Each year at Palmwoods State School we are committed to doing things better for the benefit of our students. One of our focuses this year is high expectations. There is considerable research confirming the importance of high expectations in improving performance.

There are many ways you will see this in action at our school. We started with an explicit focus on our Bookwork Policy which Kellie Martin described in the last newsletter. The way we are working to ensure our high expectations in this area becoming part of our student’s daily routines are through all the teachers and our leadership team reinforcing these standards in the classrooms.

We are currently focussing on our new Spelling Program that Kellie describes in her curriculum corner article. Our focus on these areas helps us develop consistency across the school and build on one of our Keys to Success - Organisation. Our Student Behaviour Profiles have also been updated to reflect the high expectations we have in this area.

If we are all consistent with our expectations we are giving our children the very best chance of success.

**Student Behaviour Profiles**

In a couple of weeks your child and his/her class teacher, in consultation with specialist teachers, will complete the first set of behaviour reflections on your child’s Student Behaviour Profile. The students in Yrs 1-6 rate their own behaviour from a scale of 1 (Rarely) up to 5 (Independently and Consistently). Prep students are rated on a three point scale – Red (Needs Improving); Yellow (Satisfactory) or Green (Very Good). Teachers also use these rating scales to assess the behaviours of each student.

These behaviours are taken from our school’s Behaviour Matrix and are grouped according to our Code of Conduct: Safety, Learning and Respect. These behaviours are very important in enabling all students to learn at school, be safe and be treated respectfully at all times and are listed on your child’s Behaviour Profile.

It is important to stress that if your child achieves a rating of 3 or a yellow (Prep) they are regularly demonstrating appropriate behaviour, which we expect of all our Palmwoods State School Students. Gold and Silver Behaviour Levels are something to strive for, not something we can realistically expect all or even most children to achieve. However by informing children of our expectations and what they need to do to improve we are empowering them to consciously make better choices.

Self-Reflection by students and Teacher Assessment of behaviour occurs 3 times each semester. For this semester (half year) assessment of behaviour occurs Term 1 Week 6, Term 2 Week 3 and Term 2 Week 9. The final assessment as given by the teacher (Term 2, Week 9) will determine whether a student has attained a Gold or Silver level for their behaviour for that semester. The purpose of this is to give children a chance to improve on any behaviour where they are not performing as well as they could. The Student Behaviour Profile states what each student needs to achieve in their behaviour to attain a Gold or Silver Level.

There are a number of significant changes to the Student behaviour Profiles this year which
will impact on a child’s ability to attain an overall Gold or Silver level. To get a gold or Silver level, students from Prep to Year 6 must achieve the highest rating (Rating 5 for Yrs 1-6, Green for Prep) in 6 core behaviours that are crucial to distinguishing between the average and the exceptional students. These core behaviours are:

Learning
- I cooperate with my teachers and classmates
- I stay on task to complete my work

Safety
- I keep my hands, feet and objects to myself
- I follow adult directions

Respect
- I am kind to others
- I use polite language

Also, for students in Yrs 1-6, students must receive a Rating 5 for the behaviour “I respect all property and look after my own” (Yr 1-2) and “I respect others’ and school property (Yrs 3-6).

We believe these behaviours are crucial in setting the standard for having high expectations of behaviour across the whole school. They are really important in enabling your child to be the most successful learner, to create a safe environment for themselves and others, and to care for other and the school, and ultimately the community they live in.

You might like to discuss the importance of these behaviours with your child to help give them the best chance for achieving the desired ratings for these.

Please look out for a copy of the first set of ratings on your child’s Student Behaviour Profile which will be sent home during Week 7 (9-13 March).

If you have any concerns with your child’s behaviour as highlighted by their progress on their Student Behaviour Profile, please arrange to see your child’s teacher to discuss these concerns. It is proposed again this year that Gold and Silver Level Students for Semester 1 will have a Movie afternoon and for Semester 2 will have a water slide due to the warm weather. We are very fortunate and make no apologies that our school does have very high expectations for student behaviour, and that our students and families respond very favourably to it. It sets our students up for success at school and in life.

Peter Wilson/Allan Petts
Principal/Deputy Principal

From Queensland Police Services - Nambour Road Policing Unit

Nambour Road Policing Unit is currently planning Operation Jump Street III. Once again this operation will consist of plain clothes Police Officers from Nambour Road Policing Unit performing covert patrols of the streets surrounding your school. These patrols will be complemented with personal covert video surveillance in an effort to aid police in evidence gathering for court purposes.

All plain clothes Police Officers will be carrying official Police identification and will present this identification to any person they may wish to speak with. If any person requests to see police identification then Police will present their identification for inspections.

During this operation, Police will again be targeting the following traffic offences:

- Illegal Parking In No Stopping Zones / Drop Off Zones, Double Parking, Parking on Footpaths, Parking in Bus Zones, Drivers Using Hand Held Mobile Phontes, Seatbelt Offences, Crossing Double and Single Continuous Dividing Lines and any other breaches of The Road Rules.

Police will be gathering evidence for court purposes through the use of personal covert video recorders. This practice will help to eliminate the need for Police to interview drivers when breaches of the road rules are detected. Most enforcement action will be taken at a later time through the course of the post. There will be zero tolerance on any breaches detected during this operation, meaning that if any breaches are detected, offenders can expect action to be taken against them. The officers of Nambour Road Policing Unit appreciate your assistance in helping us to create safer roads around your school.

Mark Johnston
Senior Constable
Nambour Police
Sounds to Letters

Writing closely links to speaking. The sounds heard in words gives children their first clues on how to write words they want to use to share their ideas. The more they write, the more patterns they notice between spelling choices. This match between sounds and letters and the searching for patterns, is the basis of our new spelling program called “Sounds to Letters”. It has been written by a Speech Therapist, is backed by research into brain theory and different learning styles and helps students to understand the complex relationship between sounds and letters in the English language.

We teach children pictures to represent the different sounds, match these with a hand action, then match all the different spelling choices that could be used to show that sound with the picture. This provides the students with a bank of spelling choices for the students to choose from, helping to link the different ways that learners remember spelling words. The yellow pictures (1 & 2) are all the consonant sounds and the white pictures (3 & 4) are the vowel sounds. You will see these cards appearing in all our classrooms at Palmwoods State School.

Students are taught how to break the words into their sound parts (segmenting) and to also break words into syllables and match letters to each of the sounds. This program starts in Prep and continues up to Year 6. Even all the adults using the program are learning plenty about spelling too! Spelling rules are embedded into the program, so students learn rules and memory jingles to help them remember spelling as well.

Quotes from our kids:
“I can see EA says /ee/ like in each, and EA says /e/ as in read (as in “I just read that book!”)” Year 2 student.
“I didn’t know I could spell poison so easily! It was so easy with the sound cards!” Year 6 student.

How can I help at home?
• Ask your child to show you the actions for different sounds
• Talk with your child about different spelling choices that can make the same sound.
Share rules that you use to help you remember spelling with your child and tricks that you use to help you spell different words.

We will have a Parent Information Session on “Sounds to Letters” next Wednesday 25 February at 3pm in the Library. Parents of students of all ages are welcome to attend.
Please RSVP to the office by Tuesday 24 February on 5453 2444.
If you have any questions, please see your child’s teacher or feel free to ask me!
Happy spelling,
Kellie Martin
Head of Curriculum

Sounds to Letters Parent Information Session
Wednesday 25 February 3pm in the Library
Palmwoods State School will be holding our annual **Cross-Country on Monday 30th of March.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yr 3</td>
<td>10.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 2</td>
<td>10.15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 1</td>
<td>10.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>10.40am</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>1.45pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>2.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>2.15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>2.30pm</td>
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</tbody>
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The focus of the Junior School races will be on participation. The Top 3 placegetters will receive place ribbons.

If you have a Year 3 student born in 2006 who wishes to race in the Championship age group rather than their Year level please inform their teacher.

All Senior School competitors will be scoring points towards their house totals and winners of competitive senior races will be receiving Age Champion medals and place ribbons.

- Any Student who is interested in training over the holidays could participate in the something like following;
  - Running at the park with the dog
  - Cycling with other family members
  - Swimming in the pool
  - Boogie boarding at the beach

All parents and relatives are invited to attend and help cheer along our students. **Morning Tea (Tea, Coffee & Cake etc.) will be available for during the Junior School races between 10am – 11am in the Hall Canteen for visitors to purchase.**

*Kris Kearney*  
*HPE Teacher*

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**District Swimming Postponed to Thursday 26th February**

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**Congratulations**  
Lochie Hewson recently competed in the Queensland Junior Oztag State Cup held in Kawana from the 30th of Jan - 1st Feb.

He competed in the Under 10 division with his Maroochydore team losing in the Semi final against Mansfield for a spot in the grand final. His team came 3rd out of more than 20 teams competing in the under 10 division from all over Queensland.

Lochie has been picked to play for Queensland in the Under 10 team to play against NSW on the 2nd and 3rd of May. We wish Lochie all the best for the clash with the Blues. Check out his action shots from the carnival.
In the next week I am hoping to start a lunchtime Origami Group.

Did you know that when children practice origami, they are activating their whole brain? Additional educational benefits include cooperative learning, hand eye co-ordination, sequencing skills, attention skills, resilience, patience and spatial skills.

If any parents have a ‘yen’ for origami please contact me (wbeut1@eq.edu.au) as I’d love to have you join us.

Sensei B

COFFEE MORNING every Tuesday morning - GEMS coffee meet on the school hall deck after you drop off your children from 8:40 am. Come down and meet other parents and enjoy a coffee or tea. Get connected and be supported.

FUN FRIDAY is on this Friday 20 February after school at 3Pm on the Prep - Year 2 oval. Lots of fun and games to be had. Sausage Sizzle is available at $2 per sausage and Icy Poles available at $1 ea. *Children must have be accompanied by an Adult.* (N.B Event will be postponed if Raining).

Jenny Schleusener
School Chaplain
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| PB    | Jarl C  
Taj W                                  | Excellent effort writing his name and listening in class.  
Great effort writing his name and cutting along a line. |
| PC    | Ava B  
Ruby B                                 | For always setting a good example to her peers.  
Doing such a great job at learning your letters. |
| PG    | Sean R  
Sydney T                               | Being a supportive friend to all of our class.  
Being a supportive leader in our classroom. |
| PH    | Milli H  
Leona R                                 | Being a learner and always having a go.  
Being respectful by doing whole body listening. |
| 1C    | Axel R  
Ciennah P                                | His great behaviour over the last week.  
Her great efforts in all learning areas. Keep up the great work. |
| 1E    | Ruby M  
Zayden F                                 | Working well in class.  
Trying hard in all areas. |
| 1R    | Isla H  
Nate F                                  | Applying herself with one hundred percent effort with every task.  
Working well on his editing checklist when writing. |
| 2D    | Billy W  
Zara S                                  | Displaying appropriate carpet manners all the time.  
Showing a respectful and caring attitude to her classmates. |
| 2J    | Keisha G  
Lenny F                                  | Excellent attitude towards her learning.  
Completing work well and good listening in class. |
| 2/3B  | Joey F.W.  
Kyuss S                                  | Being a good sport and being flexible with his learning.  
Always giving his best efforts in the 2/3B classroom. |
| 3B    | Kilani A  
Rylan B                                 | Doing an excellent job in spelling. Keep up the great work.  
Always being well organised. |
| 3M    | Lucy J  
Noah E                                   | Persisting with all tasks and striving to do her best.  
Being a co-operative team member in class. |
| 3P    | Charles L  
Miriama B                                | Making sensible and mature behaviour choices.  
Excellent work with Have-a-go words. |
| 4B    | Abigail T  
Lincoln K                                | Always following instructions and ensuring she is organised for learning.  
Always displaying a positive attitude towards learning. |
| 4S    | Jake L  
Zahlı G                                  | Seeking feedback to improve his learning outcomes.  
Always trying her best in all areas of learning. |
| 4/5I  | Chloe B  
Sam B                                   | Working well in class, by finishing her work quietly and quickly.  
Working well in class, by finishing his work quietly and quickly. |
| 5K    | Emily J  
Tegan B                                  | Her effort and determination to achieve.  
Her consistent organisational skills in every lesson. |
| 5P    | Emily S  
Keegan S                                 | Completing all homework to a consistently high standard.  
Making a special effort to improve his cursive handwriting. |
| 6N    | Ebony L  
Jedd C                                   | Having a positive attitude towards core maths skills.  
Being organised and having a positive attitude to all learning. |
| 6R    | Joshua K  
Oliver N                                 | His outstanding effort to hand in completed homework to a high standard.  
His outstanding efforts to be organised and get set work in on time and completed. |
Country Fair  23rd May 2015
Fun, Fun, Fun, Bargains, Rides, Food, Family Activities, Fun, Fun, Fun.

The afternoon of the Fair is a highlight of the school year at Palmwoods and the biggest fundraiser for the P&C. It directly benefits every student and teacher, which is why all families and staff are expected to provide some volunteer time to assist with the day.

This year, all families will be rostered to assist with their class stall for 30 minutes during the afternoon. If you will be absent on the day, please let your class teacher or Parent Rep know ASAP so we can provide you with some preparation activities to assist with instead.

Many families have already put in hours of their time to suggest new ideas and get co-ordinator positions up and running for this year’s fair. There are lots of little jobs available, so if you would like to offer some of your time and skills, please let us know by leaving a message at the office, with your class teacher, or sending an email to schoolfair@palmwoodskidsclub.com.au.

Thanks to those who have already indicated an area they can help with. A co-ordinator will contact you shortly provided you have put contact details on your class contact list. An outline of available jobs is attached to the newsletter and you can simply fill in your name and contact details, save and then attach to an email to the above address. Thanks in advance for your contribution to our fantastic school fair.

Fair Sub-Committee
(Rhonda Patterson, Maria Cunning, Sarah Grummett, Jenny Schleusner and Alison Donaldson)
Palmwoods Pool's 21st Birthday Celebration
Dive in Movie
Friday 27th Feb
How to Train your Dragon 2
entry $7pp $21 Family (2adults 2 Children) $15 Learn to Swim Families
Movie Starts 6:30 BBQ Starts 5:30
Birthday Party Saturday 21st Feb 9am -12pm
Free Morning of activates including Aqua Aerobics, Inflatable General entry Face painting and more
Sausage sizzle $2

Palmwoods Junior rugby League
Come & Try Night
Thursday the 26th of February
4 - 7pm
Loads for skills & drills. A fun for all training night
Bring all your friends. This is for past, present and future players.

Maroochydore Indoor Sports
3/11 Windsor Rod, Burnside
(the old Nambour Indoor Sports Centre)

INDOOR CRICKET (GIRLS & BOYS 6—16 YRS)
EVERY FRIDAY 3:30 - 4:30PM
STARTING FRIDAY 20TH FEBRUARY

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
INDOOR SOCCER (GIRLS & BOYS 6 –14 YRS)
THURSDAYS 5:30 - 6:30PM
STARTING 19TH FEBRUARY
Contact Rod 0408 989 440 or The Centre on 5441 3311

Helping Children Reach Their Full Potential
Just as children and young people come in all shapes and sizes and with different needs, we know that it is important to have all sorts of carers that are able to provide quality care. That’s why you may be the person we are looking for.

www.fostercare.com.au
PH 5438 3000

For more information please call: 0417074502
The information herein has been obtained from sources we deem to be reliable, however we cannot guarantee its accuracy and interested persons should rely on their own enquiries.