It is always important to get a new school year off to a great start. ‘Regardless of your child’s performance last year, they start school with a clean slate,’ says Michael Grose from ‘Parenting Insights’. The new school year is a great time to begin new habits and adopt new behaviours. I have attached an article by Michael called ‘Make This Year Your Child’s Best Ever At School’ where he offers seven ideas to help make the most of a fresh start and make this year your child’s best year ever at school.

The ideas include:
- Commit to your child going to school every day on time
- Help kids start each day well
- Make sure your child gets enough sleep

I’m sure the article will have something for everyone.

Mark Hooson

General Notices

BPOINT

BPOINT is an online payment system which provides schools with a secure and efficient method of collecting payments from parents. BPOINT is the preferred payment method for Vale View State School although cash is still fine.

BPOINT allows payments to be made using a customer reference number, invoice number, student name, amount and payment option (Visa or Mastercard).

The product is provided by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA). To use BPOINT, go to: https://www.bpoint.com.au/payments/dete

Further information has been sent home today. Payments can still be made using cash if you prefer.

School Band

Last Thursday Mr Dowling had his first lessons for our school bands. About 14 students had returned the expression of interest note that was handed out in week one. Another 15 students said that their parents wanted them to take part even though a note was not returned. Regardless of whether the original note was returned, all students who expressed an interest were given another note with details about payment on Thursday. This note must be returned by tomorrow, Tuesday 07 February if your child is to participate.

Term Overviews

In order to give parents an idea of the curriculum being taught in term one, term overviews have been sent home today for each class.

Code Red

From next Monday Mr Wright is offering an after school (3:15 pm – 4:15 pm) data literacy program called Code Red. A permission note has been sent home today. Only 20 spaces are available.
Facebook
Over the next week or so we will have a school Facebook page set up to help improve our communication. More details will follow.

Coming Events

School Photos
School photos will be taken on Tuesday 14 March. Information about the options and payment have been sent home today. Please note that BPOINT cannot be used for payments for photos.

P-2 Amaroo Environmental Education Centre Excursion
Students in Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 have the opportunity to take part in an excursion to Amaroo Environmental Education Centre at Highfields on Friday 17 February. The cost for the full day excursion is $15 per child. Payment can be made using BPOINT or cash. A note has been sent home today.

Vale View Race Day
Please find attached to the newsletter a sponsorship/donation program and a flyer for the upcoming race day on Saturday 25 March. This is a major fundraising event for the school so all donations whether big or small will contribute to making this day a great success. If you own a business or know of any businesses that may be able to sponsor/donate raffle items please ask. If you need further information please see Katrina Binney or Julie Naumann. katrinabinney@gmail.com or 0437737048.

Around Our School

Garden Prize
During last year’s Carnival of Flowers Country Schools’ Garden Competition, Vale View State School was awarded second place and received a $100 gift voucher. Thanks to the generosity of The Toowoomba Chronicle and Pohlman’s Nursery, Vale View State School is looking good for the cooler seasons.

Students are keen to plant their prize selections and watch their garden blossom again.

Preps Settling In Well
Once again the hard work by Mrs Coote has ensured that our new Prep students have settled in well. I have visited them quite a few times and it is difficult to believe that they have only been with us for nine days.

Tom is all smiles in the Prep class.

Congratulations

‘You Can Do It’ Awards
Awards this week were presented to the following students for showing organisation and being prepared for school tasks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Week 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P1</td>
<td>Belle Rohde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Tilly Binney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Jack Say</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Liam Wilkie</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Happy birthday to Belle Rohde - 6 on Friday 10, Nikkitta Lavers – 11 on Wednesday 15, and Emily Chandler – 11 on Saturday 18.

Tuckshop
Tuckshop will take place every Monday. Thanks very much to our volunteers.

Monthly Meeting
Minutes from last Monday’s monthly meeting have been sent home today.

If appropriate, please return:
- band participation notes by Tuesday 07 February
- Amaroo permission note and payment by Friday 10 February (P-2)
- Code Red notes by Thursday 09 February