PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Each week, the staff at Tea Gardens Public School meet together to discuss students who have been excellent school citizens. Nominations are discussed and a student is selected to become the ‘Student of the Week’. We announce our ‘Student of the Week’ at our weekly assembly each Friday. Students are rewarded with a $5 voucher to the Ice Cream Shack.

It is with great pleasure to announce that our first ‘Student of the Week’ goes to Stephen from the Butter Beans class. Stephen has settled quickly and worked solidly in class since returning to school in 2016.

BOUQUETS

Class Captains Term 1 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Captains</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aduki Beans</td>
<td>Lily Fidden</td>
<td>Jayden Franks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chickpeas</td>
<td>Chloe Rodgers</td>
<td>Jenayah Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mung Beans</td>
<td>Evie Braddick</td>
<td>Boston</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rattlesnakes</td>
<td>Hayleigh Simmons</td>
<td>Darcy Ingram</td>
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<tr>
<td>Snap Beans</td>
<td>Sophia Jeffries</td>
<td>Toby Avery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sprouts</td>
<td>Jack Nolan</td>
<td>Grace Ehlefeldt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butter Beans</td>
<td>Jacob Avery</td>
<td>Sophie Frazer</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Parents Information Evening

Thanks are extended to all the parents who availed themselves of the opportunity to “meet the teacher” last week. In total we had 61 parents attend the information sessions. This is an increase on 2015 attendance numbers with 6 more parents in attendance. Thanks are also extended to all the staff for their attendance and preparation for the information sessions.

Kindergarten students have prospered during their first week of “big school”. I know that both the students and teachers alike were exhausted after an action packed first week.

Special parent meetings for Kindergarten will be held between 29 February – 3 March to go through the Best Start results and discuss practical ways you can support your child’s learning at home.

COMING UP

Golf Program- commences Tuesday 9 February at 4pm

Mr Weightman and Andrew, the local golf pro coordinate a free golf program running at Hawks Nest Golf Club on a Tuesday afternoon each week from 4-5pm. If you are interested in attending, meet Mr Weightman at the golf course tomorrow afternoon.

P&C Meeting- Tuesday 9 February commencing at 7pm in the school library

The P&C successfully supports and enriches the quality education of our students through a number of activities. These activities are possible with the combined support of parents and community members. The P&C is responsible for fundraising to help improve our school. The P&C also runs and operates our School Canteen. All parents and citizens are welcome to join the P&C, meetings are held monthly. New members are always welcome. Becoming a member is a great way to get involved and stay in touch with what is happening at school. The children love seeing their parents, family and friends participating in their school life. It is also a great way to meet other parents and make new friends.

Tea Gardens Public School P&C will be holding its first meeting for the year, tomorrow night at 7pm in the School Library. This is our last General Meeting before the Annual General Meeting (AGM) next month (Tue 8th March) where all committee positions are declared vacant & nominations are called to fill all positions: - President, Vice President, Secretary & Treasurer.

If you are interested in getting involved, please come along to the meeting tomorrow night. If you require any further information, please leave your details with the Office & we will contact you or drop us an email at tgpspandc@gmail.com

Art and Craft Expo Planning Meeting – proposed for Tuesday 16 February commencing at 7pm in the school library. Further details will be discussed at the P&C Meeting tomorrow evening.

Oliver Library System- Goes live on 9 February

The transfer to the new “Oliver” Library system is nearing completion and we look forward to engaging with this new system over the coming weeks.

Voluntary School Contribution

The voluntary contribution is set in collaboration with the school P&C. Further details regarding the voluntary contribution amount for 2016 will be known post the first P&C meeting tomorrow night.

AECG Meeting- Wednesday 10 February

We would like to invite all parents of our Aboriginal children and our Community to join us at our school on 10/02/16, at 10am, for the Youyoong AECG meeting! Everyone is welcome! The meeting will be held down in Mrs Avery’s classroom. Morning tea and snacks will be provided. Come and join us in discussing the education of our youth.
Changes have been made to the 2016 School Swimming Carnival to support the natural progression of students as they progress from developing to competent swimmers. All students (turning 7 or more in 2016) and who are able to swim a minimum of 25m are invited to attend our swimming carnival this Thursday 11 February at Tea Gardens Pool. It’s not all about winning the race; it’s more about doing your best and having a go.

Students wishing to attend the carnival are able to nominate for either:

“Competitor” – 50 metre two lap events (or greater) which allow for representative progression to the Port Stephens Zone Carnival (subject to the placings and times of the competitor).

OR

“Participant” - 25 metre one lap events for fun with no opportunity for progression through to the PSSA representative pathway. These events are for students who are able to swim 25 metres but may find longer distances more challenging.

We look forward to hearing about our students striving to achieve their personal bests during the carnival. Thank you to Mr Svensek for all his work behind the scenes in preparation for our swimming carnival.

The house captains were also elected on Friday.

Congratulations to:

Corrie: Piper Matenga

Stephens: Hannah Gatensby

Tomaree: Brannan Lawler

Yacaaba: Flynn Crozier

Lilliarna Baillie

Georgia Stevenson

Ryver McDonald

Allysha Randall

Austin Battle

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**2016 School Swimming Carnival Program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>START 9:30am</th>
<th>Age Races</th>
<th>Event Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 metres</td>
<td>Open 100m Freestyle</td>
<td>Competitor only – Opportunity for progression through the PSSA representative pathway.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 metres</td>
<td>8 Years, 9 Years and 10 Years</td>
<td>Competitor only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 metres</td>
<td><strong>7 Years</strong>, 8 Years, 9 Years and 10 Years</td>
<td>Participant only. No progression opportunity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 metres</td>
<td>11 Years, 12 Years and 13 Years</td>
<td>Competitor only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 metres</td>
<td>11 Years, 12 Years and 13 Years</td>
<td>Participant only. No progression opportunity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 metres Backstroke</td>
<td>Junior Backstroke, 11 Years Backstroke, Senior Backstroke</td>
<td>Competitor only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 metres Novelty</td>
<td>Participant Noodle Challenge- <strong>7 Years</strong>, 8 Years, 9 Years and 10 Years</td>
<td>Participant / Novelty. No progression opportunity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 metres Breaststroke</td>
<td>Junior Breaststroke, 11 Years Breaststroke, Senior Breaststroke</td>
<td>Competitor only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 metres Novelty</td>
<td>Participant Noodle Challenge- 11 years, 12 years, 13 years</td>
<td>Participant/Novelty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 metres Butterfly</td>
<td>Junior Butterfly, 11 Years Butterfly, Senior Butterfly</td>
<td>Competitor only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 metres Novelty</td>
<td>Competitors Noodle Novelty Events</td>
<td>Competitor only. No progression.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medley</td>
<td>Open Medley</td>
<td>Competitor only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:10pm</td>
<td>Return to School</td>
<td>All participating students</td>
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</table>
Weekly Assembly - Friday 12 February
This week, the Sprouts class (Mrs Bryant) will run our assembly. Assembly starts at 9.10am and will conclude by 9.45am on Friday. All parents are welcome to attend.

The assembly will include the following elements
• Acknowledgment of country or Welcome to country.
• School Song
• Principal’s address, announcement of the student of the week and the presentation of school awards (Bronze, Silver, Gold and Diamond Awards)- Linked to Orange Communication Cards
• Class item (short item linked to the class teaching and learning program)
• Reports and messages
• School merit awards (2 per class)
• PBL Guula Koala Raffle (4 prizes per week).
• National Anthem
• Dismissal and return to class.
The class assembly roster for semester one is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12/2/16</td>
<td>Mrs Bryant</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>19/2/16</td>
<td>Ministers (Zone Swimming)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>26/2/16</td>
<td>Induction Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4/3/16</td>
<td>GRANDPARENTS Day (Clean Up Schools Day)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11/3/16</td>
<td>Ministers</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>18/3/16</td>
<td>Miss Kerr</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>25/3/16</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1/4/16</td>
<td>Ministers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8/4/16</td>
<td>Mr Weightman (ANZAC Ceremony)</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>29/4/16</td>
<td>Ministers</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6/5/16</td>
<td>Mr Svensek</td>
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<td>13/5/16</td>
<td>Ministers (Stewart House Day)</td>
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<td>20/5/16</td>
<td>Ministers (NAPLAN Week) (Walk Safely to School Day)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>27/5/16</td>
<td>Miss Maloney</td>
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<td>24/6/16</td>
<td>Mrs Andrews</td>
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<td>1/7/16</td>
<td>Athletics Carnival- No assembly</td>
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School Photos – Wednesday 24 February
Photos have been organised for Wednesday 24 February. Envelopes will be sent home for your perusal shortly. Any orders must be returned with correct money by the day before the photos. Alternatively, you may pay for the photos online. Unfortunately EFTPOS is not available to be used for this expense.

Reminder: Weekly communication cards “The Orange Card”
To ensure there is ongoing communication between school and home in relation to student behaviour, the weekly communication card is sent home each Friday. The weekly communication cards are linked to the achievement of a school badge. A School Badge is provided to all students who are “On Track” with their behaviour for a minimum of 35/38 weeks of school during the year (DIAMOND AWARD). Please sign and return the cards EVERY week to ensure the students get the opportunity to achieve the diamond award and receive a badge.

Attendance
When students are absent please make sure you advise the office in writing, in person or by phone As Soon As Possible. The new SKOOLBAG app also has the capacity for you to submit student absence information online.

Changes to the Department of Education Attendance Policy
Exemptions are available for long term absences related to illness, but are no longer available for family holidays. This new policy was introduced last year. This means that children who will be away from school during school time and going on a family holiday will be marked as absent and the absences will appear on the report card.

2016 Calendar of School Events
To assist families with planning in advance to attend school functions, a copy of the planned events and the dates for a plethora of school events and activities was sent home to all families during the last week. Please keep this in a handy location for ready reference throughout the year.

Tea Garden Public School Expectations
The expectations cover all areas of school life. The four expectations are:
Be Safe
Be Kind
Be Fair and
Be Great
Posters promoting the four expectations are displayed in all classrooms.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL). Everyone, Everywhere, Every time.
During 2015, our school commenced Positive Behaviour for Learning also known as PBL. In the coming weeks, we will launch PBL within our school community. From the consultation process undertaken in 2014-2015, we will be working with students around the priorities of “Respect”, “Safety” and “Personal Best”.

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<td>1/7/16</td>
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This week, our focus is on Leaving School Expectations.

Respect
- Stay in area for pick up and bus
- Use appropriate language and volume

Safety
- Follow teacher instructions
- Use walkways
- Wait on the stage
- Walk your bike out of school
- Walk when leaving

Personal Best
- Care for others
- Keep yourself and others safe
- Be road safe

USEFUL WEBSITES
Jargon buster
Wondering why your kids talk about playing under the school CO-LA? Baffled at parent-teacher discussions about KLA’s? This list of common abbreviations or terms will help you to become familiar with the world inside school.

Avoiding injuries
Have you ever wondered if your child may be suffering physically from using a computer for schoolwork? Or if carrying their school bag may be causing them pain?

Maths questions
Are you in search of an educational game to sharpen your child’s maths skills and recall? Maths Monkey’s Quest features maths questions on topics ranging from addition and subtraction to ratios and percentages. It’s aimed at children from Years 3 to 8.

Helping your child with homework
How do you help your child while allowing them to develop independence? Teachers talk about how parents can help kids take responsibility for their homework and avoid Thursday night meltdowns.

WHAT’S NEW?
Skoolbag APP
Go to the APP store (Apple) or Play Store Button and search for “Tea Gardens” and click on the SKOOLBAG App to install.

LIBRARY NEWS
This year the library will be open on a Monday and Tuesday. Borrowing will not start until week 4 the 15th of February as the new Library computer system “Oliver” will not be in operation until then. Please bring a library bag if you wish to borrow. Library books found at home over the holidays can still be returned.
The first book club for the year is due back on Wednesday 10th of February. Scholastic have now combined all year groups into one catalogue allowing you to see all the books available.

Tasha Howard
Librarian

Merit Awards
Congratulations to the following students who received a merit award on Friday 5th February 2016. They were:

ADUKI BEANS
Lily Fidden
Noah Faint
Working well in class

CHICKPEAS
Jenayah Hall
Georgia Lawler
Excellent effort during literacy groups

SPROUTS
Ryda Syron
Matilda Fidden
His imaginative story writing

MUNG BEANS
Delilah Newlin
Logue White
For her creative art work

RATTLESNAKES
Isla Brumby
Murray Woodfield
Beautiful cursive writing

BUTTER BEANS
Breanna Foran
Tye Carter
For her neat book work

SNAP BEANS
Lily-Arum Laws
Piper Matenga
Being a respectful class member
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10TH February</td>
<td>11TH February</td>
<td>12TH February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Driscoll</td>
<td>Dan Driscoll</td>
<td>Dan Driscoll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katherine Pollock (9-12)</td>
<td>Bea Treharne (9-2)</td>
<td>Bill Ewen (9-12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanessa Ray (9-2)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Peta Shelton (9-2)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1 ½ toasted sandwiches
Ham & cheese or
Ham, cheese & tomato

Chicken tender, lettuce &
mayo wrap

Taco’s (2) – lettuce, tomato & cheese

**Optional bbq or tomato sauce**

**Optional sour cream & sweet
chilli sauce**

Sandwiches also available
Wed, Thurs, Fri

Vegemite, Jam or Honey
$2.00

Cheese or Cheese & Tomato
$3.00

CANTEEN SUPERVISOR
DANIELLE DRISCOLL
0421976137

Meal & Popper - $5.50 - Meal & Flavoured Milk - $6.00

STUDENT BANKING -

BANKING DAY IS TUESDAY

These fun rewards are a great way to keep children motivated and demonstrate the value of saving:

- Flying Snake Tail – now available to order
- Wildlife Writer Set – now available to order
- Mud Splat Handball – Released in Term 2
- Outback Pat Bag Tag – Released in Term 2
- Backtrack Eraser Pen – Released in Term 3
- Jump and Skip Rope – Released in Term 3
- Bush Fly Fan – Released in Term 4

Rewarding good savings

To help reward individual savings efforts, every time a student deposits into their Youthsaver account through School Banking, regardless of the amount, they’ll receive a Dollarmites token.

Once they’ve collected 10 tokens, they can redeem them for a variety of exciting reward items. They’ll also receive a certificate when they reach certain savings milestones.