Thank-you
I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff, students and parents for making me feel quite welcome over the past five weeks. It has been a privilege to teach your children and I wish them all the very best for the future. What a great school. David Prestridge, the staff and community have certainly established a wonderful learning environment for students.

Leadership For Term Two
The plan for next term as I head back to Gabbinbar SS is that Geoff St Clair will come back for the first four weeks of term and David Prestridge will return in week 5.

Maintenance
The government has invested additional funds for each school to assist in the maintenance of its facilities. The small amount of extra money for Flagstone Creek will go towards evening up paths that are no longer level as well as establishing a new concrete path outside the P-2 room instead of the uneven pavers.

Free Dress Day
We will be holding a Free Dress Day on Friday 4 April to raise funds for the 6/7 Graduation Dinner. Students have decided that it will be a Pyjama Day and the fee for participation will be a gold coin. Please wear appropriate footwear for the day.

Sport Postponed
Unfortunately the fields were too wet for us to participate in the sporting competition last Friday. It is of my understanding that this day will be held in Term 2. Stay tuned for more information regarding this.

Cross Country
The Cross Country for the area will be held sometime early in Term 2. If your child is a keen Cross Country runner than they need to be training during the holidays to maintain the fitness they have acquired during P.E. lessons. As a guide, students in grade 5 run 2km and grade 6 & 7 students run 3km.

Toys
Please assist us to enforce that children keep their toys and precious belongings at home where they are safe. Students have been reminded not to bring these to school. This is done to ensure the safety of these items. The only reason these should be at school is if they are a part of Show and Tell. The school takes no responsibility for toys and precious items which have been brought from home without curriculum relevance. Thanks for assisting us in this matter.

Attendance Reminder
Why is regular attendance at school important?
Regular school attendance will mean that your child has a better chance in life. Your child will achieve better when they go to school all day, every school day.

• they learn better
• they make friends
• they are happier
• they have a brighter future.

Why must I send my child to school?
Under Queensland law, you must make sure your child of school age is enrolled and attends school all day, every school day unless they have an acceptable reason. Illness, doing work experience or competing in a school sporting event are acceptable reasons for being absent from school. Principals decide if the reason given for your child’s absence is acceptable.

Avoid keeping your child away from school for:
• birthdays, shopping, visiting family and friends, if they sleep in, looking after other children, minor check-ups or care such as haircuts. Routine medical or other health appointments should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays.

What should I do if our family is going on a holiday in school time?
You are encouraged not to schedule holidays during school time. If your family holiday is during school time, let the school know in advance and talk about what arrangements can be made for your child. Depending on the circumstances the school may be able to provide tasks for your child to
complete while they are absent or assist you to organise an exemption from schooling.

Do I need to let the school know if my child has been away from school?
Yes, you must let the school know the reason why your child has been absent from school within two school days of their return. If possible, advise the school beforehand.

Are you having problems getting your child to school for some of these reasons?
• won’t get out of bed in the morning
• won’t go to bed at night
• can’t find their uniform, books, school bag …
• slow to eat breakfast
• haven’t done their homework
• watching TV
• have a test or presentation to do, have an assignment to hand in
• it’s their birthday.
If so, a set routine can help
• have a set time to go to bed
• have a set time to get out of bed
• have uniform and school bag ready the night before
• have a set time for starting and finishing breakfast
• set a time for daily homework activities
• speak about school positively
• be firm, send your child to school every school day including their birthday and the last day of term!

What should I do if my child won’t go to school?
You should contact the school as soon as possible for advice and support.

We are in the process of writing a whole school Attendance Policy with the support from the P&C to improve the attendance rates of the children under our care. As soon as this policy is written we will inform you through the newsletter or letters home.

Easter Raffle
Dianne, from Dianne’s Wedding Decorations and Chocolates, is donating prizes for the P. & C. to raffle.

All raffle ticket butts, unsold tickets and money need to be returned to the school by tomorrow, Wednesday, 2 April. The raffle will be drawn on Thursday, 3rd April. This is also chocolate order delivery day – 3pm at the school.

The P&C is very appreciative of Dianne’s generous donation.

Keep a Watch on Our School These Holidays
Parents and students can help take care of our school by reporting any suspicious after-hours activity to School Watch on 13 17 88.

By keeping an eye out we can work together to create a safer school community and help to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in our school.

If you see something suspicious, please don’t intervene. Call the School Watch number and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter.

Flagstone Creek Playgroup
Flagstone Creek playgroup will continue after the holidays. We will advise you of term 2 days and dates in the first newsletter after the holidays.

School Uniforms
Lots of people have been asking about the winter uniforms. The order has been placed and we are expecting delivery very soon. There are also a number of the old uniforms available for sale at a reduced price.

Blue sloppy joes $15.00
Blue and old black & white shirts $10.00
Gold coin donation for second hand uniforms.

If you have uniforms that your children have outgrown, that are still in reasonable condition, they can be donated to the P&C for re-sale.

Have a happy and safe Easter break.
School resumes on Tuesday, 22nd April.

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