A number of our students were selected to participate at the West Zone Swimming Carnival which was held on Tuesday 11th February.

We hope to report on their success in next weeks newsletter.

Pictured are the zone swimmers eating breakfast after training.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

School wide approach to the teaching of Spelling

This year at Oakey State School we are implementing Words Their Way as our school wide approach to the consistent teaching of Spelling.

Words Their Way (WTW) is a developmental spelling, phonics, and vocabulary program. WTW is an approach to spelling and word knowledge that is based on extensive research literature and includes stages of development and instructional levels that are critical to the way students learn to read. A word study program allows teachers to provide efficient, effective instruction in phonics, spelling, and vocabulary which caters to each student’s individual stage of development.

Why “WORD STUDY” instead of a “TRADITIONAL” spelling program?

Research clearly indicates that memorization of lists of “spelling words” does not promote the development of spelling skills. In the past the traditional approach of “everyone gets the same weekly list and test on Friday”, many students who passed the spelling test were not able to transfer the knowledge to their writing! Memorizing a list of words and getting 100% on weekly tests does not necessarily mean your child is a good speller. It may just mean they are good at memorizing words for a test.

In word study, teachers encourage students to compare and contrast features in words. One common method for doing so is by having students sort words. When sorting, students use their word knowledge to separate examples that go together from those that don’t. This allows students to make generalizations about words and transfer this knowledge to new words.

WTW language which you may come across as you are doing homework with your child:

Sorting – organizing words into groups based on similarities in their patterns or meaning.

Oddballs – words that cannot be grouped into any of the identified categories of a sort. Students should be taught that there are always words that “break the rules” and do not follow the general pattern.

Sound marks / – Sound marks around a letter or pattern tell the student to focus only on the sound rather than the actual letters. (example: the word gem could be grouped into the /j/ category because it sounds like [j] at the beginning.)

Vowel (represented by V) – one of 6 letters causing the mouth to open when vocalized (a, e, i, o, u, and usually y). A single vowel sound is heard in every syllable of a word.

Consonants (represented by C) – all letters other than the vowels. Consonant sounds are blocked by the lips, tongue, or teeth during articulation.

If you have any questions in relation to the school wide spelling program please contact the school.

Have a great week,
Scott Pacey, Principal

Term 1 2014 — 12th February 2014

School Payments

When making payments please have the correct amount of money, the school does not have the facility to have a lot of change on hand.

Correct money in a sealed envelope with the students name, year level and the reason for the transaction is $10.

Not to disadvantage your child’s participation, please assist by marking sure all fees are paid by the due date.

Bingo

Join in for BINGO at the RSL Club, Campbell Street, Oakey, Thursday nights from 7:00 — 9:00 pm. Funds raised self-raise various local community services.

Meals on Wheels

Oakey & District Meals on Wheels need volunteers to deliver meals to our clients in Oakey. We Deliver Monday, Wednesday & Friday between 11:00am & 1:00pm. The meals are cooked and distributed from the Oakey Hospital kitchen. Please contact Nancy Chalmers on 4691 1309 if you can help.

Come and Join

Oakey Girl Guides

Creek Street, Oakey

Brownies: Ages: 5–10 years, Thursdays 5-7 pm
Guides: Ages: 11–18 years, Thursdays 5-7 pm
Contacts: Nancy Chalmers—4691 1309
Sandra James—4691 1025 (w)
Craft, Games, Cooking, Camping & lots more fun

Oakey Indoor Sports Centre

New season of Mixed Netball
Play is on Monday & Wednesday Nights
It’s all very social, everyone is there for a good time.

Road to Recovery

Ages: 11 years, Saturdays 2 – 7 pm – 12 midnight.

Ages: 5 – 10 years, Monday 7 – 9 pm

Road to Recovery

Ages: 11 – 12 years, Tuesday 6 – 8 pm

Road to Recovery

Ages: 13 – 15 years, Wednesday 6 – 8 pm

Road to Recovery

Ages: 16 above, Monday 6 – 8 pm

Road to Recovery

Ages: 17 – 18 years, Thursday 6 – 8 pm

Road to Recovery

Ages: 19 – 25 years, Friday 6 – 8 pm

Road to Recovery

Ages: 26 above, Saturday 6 – 9 pm

Road to Recovery

Adults $10

8th March; 8:00pm

We hope to report on their success in next weeks newsletter.

Pictured are the zone swimmers eating breakfast after training.

Friends of the Woolshed

Old Time Dance

At Jondaryan Woolshed in Flagstone Creek Hall

Date: 8th March; 8:00pm—12 midnight
Band: Oakey Country Band

Cost: Adults $10
Children (5-15) $5
under 5 FREE
Includes supper; lucky door; Monte Carlo; lucky spot;

Oakey Grief Support Group:

Road to Recovery

helping one another heal.

Meetings held first Wednesday of the month at 2:00pm
At the Oakey CWA Rooms
For more info: Phone 4691 4825 OR 0427 635 167
Supported by Myall Youth & Community Network Centre, Inc.

Calendar of Events

Tuesday
Swimming Year 4–7 & T2
Every Tuesday till 25 March

Monday
3 March
P&C AGM — 6:00pm
all welcome

To assist new families enrolling into our school we are looking for donations of uniforms for our spare clothing pool.

Our Weekly Chat
Awards Album

Students of the Week—2013

Congratulations to the following students for the great job they have done at school during last week. Bravo and keep up the good work!

Prep—Year 3: Prep A—Whole class, Prep B—Whole class, 1A—Lockie, 1B—Charlotte, 2A—Jack & Montanna, 2B—Eva, 3A—Bethany & Sam, 3B—Kayden, T1—Morgan,

Year 4—Year 7: 4A—Halle & Mikeelle, 4B—Amy & Caitlyn, 4/5A—Breanna, 5B—Caleb, 6B—Keyarnah, 6/7A—Darcy, 7A—Bruce, T2—Shakira, Trent & Carson

SCHOOL ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

In the interest of supervision and safety, children are not to arrive at school before 8:30 am and should be collected/have left the school grounds no later than 3:15pm each day. No supervision for students is offered before or after school. Our staff are extremely busy in the mornings and afternoons with curriculum preparation, meetings and administrative tasks, and therefore are not available to supervise early arrivals or late departures. Thank you for your support and understanding; it is greatly appreciated.

SCHOOL GROUNDS ACCESS

Please note that the school grounds, including YUMBA are out of bounds to the everyone, unless prior arrangements have been made by the principal. Playground equipment is not to be played on before or after school. Please do not make use of the school grounds to take a short cut.

SUN SAFETY is IMPORTANT NO Hat—NO Play!

NO Caps allowed—Broad brimmed or Bucket hats only. Please label ALL your Child’s possessions.

Chappy’s Chatter

Welcome to Chappy’s Chatters: Readers, I really enjoy watching ‘The Block’ on TV as it gives me new ideas on things I could build or do at home. But the thing that has been really standing out in this season of The Block is the difference in the attitudes of the contestants. A conversation was had between Scotty Cam and 2 contestants about them being a ‘half empty’ or ‘half full’ type of people. They were referring to their positive or negative perspective. At school I see a lot of this in the playground and in the classroom. You have the children that are the ‘half full’ students that believe they can do something and will try their hardest to achieve it. Then we have the ‘half empty’ students that as soon as you suggest something to them they say they can’t do it without even trying. But you know the flip side to this, it amazes me when someone comes alongside a student and encourages them and supports them and believes in them, that student will then go on and succeed.

As parents I believe we need to really encourage and support our children to have a go even when something seems really hard. Yeah they may fail, but the lesson they learn is priceless and if they succeed well that student will be grinning from ear to ear. What is our perspective in life? Do we see the glass ‘half full’ or ‘half empty’? Our perspective will influence and impact our children either positively or negatively. Let’s have a think about it, keep smiling and have a great week.

Chappy—Justin Trigg

WATER BOTTLES

As we are now in the warmer months of the year, it is recommended that students drink plenty of water. Students are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

To reduce the cost associated with the production of the school’s weekly newsletter, we have stopped sending home a printed copy to the youngest student at the school. To keep up to date with what’s happening at the school, the newsletter can be accessed via the following options:

- View online via the school’s website: www.oakeyss.eq.edu.au
- Parents/students collect a printed copy from the school office or tuckshop.
- Email: receive an electronic copy via a weekly email—to activate your interest to receive the newsletter via email please send an email to admin@oakeyss.eq.edu.au.

In most cases the Newsletter should be available each Wednesday.