A Message from Our Principal

Welcome back to school. I hope you have all had an enjoyable break and all have had an opportunity to reconnect with family and friends. I am looking forward to working with all of you to continue the learning journey at Payne Road State School. Schools value family members' expertise about their children. Families know a student best and we can learn from you. This is why it is important for schools and families to work together to support students' continued learning and improvement. Open communication is the most important element of this relationship and I encourage parents to discuss any concerns they might have about their child's learning with their child's classroom Teacher.

Schools are busy places, and particularly in Term 4, as decisions are made about 2016. One of the pressing issues, however, is that applications are now open for the next round of Independent Public Schools to commence in 2016. Timelines are short as applications close on Friday 16 October 2015. It is my understanding that a significant amount of work has been done already but I thought I would take this opportunity to share information from the Department of Education along with other research about Independent Public Schools. It may also be important to conduct another community forum and a further survey to gain your input to add to this application.

This information is around key issues that arise from most discussions about Independent Public Schools. This includes how they differ and then information on how School Councils operate. This is really only a snapshot and more information can be found on links below. The other information included here is research from another system about Independent Public Schools.

How do Queensland Independent Public Schools differ from other state schools?
The following information is from the Department of Education and Training materials concerned with a couple of the main issues or concerns.

Queensland Independent Public Schools have greater flexibility to enable innovation that improves performance through:

- Managing their planning and review processes;
- Determining staffing options;
- Determining the departmental policies and procedures that best suit their individual communities.

All Independent Public Schools remain part of the strong state system. They have a responsibility to work within the system to support growth, and share learnings and practices to build collective capacity.

Independent Public Schools are required to have a school council. This enables greater involvement of the school community and other stakeholders in setting the strategic direction of the school.

Role of the School Council

The School Council:

- Monitors the school's strategic direction;
- Approves plans and policies and other strategic school documents including the annual estimate of revenue and expenditure;
- Monitors the implementation of the plans, policies and other strategic documents;
- Advises the school Principal about strategic matters.
The Independent Public Schools initiative will not have any impact on the functions of P&C Associations.

More information can be found below including the scope of work of School Councils:

What does the research say?

The Queensland Government is committed to providing state schools with greater autonomy in decision-making and increased capacity to work in new ways to maximise learning outcomes.

Research on school autonomy shows its success relies on a range of factors such as what support is provided, types of autonomy, and accountabilities. However, research also shows that while there should not be a ‘one-size fits all’ model for autonomy, there is a link between high-performing systems and school autonomy.

Questions and answers for schools Fact sheet – Independent Public Schools Department of Education and Training

Do Independent Public Schools Improve Student Outcomes?

The following information is from one article (listed below) and is based around the Western Australian experience along with other research

While some evidence supports the idea, the evidence is far from conclusive, and any differences in student results are marginal at best.

Christopher Pyne holds the WA initiative up as his shining example. Yet, Professor John Hattie, who was part of the team, who conducted the formal evaluation of WA’s independent public schools initiative, told the ABC that there was no real improvement in the academic results of schools participating in the initiative.

The most comprehensive meta-analysis to date found that the impact of granting schools more autonomy was marginal at best.

“Local autonomy, whether it is the ‘let the flowers bloom variety’ or site-based management within a framework of external accountability, does not produce results on any scale.” Michael Fullan (2005) Article: The Australian Society of Evidence based Teaching website

A final word and your thoughts on this application

The Independent Public School debate is a complex issue and the information above, as I have stated, is only a snapshot. It is my understanding that some of the consultation process has already happened and your views have been expressed and included in the draft application that I have received to complete.

Regardless of the decision that is made on the success of this application it is my intention to work closely with the whole school community to continue the great work of the school and also to work with the broader state education community to take advantage of those networks and systems that benefit your child’s school.

I would appreciate your response to this quick survey in order to ascertain any continuing concerns and to receive greater consultation for this application. Timelines are short for this round of applications due on 16th October; however, further rounds of applications will be available in 2016.

Thank you for your feedback in the following survey:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/i69Mh06W

Stephen Rowe
Principal

Head of Curriculum News

Published by Payne Road State School

Pre-Service Teachers

We welcome our pre-service teachers who will be spending the next few weeks with us. Please make them feel welcome in our school community.

3M- Megan Wright & Alicia Williams
6C- Kelsie Anderson & Lolita Parmenter
2VH- Sophie Bailey
1M- Katie Whitehead

Swimming

Just a reminder that swimming for Years 1-3 begins Tuesday next week at Ashgrove SS Swimming Pool. This is part of our school’s Physical Education program and all children are expected to participate. Families are asked to finalise payments for this activity prior to next week.

Swimming requirements are togs (not bikinis or board shorts), swimming cap and towel. A rash shirt is necessary. It would also be a good idea to apply sunscreen before leaving home.
Year 4 Mapleton Camp

We wish the Year 4 students and Mr Milne, Ms Mbewu, Mr Ross and Chappy Michelle a great time away at Mapleton Camp on the Sunshine Coast this week.

The bus is expected to return to school 3pm Friday. Mr Milne will be replaced by Katherine Kennedy in his absence.

Bright Sparks

What a wonderful way to mark the end of a busy school term. We’ve received excellent feedback from students and parents about the range of activities on offer this year and what a valuable and exciting experience it was for students in Year 3-6! Thanks teachers and students for your extended effort delivering these enrichment projects and your participation and enthusiasm. Check out some of our student work!
Year 5 & 6 Sexuality and Relationships Education (SRE)

Our school will be commencing a SRE program for students in Years 5 & 6. This program commences next Thursday for 3 weeks. An information letter has been sent home with students requesting permission and extending an invitation to a Parent Information Night. Please RSVP for this session on the student permission note to be returned to school by next Wednesday 14 October.

Sexuality education is a lifelong learning process. It involves learning about physical growth and development, self-esteem, body image and relationships. The many benefits of SRE include supporting the development of a healthy self-esteem, a positive attitude towards sexuality, information to care for their bodies now and in the future and the development of skills to make healthy decisions now and into the future. The best way for children to learn about sexuality is by receiving small amounts of factual, positive information from parents and carers and teachers in a gradual and ongoing process.

By: Keiran Abel

Finance News

Published by Payne Road State School

Bpoint

BPoint has just been released, and this secured payment facility is the preferred method of payment for all invoices. It can be accessed via any computer or Smart Phone at www.bpoint.com.au/payments/dete, and all details required to make payment are on the invoice provided by the school, including the invoice number, CRN number and amount payable. Please note these details need to be accurately transcribed for payment to be correctly processed.

If you have been using BPay or Direct Debit it would be appreciated if you could now use the BPoint facility as it is a more accurate and timely method.

Payments at the office

Payments at the office for all EFT and Credit Card transactions will now be open from 8:00am to 2:00pm. We will be unable to process any EFT or Credit Card transactions outside these hours.

Payments to be made by due date

It is important that payments for excursions and school activities are paid by the due date. Unfortunately, we will be unable to accept late payments due to the preparation needed to confirm the excursion/activities e.g. confirmation of buses, numbers of students attending, medical requirements etc. If you are unable to make payment by the due date, please contact the office to discuss payment plan options.
Rachael Fedrick  
*Finance Officer*

**Term Dates**

Published by Payne Road State School

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### Term 4- 6 October-11 December

#### Week 1: 6 October- 6 October

- 5 October- Public Holiday
- 6 October- Students return to school
- 7-9 October- Year 4 Mapleton Camp
- 9 October- Interschool Sports Continues (Summer)

#### Week 2: 12 October- 16 October

- 12 October- Extra Curricular Photos
- 14 October- Sexuality Education Parent Information Session 7:00pm
- 15 October- Year 5 & 6 Sexuality Education Program
- 15 October- P & C meeting 7:00pm

#### Week 3: 19 October- 23 October

- 19 October- Pupil Free Day
- 22 October- Year 5 & 6 Sexuality Education Program

#### Week 4: 26-30 October

- 28 October- Parent Rep Meeting 9:00am
- 29 October- Year 5 & 6 Sexuality Education Program
- 30 October- World Teachers Day
- 30 October- Day for Daniel

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### Tuckshop News

Published by Payne Road State School

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**Tuckshop**

Welcome back!! The TUCKSHOP WILL REOPEN THIS THURSDAY 8TH OCTOBER.

Look out for new menus coming home this week!

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**Roster**

- **Thursday Tuckshop 8 October**
  Ange W, Linda R and one more volunteer needed.

- **Monday Homebake 12 October**
  Natasha N, Mandy C and Linda T

- **Tuesday Tuckshop 13 October**
  Kate H and Alison B

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By: Shaye Giess - Tuckshop Convenor

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### Outside School Hours Care

Published by Payne Road State School

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**Outside School Hours Care News**

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**UPDATING BOOKINGS**

Welcome to Term 4.
All bookings from last term remain the same unless we are informed of changes. Remember to let us know of any changes to bookings or extra-curricular activities that children attend whilst attending OSHC.

STUDENT FREE DAY

Monday 19 October is a student free day. Forms will be available later this week. We will email forms out. If you do not receive one please contact us on prsspc@optusnet.com.au or collect one from the sign in desk.

Uniform Shop News

Published by Payne Road State School

We are having a sale on swim bags and latex swim caps. Normally $12 each but for Term 4 only, buy one and get the other half price! Swimming starts in week 2 so get in quick - limited stock available.

Leadership garments for 2016's Grade 6's will be being organised shortly, so keep an eye out for a note home with your current Grade 5 student. More details to follow soon.

Volunteers are needed in the uniform shop for upcoming events such as Prep Orientation days and Leadership Garment try ons. Please email Lee on payneroaduniform@gmail.com if you're available to help out, or for more information.

Cheers
Lee Maidens

A Special Tuckshop Xmas Party This Year- Shaye's Farewell

Published by Payne Road State School

Calling all volunteers again!

If you are part of or have ever been part of the tuckshop volunteer crew in any capacity (service, home bake, treat time, meal deal etc), then highlight that date in your calendars as it is going to be a big night as we say goodbye to Shaye after a fantastic 7 years as convenor at the PRSS tuckshop. This year's Xmas function will be a bit different to normal as anyone that has EVER volunteered in the tucky alongside Shaye is invited. Therefore we need your help to get the word out to the current and ex PRSS community, so please help spread the word throughout your networks. This will be a really fun night – so email your interest straight away to k.sparkes@bigpond.com with your name, mobile number and which years you volunteered. More info to come once we have numbers... Stay tuned.

Kerri Sparkes
Past PRSS Parent (2009 – 2014)
0412 404 133

Community News

Published by Payne Road State School

Elemental Focusing Wheel

Click here to download 1444192027_ElementalFocusingflyer(side-by-side).pdf

The Gap Farmers Markets

Click here to download 1444193979_20151007143606493.pdf