Dear Parents, Students and our wider Community,

What an excellent year we have had so far, I cannot believe how fast it has gone. I would like to first thank you all for the support you have shown our local school. It has been great to see our school grow so much in the last year and a half, from 5 to 12 students. Along with this growth in enrolment numbers, we have also seen continued growth in the Lowmead Bumble Bees Active Learners Playgroup, which in turn will feed into our enrolments for 2017. Thank you for partnering with us to give our students a flying start in life and a brighter tomorrow.

Last week, our Year 3-6 students had the opportunity to attend the annual school camp which, this year, was held at the Capricorn Caves near Rockhampton. In response to their fantastic week away our students have written a number of short recounts of their favourite moments from camp. We hope you enjoy their recounts and pictures in this edition of the Lowmead Line.

New School Mobile Contact
We are excited to announce that, as of Term 4, we will have a new method of communication with parents. The new Lowmead State School Mobile number, 0472 835 972, will now be used as an alternate contact number for student absences, absentee reminders and bulk notice messages to parents. If you would like to utilize this message service for student absences could you please text through the absence and include; NAME, DATE, DURATION and REASON FOR ABSENCE.

School Start Times
We would like to remind parents/caregivers that the school day starts at 8:40am and finishes at 3:00pm. Students should not be arriving at school before 8:15am unless a prior arrangement has been made with the Principal. Thank you for making every day count.

Thank you again for all the support you have shown the school this year. It is fantastic to be a part of a community that shares in and guides the learning of its future generations.

Sincerely,
Peter Jordan
Principal
Lowmead State School

Playgroup Hours
We would like to extend another invitation to any community members with children aged 0-5 years to attend the Bumble Bees Active Learners Playgroup, held every Wednesday of the school terms from 9:00am to 11:00am, at the front entrance of Lowmead State School. We would ask our playgroup families to please ensure that they arrive no earlier than 8:30am, if dropping school age students off, as this gives our staff time to set-up and organize the wonderful playgroup activities to be held on the day.

Parents, you can now notify the school of your child’s absence by messaging the NAME, DATE, DURATION and REASON FOR ABSENCE for your child on the morning of the day they are unable to attend school.

SMS on 0472 835 972
The P&C have had a busy start to the year with the two bike ride events held at Ron Clarkes, first the Lowmead Reloaded bike ride, then the Queensland Trails Club event. We would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who was able to help and support the Lowmead State School P&C at these events both in providing resources and your time managing BBQs, sales and set-up and pack-up. Your help is greatly appreciated. Thank you also to the P&C members for your assistance in the organization of the day.

We are currently planning a fundraising Christmas Raffle for next term, any goods or donations would be greatly appreciated. Thank you again for supporting your local P&C.

Next P&C Meeting: Friday 7th October, 2016. 2:00pm – 3:00pm

School Camp 2016 – Capricorn Caves

How to Make a Camp Fire (Procedural Text)

On camp, we learnt how to make traditional fires using sticks. Here’s how to do it:

Materials
- Yourself
- Stick
- Sea Hibiscus
- Paper Bark

Method:
1. Carve the dust trap
2. Grab the stick
3. Insert the stick
4. Twist the stick until the dust is smoking
5. And then you have a fire

It was a great experience and I really enjoyed camp.
By Cloe Warren

Capricorn Caves Camp
On Tuesday we drove to Wartburg and then after a while we left for Rockhampton. I felt a bit sad because I have never been away from my mum before. But, I had lots of fun. We did some Adventure caving and we had to go through small tunnels. It was very awesome. My favourite thing on camp was the swimming.
By Cindy Johnson

Camp
I think that camp was awesome. My favourite thing on camp was the traditional bush making activities. I was a natural at it and got some of the grass and made lots of rope. I loved camp.
By Rhylee Pierce

Camp
On camp we went to the Botanical Gardens and after saw lots of animals at the zoo. My favourite was the chimpanzee. After we drove to Capricorn Caves and sorted out the groups for the cabins.
On camp, we did wall climbing, cave walking and explored a Dry Rainforest. We used crates to climb up and made a tower of 15 crates. It was amazing. We also did some swimming and played team games. We climbed through the holes in the Adventure Caves and had crouch right down to get through. This was my favourite part of camp. We stopped at Gladstone Water Park for a play and pizza on the way home before getting back to Wartburg School.
By Bridget Stehbens
Camp
On the way to camp we stopped at the Botanical Gardens, there we ate lunch. We looked around the gardens, it was very beautiful. After the Botanical Gardens we walked to the Zoo and there were a lot of awesome animals, who were very noisy. The snakes were very creepy. After this we were on our way to the Capricorn Caves. When we got to our cabin we were locked out for a while. The first night we took a tour through the caves and it was awesome. We could not touch the walls, they were made of limestone. I was hoping to see some animals in the caves but there were none.

On Wednesday, in the morning we ventured to the climbing wall. It looked very easy, but when you actually did it, it was very hard. If you went up all the way, it was very high.

During our cave walk, our guide Heidi, showed us the historical dig site, where they discovered bones from ancient creatures. After the caves, we walked to do a crate climb. It was very hard to keep your balance when you were up on top of the crates. Once we did this, we went for a swim in the pool. It was freezing. I didn’t stay in for long. That night, we had team games which were very fun and funny.

Thursday morning, we did Adventure Caving, which I did not like because I am claustrophobic, but, it was still fun. After adventure caving, we were with Malaki, and he taught us how to build shelters, traps and traditional fires. It was really fun.

On the way home we went to the Gladstone Water Park. At first I didn’t think it was that fun, but once we got in I realised it was super fun. For lunch, we had pizza. I went for the Meatlovers! Once we got back to Wartburg, my dad was there to pick me up. Camp was over!

By Jake Parsons

My Camp
When we got to Capricorn Caves, we got locked out of our cabin. Charlie found the key eventually and we rushed straight to afternoon tea. Soon after was dinner.

Later that night, we walked to the caves in the dark. We had to use our torches, it was exciting. We toasted marshmallows on the fire then we walked back to our cabins to go to sleep.

In the morning, I had Coco Pops and butter on toast. That day we climbed a rock wall and tried crate climbing. It was awesome. Everyone was glad to have a swim at the end of the day.

The traditional bush activities were cool. We made fire, traps, tents and spears. My favourite thing on camp was the swimming.

On the way home we stopped at the water park and had pizza. It was amazing.

By Dean Pierce
LOWMEAD STATE SCHOOL

PRE-PREP 2016

It's that time of year again! We would love to welcome all children eligible to enrol in 2017 for Prep to Lowmead State School Pre-Prep days.

WHEN: Term 4 - Every Thursday 9:00am - 1:00pm
WHERE: Lowmead State School
WHAT TO BRING: lunch, hat, closed in shoes, beautiful smiles and excitement for learning