



Berserker Street State School

Newsletter: 13th February, 2017

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"MEET AND GREET"

The annual "Meet and Greet" and free sausage sizzle is on tonight, Monday 13th February from 5pm to 6pm in the Stadium.

This is a great opportunity to meet with your child's teacher and other key staff at Berserker. All family members are invited to attend. A free sausage sizzle will be provided for all family members, staff and students. In the past our staff have enjoyed the opportunity to meet with parents and guardians at this community event.

PHOTO DAY

DATE CLAIMER : Our annual school photo day will be **Monday 6th March**. It is **extremely important** that all students are in their full school uniform, including the Berserker shirt with logo.

XO LAPTOP LEVY

All students at Berserker are allocated their own laptop to use on a daily basis. There is a \$10 fee each year for the use of these laptops. This covers maintenance, printing, replacement, USB stick etc. Once this levy is paid, a yellow band will be placed on the XO. Students are then able to take their XO home when required for school work. All students from Prep to Year 6 will use these computers in their everyday classroom to enhance their learning.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

I would like to thank all the parents who ensure that their children are at school every day in time for the 8:40am bell.



Research shows that students who attend school regularly and are on time for the start of each day have the best chance for success.

Missing just one day of school a week may not seem like much, but this adds up to 2.6 school years. In other words if your child misses a day of school every week, it is the same as leaving school early in Year 10.

Children who are just half an hour late each day, miss more than a whole year of school throughout their education. Children who are late also interrupt the schooling of their classmates and the flow of lessons.

We appreciate the efforts of parents to support the school in ensuring your children are on time and ready for learning every day.

NATURAL MATHS

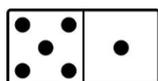
At Berserker, our maths curriculum is centred on the Natural Maths program created by Ann and John Baker, both of whom are experts in the field of mathematics. Their program aims to bridge the gap between research and practice in maths education.

Students are first taught the Natural Maths Strategies in Prep and they

continue to learn more right through to Year 6. You may have heard your child coming home talking about “chunking” or “number splitting” during a maths lesson at school today. These are just a couple of many Natural Maths terms that are used school wide. We hope to further promote the use of these strategies at home by explaining a new Natural Maths strategy in each of our newsletters. Who knows, maybe you are already using some without knowing it!

SUBITISE

Sometimes you do not need to count as you just suddenly know how many things are in a group – this is called subitising. This is the foundation of all later number sense and is an important skill for early learners.



How many dots on each side of the domino?

How many fish do I have?



Did you just know without counting?

Encourage your child to subitise with things at home. Use dice, pictures, toys, etc. to practice subitising.

READING COMPREHENSION

What books do you enjoy reading? Do you prefer a particular type of genre? Did you now that about 30 books were adapted into movies in 2016! Which ones have you read?

The final step to improve reading comprehension is a review of learning. By now students have learnt a whole range of reading comprehension strategies and they need to consolidate what they have read, link it with what they know and store it in their memory. It also helps to link a positive attitude with reading to improve retention.



Vernon the Viking likes to review reading strategies that have helped him understand the text better

while he was reading. He teaches us to:

- Summarize the main ideas in the text
- Review new vocabulary, ideas and link them with what we know
- Reflect on why the author wrote the text (purpose) and how the author achieved his purpose
- Think about how we can use this information in the future when reading another similar text
- Use similar reading strategies every time we read a new text
- Enjoy reading!

FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICER

At the start of the year many parents and students become anxious about a new school, a new teacher, harder work or making new friends.

Here are 8 steps to help your child settle at school:

1. Be strict with bedtimes so children are calm, rested and energetic for school. Develop a morning routine that is TV free. Allow time to have breakfast and encourage your child to be well presented and prepared for school.
2. Regularly contact your child’s teacher to build a partnership for success.
3. Value their learning by becoming involved with homework tasks.
4. Be happy and encouraging when you are asking them about their school day.
5. Encourage your child to talk to you openly and discuss positive strategies to enable them to problem solve any issues for themselves.
6. Praise success. No matter how small they seem to you, they mean a lot to your child.
7. If you need support, approach our very experienced and caring staff who will be able to recommend helpful resources.

STUDENT ABSENCES

Our **Student Absence Hotline is 49990366**. This number is able to be contacted 24hrs a day.

It is really important to call the school or call the Student Absence Hotline on the above number, in the morning if your child is going to be away or late for school so your child's absence can be recorded correctly. When using our Absence Hotline, please follow these simple steps by stating:

- **1. Student's name**
- **2. Class**
- **3. Date of absence**
- **4. Reason for absence**
- **5. Duration of absence**

Same day notification

Our school will contact parents as soon as practicable on the day if a student is not at school and we haven't been notified of a reason for their absence. If you are advised by the school that your child is away without a reason, please contact the office on 49990333 as soon as possible, to let us know where your child is. We will follow-up with parents if no response is received.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

Religious Instruction lessons are held every Wednesday from 2.15pm and will commence on Wednesday 22nd February. Students at Berserker have the option to participate in a Values program, Ecumenical (Christian) lessons or Catholic lessons. A note was sent home at the beginning of term to inform parents that students will now be automatically allocated to Religious instruction groups based on information provided by parents on the Application for Student Enrolment form unless other written instructions have been provided to the school. Please

contact the office if you have any queries regarding this process.

VIRTUES

This is the virtue that students will be learning in week 5. Please take the time to talk to your children about this virtue.

Week 5: Tolerance

To be tolerant is to accept differences. You don't expect others to think, look, speak or act just like you. Tolerance is being free of prejudice, knowing that all people have feelings, needs, hopes and dreams. To be tolerant also means to accept things you wish were different with flexibility and patience.

SCHOOL RULE FOCUS:

Wear your school uniform with pride

At our school all students are to be in school uniform at all times and to wear it with pride. Our school uniform is the Berserker shirt, bottle green shorts, bottle green wide-brimmed hat and shoes suitable for sport. In the colder months, a bottle green jumper and/or bottle green tracksuit pants are acceptable.

TUCKSHOP

The Tuckshop is open before school and both lunch breaks Monday to Friday.

Volunteers are always needed so please contact the office or pop in and see Cherie at the tuckshop if you are able to help out.

Tuckshop Breakfast: Tuesday to Friday
8am till 8.40am.

Lunch orders are taken each morning. Students should have their orders on a paper bag clearly named or provide 10c extra for a bag from the tuckshop. ***STUDENTS NEED TO FILL OUT TWO BAGS IF THEY WANT TUCKSHOP BOTH LUNCHES.*** Orders must be in by **9am** (otherwise the tuckshop is only able to offer jam or vegemite sandwiches).

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE AT BERSERKER



Berserker Street State School offers before and after school care here at Berserker. This is run by PCYC in the Hall located near the Berserker Street Entrance of the school.

Operating hours:

Before School Care 6:30am – 8.45am
(open to all schools).

After School Care 2:45pm till 6.00pm
(BSSS students only).

Vacation Care (operates from PCYC
Rockhampton) 7.30am – 6.00pm.

For more information please contact Toni on 0418116481. PCYC coordinate this wonderful service, for more information email: berserkerstsac@pcyc.org.au

THE SMITH FAMILY

Would \$500.00 help cover the cost of school expenses?

The Smith Family is delivering Saver Plus in the Rockhampton Community and is currently looking for more people to join this wonderful program.

Saver Plus is a 10-month program that can assist you to save for your own or your children's education.

Participants receive:

- * One dollar in matched savings from ANZ for every one dollar you save, up to \$500
- * MoneyMinded financial workshops,
- * Personal support and guidance from The Smith Family, a trusted community organisation.

At the end of the program you can use your matched savings to purchase education-related items, such as a laptop/computer, school & sports uniforms/shoes, camps/excursions, swimming & music lessons and text books & stationary.

To be eligible to participate in Saver Plus you must:

- * be 18 years or over
- * be a parent or guardian of a student attending school or starting next year, or be attending or returning to vocational training yourself
- * have a current health care card or pensioner concession card

* have some form of household income, for example, your partner or yourself may have casual, part-time, full-time, cash in hand or seasonal employment.

If you are interested in receiving \$500 in matched savings, please contact

Kathy Connaughton - Saver Plus
Coordinator 0408 90984 or 49248125 Email
- kathy.connaughton@thesmithfamily.com.au

COMMUNITY NOTICES

ROCKHAMPTON CHILDREN AND FAMILY CENTRE

Rockhampton Children & Family Centre will be hosting a Homework Class every Monday and Wednesday from 3.15 to 4.30 commencing in February. This is only for Indigenous Children in Prep to Years 3 and an exception for children with special needs. A tutor will be contracted by this service to oversee the Home Class. A note will be going home soon. Any queries please contact Mayann Lammermoor on 07 49285043 or Fax 07 49282429

AUSSIE HOOPS LEARN2PLAY BASKETBALL

Grade 1-2's Tues 4.00-4.55pm

Grade 3-6's Wed 4.00-4.55pm

Starting Tues 14th and Wed 15th Feb.

*Participants will receive 7 weeks of expert coaching, their very own basketball, singlet and backpack, as well as other exciting handouts.

Head to www.aussiehoops.com.au or contact Matt Neason on 4922 5544 for more information.

CQ SKATEBOARDING LESSONS

Skateboarding workshops are now available in Rockhampton, at South Rockhampton Skate Park, Corner of Lion Creek Road and Sir Raymond Huish Drive. Saturday 9am – 10.30 am

Dates: 25th Feb/4th March

Cost: \$25 per participant

What to Bring: Closed in shoes, skateboard and helmet. Some equipment will be supplied.

Call now to book 0431622281

Find us on Facebook – CQ Skateboarding Lessons.

(Coaches are accredited by ASCI, hold a valid blue card (working with children check) & all events are Insured.)

ROCKHAMPTON PANTHERS AFL CLUB

JUNIOR SIGN ON for U7 – U17 girls/boys

Every Tuesday and Thursday during February from 5.30 pm to 6.30 pm at the Rockhampton Cricket Ground.

The club has Come and Try Vouchers available and is a Get Started Club....Any new players most welcome for 2017 season. Enquiries to Tom Kneen 0429478189 or Krista Davidson 0467 592 530

Rebecca Hack
Principal