The teacher’s have been busy testing the students to ascertain reading levels and how they sit compared to other students across Australia. These results will contribute to reporting comments combined with the results obtained in the classroom in the various curriculum areas.

Relative gain data was released last week and demonstrates that a great job is being done at the school with the student improvement from year 3 to year 5 being significant. The table below demonstrates this in reading. There are similar graphs for each of the areas of the year 3 and 5 testing regime.

It should be remembered that only 20% of student success can be attributed to the school. Forty percent of student success comes from support of peers and forty percent from family.

Your child can only achieve with your support both inside and outside of the school. Parents are welcome into the school at any time. There is also a P&C meeting next Wednesday. Get involved in your child’s future.

Education in this day and age is critical and with you getting involved you are giving your child an opportunity to share equally in the mental, physical and spiritual wealth that all people should have the opportunity to enjoy.

The year 6 students have just returned from their transition camp in Brisbane. I will be continuing with this program over a few weeks to assist in the preparation of them having to go to boarding school.

After school care is running swimming lessons after school on Wednesday and Friday afternoons. Erin is doing a great job with this and Mr O’Neill is also going over to assist.

We have also started to prepare for the end of year festivities over the next few weeks. Information will be sent home shortly in regards to the year 6 graduation celebrations and presentation night along with Christmas tree night. These events will be held the last two weeks of term.

Any families having students in the age range 0 - 4 that aren’t at school will need to inform the school so they can be catered for in the Christmas celebrations.

Next year we will also be starting a kindy program at the school three days a week. Any interested families should apply through Distance Education.

Keep up with events at school by downloading the free QSchools app that is available for Windows, Apple and Android devices.

Daniel Smith
Calender 2015

November
11th - P&C Meeting
27th - Graduation night
30th - Go West

December
3rd - Christmas Tree night
4th - Last day of term 4

Book Fair
Croydon State School Library
Monday November 2nd - Friday November 6th
Great Christmas presents.

Our school expectations - Absentees

All children should attend school every school day

When students are absent
Ring the school on 47456197 before 9.00 a.m. with a reasonable explanation or provide a signed note.
If the student absence is to be for some time collect some work from school.
Students are required to be at school by 8.20 am to ensure they go into class in adequate time.
When students are late i.e. after 8.30 a.m. they need a note explaining their absence.

School Response to absences
2 days absence without explanation – class teacher will ring home to enquire
4 days absence without suitable explanation – Principal will ring home to enquire
If there is no response to the phone call then an Absence Letter will be mailed home, reminding parents/carers of their obligations to ensure their child attends school on every school day and the requirement for providing satisfactory explanations for all absences.

Absences greater than 10 days
If you are expecting that your child will be absent for greater than 10 days you need to apply for an exemption from compulsory schooling. This form can be accessed at school.
Students in the senior class have been working on persuasive writing tasks that relate to the story Stolen Girl by Trina Saffioti.

In the task the students have taken on a particular character and developed a point of view from the character’s perspective. They have then written a persuasive letter using high modality words in an attempt to influence a Government official. They have done a great job in completing a fairly complex task.

Letter to the Protector of Aborigines
Dear Sir,

I am the Veterinarian of the local Veterinary Clinic in the busy town of Croydon. I have been the Vet for 25 years. I am writing to you about my disappointment regarding the removal and the suffering of these poor Aboriginal children from their biological parents.

Although I care about animal, I care about everything else too. Can you imagine how your children would feel? What treatment they might get, stolen and in the hands of the cruel government workers, not knowing where they are going and NEVER, EVER seeing your real parents again. Where’s the empathy?

The removal of the innocent children has been proven in studies to have severe long term effects on their mental health. Your government policy is unjust and is being forced without consideration for other cultures. The trauma that people are required to endure is unacceptable. Workers are being made to do their jobs. Would you be able to work? The parents in Croydon are heart-broken because of this immoral separation. You must feel ashamed and full of regret. You must take action NOW!

Yours sincerely,
Jacinta Yore

Letter to the Protector of Aborigines
Dear Sir,

My name is Luke Smith, I am the Mayor of Croydon and I have been Mayor for 10 years. I would like to tell you my feelings of the stolen generation. It is shameful and wrong to take away children from their biological parents. It will become a really big problem in the future. Stop stealing kids.

Imagine your innocent children being dragged away from you being tortured, giving both children and you trauma. Loss of family, loss of culture, loss of identity. Your policy is shameful and is wrong and must be revoked immediately.

There is undeniable proof of the long term mental effects on children that have been separated from their parents.

Surely you are a reasonable person but you have to stop stealing kids because it is shameful and their parents miss them really desperately.

Yours sincerely, Luke Smith

Letter to the Protector of Aborigines
Dear Sir,

My name is Luke Stonehouse, I own an enormous cattle station. My Indigenous workers have had their children taken away. They are always miserable, and at night I hear them cry themselves to sleep. This is not fair for the parents and the children’s family.

Imagine if your children were dragged away from you and you were NEVER going to see them AGAIN! You must stop this madness immediately!

There is undeniable proof of the long term mental effects on children that have been separated from their parents; I am ashamed of my government, and this terrible policy MUST CHANGE!

Yours Sincerely Luke Stonehouse
Year 6 Camp - Brisbane City, museum, sciencentre, movieworld, seaworld, parliament house, great time, fantastic experience, high school, Brisbane by night, Asian food, nice apartment.