From the Leadership Team 21 March 2014

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to Week 8! It is hard to believe that we are only two weeks away from the Easter Vacation. The term has flown by and before we know it we will be celebrating the good behaviour of those students who have placed in the top five on the classroom “Believe and Achieve” thermometers at the end of term behaviour reward’s day. Please read on to see what else is happening at our great school.

First Week of Term 2
The first week of Term 2 is quite significant on our term calendar. So you can plan ahead, please see below for some key events happening during that time:

- Monday 21 April: Easter Monday (No school this is a public holiday)
- Tuesday 22 April: Day 1 of Term 2
- Wednesday 23 April: Interhouse Cross Country Carnival
- Thursday 24 April: Anzac Day Ceremony 9.00a.m
- Friday 25 April: Anzac Day Public Holiday

Cross Country
As mentioned previously, Mr Bray has been training some of our athletes each morning to prepare for the inter-house cross country carnival. The cross country will be held on Wednesday 23 April (this is the first Wednesday back of Term 2). We have obtained the services of a Zarraffa’s coffee van for the day and will also be looking at selling some delicious home baked goods for parents and other community members to enjoy on the day. We hope to see many family members join us for this annual community event.

Staffing
It’s up, up and away for Mrs Austin who is currently on three weeks long service leave and having an overseas holiday with her family. Mrs Kerry Carroll takes over the role of acting Deputy Principal this week so please direct any of your usual “Mrs Austin” enquiries to kcarr15@eq.edu.au. While Mrs Carroll is relieving in this position, her usual role in the leadership team of a support teacher in literacy and numeracy (STL&N) needs to also be filled. Ms Hester, classroom teacher of 2G has extensive experience in a support teacher’s role so she will be filling the position during this time. Ms Lauren Arnold who has already been working closely with the students in the 2G classroom will be taking over the majority of the teaching during this time. We thank all families for supporting these changes over the remaining weeks of the school term.

Important Dates

- March
  - 24-4 Parent Teacher Interviews begin
  - 26 P&C AGM 5.30pm
  - 28 P&C Crazy Hair Day Fundraiser

- April
  - 3 Behaviour Rewards Day
  - 4 Last day of Term 1
  - 22 Term 2 Commences
  - 23 Cross Country
  - 24 ANZAC Day Ceremony 9am
Parents, family and friends are cordially invited to attend the
ANZAC Day Commemoration
At
Loganholme State School Anzac Square
Thursday 23rd April 2014

The service will commence at 9:00am
Students are asked to bring flowers for the floral tribute.
Community members may also lay their own wreath.

Parent Teacher Interviews
Parents are reminded that face to face interviews with classroom teachers are occurring in Week 9 and 10 of the term. All students were given an interview letter over two weeks ago so if parents have not yet received this letter then we suggest contact be made with the classroom teacher as soon as possible to secure any available interview times that may still be available.

For the first time since I have been at Loganholme, both Mr Bray (PE teacher) and Mr Williams (SEP Teacher) would like to make themselves available for this interview period. If you would like an interview with either of these teachers then please send an email request to the.principal@loganholmess.eq.edu.au.

School Uniform
I would like to remind parents that this school does have a school dress code. The dress code is put together by the school community in a community meeting and is not done by the school as many appear to believe. As the Principal of the school it is my job to ensure all teachers and members of the leadership team enforce this code. At Loganholme, students must wear the full school uniform and are not permitted to wear jewellery. Piercings other than in the ears are not allowed nor is any form of ink on the skin whether it is permanent or temporary. Hair must be neat and tidy at all times and only necklaces that are worn for religious reasons are permitted. Otherwise the rule is no jewellery. The other significant aspect of this code is around footwear. Students are not permitted to wear canvas shoes such as vans, converse or anything of a similar nature. Students are only permitted to wear joggers that provide correct ankle support and comply with workplace health and safety standards. Students and family members have been reminded of this rule for over 12 months now. In fact, this matter was addressed at many of our whole school assemblies last year.

It concerns me a great deal when we have parents who wish to argue this dress code, basing their argument on the fact that they were not aware, that they have already spent money on the fancy necklace or canvas shoes or in some cases that the child simply wants to wear it. The school will not accept any of these excuses as legitimate reasons for the breach of dress code. If parents wish to persist with non-compliance then the school will follow through with the process that we do with all non-compliance. I hear stories from past students who come to visit and who have now moved onto high school and have part time jobs etc. Many of these students were shocked when they were sent home from work because a shirt hadn’t been ironed or because their hair was too outlandish. This is just a slice of the expectations our children will have when they enter the real world of working. At school, adhering to a school dress code is just one of the ways in which we try to encourage and enforce discipline, commitment and responsibility. I ask that parents please remember this ‘bigger picture’ of what we are trying to do before wanting to argue this matter.
From the Leadership Team

Our school takes a lot of pride in our school uniform and as shared with the students many times, is one of the key items of feedback given by any visitors to the school. That is, our students look very sharp and smart in their uniform and overall it gives our school a nice ‘feeling’ of commitment and pride. I hope we can all work together to maintain such a high standard within our community.

Year 7 Leadership Program
Over the last few weeks many year six and seven students have been involved in our student leadership program. Over the coming weeks, parents will see our Year 7 students engaged in activities that extend beyond the classroom and make the best use of their leadership skills. Each of the students who have been successful in obtaining this first level of the program will be issued with a special leadership shirt. This program has been well supported over the last three years and we look forward to seeing a larger number of students involved in the program again this year.

National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence
The 2014 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence is today. This annual day provides a focus for all schools to say Bullying, No Way! and to strengthen their existing everyday messages that bullying and violence at school are not okay at any time. It was wonderful to see so many students wear an orange shirt today to show their support and to raise awareness of this important issue.

Easter Raffle
Yesterday the P&C distributed a letter home to all families in the community asking for support with running an Easter raffle. In years gone by, the Easter raffles have been one of our most popular fundraising events and have contributed a great deal to our whole school air conditioning project. Even better is that each year the major prize winners of this raffle have all been Loganholme SS families. To ensure we get a wide variety of Easter contributions for this year’s raffle, the P&C have kindly asked that donations made from families are varied across the school. For those of you who for some reason did not receive the letter distributed yesterday please note the items outlined for each level:

- Prep and Year 1: Easter Bunnies
- Year 2 and 3: Small Easter Eggs
- Year 4 and 5: Medium and Large Eggs
- Year 6 and 7: Novelty eggs like Humpty Dumpty or Candy Eggs

Of course, donations are greatly appreciated and if some families wish to donate other Easter gifts then you are more than welcome! We thank everyone in advance for their kind donation of raffle prizes.

P&C Annual General Meeting
Next Wednesday, 26 March is our annual general meeting for the P&C. At this meeting all positions of office - President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary become vacant and the voting in of new office bearers takes place. If you are interested in applying for one of these positions then you will need to fill out a nomination form either prior to the night or at the very beginning of the meeting on the night. This is usually one of the most well attended meetings each year. We look forward to seeing many community members in attendance again this year.

Class Representatives
Many of you may be questioning the likelihood of having a class representative taking on a leadership role in 2014. In previous years we have elected class councillors and invited them to be a part of a whole school student council. For two reasons we have changed this process for 2014.

Firstly, this year being a double year of students graduating from primary school means we have twice the amount of student leaders and twice the amount of students taking part in the leadership program. Having such a large number of leadership density means we will also have the opportunity to develop peer mentoring partnerships with students in our lower school which is something we will most certainly be taking advantage of.

Secondly, in years gone by when it was just our Year 7 students taking on a large majority of leadership positions, class representatives were taken from each of the Year 4, 5 and 6 year levels. In 2014, we will need to extend this leadership
right down to Year 3 to allow for the same size net to be cast across the school. That said, we believe these younger students need more time and support to take on such a role. At the end of Term 2 we will be voting in classroom representatives and pairing these students up with a Year 6 or 7 student mentor. These students will then be involved in a number of leadership activities and responsibilities that go beyond the classroom. I look forward to sharing more about this program with the community later in the year.

Community Awareness
Recently we have had a number of complaints regarding cars parking on Ceduna Street to drop off or pick up their children. I have been very disappointed to hear that there are members of our school community who think it is okay to park across someone’s driveway preventing them from access to their own house. Furthermore, I was shocked to hear that when asked to move their cars, the replies have been quite rude and abusive and in front of the children. Community members should be aware that it is illegal to park across somebody’s driveway, even if only for a few minutes. Fines can be issued at any time for such an offence. As for the inappropriate role modelling of adult behaviour in front of our students, I ask that community members try to demonstrate positive role modelling in the future. Thank you to those concerned families who have passed this information on to the school.

Volunteers Needed!!
We urgently seek some parent / grandparent support in some of our junior school classrooms. Not only does an extra adult in the classroom make a huge difference to the extra little ‘jobs’ that can be done, the students just LOVE having you there. Please talk to your child’s classroom teacher if you are able to help out at any time. Also, if you are a parent of the school no blue card is required to work in the classroom.

Little Kingfishers
What a great start we have had to our Little Kingfishers program this year! Monday and Friday mornings are a very exciting time for our littlies as they engage in whole group activities, art and crafts, outdoor play and story time! Mrs Woodall develops and delivers a top quality program to these students each week and the feedback I receive from those in attendance is always full of praise and complete awe of the great work Mrs Woodall does. Please help us to inform other families who have children aged between birth and 4 years that they are welcome to attend the playgroup on either the Monday or Friday morning between 9.00am and 11.00am in the old pre-school classroom.

Virtue of the Week – Perseverance
The Virtue that will be addressed on the next assembly will be Perseverance. Perseverance is sticking to something, staying committed, no matter how long it takes or what obstacles appear to stop you.

For those family members who are unable to attend the weekly assembly, each week the Student Leadership Team work tirelessly (giving up their lunch breaks), to create small vignettes highlighting the virtue of the week. These vignettes convey school rules to the students in an entertaining manner. The virtues that have been addressed on assembly this term have been: Courtesy, Kindness, Respect, Friendliness and Patience. The Student Leadership Team has also created reminders of school rules aimed at the younger children of Loganholme State School. These vignettes ask the children to spot the odd one out of a group of four, and then relay the rule to the students. The student leadership team should be commended for the work they are doing to deliver the school values program to their peers. Well done to these students!
From the Leadership Team

Apps of the Week - “Ali’s Math Bridge” ($0.99) is a NEW app where students are required to rearrange numbered blocks to create a number sentence that is correct. If correct, the blocks make a bridge for Ali Burger, a little alligator, to successfully cross a ravine to get food. All four operations are used so practice of the Part; Part; Whole strategy is reinforced.

“Magnetic Touch Board” ($1.99) is a handy tool to teach children phonemes, words and maths. In comparison with traditional magnetic boards, this app provides unlimited letters, phonemes and other characters to use. Have your child practise their spelling words for the week in a different way. Have them explore word families or practise spelling rules.

Please enjoy the weekend ahead.

Kind regards

The Leadership Team