Principal’s Desk

Dear Parents, Guardians, Caregivers,

At Onslow PS we have been aware of anti-social behaviour in the community. Whilst we are unable to act on behaviour that occurs outside of school grounds and hours, with the current escalation and its impact on school we have been actively addressing it by putting additional strategies into place, such as:

Friendly Kids Friendly Families

For the remainder of this term Onslow Primary School will be focusing on the school expectation of Be Caring with a particular emphasis on Bullying. We will be using the Friendly Schools and Family Resources to implement classroom activities with the aim to reduce bullying. Students across the whole school will be involved in learning activities designed to build students resilience, enhance personal skills such as positive communication, develop self-management skills and develop values such as a sense of social responsibility and empathy in students. Home activities are also a part of the program and are designed to involve the family in the learning process of the student.

Protective Behaviours

We are close to finalising a Protective Behaviours program for both staff and students in partnership with Chevron and Crime Stoppers WA.

Other services and strategies we already implement are:

School Psychology services – our school psychologist visits us from Karratha 2 days a fortnight and works with students we have referred in regards to behaviour, attendance, social skills.

Individualised behaviour plans – the school psychologist is able to support the school in putting together specific behaviour plans to assist in addressing an individual’s behaviour.

Suspension re-entry meetings – these meetings occur with the school, student and parent of the student who has been suspended due to a serious breach of school rules. The student is not permitted re-entry to the school or classroom without this meeting taking place.

Positive Behaviour Support – our school expectations are Be Your Best, Be Respectful, Be Safe and Be Caring. This semester the school is focussing on Be Safe and Be Caring. This semester the school is focussing on Be Safe and Be Caring. Students unpack what these expectations are and what behaviours the school wants to see in class, they are then given opportunities to practise these behaviours and are recognised for exhibiting these specific expectations in class and at assemblies.

Onslow Police Force – we have increased our communication with the local police and in addition they will now be visiting the school weekly to address the students at school in relation to the positive and not so positive things they are dealing with out in the community.

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Attendance

The Department of Education aims to improve attendance of students in public schools by providing direct support to those students in greatest need. The Department’s approach is based on the mutual obligation of schools, parents and communities to develop strategies that link directly to the local causes of student absence.

Attendance is a major focus of Onslow PS as we currently sit under the state average. Students need to attend school on a regular basis to gain the maximum benefit from schooling and optimise their life opportunities. Research has established that every day counts and that there is no safe level of absence from school.

The strategies Onslow PS continues to implement are:

- **Weekly contact sheets** – teachers are given a list of student for whom they are required to contact home to discuss the students attendance or lack of.
- **Attendance Games for all students every Friday** – students who have attended school for the entire week, including where a reasonable explanation has been provided for an absence that week, are included in a lunchtime activity where they can be recognised for their great attendance and win a prize.
- **Class attendance displays** – all classes have a visual display of the students’ attendance and the students take great pride in being able to see their attendance and track its progress.
- **School Ball** – students who reach the overall attendance target of 85% or meet their individualised attendance target are invited to attend the school ball for no cost which is held in term 4.
- **Attendance Camp** – in years 4-6 students who reach the overall attendance target of 85% or meet their individualised attendance target are invited to attend the Attendance camp for a minimal cost which is held in term 4.
- **Assembly certificates** – Assembly certificates provide the school with an opportunity to recognise students who attend school up to 100% of the time, therefore providing the rest of the student body with Attendance role models.
- **Sports Carnivals** – whilst we encourage all students to participate in the sports carnival only those students who have met the whole school target of 85% or their individualised attendance target are able to accumulate points for their faction or championship points.
Remote Schools Attendance Strategy (RSAS)

The Remote Schools Attendance Strategy is a Federal government initiative which is aimed at increasing the attendance of Indigenous students by involving local Indigenous community members.

Onslow PS was selected to be included in the strategy due to being below the state average. We work with the RSAS team to provide the following support for all students of Onslow PS:

Daily bus run - to assist in getting the students to and from school. Should you require support in getting your child to and from school please let us know.

Follow up with families of non-attending students to find out why students are not attending school.

Lunches – for students who are unable to purchase lunches from the canteen.

Should you have any concerns in regards to your child’s behaviour or attendance I encourage you to communicate these, and any other relevant concerns, to your classroom teacher or myself.

Positive Behaviour

Congratulations to our Positive Behaviour winners from this weeks assembly.

Ziona Parker
Keenan Rashard
Syrell Hayes
Jasmin Lockie

Jackie Barry
Principal
Onslow PS
Getting involved with your child’s school

There are two ways Parents and the Community can be involved with the school.

1. School Council

The School Council will be holding its AGM on the 25th March.

The functions of Councils are prescribed by the School Education Act 1999 and the School Education Regulations 2000 as follows:

- establishing and reviewing from time to time, the school’s objectives, priorities and general policy directions;
- planning financial arrangements necessary to fund those objectives, priorities and directions;
- evaluating the school’s performance in achieving those objectives, priorities and directions; and
- formulating codes of conduct for students at the school.

Take part in:
- take part in the selection of, but not the appointment of, the school principal or any other member of the teaching staff if prior approval is given by the Regional Executive Director.

Approve of:
- a charge or contribution determined by the principal for the provision of materials, services and facilities;
- the costs determined by the principal to be paid for participation in an extra cost optional component of the school’s educational program;
- the items determined by the principal to be supplied by a student for the student’s personal use in the school’s educational program; and
- An agreement or arrangement for advertising or sponsorship in relation to a government school.

The elected members include parents, staff, and students in secondary settings. Members of the community may be invited to join. The Principal of the school is a member. Councils and Boards make an important contribution towards supporting public education.
A BIG welcome to the students in EC1! What a great start we have had to the year. We have seen some great actors in class performing: Where the Wild Things are during this week’s Assembly.

Students have been learning to Recycle during T&E (A big thankyou to parents for sending students to school with recycled materials from home). Students have been very busy during Maths learning to count, add and write numbers to 100 for Year 1 and 1000 for the Year 2s. We also have some MAD Scientists in this class experimenting with materials - making them change by melting and freezing. Our Mad Scientists are also learning the difference between solid, liquid and gas.

Maths: Number - Skip Counting and Learning to add 10

2. Parent and Citizens Association

The Parent and Citizens Association will be holding its AGM on the 25th March.

The Parents and Citizens’ Association (P&C) of a school is an Associated incorporation under The Associations Incorporation Act 1987.

- Its purpose is to promote the interests of the school through co-operation between parents, teachers, students and members of the general community; to assist in the provision of resources, facilities and amenities for the school; and to foster community interest in educational matters.
- The P&C provides parents with opportunities to meet together to determine the needs and aspirations of the school community; share information and views; learn about, help shape school policies and programs; and help raise funds to provide extra resources.
- As an incorporated association, the P&C can obtain funds for the benefit of the school, employ staff other than Department of Education employees, and manage or operate facilities at the school (such as the canteen, swimming pool, residential accommodation for students, or a school farm or horticultural centre).
- The P&C operates within the requirements legislated in the School Education Act 1999, the School Education Regulations 2000, the Associations Incorporation Act 1987, and its P&C Constitution.
- Incorporated associations are a legal entity in their own right, separate from individual members and from the school. As such, they have different and specific reporting requirements, and are bound by the Associations Incorporation Act 1987.

Both AGMS will be held in conjunction and will be held in the School Library on the 25th March at 5 pm. Please come along.
UNIFORM SHOP
All uniform needs for 2015 will now be available through the P&C Association.
Order forms are available from the canteen.
Please contact the P&C at onslowpc@outlook.com or P&C Treasurer Mechelle Macdonald on 0408 229 508 for any further information.

Expression of Interest sought:
Education Assistant
0.5 FTE fixed term contract
9am to 12:30pm Monday to Friday
To support the Year 5/6 classroom teacher during key literacy and numeracy periods.
Contact Marylou Wallace for further information on 9184 6062

BRING YOUR BIKE TO SCHOOL TOMORROW
The Onslow Police will be at Onslow Primary School to ENGRAVE IT and take photos!
FRIDAY 6th of March 2015 at 8.15am

Certificate Winners

Attendance Winners
Kindergarten: Daniel MacDonald Pre Primary: Cody Savill
Early Childhood 1: Kobi Ward Early Childhood 2: Lucas Menta
Upper Primary 1: Crawford Elliott Upper Primary 2: Harlan Brown
Secondary: Leia Stratford