**Principal’s Message:**

**Reciprocal Reading.**
The reciprocal reading program has started in earnest. Discussions with students has highlighted to them that the skills required for the program will take time and are a long term program for success.

The purpose of reciprocal reading is to develop the skills we already use when reading a book, making them more overt. Students already do many of the jobs identified through the reciprocal reading program, but aren’t fully aware of them. Working with the students has been a “light bulb” moment for many of them as they have realised that they have been doing many of the pre-reading skills but were not aware of it. They also are learning how to better develop these skills and doing so with their peers in a group setting.

Reciprocal Reading is as the words suggest, giving back to the group, reciprocating. The focus is on all aspects of reading as a skill, of decoding and comprehending as well as the sharing of ideas. This aspect is the most important part of the program, we learn by doing and by watching and listening to others. Each group is not left to their own devices but will need to have a facilitator to support the learning. This is where parent support will help greatly. The knowledge that the facilitator brings is invaluable to the process.

The ideas, the attention to what is important and the ability to focus on the successes of the groups is key to motivating the students and building their understanding of the reading process. Reciprocal reading is but one of many aspects of a reading program. The need to develop decoding skills (translating the symbols on a page into ideas), the comprehension (understanding) and the awareness of how a text type will dictate the way it is used are all taught through guided reading, QAR (Question Answer Relationship) and other programs. The most important part is the sharing of ideas and learning from each other.

**Kitchen Garden**
We have started on the garden and kitchen part of kitchen garden. To help out we are asking if people within the community are able to help out with a donation of equipment. The school has and will continue to purchase equipment as needed, but if we are able to have some kitchen equipment donated, or gardening tools this will all help out. If you think you may have cutlery, food preparation equipment such as bowls/utensils that you may no longer need we would appreciate the offer. The program is costly to setup, but the input of the community would be greatly appreciated. If you have any interest in the program, or are not sure about the items for donation please call the school, we are happy to talk.

**Softball Carnival**
The softball carnival has been cancelled for this year. The rain has beaten us twice and there are too many competing events to be able to reschedule for this year.

**NAPLAN Dates**
The 12th, 13th, and 14th of May are the three days this year for NAPLAN.

Michael Sutton.
COMMUNITY EVENTS:

TENNIS LESSONS
Tennis Lessons in 2015
At the Bowenville SS
Lessons for all ages & standards
Friday mornings before school
Contact Club Professional
Ben Campbell
M: 0414 645 916
(enrolment form attached)
e: faultless@samford.net

Playgroups

Next playgroup Wednesday 13th May. Please bring a piece of fruit to share and a hat. Gold coin donation. All enquiries to Kim Welke—kwelk4@eq.edu.au

eKindy:

P & C News!

Thanks to Karen for taking on the role of Tuck Shop Convenor. Please support her in serving our students and staff.
Next meeting is Tuesday 19th May 7.00pm.
John Hensel 0429 92 42 92 jdhensel@bigpond.com
P & C President

Regular tuckshop kicks off again tomorrow (Thursday) using the brown paper bag system and menu attached. The menu has been pruned back a little and fruit break will no longer be offered before school so as to reduce spoilage and the length of time tuckshop volunteers need to be at the school. We hope that parents and children will understand! Keep an eye out for weekly specials!

Term 2 tuckshop helpers are now needed! Only one volunteer is required each time, and you can arrive as late as 9.30am because school staff will kindly ensure that tuckshop orders are collected before school. As a reward for your assistance, you can receive a lunch meal + a drink for yourself and for one child at no charge on any day you do tuckshop duty! And if Thursdays don’t suit, we can arrange another day, providing that sufficient notice is given to families. In future we will be asking for home-baking by way of biscuits, slice, cakes or muffins, but for now we have stocks of morning tea items on hand.

Please contact Karen Smith on 0407 765646 to advise what days you are happy to be rostered on tuckshop this term!

Lunchtime special: Hot Dog (with or without cheese) + fruit juice. Cost: $4.00.
The Bowenville Rural Fire Brigade will be having TRAINING NIGHTS on FIRST WEDNESDAY of EACH MONTH commencing at 6pm going for about an hour, just to REFRESH members and fire fighters with various procedures and equipment. NEXT Training Night is on 6th MAY at the Fire Shed at 6pm, and will be LOOKING at EMERGANCY USE of WATER from the SCHOOL. Come in your work clothes as you may get dirty.

Any interested Community persons and Bowenville Residents are most welcome to come along and see what happens and how things work, it’s YOUR FIRE BRIGADE. If you wish Contact Mat Finch 1st Officer and Training Officer on 0418 194696.

We would like to give a very big thank you to Mrs Wise for all her help with the start of our Kitchen Garden program. Today we made apple pies.
Head Lice

Description:
Head lice (Pediculus capitis) are small, wingless, egg laying insects found on the human head. They grow to about 3.5mm (the size of a sesame seed or pin head). Head lice live on the hair and feed by sucking blood from the scalp. They are pale grey in colour before feeding and reddish brown after feeding.

Live eggs (sometimes called nits) are glued to the hair shaft within a distance of 1.5 cm from the scalp. They hatch in 7-10 days as young lice (nymphs). It takes up to ten days for the nymphs to become mature lice and begin laying eggs. Adults are larger than nymphs and a mature female lays up to eight eggs per day.

Symptoms:
Detection of adult lice or nymphs on the scalp is the best way to determine if head lice are present. While most people with head lice will not develop an itch, a small number of people develop an itch due to an allergic reaction to the saliva of the louse. Scratching can give rise to secondary bacterial infections on the scalp. Swelling of lymph nodes (adenopathy) in the neck can occur in some people due to this infection.

The presence of eggs is not a reliable sign of active head lice. Eggs need the warmth and moisture of the scalp to hatch. Eggs that are further than 1.5cm from the scalp are dead or hatched and do not need to be treated. Dead and hatched eggs can remain in the hair for several weeks.

Transmission:
Head lice do not jump or fly. They are spread mainly by direct head to head contact. They have strong claws and move by swinging from hair to hair. This can happen when people play, cuddle or work closely together.

A few head lice have been found on combs, hairbrushes and pillowcases. However, transmission from these objects can only occur when the item is used within the 24 hour period following use by an infested person. This is because head lice can survive only up to a day away from the human host. Head lice must feed on human blood every six hours to replenish their water supply or they will die from dehydration. The longer they are away from a human host, the weaker they become and the less likely they are to infest the next person.

Head lice do not live or breed on animals, bedding, furniture, carpets, clothes or soft toys. Their life cycle must be completed on the human head.

Head lice are a very common problem in schools and institutions everywhere in the world. While they are not a threat to health and do not transmit disease, they do cause a lot of distress and anxiety for families and schools. Anyone can get head lice. They affect all socioeconomic groups and are not a sign of poor hygiene. They have no preference for ethnic background, hair colour, hair type or age.

Detection of head lice
All parents should check their children and other family members for head lice regularly as early detection decreases treatment time and helps break the breeding cycle.

The most effective way to detect head lice is by using the hair conditioner and combing method. You will need white coloured hair conditioner, an ordinary comb, a fine tooth head lice comb and white tissue/kitchen towel.

- Apply sufficient white conditioner to dry hair to completely cover the scalp and hair from roots to tips.
- Use an ordinary comb to detangle hair and evenly distribute the conditioner. Divide the hair into four sections.
- Comb hair from root to tips using a fine tooth head lice comb.
- After each stroke, wipe the comb onto a white tissue, checking the comb and tissue for head lice.
- Comb the whole head, checking for lice.
- Put all tissues in a plastic bag, tie the top and put the bag in a rubbish bin.
Head Lice

All members of the family/household should be checked once per week using this method as long as infestation remains within the household.

Treatment:

Treatment should only be applied when live lice are found on the head. To break the cycle, all infested people should be treated at the same time.

There are two methods of treatment:

1. Non-insecticidal treatment using the conditioner and combing technique

   This is the same as detection using conditioner and combing (see above) except continue combing with the head lice comb until all the conditioner is gone. The conditioner blocks the louse’s breathing pores and stuns the louse. This, together with the slippery effect of the conditioner, makes it easy to mechanically remove the lice.

   Repeat the conditioner and combing method every second day to remove the young nymphs as they hatch. Continue until no live lice are found for ten consecutive days.

   This treatment method is equally as effective as insecticidal or other chemical treatments but generally requires longer treatment times. However, it may be preferred as a cheaper alternative to insecticidal or other chemical treatments.

2. Treatment with synthetic or natural insecticides or other chemicals

   There are four groups of treatment agents available in different forms (ie. shampoo, mousse, and lotion) which can be obtained from chemists without prescription. All preparations must be applied strictly according to the manufacturer’s instructions. None of them should be used on children under two years of age, except on medical advice.

   No chemical treatment kills all the eggs. A second treatment should be applied 7-10 days after the initial treatment to kill the nymphs that have hatched from the eggs remaining from the first treatment. Do not apply the treatment more than once per week as more frequent applications could lead to scalp problems and have little or no effect.

   If lice are still found after three weeks of chemical applications, switch to the non-insecticidal method until no lice are found. Eggs are the most difficult stage to kill. The most effective way to remove eggs is to actually pull them off the hair using your fingernails.

Chemical Head Lice Products

The following types of active ingredients were approved in Australia by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (2003) for use against head lice:

- Pyrethrins, eg. Amcal Head Lice Foam, Lyban Foam
- Synthetic Pyrethroids (bioallethrin, permethrin), eg. Paralice, Quellada Head Lice Treatment
- Organophosphates, eg. Exolice Medicated Foam, Lice Rid
- Combinations of Herbal and Essential Oils, eg. Quit Nits Natural Head Lice Treatment, Herba Lice.

Treatment Outcomes

Checking whether the treatment product is effective

It is essential to check the effectiveness of every treatment after a product has been on the hair for the recommended amount of time and before washing it out:
Head Lice

- Comb the hair with a fine tooth head lice comb, wiping the comb onto a white tissue after each sweep.
- Repeat until whole head is combed and little treatment formulation is visible on the hair.
- After five minutes examine the tissues and assess the lice as dead (no movement), inactive (louse is stationary but moving legs or antennae) or active (louse moving).
- If the product is effective, all lice should be dead.

What to do if the product of choice does not work

If the product is not effective, i.e. head lice are not dead at the end of exposure time, you can switch to the non-chemical method while waiting 7-10 days before re-treating with a different active ingredient. Continue checking the effectiveness of treatment products until an effective product is found, or use the non-chemical method.

Why treatment agents may not work

True treatment failure has occurred when live head lice are detected immediately after the end of exposure time to a treatment agent. Failures can sometimes occur even when solutions are used according to the manufacturer's instructions. This may be the result of using an ineffective treatment formulation or the lice having become resistant to a particular treatment agent. It is then preferable to change to a different formulation or another treatment agent with a different active ingredient, or use the conditioner and combing method.

The reappearance of head lice in a short time after a successful treatment (i.e. all lice were dead after the exposure time) does not indicate treatment failure. It could be due to head lice hatching from eggs which survived the initial treatment or re-infection from another source. Ensure that you maintain a weekly detection routine and apply follow-up treatments as specified in the treatment section.

Prevention:

While there is no need to vacuum, wash or treat with insecticide any furniture, clothing, bedding (except pillowcases), toys, carpets or hats, the following actions can be taken to help prevent infestation/re-infestation:

- Avoid head to head contact with other persons.
- Keep long hair tied back or in plaits, especially at school.
- Do not share brushes, combs, or pillows.
- Wash combs and hair brushes after each use (60°C for 30 seconds).
- Pillow cases of persons known to be infested should be washed daily on hot cycle or put in the clothes dryer for 15 minutes.
- Treat all household members whose head lice have been detected.
- Keep hair short, particularly during an outbreak. It is easier to detect and treat head lice in short hair.
- Notify your school so that others can be alerted to the problem and can check for head lice and arrange treatment if necessary.

Help and Assistance

For more information and assistance in managing head lice, families can contact their local public health nurses, child health clinics, pharmacists and family doctors.