

9 September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

As we head to the final week of Term 3 I encourage you to read on to be aware of some movement in our community and onsite.

STUDENT SAFETY

Student Safety and surrounding traffic at the carpark and roads are becoming an issue at drop off and pick up times. A reminder that Council's Park Safe vehicle will be patrolling the area and any breaches captured will result in a fine being issued. It's a little different from the old inspections where officers provided warnings and patrolled on foot. The new vehicles have the equipment necessary to capture an offence on the top of the vehicle (looks a bit like a suitcase on top of the car) - and once captured, a penalty infringement notice is issued to the vehicle owner. Student Safety is Everyone's Business and we thank you for your attention to this requirement.

As you may know our school is participating in the **City of Gold Coast's Active School Travel program**. The program is a great opportunity for us to reduce traffic congestion around our school, improve safety, and engage with our students in a fun way. In coming weeks, baseline data will be captured around our school so that our success can be tracked over the course of the program. This means you might see staff from an external company with their surveying equipment, including cameras, around the school during this time. Please know that the data captured will be on low-resolution survey cameras that do not allow for the identification of individual pedestrians, cyclists, or vehicle number plates. All data is secure with the low-resolution video files destroyed once converted to numerical data.

Thanks to those that responded to the **Active School Travel** survey last week, we value your input as we try to support this initiative with our community. The winners of the 5 food vouchers are: K.Osborne; B. Letele; S.Wood; B. Sutton and D. Cash. Please contact our school office 56719333 to arrange collection.

In response to evolving student safety needs some **new fencing** will be installed during the upcoming September holidays. Internal gates will be mounted between the hall and the Administration block. These will be open before and after school for flow of pedestrian traffic. Gates will be locked at approx. 9.00am each morning and reopened at approx. 2.15pm each afternoon. Once closed parents and other visitors will be required to come through the Administration block to access classrooms etc.

Q PARENTS

[QParents](#) is a secure, online portal that is free for all Queensland state schools to use and provides parents with quick, easy access to their student information including:

- student and attendance details
- access your child's report cards before they are emailed home
- upcoming events
- invoices and payment history.

The benefits of using **QParents** for parents include:

- a faster, more efficient way to communicate regarding student information
- a secure, convenient and automated process for parents to pay school invoices
- significant time and effort savings for both your school and parent community
- an innovative online communication tool that's free of charge for both schools and parents to use.

A [demonstration video](#) for QParents is available on YouTube.

This online portal can be accessed on a smart phone or tablet. We will resend Q Parent invitation today to all families who are not currently registered. Any further questions please contact our Administration Team at office@picniccreekss.eq.edu.au.

2023 STRINGS PROGRAM

Students in Years 2 and 3 are invited to submit an Expression of Interest in the Strings Program if they would like to have the opportunity to learn the Violin, Viola, Cello or Double Bass in 2023. This week these students attended a demonstration by the Beginner String Ensemble who showed off the skills that they have been learning this year and Strings Teacher Mrs Morris introduced all the instruments in the Strings Program.

If your child has not brought home an EOI Form and you would like to apply, please ask your class teacher. These forms must be returned to school before the end of Week 1 next Term for your child to be considered in the 2023 Program.

SCHOOL REVIEW

The findings from our recently held **School Review** have been received. An infographic of the findings is below for your viewing. We appreciate the input received, celebrate the affirmations noted and look forward to mapping the next four year strategic plan to address the five outlined key improvement strategies. A full copy of the **executive summary will be on the website** by the end of this term.

Picnic Creek State School

School review conducted 15 to 17 August 2022

Every Queensland state school is reviewed by the Department of Education at least once every four years. School reviews provide important feedback to support schools in continuing to deliver quality education and improve learning outcomes for students.



Review highlights

- ✓ A strong team working together to live the 'PC Way'.
- ✓ Developing teachers' repertoire of practice in effective pedagogies.
- ✓ Pride in the inclusive school nature through Help, Understanding and Belonging.
- ✓ Pausing Points used for reflection and determination of next steps in learning.



Consultation



Total of 153 interviews



9 community members and stakeholders



58 school staff



48 students



38 parents and carers

Each school review generates a number of key improvement strategies to inform continuous improvement in all state schools. The next steps are...

- ➔ Implement approaches for leaders to collaborate regularly to deliver the strategic intent of the Annual Improvement Plan, using deep analysis of systemic and school-based data to determine future directions for improving outcomes for students.
- ➔ Promote a culture of self-evaluation and reflection where school leaders and teachers engage in deeper discussions of data at whole-school, cohort and classroom levels, to generate strategies for continuous improvement and monitor progress over time.
- ➔ Develop and embed an agreed, consistent and whole-school approach to supporting and monitoring student behaviour, including the use of data to respond to emerging concerns and inform future directions.
- ➔ Develop a collegial engagement framework, detailing the collaboratively agreed range of opportunities for capability development, that are enacted through a professional learning plan, with strong alignment to current priorities.
- ➔ Develop curriculum units across all learning areas aligned to the Australian Curriculum that are locally contextualised and quality assured for balance and coverage against content descriptions and achievement standards.

For more information about school reviews, go to www.schoolreviews.education.qld.gov.au



PLAYGROUND CHANGES FOR TERM 4

When we return in Term 4 students we will implement some **changes in the playground**. Our oval has become so popular that we have decided to mark out areas on it for use by particular cohorts in an attempt to minimise our seniors playing in the same space as our younger students. In addition to this we will be separating use of the basketball court to P-2, Yrs 3-6 groupings at different break times. Staff will advise students of these changes and reiterate the expectations of student behaviour in an assembly late next week.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing partnership at Picnic Creek and wish you and your family the best for the upcoming holiday period. Last day of Term 3 is Friday 16th September and first day back Term 4 is Tuesday 4th October.

Regards

Donna

Donna Gosling
Principal

T 07 5671 9333
dgosl1@eq.edu.au

25 Edwardson Dr Coomera QLD 4209
PO Box 528 Upper Coomera QLD 4209
picniccreekss.eq.edu.au

