“If you can read, you will succeed!” is the common chant you may hear around our school, a mantra by which we live, breathe and teach at Jamboree Heights State School. This week a number of teachers attended an after-hours professional development activity around the topic of Guided Reading. The phrase that resonated the most for me was, “we can’t stretch them unless we know what they are thinking”. My interpretation of this statement delivered by the keynote speaker is that unless we actively engage students in rich and explicit conversation about the text, what they are reading, or listening to how they are reading, we won’t really know where they are with the development of this critical skill. Within our teaching team, we often talk about the Matthew Effect, a biblical reference to the perception that, “the rich get richer and the poor get poorer”. In reading and education terms the Matthew Effect refers to students who don’t master the essential skills associated to reading by a young age, the continuing legacy is one of limited success throughout their education. The moral of this story is that we (teachers and parents) need to continually listen to students read, help make links between new reading material and existing knowledge, assist them with tackling challenging text, plan specifically for the development of each individual’s reading strategies, and engage all students in rich conversation about the text and text features, something all parents can and should do on a weekly basis for all ages. It is quite obvious that from Year 4 onwards the number of students having interaction with their parents when reading a text on a daily basis at home is very limited. No matter what age or reading ability, it is a very worthwhile activity to engage in some level of dialogue with your child about the text, the meaning, and the various features of the book. 

To become better readers we need to be constantly challenged by higher level text and always remember that “comprehension is king”!

Our thanks to Mr Branch for organising the recent “Say No to Bullying!” and “Harmony” Days. There were some very important messages for all members of our school community such as personal safety; anti-racism and; tolerance and understanding of individual differences. Our thanks to the great effort made by many families in enabling their child or children to wear traditional costumes and/or bring along some traditional dishes. The photo below shows some of our students wearing traditional clothing:

Eleanor (Scotland); Ankitha (India); Anaya (Phillipines) and Katerina (Kazakhstan)

Our congratulations and thanks are now extended to the new P&C Association executive as follows: Helen James (President); Chris Ramsay (Vice-President); Kate Gallagher (Vice-President); Mel Crowhurst (Secretary); and Rachel Crawley (Treasurer). We now thank Rochelle Korger, as the outgoing Vice-President, for her time and effort given to our school over the past twelve months. At the last P&C Meeting, a number of items were approved and we are extremely thankful for these new resources and programs for our students: six new Interactive Whiteboards and the Internet Safety program being conducted next term for years 2-7. The Internet Safety program will be conducted on the first Wednesday back after the holidays for all students in Year 2-7. There will be a parent session on that same day starting at 6:00pm in the hall. Everyone is invited to attend this very interesting and worthwhile event.
CLASS (Centenary Learning Alliance-Jamboree Heights State School, Centenary State High School, Middle Park State School, Jindalee State School) is currently in the planning stages of developing a collective series of activities leading up to the ANZAC Centenary (2015). Next term, we will be looking for interested members of our local school communities to be a part of the organising committee, which will include members of the local RSL along with members of other community organisations. Funding will hopefully be achieved through Bernie Ripoll’s office to support the activities and the final culminating event in the week leading up to April 25, 2015. More information will shared in the near future. Our school will again commemorate ANZAC in the usual way for 2014 immediately after the holidays on Thursday, 24th April. There will be two separate parades, one for Years 3-7 and one for Prep to Year 2. All members of our school community are welcome to attend.

The Transport Department have now informed us that flashing lights will soon be installed near our school due to a $10 million Queensland Government commitment to improve school road safety. You will notice that the new signs look similar to standard school zone signs with the important addition of a red flashing ring around the speed limit as well as two flashing yellow lights at the top of the sign. The installation of flashing light school zone signs is proven to improve visibility of school zones, serving as an active reminder for motorists to slow down. So next time you’re dropping off or picking up your child keep an eye out for the new signs and make sure you stick to the signed speed limit.

Our school’s “Be Brave and Shave” campaign raised $842 thanks to the many students willing to have their hair coloured. All money raised will now go to the Leukaemia Foundation. Thank you Mrs Rowan for again coordinating this very worthwhile activity and thanks to those teachers who donated many cans of hair colour.

We now farewell Mrs Cherie Collins, who has been one half of the Prep R teaching team. Cherie is locating to Canada with her family and we thank her for the wonderful contribution she has made to her students and our school. You will be missed! We now welcome Ms Alex Hughes, who is an experienced teacher and lives locally. Ms Hughes will take up her new position in partnership with Mrs Welch on Day 1 next term.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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### ATTACHMENTS to NEWSLETTER

- 🎶 Music News
- 🏃 Cross Country Program

A special thank you to Greg Douglas, one of our Dads, who has been managing our student banking for quite some time. Greg has been doing this voluntary role with great precision and diligence and certainly goes unnoticed each week. Thank you Greg for supporting our school and the financial interests of our young ones.

We would ask that all parents of all students accessing the Tuckshop on any given day please ensure that no large amounts of money or large notes are given to their children as the tuckshop policy is not to serve children with large notes ($10 or greater). We also wish to advise that we do not allow students to buy food for any other student unless they are a brother or sister. Everyone’s support is greatly appreciated in anticipation.

The Inter-house X-Country event is scheduled for next Monday pending weather conditions. Everyone is welcome to come along to this event and cheer on the runners. There will be refreshments available for spectators thanks to our hard working Sports Committee. Hats, water bottles, running shoes and sunscreen will be the order of the day! All students will be participating on the day unless they present a medical note. The emphasis is on participation and fun.
Congratulations to Liam Gallagher, Sean Van Zanden, and Brendan Innes for recently making the West Akuna AFL team which have now competed at the Regional carnival. Perhaps we might see them playing for the Lions one day!

Please be advised that no payment for a school activity, event or excursion will be accepted on the day of the event due to the financial processes we have in place plus we also need to inform our teacher the day before the event to allow them to make various arrangements. Again, everyone’s support with this is greatly appreciated.

Could all parents please ensure that their child or children are very clear on where they are meant to go or be collected at the end of each day as we often have some students wandering around the school or waiting in the office. If arrangements change during the day, please inform the office as soon as possible so that the message can be passed on to the classroom teacher before the school day is over.

**Reader of the Week**
The reader of the week is a student who is borrowing regularly and is discovering the joy of reading. The reader of the week last week was Anchelo Bonto of 4K who was reading ‘Tom Gates: Everything Amazing’. The reader of the week this week is Jessica Spicer of 5R who is reading ‘Lost Treasure of the Emerald Eye’.

**Lexile Awards**
Congratulations to the students who have made an excellent start this year.

- **Good:** Olivia Boyd 4C, Ben Jones 4F, Jack O’Connor 4F, Han Dinh 4H, Anaya Hoffman 4K, Isaac Walters 4K, Mark Christensen 5H
- **Great:** Ben Jones 4F, Jack O’Connor 4F, Dillon Rollinson 4H, Ethan Deo 4H, Muadh Hussain 4K, Daniel Quintarelli 5H, Kaileb Rembacher 5H
- **Fantastic:** Ben Jones 4F, Thomas Loney 4H, Katelyn Marshall 5R
- **Bronze:** Thomas Loney 4H, Jessica Garvie 5H, Jacqueline Evans 5M
- **Outstanding:** Hari Patel 6J

**Book Fair coming soon**
We will have our first book fair in the library from Tuesday 6th May to Friday 9th May. A brochure with more details will be sent home next term.

Ingrid Harrod (Teacher-librarian)

### P&C NEWS

**P&C Executive:**
- President: Helen James
- Co Vice President: Kate Gallagher
- Co Vice President: Chris Ramsay
- Secretary: Mel Crowhurst
- Treasurer: Rachel Crawley

The P&C have agreed to pay for 5 brand new interactive whiteboards. To make this possible please help us out by supporting our fundraising events.

**Hot Cross Buns**
Pick up your Hot Cross Buns on Friday 28 March from the tuckshop at 8:30 to 9:00am and 2:30 – 3:00pm. We raised $360, thank you.

**Disco**
A big thank you to all the volunteers and teachers that made the night a huge success - raised $2500.00.

**Cross Country**
The sports committee is looking for families to provide baking for the Cross Country on Monday 31 March. Please deliver to the canteen in the MPC on Monday morning. They will also need helpers to serve on the day, if you are able to help at any time during the day it would be appreciated. Please let them know at info@jhss.com.au

**House Sports Shirts**
Get your house colour sports shirt for the cross country from the Uniform Shop before school Friday and Monday – only $10.

**OSHC**
Don’t forget to book into the Easter vacation care program.

**Uniform Shop**
Winter uniforms will be available to purchase in the first week back after the holidays. New hours beginning of Term 2: Monday & Friday 8:15-9:15am and Wednesday afternoon 2:30-3:30pm.
COMMUNITY NEWS

2 WEEKS FREE TRIAL

Tuesdays & Fridays
Juniors 5pm – 6pm
Adults 6pm – 7pm
Jamboree Heights Multi Purpose Hall
Please Call 0422 939 159
Web: www.sunbae.net