Presentation Night, 2016

Students of the week

Don’t forget to ‘like’ Thallon SS on facebook
https://www.facebook.com/pages/Thallon-State-School/812063525540326

The Thallon SS way is to be at school every day, always do your best, live and learn together, be safe, responsible, respectful and an active learner!
PRINCIPAL’S NOTE

Principal’s Award
Congratulations to Shayla M and Lauren E for being awarded with the Principal’s Award for weeks 8 and 9 respectively. Both girls have had an outstanding school year, and put an enormous amount of effort into everything they do!

Presentation Night
Thank you, to all of the parents, carers, distinguished guests, community members, family and friends, who joined us at our Presentation Night to celebrate our students’ achievements through what has been an exciting, rewarding and memorable year at Thallon SS.

Thank you to everyone who helped to ensure the night was a success, these events wouldn’t be possible without you. It has been humbling to have received so much warm feedback from the community following the night, we are glad you enjoyed it!

Explicit Improvement Agenda, 2017
As we have recently implemented an exciting new reading program at Thallon State School, Reading will again be our focussed area for improvement in 2017. This will help to ensure that teachers and teacher-aides continue to develop their capabilities in this area, and students progress further with the fundamental skills of reading and reading comprehension.

Gratitude costs nothing, but has a great impact
On behalf of everyone here at Thallon SS, thank you kindly to all the parents, carers, community members, and students, who have thanked the staff of Thallon SS for their efforts this year. Your thank you messages mean the world to us, especially at the end of the year.

Attendance
In your child’s report card envelope, you have received an individual attendance report for Semester Two. Whilst we completely understand that some absences, such as illnesses and significant family events, are unavoidable, now is the perfect time to reflect upon how our student’s absences are affecting their progress at school. At Thallon SS, we would love for every child to reach their full potential. When students are attending 95-100% of the time, it gives us the best chance to achieve this.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
On behalf of everyone at Thallon SS, I would like to extend our sincere gratitude and thanks to all of you for helping to make the 2016 school year so enjoyable and rewarding. Farewell to the students and families who are leaving us this year, we wish you the very best. We can’t wait to see the rest of you in 2017!

Acting Principal: Mr Ryan Trama
Remember, the Thallon SS way is to be at school every day, always do your best, live and learn together, be safe, responsible, respectful, and an active learner!

Same Day Student Absence Notification
The safety and wellbeing of students are the highest priorities for our school and the Department of Education and Training. From the beginning of 2017, all state schools will be required to notify parents on the same day a student is absent from school without explanation. At Thallon SS, we will be using up to 30 minutes of dedicated Teacher-Aide time daily, to make phone calls or send SMS messages to parents who’s children are absent without explanation. This Teacher-Aide time is extremely valuable in the classroom, so please help us to minimise the time one of our Teacher-Aides has to spend out of the classroom by doing the following:

Notifying the school of a child’s absence must be done ASAP on the day of the absence, prior to 9.00am, by sending an SMS to 0428 348 958.

Well done to our 95-100% attenders in 2016

Ruben Abigail
George Mikaela Jack Sophie
Hazel Brittany Ruby Daniel C Chloe J
Mason Meg T Skyla Daniel G
Bailey Roy Hannah Jackson Blade
**3-4 News**

Congratulations to our Year 3-4 award recipients for 2016, each of you thoroughly deserved your awards and have made great progress this year.

I would also like to commend the other industrious learners in the Year 3-4 class who demonstrate respectful behaviour and a great work ethic on a regular basis.

It has been a pleasure to get to know and teach the students of Thallon State School this year, I have been very impressed by the qualities that each of you possess.

*See you in 2017,*

*Mr Trama*

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**P-2 Catch up**

The Year has drawn to an end. We have had a wonderful time working with the children in our classroom. It is with sadness that we send on our Year 2 children to the ‘Big Kid’s Classroom’ and we say goodbye to Ruben, who is moving away. A huge thank you to Wendy Olsen for coming and helping out in our classroom every Tuesday morning. Your assistance was greatly appreciated. A huge goodbye to Mrs McLean. She has been an absolute pleasure to have in our classroom. We will really miss her expertise and wisdom next year and wish her all the very best in 2017 in Goondiwindi. Merry Christmas to you all! Have a happy New Year and a safe and relaxing holiday. Looking forward to seeing you all in 2017.

*Mrs Libby*

Thank you Mrs Libby for being an excellent teaching partner.

*All the best for 2017.*

*Mrs McLean*

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**5-6 News**

Congratulations on an excellent presentation of ‘Snow White and The Seven Used Car Salesmen’ last Friday night. It was great to see everyone having fun and displaying their acting skills.

Thank you Year Sixes, Lauren & Ella for a great year, all the best for wherever you go next year. I hope you all have a very Happy Christmas and an enjoyable holiday.

*Regards, Mrs Fulwood*
P & C

I would like to once again thank my P & C committee for all their hard work through the year. Thank you to all the parents who helped the P & C over the year. Our major fundraiser for 2017 is the Trivia Night. We bid the Johnson and the Christensen families farewell, we thank you for all the support over the years and wish you all the best for the future.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas.
Darren Kelly

Presentation Night Award Recipients

Congratulations to...

Excellence in Music: Hannah Johnson
Band Player of the Year: Clancy Wright
Male Sportsperson: Clancy Wright
Female Sportsperson: Hannah Johnson
Citizenship: Jackson Kelly
Masson All Rounder: Hannah Johnson
HPS Encouragement P-2: Meg Trindall
3-6: Chloe James
Progress Association House Spirit: Moonie
Positive Behaviour Certificate: Kate Willis
Public Speaking: Clancy Wright
Public Speaking Runner Up: Lauren Earle
Fred Davis
Memorial Tennis Trophy: Clancy Wright
Runner Up: John Murphy
Colin Albeck
Memorial Tennis Trophy: Hannah Johnson
Runner Up: Lauren Earle
Class Award P - 2: Claire Willis
Class Award 3 - 4: Shayla Meppem
Class Award 5 - 6: Clancy Wright
Principal’s Excellence Year 1: Meg Earle
Year 2: Lucy Hindle
Year 3: Ruby Beckenham
Year 4: Skyla Cotterell
Year 5: Lauren Earle
Completion of Prep Awards: Ruby Hindle
George Trindall
Kate Willis
Hazel Fulwood
Reuben Beckenham
Dux of the School: Hannah Johnson

Important Dates - 2017

January
Monday 23rd: 2017 school year commences

March
Friday 10th: Thallon Trivia Night

Thallon Christmas Tree in the Park

Saturday, 17th December - Santa arrives at 6.30pm.
Join us for a BBQ and refreshments after Santa’s visit.
Bring a wrapped present (value no more than $10) for Santa to give to your child on the night.
Goodbye primary school, hello secondary

The end of primary school is a significant milestone in children’s lives. They’ve spent half their lives in primary school, in many cases in the same school, which is significant.

Developmentally they’ve come a long way from those skinny little kids who lined up for class on the first day holding a parent’s or carer’s hand. Now entering puberty, most are taller than their mothers and the only people they’ll hold hands with are ‘special friends’, but not in public. Those displays of affection will come later in the secondary school years.

Changing from primary to secondary brings a mixture of emotions in kids such as excitement, apprehension, pride and, in many cases, sadness about leaving friends and familiar surrounds behind.

Parents often go through the same range of emotions as children at this time so we need to acknowledge those feelings in ourselves, just as we should in our children.

LOOKING BACK
This is a time for kids to celebrate their achievements; show appreciation to their teachers and enjoy the friendships that they’ve formed. Here are three ideas:

1. **Let’s celebrate**
   Primary school graduation ceremonies play an important part in the primary school life, as they mark the end of an era and the start of a new part of their lives. We need to be careful that the meaning doesn’t become lost as graduations become increasingly lavish, even to the point where some students are transported to their graduation in a stretch limo. Keep them simple and keep them close to the school’s values.

2. **Show gratitude**
   As a former teacher I know how much a simple thank you can mean from students at the end of the year. So make sure your kids take the time to thank their final year teacher and as well as seek out to thank other teachers who contributed to their education over their primary school journey. Gratitude costs nothing but has a great impact.

3. **Enjoy friendships**
   Encourage your kids to be open and friendly at this time of the year, and steer clear of cliques and fellow students who want to exclude others from their groups. The end of primary school can be tricky to navigate, particularly when early maturers stick together and ostracise certain classmates. This is the time for friendly behaviour and inclusiveness.

LOOKING AHEAD
When primary school is finished and the holidays are coming to an end it’s time to focus on the new experiences of secondary school. Some kids take secondary school in their stride but it is natural to experience some difficulty.

If your eldest is starting, then secondary school will be a relatively new experience for you too. It will take some time for you to adjust to the school’s culture and communication methods.

Your attitude as a parent can help your child quickly adjust. Here are three ideas for you to help kids make a smooth adjustment:

more on page 2
... Goodbye primary school, hello secondary school ... 

1 Promote friendships
   The quicker kids form new friendships the sooner they’ll feel comfortable in their secondary school surroundings. Encourage your young person to be open to forming friendships with all sorts of kids; to be accepting of others who may be different to them; to take social risks by joining in activities even though they may feel uncomfortable; and to be friendly, approachable and positive.

2 Be ready to listen
   Patience and understanding in the early weeks is essential. Brush up on your listening skills as you help your young person adjust. Talk to your young person about change and reassure them that it’s normal to feel unsure or nervous in new circumstances. Let them know that many difficulties they face will be temporary.

3 Keep your attitude positive
   Confidence is catching so make sure you see this transition time as an exciting challenge that your child can handle rather than an event to be feared. Ask them about the new subjects or interesting activities they are doing, and try to shift their focus to the positive aspects of school. Discuss settling in issues with the appropriate person such as a year level coordinator, but give your young person time to handle them on their own before seeking help.

Michael Grose

Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter, my FREE weekly email parenting guide at parentingideas.com.au. You’ll be so glad you did.
National Art School Mungindi Workshop
Mungindi Central School / Community Hall (TBC)
Mon 12 and Tues 13 December 2016

WORKSHOP DETAILS
Painting your Story: Exploring the contemporary through the work of modern painters.
The 2 day Drawing and Painting workshop will be an energised and productive engagement between students, teachers and symbolic self-portraiture. The focus of the project is to introduce fundamental knowledge in a way that students will relate to and enjoy with an emphasis on learning skills that can be developed in personal style, for further painting beyond the workshop.

Students will be introduced to a 'set-up' which makes reference to a self-portrait by Frida Kahlo by using a live clothed model and a variety of metaphorical elements which comment on the allegory of the original painting. Students will be encouraged to contribute to a brief discussion about allegory, symbolism, metaphor and art and its place in their own lives.

Students will be guided in a step by step process that will alert them to compositional aspects of painting and how it assists storytelling. They will be shown how to take an approach whereby a finished work can be achieved in a dedicated timeframe.

Mon 12 and Tues 13 December
9am - 3pm

NATIONAL ART SCHOOL
The National Art School is situated in the heart of Sydney on a site of immense historical significance and it provides a focused and inspiring environment within which to pursue an education. Our accredited three year BFA program provides the vital practical skills that form the foundation of a career in the visual arts. We equip each student with the skills, knowledge and confidence to thrive in their chosen medium, through providing a unique experience, with high student to teacher ratios, extensive contact hours, authentic artists' studios and a faculty of esteemed practicing artists. This is why we continue to produce award-winning, internationally renowned graduates. For over 170 years, generations of Australia’s finest and most respected artists have honed their craft and their intellect at the National Art School. We train artists who continue to achieve at the highest levels - nationally and internationally, personally and professionally.

We are delighted on Monday 12 and Tuesday 13 December to bring the National Art School to Mungindi with our personally tailored Educational Outreach Program.

Bio:
Anthony Cahill
Anthony Cahill is an artist exhibiting extensively both in Australia and overseas, including exhibitions in public and regional art galleries. Recently he exhibited a suite of works on paper at the Australian Embassy in Berlin. Cahill divides time between working in his studios in Blackheath in the Blue Mountains west of Sydney and in the inner west Sydney suburb of Marrickville. He is also a Lecturer in Drawing at the National Art School. His practice is that of a painter and drawer; Cahill’s recent work has seen his figurative/landscape inspired images being coloured by a notion of the absurd.

Further enquiries can be directed to:
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