**PREP ENROLMENT 2015**

**PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS**

Parents and carers of prospective students are invited to attend either of the sessions listed below. These sessions will focus on Coolangatta State School in general and the Prep Year in particular.

**Wednesday, 23 October**

1:30 – 2:45 or 5:30 – 6:45

In the school library

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**Value of the Week - RESPONSIBILITY**

Each of us has a responsibility to do the best we can to make our homes, school and community the safe, respectful and happy places that we want them to be. We act responsibly when we keep the rules and do what we are expected to do and keep our agreements. When we take responsibility for our own actions, others can trust and depend on us.

**School Wide Positive Behaviour Learning Focus:** Know the school rules and keep them—Be SAFE, Be RESPECTFUL, Be a LEARNER.

**Social & Emotional Learning:** With rights comes responsibility; there are consequences for our actions.
Dear Parents / Caregivers;

Term 4 Calendar of Events: Welcome back to term 4. We have so much learning and events to look forward to. Please find with this newsletter, the calendar of activities that are scheduled. Any changes or additions will be communicated through the weekly newsletter.

School Uniform: Our school stands so proudly as Coolangatta SS students in our blue and gold uniform and specially in the correct uniform with the blue collared shirt and school logo. I encourage students to only wear the plain yellow shirt on “emergent” days. All shorts / skorts must be in the royal blue colour. Foot wear - black sports shoes preferably but white acceptable. I encourage students to wear their wide brimmed hat to and from school – sun safety is a must at all times. Necklaces / wrist bands are not permitted unless written permission is obtained for medical, religious or cultural grounds. Ear piercings may only be a single stud. Visible tattoos are not permitted.

Every Day Counts: After such a bad flu / virus season last term, where our overall attendance rate dropped to 90.8% it is hoped that this term sees everyone back to good health and 100% attendance every day.

Research clearly identifies that good attendance makes a big difference to student learning outcomes; which of course is common sense – you need to be at school to learn. When you are away you miss out on learning and gaps and cracks appear; you are behind in the work the class is doing; you don’t know what is going on; even your friendships get affected. When frequent, this is perpetuated. It becomes detrimental to a child’s learning and wellbeing. Posters

Absence should only be for a valid reason- too sick to come to school or an emergent family matter. All absences must be explained. Our records show that many parents do not follow up with an absent note. Unexplained absences are reportable. Simply ring / email the school or send in a note with an explanation of why the absence occurred. Birthdays and outings are not valid reasons.

Punctuality: School is a student’s workplace and students need to know that you have to turn up everyday and put in a good day’s work which means be on time and leave when work hours are finished. Students who are late to school of a morning or who leave early of an afternoon, disrupt the class.

School Bell time changes: This term we are trialling a double bell system in order to reinforce being at class on time. The first bell will be a reminder to move to class and the 2nd that it is class time. The first bell will continue to go at 8:50 signalling to stop play, leave catch up learning club, go to bathroom, fill water bottle, payment to office made, over the counter tuckshop done, homework, forms and notes to teachers, with roll call and ready to start work on 9:00 bell.

End of lunch break bells will also be double bells, with bell going as warning bell to stop play, go to bathroom and be back ready to work at final bell.

Wednesday Assembly: Back to 9:00 start this term. A review of the 2:00 start indicated that the earlier time is better for parents to attend on their way to work and for setting up.

This Week: Commonwealth Games Scottish Delegates visit Thurs 9:00. Coolangatta SS has had a special relationship with Scotland since 2011 when school’s across the GC were assigned a Commonwealth Country to communicate with and share information in the build up to GC being awarded the Commonwealth Games. This bond was strengthened at the recent games in Glasgow where our school’s gift of art work depicting the Gold Coast and messages of friendship to Scotland were handed over. Today Scottish Commonwealth Games Delegates visiting the GC came to our school to share experiences. Keeping this link gives our school the opportunity to be actively involved in the Commonwealth Games when they are held on the Gold Coast in 2018 – a once in a lifetime event. I thank Mrs Marshall, Max D & Declan M for their contribution to making their visit a memorable experience. This afternoon Mountain Creek High School from the Sunshine Coast entertain us with their stage band and singers.

Active After School Sport Program starting next week: The activity this term for both groups is Gymnastics / Circus Skills. There is a cut off for participation, so forms need to be returned on a first in basis. Afternoon tea provided.
P:3 Tuesdays 3:15 – 4:15. Mrs Noema supervising.
Yr 4 – 7 Wednesdays 3:15 – 4:15 Mrs Elliott supervising.
Yr 6 , 7 Afterschool transition to high school program.
Starting Wk 3. Tuesdays 3:00 – 4:15. This PASS Program is facilitated by Smith Family staff member Ms Eryn Peterkin and community volunteer Mrs Jan Bogan an ex high school teacher who also volunteers her time at CSS each Thursday morning to support student learning in the upper grades. Some places still available. This is a valuable opportunity for our students to learn coping skills for this next big step in their learning journey.

Payment for Curriculum Activities Due:
• P- 2 /3 swimming starts wk 2, 7 weeks at $10 with $40 first payment; 8th lesson paid by school funds.
• Surfing: Yr 5 – 7 for eligible students starting wk 2. $10 with $40 first payment.
• Life Education: Prep – Yr 7: students attend a subsidised lesson from well known Life Education Van Wk 3 at cost of $5 which includes a workbook.
• Yr 6, 7 Graduation: $ 22 per adult.

Payment days are Tuesdays & Thursdays.
Students participating in swimming / surfing programs: a reminder that all belongings need to be clearly named.

Staff News: We welcome back Mrs Sandi Aleman from maternity leave and teaching Health this term. Ms Indiana Scales takes up teaching duty in Middle Blue for term 4. Mr Stringer has received notice of a transfer to Mudgeeraba SS for 2015 and Mrs Birkett to Caningera. Mr Michael Singh PE teacher at Merrimac SS will add Coolangatta SS to his circuit. What big shoes he has to fill!

Student Learning Goals: Term 4 is off to a great start, with students committed to doing their best to reach and even exceed the C standards of work they are expected to know, do and understand before proceeding on to their next grade in 2015. Thank you parents for supporting your child to reach their learning goals and to close any gaps in their learning. As a
school we work together to help students achieve the highest standard they can in learning and behaviour.

Warm regards and best wishes for a great week,
Sharyn Mahony

P&C NEWS: Sue Elliott, P&C President.
The updating of the tuckshop is a work in progress. If we had enough volunteers we could have had the work completed over the holidays but alas there is still much to do. We NEED the whole school community to get involved in projects like this. The P&C would like to thank Tammy Hamlyn, David Rice, Queen Usadolo & Nidhi Jaffri for their much need help. The P&C would also like to thank Glenys Barlett, Robert Younger, Brett Beezley, David Rice, Adolphe Kassarate, David Berent & Colin Elliott who gave up there time Monday afternoon to put up the new school sign. I would also like to thank Bernie’s Professional Tradesmen & Electrical Services (5524 2089) for cementing in the pole for the sign for a very fair price. Our next P&C meeting is due to be held Monday, 13th October at 9am. All welcome.

Friday is School Banking Day. Please leave your deposit book at the Tuckshop.
Tuckshop open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday. School uniforms are available from the tuckshop.

Privately run out of school program: Contact details listed. School facilities are hired though the P&C.

- Ms Cindy’s Art classes Mon or Wed 3:15 – 4:30, contact the office.
- GKR karate Mon 4:00 Contact David 0427484507
- Tennis – on school tennis court; contact Paul Shatlock 55245680
- Dancin’ fit studios – Thursday 7:00pm; Kate 0410217157
- Go Kan Ryu Self defence and fitness classes – weekend and some afternoons. 0427484507
- Little Big Sport – soccer junior girls & boys Sunday 0426236063

Chaplain’s Chat – Chappy Lisa
Do you have an ex-spouse/partner? Palm Beach Neighbourhood Centre (16 Third Avenue, Palm Beach) is running a Successful Co-Parenting Course for FREE. The aim of the course is to help assist parents deal with challenging ex-spouses and provide strategies to protect children from loyalty conflicts, while promoting honesty between yourself and your child/ren. The course is on Wednesday 5th November 9.30am-1.30pm. Call to reserve your place 55981505.

Family Drug Support
Is someone in your family taking drugs and/or alcohol? Are you looking for practical down to earth information and support? Family Drug Support presents ‘Stepping Forward’ providing -

√ Clear and practical information sessions and
√ A safe place to share and to feel supported
There is one session per week for three weeks covering:

Stages of change for users and families
Tuesday 14th Oct 2014: 6 30pm- 8 30pm
Basic communication – what works and what doesn’t
Tuesday 21st Oct 2014: 6 30pm- 8 30pm
Drugs and alcohol information
Tuesday 28th Oct 2014: 6 30pm- 8 30pm
Each is designed so that you will have something of value to take away to help you on your journey. Venue: Gold Coast Drug Council, 191 West Burleigh Rd, Burleigh Heads. Bookings are essential – please contact Dom Shelley, FDS: 0419 689 857, dom@fds.ngo.org.au Or Reception @ GCDC (Mirkiai) Ph: 5535 4302.

A reminder that each Tuesday morning, 8:00-9:00, free breakfast is available from the tuckshop. Families are welcome.

News from Guidance Officer, Edith Saedt
Mental Health Week – October 5 - 12
Mental health can be described as how a person is feeling, coping and getting along with their life. Everyone goes through good and bad times in their lives and it’s important to look after your mental health at all times.

Sometimes it’s hard to explain how you are feeling to your parents or your community, especially if they don’t understand mental health very well. Some people may find it embarrassing to talk about mental health. There is nothing shameful about talking about how you feel or finding help.

Look after yourself. There are lots of things you can do to look after yourself and feel better:

- Get active: You need at least 30 minutes of exercise a day
- Sleep: You need 8 hours of rest every night
- Eat well and drink lots of water
- Have a support network, friends and family who believe in you and who support you
- Talk to your friends and family
- Have fun: Take some time to do things you enjoy
- Learn how to manage your time and your responsibilities
- Take some time every day to relax. Relaxation is really important for your mental health and wellbeing. Everyone needs time in their everyday lives to chill out, but it’s easy to forget this when things get busy. Relaxation can be a great coping strategy to help you when you’re stressed out. People who are able to relax are more likely to bounce back from tough times, tend to be happier, have better physical health and are less likely to develop serious mental health difficulties

Get support if you need it. There are lots of agencies that are there to help you feel better:

- Kids Helpline: 1800 55 1800
- Lifeline: 13 11 14
- Mental Health Line 1800 011 511
- Talk to your GP

Sources: Centre for Multicultural Youth CMY & Headspace

We are seeking expressions of interest from any families or community members who are interested in establishing a new Scout Group in the Coolangatta/Tweed Heads area at the Scout Den on Scott Street Coolangatta.

Scouting is open to both girls and boys aged between 6 and 26, and to parents or other community members who are interested in participating. There is a strong emphasis on outdoor activities such as camping, canoeing, sailing and bushwalking but also lots of other activities such as cooking, craft, electronics and more. A core value of the Scouting movement is supporting the community.

If you are interested in the new group and would like more information, please contact John Laing on rdso.seq@scoutsqld.com.au or 0409 573 900. John is the Regional Development and Support Officer for South East Queensland. We plan to hold a general meeting of interested community members in early November to discuss options www.scoutsqld.com.au http://www.gcsouth.qld.com.au/
Thank You Coolangatta Grill’d and to those who supported our school by voting for us, placing a voucher in the jar on the counter. As such we have received wellbeing resources, Smiling Mind and PE equipment.
Thank You Coolangatta Woolworths: A big box of fresh fruit was kindly donated to our Tuckshop.