FROM THE PRINCIPAL:
Welcome to week ten of term four. It seems hard to believe that this is the last week of school for 2015. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all students, staff, our P & C, parents and carers, and all of the wonderful people in our Nebo State School community for all of their efforts and contributions, in making our school so great. Thank you for making 2015 such a sensational year!

Report Cards
Report Cards will be sent home this Wednesday 9th of December. Just a reminder of how to understand the rating given for your child’s Report Card. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or your child’s class teacher. Report Card results are based on the new content descriptors and year level Achievement Standards from the Australian Curriculum, and as such may not be reliably comparable to earlier years’ results. For further information on the Australian Curriculum standards visit the online curriculum at: http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/

Over recent years, parents, students and teachers across Queensland have become more familiar with a 5-point scale (e.g. A-E) process for reporting in all schools. The new system schools are using refers to attainment standards called “benchmarks of achievement” or “criteria.” So what makes an “A”, “B”, “C” etc. is predetermined by a scale of achievement and by making an overall on balance judgement of what a student can do independently at their year level. Any student, who shows evidence of meeting a particular level, deserves that benchmark grade. This is what you could consider the new difference for a **C** really means: A ‘C’ means this is where the students should be at in accordance with their year level Achievement Standards. This also means it can be harder to obtain an ‘A’ or a ‘B’ rating. Receiving an ‘A’ or a ‘B’ does not just go to the top students in each class. Any student who obtains an ‘A’ or a ‘B’ is deemed to be working beyond their year level descriptors in a variety of contexts independently. What is really important is to look at, is the effort your child has put in. Not everyone may be outstanding in all areas of academia, but what is important is that children try their best; hence the effort put in is always important.

Several weeks ago all teachers’ met to engage in professional development and discussion and share samples of work across the school to assist to determine judgement’s about what an A-E might look like in accordance with these standards.

2015 Focus Areas:
• Improving Reading Strategies and Comprehension
• Improving Writing procedures and increasing Vocabulary and Spelling application
• Improving Problem Solving procedures in Numeracy
• Creating high expectations for Behaviour
• Explicit Instruction of Pedagogy & creating a culture of coaching & feedback

Upcoming Events & Date Claimers:
DECEMBER
• 9th – Awards Day
• 9th – Report Cards sent home
• 11th – Last Day of School – CLEAN UP DAY

JANUARY
• 25th – Pupil Free Day
• 26th – Australia Day Public Holiday
• 27th – 1st day of school for 2016

FEBRUARY
• 7th – P & C Meeting
• 11th – AFL commences
• 14th – 19th – Yr. 5/6 School Camp – Tallebudgera - Gold Coast
• 18th – Drumming Workshop Incursion
If you have any questions or concerns regarding this Semester’s reporting process, please feel free to make contact with either myself or your child’s class teacher.

2016 Staffing and Enrolments
The number of teachers allocated to a school is based on student enrolments. Day eight across the state is the crucial day for inputting numbers. It is a departmental requirement that all Principals’ in every school in Queensland enter how many student enrolments they have in their school on that day. Dependent on these enrolments, is whether or not there is any class restructuring, and whether a new teacher is appointed at our school, or a current teacher is appointed somewhere else.

At this stage, although we have our year six students departing to enter in to high school, our student enrolments are growing. To the contrary, Nebo can be very transient. If you know of anyone who may be considering enrolling in our school, if you could please get them to make contact as soon as possible. If you have a child or know of a child entering our Prep year, it would be great to have all Prep enrolment forms in as soon as possible. Eligibility for An application for early entry to Prep can be applied for via the Principal!

Who is eligible for early entry to the Prep Year?

Section 15 of the Education General Provisions Regulation 2006 allows early entry to the Prep Year for a child who:

EITHER
  • will be at least 5 years and 5 months on 31 December in the proposed year of attendance at school (i.e. a child who turns 5 on or before 31 July); AND
  • is considered ‘ready for education in the year of schooling considering the child’s attributes’;

OR
  • had started education in another State or country that is equivalent to the Prep Year; AND
  • is considered ‘ready for education in the year of schooling considering the child’s attributes’.

Attached with this week’s Newsletter is an information sheet for parents and carers regarding early entry to Prep. If you have a child in this situation, please contact the Office as soon as possible to obtain an application form. Also, if your family may be looking at moving over the holidays, if you could also please let us know of your intentions as soon as possible so we can prepare our future class enrolments the very best we can.

Our current class structures and staffing list, subject to change is as follows:

Principal: Jennifer Fenwick
Administration Officer: Sue Rapmund 0.5 (Mon, Tues, Wed 1/2 day)
Cleaner: Nga Brumm
Grounds Officer: Kerry Cook

Teachers/Teacher-Aides and Classes for 2015:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class/Specialist Area</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Teacher-Aide/s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep/1</td>
<td>Cherie Jones</td>
<td>Jodie Clarence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3</td>
<td>Kimberley Robinson</td>
<td>Kassy Hyde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5/6</td>
<td>Laura Amiet (3 Days) and Jennifer Fenwick (2 Days)</td>
<td>Lorraine Connolly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Teacher</td>
<td>Laura Amiet</td>
<td>Class Teacher-Aide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HPE Teacher</td>
<td>Laura Amiet</td>
<td>Class Teacher-Aide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOTE Teacher (Japanese)</td>
<td>Rumi Umegaki – year 5 &amp; 6 only</td>
<td>Class Teacher-Aide as required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning support</td>
<td>Head of Special Education Services – Suzannah Nicholas – Moranbah based; Speech and Language Pathologist: Haley Moran – Beaconsfield based; Guidance Officer – Alexia Wotherspoon – Mackay based; Learning Support Coordinator Jennifer Fenwick. Learning Support Teacher- Aide - Chloe Pearce (position and hours to be confirmed dependent on enrolment numbers); Pre-Prep Teacher – Amanda Van Tienhoven (position dependent on enrolment numbers, commencement date and hours to be confirmed in 2016)</td>
<td>To be Confirmed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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As mentioned in last week’s Newsletter, Miss Sarah Lovett is moving to a different part of the state, and we have a new teacher Miss Kimberley Robinson who will commence at our school in Sarah’s position for 2016. Mrs Wade continues on maternity leave until August 2016.

**2016 Booklists**

Booklists have been sent home. If you have misplaced yours, please feel free to pop into the Office and grab another one. There is no pressure to purchase from a particular supplier, you can purchase from anywhere, however in the event the school booklist is misplaced over the holidays, suppliers who have a copy of our school booklist are: CrossOffice Choice – Sydney St, Mackay; NewsExpress – Victoria St, Mackay; Officeworks; Caneland News; Carrolls – Victoria St, Mackay.

**2016 Dress Code**

Maintaining high standards is always a priority for student behaviour. Here is a reminder of our School Dress Code for 2016, which was approved by the P & C. Uniform shirts can be purchased form the school, and bottle green bottoms can be purchased form any supplier. The wearing of Cooper or Denison Sports shirts is to be worn only on Sports Carnival Days. Full school uniform should be worn at all other times. If for some reason your child cannot wear the correct uniform, a note or phone call to the Office or your child’s class teacher would be appreciated. If you have any financial concerns around purchasing and the wearing of the correct school uniform, please make contact to have a confidential discussion, as a payment plan may be able to be arranged.

**PLEASE NOTE** Louise Kliese will stay at school from 8.30 am to 8.45 am each day this week if people wish to come and buy uniforms for next year. Louise will also be available the same hours in the first week term 1.

| Top | • Nebo State School Unisex School Polo Shirt OR Unisex Nebo State School Senior Polo Shirt (Year 6 Students only)  
• Nebo State School zip up jacket. If this is not possible a plain red or bottle green jacket or jumper |
| Bottom | • Bottle Green unisex shorts, culottes or skorts which allow for active play. Length: Knee length to mid-thigh or as deemed appropriate by the Principal  
• Choice of unisex long bottle green track pants (for colder days) OR green tights  
• No bike shorts |
| Sun safety | • A wide brimmed sun safe hat  
• Optional appropriate child size sunglasses to Australian Safety Standards (AS1067).  
• Swimshirts must be worn for swimming lessons conducted in open air pools (School hat compulsory, sunglasses and sunscreen recommended) |
| Jewellery | • Watch  
• One pair studs or sleepers in earlobe only  
• One necklace for religious, cultural or medical reasons only (Letter addressed to Principal) |
• Bracelets for medical reasons
• No rings or visible body piercing

**Hair**
• Tied back at all times if hair is longer than collar length - boys and girls
• Hair accessories should not be decorative but practical in nature and should be in school colours
• Hair to be a 'natural' hair colour
• Hair style should be conservative, neat and tidy or as deemed appropriate by the Principal

**Shoes**
• Fully closed-in shoes/joggers, preferably black with black laces or Velcro; OR white joggers with white laces or Velcro
• No high heels

**Socks**
• All white, plain
• No lower than ankle style
• No logos or brand names
• Must be visible at all times

**Cosmetics**
• No make-up
• Clear nail polish only
• Any other item for medical reasons only

**Sports Shirts**
• Plain sports shirts for Interhouse sports days - Dennison - Yellow; Cooper-Blue; (Sunsmart in design)

**Free Dress Days**
• Organised by Student Council and/or School and notified in the Newsletter
• Must be Sunsmart at all times
• No inappropriate logos, slogans or wording
• Fully closed in footwear

**Awards Day**
This Wednesday 9th of December, is our annual ‘Awards Day’, where all students receive an award. We will also acknowledge and farewell our wonderful year 6 students and we will announce the year six winner of our Jean Perry Citizenship award. In addition we have a special performance by a few of our students who have been learning how to play the guitar, and our P & C will draw the winners of our Christmas Hampers. Our Awards Day will be held in the Nebo Memorial Hall, commencing at 8.45am. It would be lovely to see as many parents and carers, and their families there. All friends of Nebo State School community members are also welcome to attend.

**Year 6 Graduation**
Our 6 Graduation last Friday afternoon/evening was held at the ‘Bushman’s Bar and Grill’. Special thanks to all of the staff at the Bushman’s Bar and Grill who did an amazing job at demonstrating the utmost respectful and efficient customer service towards us, and for making our students and their families feel so welcome. In addition, the food was simply delicious, so compliments must go to the chef.

Thank you so much to all of our school staff who attended. But most importantly, thanks so much to the families of our year six students who came to support their children and share in some memorable moments.

To our graduating class of year six, we are so proud of the progress and growth they have shown throughout their primary school years, and so very proud of the wonderful young people they have become. On behalf of everyone at Nebo State School, I would like to wish our year six students the very best of luck for their future years ahead, and I hope the next chapter of their schooling life is just as fantastic as their first chapter has been. We will certainly miss not having these beautiful young people, around our school next year! Attached with our newsletter are some snapshots from our evening.
Christmas Concert USB’s
If you ordered to receive a copy of the Christmas Concert performance, USB’s have arrived. If you haven’t paid your $30 yet, could you please make sure you send your money in an envelope addressed to the P & C as soon as possible. If you haven’t ordered and wish to do so, a late order can be made before Christmas, however you will not receive your USB until 2016.

Swimming
Swimming will continue this week for each of the year levels. Students need to bring their swimming items for their normal swimming lessons this week.

P & C Christmas Hamper Fundraiser
Raffle Tickets and money are due in this week. If you have any unsold tickets, could you please return them to the school as soon as possible.. Tickets are $1.00 each. If you are able to also donate a food, toy, or any other suitable item for our Christmas hamper, your assistance would be much appreciated. The more items we receive, the more hampers that we will be able to make. The raffle will be drawn at our Awards day on the 9th of December, 2015.

Merry Christmas and a Safe and Prosperous New Year
Thanks once again for a fantastic year! Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year to all of our students, staff, families, and Nebo community members. Hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable festive season and I look forward to seeing you all in 2016.

School Watch
Anybody entering the school grounds outside the normal scheduled school hours is risking being prosecuted for trespassing. If you see anything, or anybody acting suspiciously outside of normal school hours, please contact School Watch on: 131 788; or Policelink on: 131 444. Alternatively, in the event of an emergency, contact 000.

Behaviour
It is always important to remind students of our school rules: ‘Be Safe’, ‘Be Respectful’, and ‘Be Responsible’. If you ever have any suggestions or feedback regarding our whole school ‘Responsible School Behaviour Plan, I would love to hear from you.

Our behaviour focus for this week is:

I am a responsible student who cares for and organised my school belongings!

Our school has a ‘no hat’ ‘no play’ policy. Please ensure that your child has a wide brimmed hat if they wish to play outside. As the weather is certainly warming up and we have swimming this term, please encourage your child to drink lots of water and stay hydrated and encourage them to be Sunsafe at all times!
Congratulations to our Students of the Week:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep/Year 1</th>
<th>Micheala Hancock</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miss Cherie Jones</td>
<td>Alisha Tisdell</td>
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<td>Year 2/3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss Sarah Lovett</td>
<td>Mikaylah Ferrie</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Raven Harvey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4/5/6 (Miss Laura Amiet)</td>
<td>Cheyenne Ferrie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Fenwick</td>
<td>Chloe Simmonds</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialist Teacher - Miss Amiet</td>
<td>Seth Paton-Goddard</td>
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<td>PRINCIPALS AWARD</td>
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<td>Halayna O'Connor</td>
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</table>

Congratulations to the following students who received their behaviour certificate on parade.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:
BRONZE CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO:
Lincoln Anderson

SILVER CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS
Raiden Bates-Heremaia
Maddelyn Dixon
Reuben Kliese
Indy Baguley
Shane Kernohan
Hope Ware
GOLD CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS

Bayden Lloyd
Katherine Dayes
Natacha McKay
Malia Verran
Laura Christensen
Dusty Whitehead
Marnie Whitehead
David Whitehead

PLATINUM BEHAVIOUR CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS

Karen Dayes
Chloe Simmonds
Georgia Wyatt

Parenting Ideas
Please find attached our last Parenting Ideas Newsletter for this year by Michael Grose, titled ‘It’s a Christmas Wrap’.

HONEY
Don’t forget to pick up some delicious honey from the Office, straight from the Bee Hives. Honey is $6.00 per container, and all proceeds go towards our P & C.

Funky Beats Music
Funky Beats Music Guitar and/or Ukulele lessons are still continuing. While there is no obligation to take part in this program, students who are currently involved, are enjoying their weekly lesson. Lessons are conducted once a week on a Wednesday! If you would like to have your child involved, please contact the Office to obtain a form for your child to participate.

Tuckshop

**TUCKSHOP OPEN – Tuesday’s and Friday’s! Orders due in by 8.30am!**
Thanks to all our wonderful Tuckshop Convenor Alyson Cannon and thanks to all of our volunteers who assist each week!

Here is a message from our Tuckshop Convenor - Alyson:
Hi all

**Friday Only**  Hot chips will be available for a treat $3.00

This week for tuckshop we will be running items down for the school holidays so **not everything on the menu will be available**.
Drinks this week will only be popper juices, water and milks.

I would like to thank all those who have given sometime in tuckshop to help out this year. A personal “Thank You” to Steph and Louise who have given a great deal of help and a support to me throughout the year. I appreciate the help. To Miss Kassy, “thank you” for turning on the hotbox and getting me set up each week, and a big thanks to Kayla, Karen and Katherine for all their help too.

Thank you to all the wonderful students for displaying such great manners. I wish all the very best to those Year 6 students leaving for High School. Enjoy your new adventure

Wishing everyone a wonderful, safe and Merry Christmas

We are hoping to have a few more specials mostly of Green or Amber on the food list to aim for more healthy options for next year.

Alyson

P & C

Our next P & C Meeting will be held today, Monday 7th of December, commencing at 2.45pm in the Staff Room. If you are unable to make the meeting and have an idea you would like raised, please see a P & C member or contact myself or Sue in the Office, so that this can be forwarded on at the P & C meeting.

Visitors

Just a reminder that all visitors spending time at the school to assist with any school based activity must sign in and out of the Visitors Book kept in the Office. This is an Education Queensland requirement to ascertain who is on the school premises at all times. Your assistance with this is greatly appreciated.

Feedback

If you ever have any feedback you would like to provide, or any ideas or suggestions for our school, I would love to hear from you. I have an open door policy, so please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Parade

Parade is held every Monday morning at 8.30am. You are more than welcome to come along and listen to our messages for the week and watch our presentations for ‘student of the week’ certificates.

Have a fantastic week and a wonderful holiday,

Kind Regards,

Jennifer Fenwick  (Principal )

NEBO STATE SCHOOL HISTORICAL BOOKS

Anybody interested in purchasing a Nebo Historical 125th School Anniversary Book, please pop in to the office, we have some available for $5.00.

eKindy

Registrations are now being taken for eKindy.  
Who can register for eKindy?
To be eligible for eKindy each child must meet the following criteria.  
eKindy eligibility criteria
The child turns 4 by June 30 2015 (a birth certificate is required at time of registration)
- The child or a parent is an Australian citizen/permanent resident
- The family/child fits one of the legislated eligibility categories – Distance, Medical or Travelling/itinerant
  (Refer to the eKindy overview on the eKindy web page for more information: https://brisbanesde.eq.edu.au/Ourschool/ekindy/Pages/ekindy.aspx). Each parent must submit a registration form to the Brisbane School of Distance Education. Eligibility is assessed based on the information provided.

Why be involved with eKindy?
- eKindy provides children/families with access to qualified early years teachers.
- Research shows that qualified early years teachers engage children in learning that extends children’s thinking, language and maximises learning outcomes.
- Qualified teachers can assess children’s learning and differentiate teaching to cater for diverse children and help families to connect to support services.

eKindy provides children/families with access to an approved kindergarten program.
- The eKindy materials provide ‘layered’, step-by-step advice to promote learning.
- The program builds capabilities for ongoing learning success, including self-regulation, thinking, language, social and interactional skills, as well as early literacy and numeracy skills.

The eKindy program supports isolated parents/families to:
- develop skills that help their child to learn now and throughout their schooling
- connect with other kindy children and families, support services and networks.

What does eKindy cost?
Families who are eligible for eKindy do NOT pay fees for the eKindy program.
Approved kindergarten programs are eligible for funding through the Queensland Kindergarten Funding Scheme (QKFS) managed by the Office for Early Childhood Education and Care (OECEC). In centre-based programs, families also pay fees.

Thank you to Rio Tinto for their Sponsorship support with Literacy and Numeracy for our school.

Thank you to bhpbilliton (BMC) for their Sponsorship support with Interschool Sport

Thank you to civeo (nee The MAC) for their Sponsorship support with ICT

Our students visited the MECC thanks to the BMC Pathways to Performance Program. Thank you BHP Billiton and the MECC!
CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO OUR WONDERFUL YEAR 6 STUDENTS

DANIELLE BRYAN

ANDRE KERNOHAN

PHOEBE O’HANLON

TAYLAH QUILTY

CHLOE SIMMONDS

BOBBIE-JAE SQUIRES
Here is a snapshot of the beautiful Mrs Wade, and Mr Wade, and gorgeous little Tommy.