2014: YEAR OF THE LEARNER

Great teachers = Great results
A direct action plan for Queensland schools

Education is all about knowledge — and it’s what we do with it that counts.

The Queensland Government knows that our 57,000 teachers, and the young lives they are shaping, hold the key to our state’s future.

Great teachers = Great results will help us recognise and celebrate what we know is working, and help improve what isn’t.

Great teachers = Great results features two key goals: to lift standards of teaching so our next generation can learn from our best and brightest, and provide more schools with greater autonomy so they can get on with the job and make decisions that best suit their local communities.

This strengthened new approach will be delivered through a direct action model and evidence-based strategies that focus on supporting teachers throughout their careers, and directing support so they can make the biggest difference.

We will maintain our almost $6 billion per annum investment in our state’s educational wealth.

We will add to this $537 million over five years for a range of new initiatives, provided the Federal Government commits to ongoing funding for Queensland schools at current rates (including funding currently provided under relevant National Partnership Agreements) with appropriate indexation. These new funds will be shared across the state, Catholic and independent sectors.

Yet the success of these reforms isn’t just about the money.

In fact, research shows that more funding doesn’t always equal better results which is why we want resources delivered where they are needed most — in lifting the standards of Queensland’s teachers and boosting school autonomy.

Professional excellence in teaching

We will lift the standards of Queensland’s teachers and school leaders by:

• creating benchmarks to identify high performing teachers, leaders and principals using annual performance reviews
• helping new teachers by pairing them with experienced mentors
• rewarding high performers with fast-tracked career progression and bonuses
• lifting standards of entry to senior positions and recognising strong leadership
• encouraging more teachers, principals and deputy principals to boost their qualifications, with scholarships for Masters degrees and postgraduate courses
• deploying high performing teachers to where they are needed most with a focus on students with a disability, Indigenous students, those from low socio-economic backgrounds and language backgrounds other than English
• boosting outcomes in early years classrooms
• making senior staff accountable with fixed-term contracts.

Boosting school autonomy

We know that a one-size-fits-all approach doesn’t work, so we will cut red tape and give schools more decision-making powers by:

• giving all schools the chance to become independent
• developing capacity for schools to become independent over time through a school autonomy expansion program.

We are also committed to creating safe and supportive environments to teach and learn by:

• strengthening discipline, streamlining processes for suspensions and exclusions, and introducing new student behaviour contracts
• accommodating students with chronic behavioural issues in alternative school environments.
Prep News

Ms Nettie

What a busy time we’ve had already. In English, we are involved in a C2C unit of work on rhyming words, and we have been reciting and singing songs and poems with rhyme and watching and listening to rhyming stories. The Prep students have been involved in assessment in the area of reading over the last few weeks. You support your child/ren with reading by continuing with the amazing work you have been doing with sight words, along with talking to your child/ren about the books you are reading. A few ideas when reading are:

Ask your child to retell you the story in their own words
Ask questions about what you have read e.g. What happened when….?
What was your favourite part of the story?
What do you think will happen next?

Congratulations to the students who received Sight Word Certificates on parade last week:

List 3 Sight Words – Lindsay
List 7 Sight Words – Ava, Henry, Brooke
List 8 Sight Words – Madison, Sally, Henry
List 9 Sight Words – Kayden, Madison
List 11 Sight Words – Monique, India, Annabelle
List 12 Sight Words – Isabella

Congratulations! You now know have successfully reviewed your Lists 1 - 10 Sight Words:
India, Stella, Isabella and Leah

Students of the Week – Jackson, Lindsay and Monique

Hi Parents

The recording sessions with Josh and Texas Show are over and our students are back into classes thinking about their work!

School is a very busy place at the moment. Students are well underway with their learning and we have been pleased with the strong response from the parent / teacher interview process.

To strengthen our expectations that all students will remain involved in life-long learning, we are looking to assist families in their decision making for post Year 10 from Texas School. Dr Michael McCarthy is the Principal at St Joseph’s Stanthorpe and he will be attending the P and C Meeting next Wednesday (13.08.2014) to talk about Senior Secondary from 5:30 to 6 pm. We will also be offering the same opportunity to Mr Peter Grant from Stanthorpe SHS upon his return from leave later in the Term.

At the same time we have these visitors talking about their schools, it’s timely that we look at a recent policy development from EQ. A key component of the Great Teachers = Great Results direct action plan, talks about Boosting School Autonomy. The state acknowledges that a one size fits all certainly doesn’t work. GT=GR looks at the disciplined learning environment (which we received 5 Outstanding in our recent audit – that’s an Outstanding in each of the 5 Domains!); investment in achieving student outcomes; and also opportunities for schools to become independent.

Attached is the web address to access this and many other documents relating to the new ways in which EQ is lifting the professional standards of teachers and opportunities to provide our school with greater autonomy:
http://education.qld.gov.au/#. I’d be interested in your feedback!

Have a GREAT WEEK!

Mike

P.S.: The final date for our School Opinion Surveys (SOS) to be completed online is Friday August 8! If you need any help to complete yours, please contact the office.

Attendance Award for Week 2
Year 2/3 - 99%

Attendance Week 2

Maths Olympiad 4—27th August
**Rule of the Week**

**Be an Active Learner**

**Active Participation in Class**

**Why is it important to actively participate in classroom activities?**

Students need to participate actively in classroom activities so that they get quality learning and teaching time at school.

**What should we do?**

- Be ready to learn—all books and equipment
- Listen to the teacher—follow instructions and avoid unnecessary interruptions
- Stay on task—ask and answer questions
- Work quietly and neatly—Bookwork Policy
- Co-operate with teacher and peers
- Complete set tasks for the lesson

By doing all of the above you will be RESPECTING your peers’ right to LEARN and the teachers’ right to TEACH.

**Attendance Award—Every day counts**

**Attendance Award Week 2—Year 2/3**

- 4 classes above 95%
- Weekly average 89%

**HPE Award Week 3—Year 8**

**How can your class get the HPE Award?**

- Active participation by all students in the lesson
- Listening to instructions and following directions promptly
- Participating to the best of each student's ability
- Being considerate of others

Congratulations to the HIGH SCHOOL students and Year 6 for leaving their rooms clean and tidy at the end of the day. WELL DONE!

Cathy Cameron
Dean of Students

**ICAS Science**

ICAS Science competition conducted in early June has been marked and the results returned to the school.

It is always exciting to see Texas students achieve pleasing results in these competitions.

A special congratulations to Thomas S who received a DISTINCTION which places him in the top 3% of Year 3 students in Australia. I am sure you would agree that this is an excellent achievement.

Great work Thomas!

**Credits**

Amelia S
Lachlan D
William S

Congratulations to all students who challenge themselves by participating in the ICAS competitions.

Cathy Cameron
Dean of Students

**Athletics Carnival**

* Helpers for canteen required 15-08-2014 even if only for ½ hour at a time.
* Donations of baked goods required 15-08-2014 (cakes, muffins, slice etc. etc.
* If any child in Prep or Years 1, 2, or 3 needs to purchase lunch on the day of the sports carnival (15-08-2014) the need to have the order in the tuckshop slot the day before (14-08-2014).

Everyone else can buy on the day.

* Please leave any baked goods at the canteen the morning of the carnival

If anyone has any queries they can contact Shelly Roser on 0417075425

**School Opinion Survey**

**Parent/Caregiver Survey 2014**

The purpose of the School Opinion Survey is for you to have your say about what your child's school does well, and how it can improve.

This completion date for this survey has been extended until **Wednesday 8 August 2014**.

If you have lost your log in details see the office for a new sheet.

Lisa Putzolu
### Student Representative Council Fundraiser

**Texas School Social**

**Wednesday 20/8/14 Prep—Year 6**

**TIME:** — 5.30pm - 7.00pm

‘Hippie 60’s THEME’

Primary Social Music Provided by

**DJ – CURLY**

- **P & C SAUSAGE SIZZLE AVAILABLE**
  - Drinks and packets of Chips also available

**Year 7 — Year 10**

**TIME:** — 7.00 - 8.30pm

**MOVIE NIGHT**

**ADMISSION $ 2.00**

*****All students must be dropped off and picked up by an Adult*****

### Darling Downs Rugby League Trials

Last Wednesday 5 Texas girls travelled to Toowoomba to trial for the Darling Downs League team. A big congratulations to Indiah L, Sarah W, Chantel P, Carrie M and Tahnee G for trialling. The girls’ skills determination matched it with all the girls in the Darling Downs region. Many selectors commented on the toughness of our girls. Four girls were trial in the possible and the DD team.

Congratulations to Indiah L who gained selection into the Darling Downs team to play in Warwick in September.

Congratulations to Tahnee G and Carrie M who gained selection into the Country Darling Downs team also to play in Warwick in September. Sarah W was selected as a shadow player. Chantel P unfortunately didn’t gain selection however she play extremely well in all games.

A big thank you to all the wonderful coaches who assisted these girls on a Thursday at Milwood Training.

### Border Athletics Carnival

Students aged 13 to 16 years are eligible to participate in the Border District Athletics Carnival on Wednesday the 13th of August. Please note that this carnival is the day before our school carnivals. This is only a carnival and not a selection into the Border District Athletic team. If a student jumps, throws or makes a time that qualifies for DD they will be nominated by me at school. I have encouraged students to only nominate for events that they would like to specialise in.

Notes must be return by Wednesday the 6th of August.

### Our School Carnival

Please note that our school athletics carnival will be held on Friday the 15th of August. Students aged 9 to 16 years will also be participating in athletic events on Thursday 14th of August.

If any parents are able to assist with time keeping or assisting on the day – please see MRS SCOTT.
Are you Interested in Making a Difference at our School?

We are seeking high-performing and goal-orientated team players to join us! We are gathering a pool of talent in the following areas:

Teacher’s Aides who will become super-support staff in primary and secondary classrooms; assisting our students to reach literacy and numeracy goals;

Relief Administration Officers in the areas of confidentiality, communication and computer illiteracies; to support our school; and

Relief Schools Officers in the areas of cleaning and grounds care; who will maintain our school to best-practice standards.

If you believe you have what it takes to make “Every Child Matter, Everyday”, then send a 1 page overview about yourself, outlining relevant skills and experience to:

The Principal
Texas P-10 State School
1 Flemming Street
Texas Qld 4385

We would love to hear from you!

Spring Fair Raffle

There will be a raffle at the Spring Fair. A wheelbarrow has been purchased and we are looking to fill it with household items.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?
We are asking each student to bring in one item for the raffle.

WHAT CAN YOU BRING?

A few suggestions:

- Anything you find useful for the house
- Non perishable grocery items
- Kitchen utensils
- Linen – hand towels, tea towels, pot holders
- Plastic storage containers
- Cleaning agents

WHERE DO YOU LEAVE YOUR ITEM?

- At the Office
- At the Wellness Centre
- With your class Teacher

Let’s make this a successful raffle and raise funds for the school. All funds raised by the P&C at the Spring Fair go towards purchasing much needed resources and equipment for the school.
NEW STUDY!

RAISING TEENS IN THE TECHNOLOGY GENERATION

ARE YOU THE PARENT OF AN 11-18 YEAR OLD?
Help us understand the effect of technology on families!
Take our anonymous 30-minute survey.

You will answer questions about technology, your teenager’s behaviour, their relationship with you and your parenting.
You can also ask your teenager to take part in a similar anonymous survey.
The research is completely voluntary and confidential.

To complete the survey, go to: https://exp.psy.uq.edu.au/parentteensurvey/

For more information, contact the research team on parentingteens@uq.edu.au.
### Athletics Carnival Menu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hot food</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Drinks</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Sausage Sandwich</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>Popper</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Sausage Sandwich</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
<td>Bottled Water</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steak Sandwich</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
<td>Soft Drink</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>Sports Drink</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken and salad</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>Tea and Coffee</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham and salad</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>Chips</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salad</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
<td>Hello Pandas</td>
<td>$0.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egg sandwich</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>Pick and Mix Chocolates</td>
<td>$0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mixed Lollies</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cake/Muffin</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sandwiches</th>
<th></th>
<th>Other Items</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicken</td>
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### 2014 Calendar Term 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **August 3**  
WEEK 4 |        |         |           |          |        |          |
|        | 4      | 5       | 6         | 7        | 8      | 9        |
| After School Sport: Bowling | After School Sport: Bowling | After School Sport: Golf |          |          |        |          |
| **August 10**  
WEEK 5 |        |         |           |          |        |          |
|        | 11     | 12      | 13        | 14       | 15     | 16       |
| Texas Show Holiday | ICAS Maths Challenge After School Sport: Bowling | P & C Meeting After School Sport: Golf | Interhouse Mini Athletics Carnival | Interhouse Athletics Carnival |        |          |
| **August 17**  
WEEK 6 |        |         |           |          |        |          |
|        | 18     | 19      | 20        | 21       | 22     | 23       |
|         | After School Sport: Bowling | School Social After School Sport: Golf |          | Mac Zone Athletics |       |          |
| **August 24**  
WEEK 7 |        |         |           |          |        |          |
|        | 25     | 26      | 27        | 28       | 29     | 30       |
| Round 3 Vaccinations After School Sport: Bowling | 2-way Meet | After School Sport: Golf |          |         |          |
| **August 31**  
WEEK 8 |        |         |           |          |        |          |
|        | 1      | 2       | 3         | 4        | 5      | 6        |
| Sept 1 | After School Sport: Bowling | After School Sports: Golf |          |          |         |
| **Sept 7**  
WEEK 9 |        |         |           |          |        |          |
|        | 8      | 9       | 10        | 11       | 12     | 13       |
|         | After School Sport: Bowling | After School Sport: Bowling | P & C Meeting After School Sport: Golf |          | P & C Spring Fair |          |
| **Sept 14**  
WEEK 10 |        |         |           |          |        |          |
|        | 15     | 16      | 17        | 18       | 19     | 20       |
|         |          |          | Maths Olympiad |          | Last day of Term 3 |          |

#### Retune Coming to Texas 20 August 2014

As the final step in Australia’s successful move to digital only TV, all free-to-air TV channels will change frequencies in Texas on August 20. After the channels have moved, viewers will need to retune their digital TV, set-top-box or digital TV recorder.

The retune will affect most TV viewers in Australia but different areas will need to retune on different dates. The retune is due to be completed nationally by 31 December 2014.

Channel changes should not impact on the quality of television transmission or reception across the area. If people continue to experience difficulties with reception on a particular channel they should contact the relevant broadcaster for more information about reception issues.

For more information call 1800 20 10 13 8am-10pm AEST 7 days or visit the website http://retune.digitalready.gov.au