The weeks are flying by this term as we find ourselves heading towards end of term.

Students in our senior school are busy learning and are engaging with some high level thinking in their mathematics and literacy. Our senior students created awesome advertisements which were creative and well written. Our junior students are bounding ahead with their sights words and math skills. They are working well and parents should be proud of their achievements.

Students have started religious education with Blanca, and its great to see all students engaged in RE.

We still have a few students who aren’t feeling so good. Our thoughts and prayers go to the students and families. We are focusing on students taking care of themselves and their cleanliness to avoid spreading germs.

Parent teacher interviews will be held Tuesday 31st of March between 3 and 5pm. Ms Gabbie and myself will be available to talk to parents and show you work samples. No appointment is necessary just come along between those times. P &C AGM Tues 31st at 2:30pm before interviews.

AFL carnival is on again this year and we will be travelling to Cooktown on the 1st of April to participate with our cluster small schools. We will require all students to have their uniform and running shoes. Also, could students be at school by 8am to travel by bus.

This year Lakeland will be providing a BBQ breakfast to fundraise for a new school fruit orchard. Any parents who can come along on the day and help would be greatly appreciated. Students wont require lunch as AFL will be providing this.

School Photo’s in the first week of Term two on Wednesday the 22nd April.

Sabrina Venter has kindly volunteered her time to run Art activities on Thursday afternoons. Starting this week students can stay behind after school from 2:30 to 4pm. If you could provide some afternoon snacks if you child is attending that would be greatly appreciated. All cost for this program will be met be the school.

Have a great week!

Jason Price
For sale by Tender

1 X John Deere 155C automatic ride-on mower with trailer. Just had major service in excellent condition.

1 X Onga pump model OJ800, just had repaired before removal.

- Offers to be in writing, have name and contact phone.
- Closing date and time for offers 2nd April 2015
- Location address for offers and inspection of items: Lakeland State School during school hours.
- Delivery charges to be borne by buyer: pickup only
- Items offered on an 'as is' basis.
- Department of Education, Training and Employment reserves the right not to accept the tender.
- Submissions to disclose any interests or links with departmental employees.
- No warranties implied or given.
- Address envelope with tender to be marked 'CONFIDENTIAL - OFFER FOR ADVERTISED ITEM'.
Respect by any other name

Michael Grose

Times have changed. When baby boomers like me were kids we generally always addressed relatives with the appropriate moniker such as Aunty or Uncle. Close family friends would be called Aunty or Uncle, acquaintances would be addressed as Mr and Mrs.

Similarly, teachers, coaches, scout and guide leaders and other adults were generally addressed by their title. Rarely would they be called by their first name. It was deemed a mark of respect.

Interestingly, many adults would address each other by their surnames. I vividly recall my mother addressing our next-door neighbour as Mrs Waters, even though they were around the same age. They weren’t on close terms so it was convention to use surnames.

Fast forward four decades and social conventions have changed, including how we address each other. Adults will usually always address each other by their first, or preferred name, even if their relationship is on a professional basis such as doctor-patient relationship.

Conventions have loosened in the naming stakes for kids. It’s quite common for children to refer to close relatives by their first names rather than Aunt and Uncle. Family friends, coaches and other adults in the lives of kids are commonly referred to by their first names.

Over the last decade or so in Australia it’s become more common for children to refer to their teachers by their first name, particularly in primary schools. This doesn’t mean that children don’t respect their elders any more. Respect is shown by the way they speak to teachers; how they act and how they reciprocate respectful behaviour from others. In fact, respect between children and adults these days is very much a mutual thing. ‘If you respect me then I’ll respect you’, which is different to the days of ‘respect your elders because they are older’, regardless of how an adult may have treated a child.

The key to the use of names is that adults need to feel comfortable with how they are addressed. If a teacher feels comfortable being addressed by her first name then children can use his or her first name. If a teacher prefers to be addressed as Mr, Miss or Mrs then his or wish needs to be respected too.

Australia has a wonderful egalitarian society that values equality in relationships between people from different economic, social and cultural backgrounds. This egalitarianism holds true for people from different generations. We can all get on and treat each other respectfully regardless of the monikers we choose.