### Welcome to week 2

Last week I went to Brisbane to participate in a program called Learning to Read (R2L). It was very reassuring to see that what we are doing is on the right track. The program really showed me how to take what I was doing to the next level. It was a very productive three days.

The basic philosophy behind the program is that when children are learning to read, it is easier and more effective if they have a detailed understanding of what they are reading.

The program also focuses on writing, and using the framework from well-known authors to help support our students to write something of their own. I have done a couple of activities using the concepts and have had some very pleasing results.

### Excursion day

Yesterday we were notified that we were to have no electricity for the day so we took the students into Mundubbera for the day. It was a great day. We went to Bicentennial Park for some morning tea and then headed out to the packing shed. (Central Fruit Packers). Brent Chambers gave us a great tour of the packing shed from when the fruit comes off the trees right through to boxing and shipping. It was all very hi-tech.

Next stop was the Library and Art Gallery. The students wandered around the gallery and spoke to the lady about art and the artist. The students enjoyed looking at the paintings and were all able to point out their favourite piece.

Finally we returned to bicentennial park for some lunch and a walk along the river walk. The students were fantastic and were great representatives for our school.

### Winter Carnival

Next week on the 7th and 8th of May I will be going to Harvey Bay for the Winter carnival (coaching North Burnett Soccer team) Mrs Burt will be here while I am away.

### NAPLAN tests

The NAPLAN tests will be held on the 12th, 13th and 14th of May. If your child is at all concerned please let me know. I have tried hard not to over dramatize it. We do hand out lollies, so that usually puts their minds at ease.

Cheers Andrew

### Tuckshop

Tuck shop this week will be a Pizza, popper and ice-block. All this for only $4.50. Please pay money by Thursday.
We have had a very productive start to the new term. Yesterday we had an awesome day in Mundubbera looking at the packing shed and orchard, the art gallery and the park. I am quite sure that everyone went home tired (or was it just Mrs. Goldie)

We are back on track with our weekly spelling and sight words. Sounds will begin next week as we are still doing consolidation work on sounds from last term. I believe that slow and steady wins the race and we want to stamp the sounds and spelling rules into their eager little minds before moving onto new sounds. We spend a lot of time doing carpet activities that help students to play with the sounds and move them around to make words.

In Foundation Writing we are looking at pulling sentences apart and coming up with different words to use that are more interesting but have the same meaning. For example the sentence today was:
The man played with the child.
As a group they brainstormed this:

The miserable zookeeper sadly played with his five year old child because he was fired from his job.
We are learning about different phrases in sentences and adding in adjectives and conjunctions (because, however) to create compound sentences. They are doing an amazing job!

When reading at night look at your sentences. Ask them to break that sentence into Noun Phrase (who) Verb Phrase (action) Setting Phrase (where did they do the action or what did they do the action to) Sounds complicated… but they are all clever cookies and picking it up REALLY quickly.

Next week in the newsletter we will send home a parent/teacher interview form. We would love to see all our parents for an informal chat about the goals of your child this term and how everything is progressing at school.

Cheers Angela
Junior soccer season kicks off in Gayndah Thursday 30th April
Open to all Junior players including high school. Training Thursdays 4 -5 pm
Gayndah Sports field. Fee’s only $25 per player/season. Come and have a go!!

Fun Facts with Kiki

How many people in my family? A Lot, too many to count
My favourite insect: Butterfly
Why: Because they are pretty
My favourite place: Shopping Centres
Why: Because I like shopping.

Quote of the week

An egotist has one point in his favour - he doesn’t go round talking about other people.
W.G.P.
School Photo Day

at

Binjour Plateau State School

‘Country School Photos’

will be at our school to take class, portrait and sibling photos

on

**Wednesday 6**\textsuperscript{th} **May 2015**

- Each student is to bring their envelope to the photographer on photo day.
- Each student will be photographed in their class photo and individually.
- Photo packages and prices are on the envelope. Payment can be made by cash, credit card or cheque.
- Sibling photo needs only to be ordered on your *eldest child’s envelope*.

As only a Whole of School photo will be taken, parents with more than one child may find the options below helpful.

Child 1 - **$25** Photo Pack including Whole of School photo
Child 2 and subsequent children - **$15** Portrait Photos only (just cross out Photo Pack and write ‘Portrait only $15’ on envelope)

So, if a parent has 3 children they would pay **$25 + $15 + $15 = $55**

Sibling photo, if required, is separate again - **$20**

Please contact Donna who will happily answer any questions you may have.

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