From the Principal

A big thank you to the many parents and students who have dropped in this past week with a warm welcome to Glenore Grove. I am excited to be here for the next month and look to continuing supporting this school community, its high expectations, happy students and great staff.

Easter Bonnet Parade is on the last day of term! Hope you have your bonnets organised! I can’t wait to see the photos.

The cupcake day stall on Friday was a huge success. Many thanks for your generous support. A great contribution to the school camp fund.

Cross Country

The Laidley Valley Cross Country will be hosted by Blenheim State School on Friday 21st April 2017. Participants are to arrive no later than 9am for a 9.30am start. The Blenheim State School P & C will be selling light refreshments and drinks to be purchased on the day. Students who qualify for the next level, will be given written notification at the conclusion of their respective races and will be invited to return to the cross country track at Blenheim SS on Thursday 4th May for the Lockyer District cross country.

To select this team, we will run an event on Thursday at 9.00am in the school grounds for 8-12 year olds who would like to nominate. Feel free to come along and support your child.

There will also be a fun run and fundraiser to go towards Camp & student council at school on Thursday 20th April. Mrs Bridge has previously sent a letter home about this but any questions you may have please feel free to contact the school office.

Teaching and Learning
As shared in the last newsletter, the schools’ reading data has shown amazing growth!! And conversations with teachers this week has indicated further growth. 20 minutes a day can make a huge difference.

Techno Talk
Technology continues to be a focus within our school. If you are looking for ways to engage your child in some of the many skills they will learn at school, try scratch at scratch.mit.edu.

Positive Behaviour for Learning
Once again we gave out lots of bee badges on Assembly this week! Well done, it is great to see. Teachers continued to develop their teaching skills this week, undertaking powerful professional learning in building highly effective classrooms. Your children will continue to benefit from these learnings as we continue to strengthen our school learning community.

Lesson Focus

Week 10
Reviewing School wide expectations
- be responsible
- be respectful
- be safe
- be a learner

Term 2 Week 1
Be Safe
All Settings - Walk in and around buildings.

Important reminder - Early arrival
If you are bringing your children into school before 8:25am they are to wait and be seated under the covered area near the office. There is no playing until the staff member on duty brings students to the undercover area. Could all parents in this situation please remind your children of this process. It is for their safety.

Chappy Corner
The holidays are soon upon us! I can’t decide if this term has gone fast or slow. I have certainly enjoyed spending time with the students and seeing them settle into this new year. Whatever this term has been for you, I hope you have an enjoyable, safe and rejuvenating holiday break; finding the balance between keeping the kids occupied and getting some down time (always a challenge).

Positive Tip - ‘Whatever leisure time we are able to invest in relationships is time well spent’ - Charles Swindoll

Have a well spent holiday break and I’ll see you next term!
Chappy Christina😊 0408 742 181
Housekeeping

Office Hours
The school office is open from 8:15am to 3:15pm Monday to Friday. If you need us outside of these hours please call and leave a message, we will return your call as soon as possible.

Staff contact
If you wish to discuss issues with your child’s teacher please make a time before or after class. Please try not to take up time as learning starts, this means that students are missing learning time and classes become unsettled. Staff email addresses are available in the Parent Handbook for your use also.

Absences
Please contact the absence line 5466 6160 with your child’s name, class and reason for absence. Our office sends out an SMS for unexplained absences.

Late Student Pickup
If you are late collecting your child from school, from 3pm the students will be in the school office. Please contact the office ahead of time if you know you are running late.

Naming Student Items
Please check that your children’s belongings have a name on them, especially hats.

School Newsletter
If you would like to promote a community event in this newsletter please email admin@glengrovss.eq.edu.au by Wednesday of even weeks.

Parking, Drop off & Pickup time
Parents use the Hall carpark to drop off and pick up students. We ask that parent reverse into these spaces for the safety of all our children. If you are bringing your children into school before 8:25 they are to wait under the covered area near the office. There is no playing until the staff member on duty brings students to the undercover area. All students must have a hat to play in the mornings. In the afternoons there is a staff member on duty. Students are not to leave the grounds into the carpark without their parent/carer. Students are also not permitted to play on the equipment unless a parent is with them supervising. This is a safety issue that can make pick up time difficult to supervise and for the safety of all our students we ask you to support this. Please don’t park at the front in the bus lane or drive into school grounds.

Community News

Big thanks to all those how have been watering our gardens and tidying up the grounds over the last few weeks. We have a dedicated group of parents and grandparents that are keeping our gardens well watered. Thanks!

Why Read 20 Minutes a Day?

Reading is “brain food”
Our brains develop as we “feed” them with experiences. The experience of reading (whether you’re the reader or the one being read to) activates and “exercises” many of the areas of the brain. The visual cortex works as your eyes track the words on the page and look at the illustrations. Your memory makes connections between what you already know about the topic of the story and its content. You integrate new information learned through reading further strengthening and growing your network of knowledge. Reading provides one of the most enriching and complex brain activities available in life.

Reading improves listening skills
What parent doesn’t want their child to be a good listener? The experience of being read to helps children develop good listening skills by keying them into the components of language. Through
reading they learn to recognise phonemes (the sound building blocks of language), learn new words to add to their oral vocabularies and connect written words to their real world applications.

**Reading builds early literacy skills**
Before a child can read independently she must have phonemic awareness and a basic understanding of phonics. Phonemic awareness or the understanding that words are made up of distinct sounds that affect their meaning is the precursor to reading. Reading aloud to your child is one of the main ways to help him develop phonemic awareness. Beyond this, in order to read, a person must understand that there is a connection between letters and sounds. Without this knowledge letters are just squiggles on a page! When you read with your child she learns that print is a representation of the words you say aloud. Repeated experiences with reading allow this understanding to grow. The single greatest factor in a child’s ability to read is early experiences being read aloud to.

**Practice makes perfect**
Generally, the more time you are exposed to something and the more time you spend practicing it, the better you’ll become at performing it. This is absolutely true for reading. Research shows that children who have repeatedly been exposed to books from birth generally exhibit strong reading abilities.

**Reading improves academic performance**
There is a strong correlation between a child’s ability to read and her academic performance. Because so much of our schooling relies on our abilities to read, children must have strong reading skills to succeed and thrive in school.

**Reading just makes “cents”**
For every year that a person spends reading (either independently or being read aloud to), his/her lifetime earning potential goes up considerably. For a time investment of approximately 87 hours a year (20 minutes a day for 5 days a week), you can increase your child’s ability to support him or herself in the future considerably.

**Reading improves relationships**
Because we are busy it is difficult to have “quality” one-on-one time with our children without distractions. Building 20 minutes into each day for reading together provides this important bonding time. There is nothing more wonderful than snuggling a young child on your lap while reading a few storybooks aloud. Even if your child is beyond the “snuggling” stage, spending 20 minutes reading independently provides you with quiet, uninterrupted time together engaged in the same activity.