February 6 2015

Welcome to the hidden gem - Maroochydore State School

Our new school year has started with 9 classes from Prep to Year 6 with our total student population being 224 students. We’ve welcomed a number of new students and families to not only our school but to our local community.

Our teaching and learning focus this year centres around improving all students Literacy (Reading, Writing and Spelling) and Numeracy skills.

Did you know your child’s best learning time is the beginning of the school day? That’s when every minute counts the most!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If your child misses . .</th>
<th>That equals . .</th>
<th>Which is . .</th>
<th>Over 13 years of schooling that’s . .</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 minutes per day</td>
<td>50 minutes per week</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly <strong>Half a year</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 minutes per day</td>
<td>1 hour 40 mins per week</td>
<td>Over 2.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly <strong>1 year</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half an hour per day</td>
<td>Half a day per week</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly <strong>1.5 years</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour per day</td>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td><strong>Over 2.5 years</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To maximize the prime teaching and learning time of a morning we have moved our weekly Parade to Monday afternoon at 2:05pm. Across Term 1 whilst the Prep students are settling into the school routine Mrs Pool or I shall visit the Prep Rooms and present awards and speak to the students around their school day. All parents are welcome to attend our Parades.

**If your child is absent** – please call the Office on 5475 1555. Please let us know your child’s name, class and a reason for their absence. On the school website there is also a form that can be completed.

**In Week 4** each class teacher shall send home a brief snapshot on how your child has settled into their learning and the school routines. All parents are encouraged to keep in regular contact with your child’s teacher – this does produce positive results as both parents and the teacher are working together to help the child’s learning improve.
Our 4 School Rules are:

- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible
- Be Safe
- Be a Learner

This week we have sent home the Voluntary Contribution Scheme to all parents. This $50 per student contribution enables the school to provide further resources for your child to use and access at school. Again this year we will use these funds to support our IT programme and to enhance the reading books in every classroom. Thank you for your prompt payment to our School Office.

All student mobile phones are to be taken to the School Office for safe keeping during the school day. Students collect them at the end of the school teaching and learning day at 2:30pm.

Helping Hands – has an exciting new Extended Learning Activity for after school starting on Tuesday 24th February - please see the School’s Website for further details.

Next Wednesday is the P&C’s first meeting of the year. All parents are welcome to come along from 7pm and join in supporting your child’s school.

The BBC Cinemas at Maroochydore are celebrating the 2015 PIXAR Film Festival with a colouring competition – please see the School’s website for further details and the entry form.

The Sunshine Coast is commemorating the ANZACs who fought in WW1 at this year’s Sunshine Coast Agricultural Show and the show needs 200 female and 200 male voices for a choir. See the school’s website for further details.