestones, as this close association makes it hard to separate yourself from them. It may also lead to excessive parental pressure for kids to do well for the wrong reasons – to please you!

The maxim “You are not your child” is a challenging but essential parental concept to live by. Doing so takes real maturity and altruism, but it is the absolute foundation of that powerful thing known as “unconditional love”.

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BUY A BALE/RURAL AID
Looking for a holiday with a difference this coming September/October 2016? Try this idea!
Outback farmers are offering families the opportunity to holiday on their properties and experience real life farming. Ride some horse, quad bikes, round up sheep and cattle, ride tractors, enjoy camp fires and look up into the amazing night sky.
The website, www.underthestars.com.au is where you can search and book your farming holiday. Many farmers are offering 100% free accommodation, some a small fee.
This is a great way for all families to enjoy a school holiday in the farming communities of Australia.

LITTLE ATHLETICS
See attached flyer for further information.

NRL SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMPS
See attached flyer for further information.

GO GETTA GIRLS (INTRODUCTION TO RUNNING)
The Go Getta Girls annual introduction to running course starts on the 22nd August. There are four Monday morning sessions – the 22nd & 29th August and the 5th & 12th September. This course is based on Chi running and is suitable for all ages and fitness levels. Subjects include nutrition, hydration, apparel and attitude.
We welcome anyone interested even if you have no distance running experience. Please bring a water bottle, comfy running shoes and a towel. The cost is $40 payable at the beginning of the course. Please arrive at the clubhouse by 5:40am to be ready to start at 5:45am. We are finished by 6:30am.
The only way GGG accept new members is via this course so if you are thinking of joining this incredibly supportive and encouraging group of ladies, please indicate your interest. If you would like further information or would like to discuss any details, please contact Donna 0409620923; Julie 0419648517 or Debbie 0427685797.

NEXT P&C MEETING
The next P&C Meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th September at 3.30pm in the Principal’s Office. All parents are most welcome and encouraged to come so you too can have a part in supporting the children of Crawford State School.

AWARDS RECEIVED ON PARADE

Magic Words
Nil

Prep-3 Students of the Week – Sharleah, Clarie, Chloe
Year 4-6 Students of the Week – Maddison, Venita, Nick

WORD OF THE WEEK
Quadruplet (Noun) – four children born at one birth, or a music term for four notes to be performed in the time of three.
Mumbling (verb) – to say something indistinctly and quietly making it difficult for others to hear – Karl
Putrid (adjective) – very unpleasant, repulsive - Maddison
COMING EVENTS

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

26 August  Book Week Parade 9:00am – Dress as a Book Character
16 Sept    Last Day of Term 3
3 Oct      Public Holiday – Queen’s Birthday
4 Oct      First Day of Term 4
17 Oct     Pupil Free Day

OLYMPICS AFTERNOON PHOTOS