Congratulations to our Year 5 Science Team of Zoe Batik, Sevren McDonald, Maxine and Jacklyn Woodhams. These students representing Grandchester State School won the Inaugural Year 5 Science Challenge this week at Faith Lutheran College!! The students had to compete against other schools from the region in a number of science based challenges. The event was organised as part of National Science Week and will be an ongoing event held each year during Science Week. Congratulations to Sevren who won the individual award on the day and Jacklyn who received a special mention for her efforts throughout the day. A trophy and a cheque of $100 from the sponsors of the event will be presented by Mr Kenny, the Deputy Principal at Faith, to the school in an upcoming parade.

What is particularly pleasing is the recognition our students received in their ability to work as a team and support one another while working through their tasks in a scientific inquiry based process. This is the model of approaching scientific tasks which the students are explicitly taught to use in their science lessons. Congratulations once again to our students! (See photos of the day later in this newsletter!)

SAME DAY ABSENCES and Late Arrivals/ Early Departures

A big thank you to our entire school community for working with the school in the last couple of weeks to ensure that the school is made aware of student absences on the morning (by 10am) of their absence. We appreciate that this can be ‘just another thing to do’ when you have a sick child, however as it is now required by law we sincerely thank everyone for their ongoing cooperation. It has certainly made our role easier. Just a reminder that a phone message is the preferred mode of contact, as emails may not always be available to staff - due to connectivity issues, or staff absence. Phone: 54669222.

.... continued on page 3 ...

Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students:

Week Ending: 5 Aug

P-3: Hannah P
(for excellent effort in spelling)

4-6: Tommy G-P
(for being a helpful and caring classmate)

Week Ending: 12 Aug

P-3: Sterling M
(for excellent effort in spelling)

4-6: Monica H
(making the effort to aim for best effort)

Behaviour Focus

Week 5&6: Best Effort—Make the Effort to Aim for Best Effort!

Week 7&8: Respect - Taking Pride in Yourself!

Caltex Homework Award:

Congratulations to David M who received our Caltex award for having all of his homework completed and on time. He will be able to present his certificate at any Caltex Star Mart where he will receive a lunch box, healthy snack and a drink from the shop to put in the lunch box.
P & C News

Our P&C General meeting was held last Tuesday afternoon. As was advertised the agenda included the school uniforms. Due to our current supplier increasing the costs of delivery per uniform and in order to keep costs down for our families, our P&C President, Kelly Galvin has been busy sourcing alternative suppliers. Kelly has been successful in finding an alternative uniform supplier who is able to provide a new style of uniform for the same cost. The new style was presented to, and passed by the P&C at the last meeting. A trial of the uniforms will begin as stocks of the existing uniform sell out. An example of the new uniform is on display in the school office.

Remember the **HOGS visit on 4th of September**! We are needing people to help out on the day and to donate baked goods for the morning tea. This has been a very successful fundraiser in the past and we have had great feedback from the HOGS after each visit. Last time we had nearly 90 bikes arrive on the day. Come along help out and have an enjoyable day.

Ball Games

Our students have been busy practicing their ball skills ready for next week’s Ball Games Carnival at Thornton SS. Children are to be transported to and from the carnival by private transport. Parents and children are asked to arrive at Thornton SS by 10:00am for a 10:15 start. Please note this is a whole school activity and as such participation is expected.

*Please see the attached schedule for the day.*

Book Fair!

It’s that time of the year again! Mrs Litfin has been busy setting up the Book Fair display in the BER Shed ready for next week. Book Fair has an Australian theme this year - **Country Australia Stories**.

Parents and children will be able to visit the display each afternoon from 2:30 – 3:00pm, Monday 22nd to Thursday 25th August -next week! Please come and have a browse of the books. A percentage of the funds raised at Book Fair will go towards purchasing resources for our library.

There will be a colouring competition for Prep-3 Class and for 4-6 Class, as well as a guessing game ‘Guess How Many Minties in the Jar’. All free to enter and Prizes to be won!

We will also be having a dress as your **favourite book character parade** on Thursday 25th at 8.30am. Please come dressed in your costume and bring the book your character is from.
A reminder that classroom doors open at 8:00 am (thanks to the commitment and dedication of our teaching staff) with direct learning instruction commencing at 8.25am.

Any child that arrives at school later than 8:25am will need to be signed in by the parent/carer of the child via the school office, and the class roll will be marked accordingly.

We are highlighting this aspect of our roll-marking process to support class teachers balance the introduction of the same-day contact with the need to keep a focus on teaching each morning.

Similarly, early departures from school should be facilitated through the school office. If parents need to pick children up early, come to the office and staff will assist you with collecting your children and update the class roll as required. Parents will also be required to sign their children out under these circumstances.

The school will continue to be attentive concerning student attendance; to ensure children are always accounted for, and the school attendance data is accurate for every child. We appreciate your ongoing support with this matter.

Your patience with this is appreciated while we roll out our SMS messaging service for absences and school messages.

**NAPLAN**

The school recently received the individual Student Reports, based on the NAPLAN tests held in Term 2 this year. These tests only involved students in Years 3 & 5.

The individual Student Reports were sent home to those families with the children.

The Whole School NAPLAN Reports are due to be sent to schools this week. Once received, we will then review all aspects of our NAPLAN performance. The information gained by the review will then be used to determine future priorities in student learning and guide our teaching practices. Please see your child’s teacher if you have any questions.

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**New School Phone Number, Absence Line**

If your child is going to be absent for a school day, please phone the new school phone line **before** school starts for the day and leave a message on the student absence line: **5466 9222**

**The new SMS Texting system is up and running ...**

Primary Parents will receive a text message if your child is not notified as being absent, reply to this message with a reason (please note plain text is accepted only—if emoticons are used the message will be unreadable). Other school notices will be sent via text message as necessary. Please let the school know if you would like to add or remove a second parent from these text messages.

Please add these numbers to your phone contacts list ☺️
CONTACTING THE SCHOOL:
Our School Office is staffed Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 8:30am–3.30pm. At other times, phone calls will go to message bank. Please leave a message if you have an urgent request and we will check the message bank during break times.
Science Challenge
# Order of Events for Ball Games Carnival

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Grades</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.00am</td>
<td>Schools arrive and set up. Principals welcome.</td>
<td>Prep/1, Juniors, Intermediate, Seniors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.15am</td>
<td>Captain Ball</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.45am</td>
<td>Leader Ball</td>
<td>Prep/1, Juniors, Intermediate, Seniors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.15am</td>
<td>Morning Tea</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.45am</td>
<td>Under/Over</td>
<td>Prep/1, Juniors, Intermediate, Seniors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.15pm</td>
<td>Duck Ball</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.45pm</td>
<td>Tunnel Ball</td>
<td>Prep/1, Juniors, Intermediate, Seniors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.45pm</td>
<td>File Gap Pass</td>
<td>Juniors, Intermediate, Seniors, Parent/Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.15pm</td>
<td>Lunch and Clean Up</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.45pm</td>
<td>Presentations of trophies.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.00pm</td>
<td>Leave for home.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>