



KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH FAMILIES

Term 2 Week 5
Wednesday 17th May 2023



Upcoming Events

May

26th SSS Inaugural Athletics
Carnival

June

6th Fun Run

8th P & C Meeting

14th Music Mates Concert

20th PBL Celebration Day

Our school improvement priorities for 2023

- Educational Achievement
- Wellbeing and Engagement
- Partnerships and Pathways

PBL Lesson of the week

WEEK 5

- I am Safe : Keep others safe

WEEK 6

- I am a Kind: Be respectful

Little word of the week

WEEK 5 – because

WEEK 6 – at

Attendance data

Early Years: 86%

Middle Years: 84%

Junior Secondary: 81%

Seniors: 87%

A note from the Principal ...

Dear families and friends of Southport Special School

To all of our mothers and grandmothers I hope you were cherished on Sunday and that you were free of household chores!! I'm not sure how that works within your households. Have to say I was spoilt with a cooked breakfast, but I was still on dinner duty and washing up duty!

Over the last few weeks our teachers have been involved in data discussions regarding their students' writing. The progress our students are making is very exciting indeed and whilst not all students moved up another level within the past three months most made some incremental changes which is positive. We have now been explicitly tracking student writing attainment by using the Developmental Writing Scale for nearly eighteen months. The tracking progress indicates the pedagogical practices or teaching strategies that are being used by our staff are highly effective.

This week, Susan, Barry and Debbie from Southport Lions Club presented our students with a \$2 000 donation. We are very grateful for this support and the money will be spent purchasing modified bikes and tricycles for the students in our middle years.

School Nurses Day

Thank you to Grant and Bec, our State School Nurses. School nurses are critical to all aspects of students' health! It was recently National School Nurse Day.

Music Mates

In our last Keeping in Touch with Families newsletter there was a typo for the Music Mates concert. The correct date for the concert is June 14th. Please note our correction and mark it in your calendars, it's a concert not to be missed!





KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH FAMILIES

Term 2 Week 5
Wednesday 17th May 2023



A note from the Principal ...

Muni, Waru and Nerang House Spirit

Term Two is the term to immerse ourselves in house spirit with both our Athletics Carnivals on the 26th of May and Fun Run on the 6th of June. It is time to dig out the clothes in house colours, learn your families' house War cry and join in the fun. We would love to see as many families and friends as possible at both the Athletics Carnivals and the Fun Run.

The Athletics Carnival will be on Friday 26th May, with loads of athletics events for all ability levels. Specially adapted equipment and lots of creative thinking will see all our students able to take part in traditional athletics events like sprints, long jump and even the javelin! We are also going to have a parent race so get your shoes on and start training for this inaugural event. The carnival will be at the nearby Queens' Cricket Club. If you intend on coming to see your child compete please take note of the times below:

9.30–10.30am Early Years

10.30am–12.00pm Middle Years

12.00pm–2.00pm Secondary School

Some of our Senior School students will be at the carnival from the beginning of the day to assist with Early and Middle Years students before competing in their own events in the afternoon.

We will extend the house carnival spirit into our Fun Run on Tuesday 6th June which is always a great morning when students, staff and families alike run, walk or wheel an "Urban Cross-Country Course". This is always followed by a Sausage Sizzle provided by our local member, Sam O'Connor. The Fun Run is also a major fundraising event for the school. Fundraising is already underway, not only does the school benefit, your child can also earn prizes for fundraising. The more they raise the bigger the prizes. If you would like to register your child for online fundraising, please do so at <https://www.schoolfundraising.com.au>. If you don't know if your child is in Waru, Muni or Nerang House please ask your child's teacher.

Warm regards

Susan Christensen
Principal





EARLY YEARS TEAM



Keeping Safe at School

In HPE students have been exploring health, safety, wellbeing and physical activity concepts. Learning and practicing protective behaviours to keep themselves safe, identifying different public and private spaces, and exploring how their body is growing and changing. The health unit has provided students the opportunity to communicate and use health language to describe how they are growing and changing. The Early Years team model the use of verbal language and AAC including PODD, Proloquo2Go, Lamp, and aided language displays, for students to express their knowledge about growing and changing.

With the support of AAC, students were encouraged to discuss and explore the feelings and body clues they may have when feeling unsafe, such as, heart racing, and feeling scared or unsure. While exploring ways to keep us safe, students were encouraged to identify the people that contribute to keeping them safe and who they can go to when they feel unsafe in the community.

Throughout the unit, students have explored the different protective behaviours that they can use to keep themselves safe at school. Students were supported to identify ways to stay safe in the playground, like holding hand rails when climbing and following instructions to keep safe when riding the bikes and jumping on the trampoline. Visual schedules are a daily part of life in the Early Years. We use visual schedules when leaving the classroom to go to the playground, which includes reminders to put on a hat, walk with the group to the playground and stop and wait at the gate. For our youngest learners, visual schedules teach them the rules and expectations that help keep us all safe as we navigate the day in the classroom and playground. Visual schedules support students to complete activities such as obstacle courses, hand washing and using the bathroom.





MIDDLE TEAM



Physically active and safe.

Middle Years students have been exploring ways we can be active in different locations around the school. Some classes have set up weekly routines to participate in gross motor programs such as: following an obstacle course in the classroom or in the playground. Others are exploring regular visits to access the liberty swing and how to be safe by playing on other equipment or sitting and waiting for their turn by holding on to the blue pole when others are using the swing or trampoline.

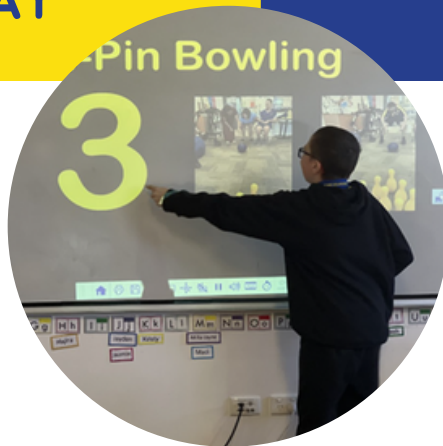
Some classes have been following a visual schedule to complete HPE activities including a yoga sequence during weekly yoga practice. Students have been focussing on learning positional language, following instructions to get into poses, and building strength and flexibility. We also ensure that the environment is safe by following routines such as moving the furniture back to give us a clear space, removing socks and shoes, and staying on our yoga mats.

We have had some classes exploring exercise structures within the school environment and taking part in our sensory hallway obstacle course, which encourages twisting, turning, stretching, jumping and balancing skills by following a sequence of challenging movements.





JUNIOR SECONDARY TEAM



We are Moving Moving Moving

The movement skills that are covered in the Health and Physical Education unit are designed to help students develop the skills and knowledge they need to participate in physical activities and sports. These skills are essential for children to be able to enjoy physical activity and stay healthy and active throughout their lives.

Throughout the semester some students have been focusing on developing skills such as running, jumping, throwing, catching and striking. These skills are important because they form the foundation for more advanced movement skills and are essential for participation in a wide range of physical activities and sports.

For some students their focus has been the development of limb strength and movement range to assist them to sit, stand or walk.

Teachers have been developing movement patterns in a variety of spaces across the school. This has included exercise stations in the classroom, in the quad and even the trampoline room. This teaches the students how different environments and conditions can influence the type of exercise they can participate in across the school. While at home you can engage in many physical activities with your child such as playing catch or kicking a ball around or even creating your very own exercise stations for the whole family to enjoy!





SENIOR TEAM



Places we can go and things we can do

Senior students have been exploring travel. Some of our students have been out and about on buses and trams, learning about different ways to pay for their travel. Students have been keeping track of their Go Card balance when tapping on and off public transport and also when they need to top up their cards. When out in the community they have visited different locations and discussed activities they can do there. Food outlets have been a popular place that students want to visit so they can work out what they can buy with their money. Some students were keen to explore purchases for Mother's Day. Students have learned about the value of money by finding items in specific shops and answering questions such as "What would you buy if you had \$100?"

Business Enterprise has been keeping our Seniors busy. Students have been applying their knowledge about measurement to make goods such as dog biscuits and lunches. It has been lots of fun counting the orders, making sure that all items are available and making lists of things to purchase. Our school community has enjoyed being part of this and welcome deliveries with excitement.





CURRICULUM HUB



National Simultaneous Storytime is held annually by the Australian Library and Information Association, on May 24th. Every year a picture book, by an Australian author and illustrator, is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, pre-schools, childcare centres, family homes, bookshops and many other places around the country. This year we will be reading *The Speedy Sloth* by Rebecca Young and Heath McKenzie.

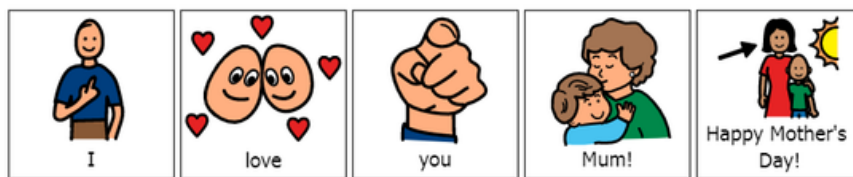
Moderation and Report Cards

In the coming weeks staff will engage in moderation of student work. This process allows teachers to view a variety of student samples and come to a consensus on results. This process then feeds into the report card writing.

Report cards are printed and sent by mail as well as emailed to families. If you have moved or changed your email address, please contact the office to ensure it is up to date.

Aided Language Stimulation is the process of modelling Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) language in everyday settings. The communication partner talks to the person while also pointing and selecting keywords on the person's AAC system. ALS helps develop the person's understanding of language and symbols. ALS also enhances the person's expressive language skills.

Have a watch of this video to learn more– click on the play button to view.





POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING (PBL)

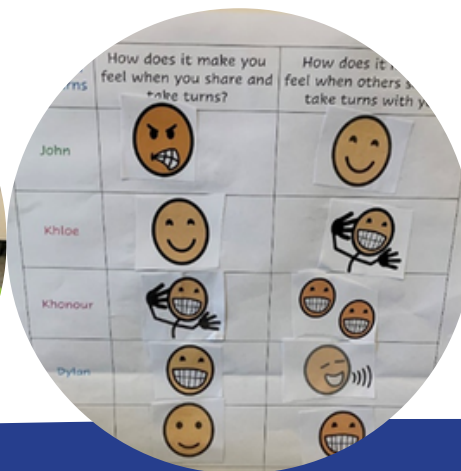


Weekly Focus:

- Share and take turns
- Use your voice

In week 4, students demonstrated their sharing and turn-taking in a variety of settings. Shared reading sessions were a great way to instil our focus on sharing, taking turns, waiting and listening. Playing games allows students to demonstrate and practice their turn-taking skills. The middle years book of the week was *Pig the Pug* demonstrating what happens when we do not share, how we feel when we share with our friends and listening to our friends' requests. Students then showed their understanding of sharing with role play. Before travel training senior students discuss the destination and selected route with their classmates, showing their understanding of the learning requirements.

In week 4, students participated in classroom discussions on the different ways they can use their voice, using the interactive whiteboard to take part in the activity. We use our voice to communicate needs and wants using verbal language, P2G, sign and PODD. Taking our communication system with us during playtime, allows students to request activities from the teacher on duty, and the teacher can utilise PODD to demonstrate and role model it's appropriate use during play, giving a unified voice to positive behaviours during playtimes. Symbols are used in the classroom to communicate how students feel and select the zone colour they are in. Students practised using their voices by greeting their teachers each morning, asking for help and letting teachers know when they were finished.





EVENTS ORGANISING COMMITTEE

FUN RUN MILESTONES

\$9000.00 MILESTONE. MAGICAL MATHS

THIS NEXT \$3000.00 WILL GO TOWARDS DEVELOPING TEACHING AND LEARNING KITS TO SUPPORT LEARNING CONCEPTS SUCH AS OBJECT PERMANENCE, ONE TO ONE CORRESPONDENCE, MORE AND LESS, EARLY COUNTING SKILLS, SEQUENCES AND PATTERNS, AND JUST ALL-ROUND NUMBER SENSE.

\$12,000.00 MILESTONE. PROJECTING INTO THE FUTURE

IF WE ARE LUCKY ENOUGH TO REACT THE NEXT \$3000.00, WE WILL INVESTIGATE QUALITY DATA PROJECTION FOR THE FUTURE.

\$3000.00 MILESTONE. VIVID AND BRIGHT

A NEW UV FLOOD LIGHT, UV SHADOW BOARDS OBJECTS WHICH GLOW IN THE DARK WITH AN INTENSITY WHICH CAN CAPTURE ATTENTION AND FOCUS

\$6000.00 MILESTONE. LANGUAGE ALIVE

WE WOULD USE THIS NEXT PARCEL OF MONEY TO MAKE LANGUAGE COME ALIVE BY CREATING MULTI-SENSORY TEACHING KITS, WITH RESOURCES AND GUIDES, TO SUPPORT OUR HIGH IMPACT TEACHING STRATEGIES FOR WRITING AND MAKE STORIES A CAPTIVATING EXPERIENCE FOR ALL.



SCHOOL FUN RUN

*The figure represents the fundraising total. The student prize pool is deducted from this total. The P & C and the school has 60% of this total to spend on projects.



Southport
Special School

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



Southport
Special School

ruby &
ollies

BEFORE — SCHOOL — CARE

RUBY AND OLLIES ARE NOW TAKING EXPRESSIONS OF
INTEREST FOR **BEFORE SCHOOL CARE** AT
SOUTHPORT SPECIAL SCHOOL.

CARE WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM **6:30AM DAILY**.

FOR ALL ENQUIRIES EMAIL:
ENROLMENT@RUBYANDOLLIES.COM.AU

ENGAGE - ENCOURAGE - EMPOWER



Queensland
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Southport
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

MUDGEERABA SPECIAL SCHOOL

Positive PATHWAYS EXPO



*Planning
positive futures*

TUESDAY
MAY 30 2023

Mudgeeraba Special School
9:30am - 12:00pm

Connecting the school
community with support
services and programs.

**FREE
EVENT**



- Adventure Crew
- Angelic Care
- Asset Therapy
- Aruma
- AUM Support Coordination
- Body Dynamics
- Caring for Carers
- Care Squared
- Complete Nursing and Homecare
- Community 3Six5
- Create a Sense of Place
- Crossroads
- Choice Allied Health
- Down Syndrome Qld
- Eloma
- Endeavour
- GenNow
- Gold Coast Recreation & Sport
- Happy Days Support Service
- Humanity Health Group
- Johnny H
- Milestones/CPL
- Montrose
- Multicap
- Multicultural Families Organisation
- MyHorizon
- Newlife
- Sirv
- Specialize Central
- The Disability Trust
- And More



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Southport
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



Come along for coffee, a chat and catching up with other parents and carers.

When: 9:30-11:30am

Wednesday 24th May

Wednesday 7th June

Wednesday 14th June

Where: Southport Special School
(unless otherwise advertised)

**play
matters**

More information: www.mytime.net.au the heart & science of play
kopie@playmatters.org.au





Southport
Special School

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



ACCESSIBLE SOCCER

REGISTER
FOR
2023



Accessible Sport Australia offers a range of fully accessible sport for everyone.

All run by our qualified & caring coaches to ensure a safe, fun environment for all our participants

Options to fund via NDIS are available

RUNAWAY BAY

SATURDAY 1:00pm

REGISTER TODAY

andrew@integratedfootballgroup.com

Or SMS to book a spot

0433 508 709





Southport
Special School

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



GET INVOLVED

Join us for fun, fitness, and friendship! Special Olympics is sport, health, and personal development for children and adults with intellectual disabilities and autism.

LEARN NEW
SKILLS

MAKE NEW
FRIENDS

10 Week Gymnastics All Abilities Special Olympics Gymnastics Program

Coastal Champions Gymnastics Currumbin Studio Club

Monday 10:00-11:00 age 2-5
Monday 4:00-5:00 age 5-8

Limited Spots available (other options for sport specific coaching available ages 10-30+)

Classes commence 17th April 2023

Enquiries to : Mallika 0403208729 ccgymnastics@live.com.au



Find out more: specialolympics.com.au/qld

Special Olympics
Queensland



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Government



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



Are you Interested in Casual Work as a Special Needs School Bus Driver or Carer?

CASUAL POSITIONS FOR SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS & CARERS ON OUR BUSES WHICH TRANSPORT CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS TO & FROM SCHOOL AT SOUTHPORT, COOMERA & MUDGEERABA

****Positions are CASUAL for Relief Work when available (Work is not guaranteed) ****

School Bus Driver Requirements:

- ☒ Current QLD Industry Authority from TMR
- ☒ Current Light Rigid (LR) Driver's Licence (or above) for our 21 Seater Coaster Buses OR
- ☒ Current C Class Driver's Licence for our Hiaces/Commuters
- ☒ Job Training provided
- ☒ Excellent Customer Service skills & enjoy working with the public
- ☒ Must be Courteous, Reliable & have a strong focus to provide a safe journey for our passengers
- ☒ School Days Only (We do not work on School Holidays)

School Bus Carer Requirements:

- ☒ Current Paid Blue Card
- ☒ Experience in working with Special Needs is desirable, however, training is provided
- ☒ Excellent Customer Service skills & enjoy working with the public
- ☒ Must be Courteous, Reliable & have a strong focus to provide a safe& comfortable journey for our passengers
- ☒ School Days Only (We do not work on School Holidays)

Please email or call us at Metro Coach Pty Ltd

Email: admin@metrocoach.com.au or Phone: 07 5528 9166

