Science

In the past few weeks we have been doing a unit on energy. Your child should be coming home using terms like ‘conductivity’, ‘convection’, ‘insulation’ and heat transfer.
So it was with interest that I read an article about the link between successful learners and learners who do well in science.  

**NAPLAN and STEM** (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)

Oct 27, 2015 by Chris Lassig

What would you say if I told you that you could improve your NAPLAN reading mean scale score by ensuring your students were successful in science?

Analysis has confirmed that there is a correlation between report card outcomes and NAPLAN results. Interestingly, this correlation is true regardless of the subject being taught, and is visible across all NAPLAN domains.

This is really good news for teachers, school leaders, and students. It means that the key to continuing our state-wide improvement is quality, not quantity. If we teach well — regardless of learning area or subject — there will be follow-on effects and our students will be supported to succeed.

This aligns nicely with our increasing focus on STEM. We can maintain (and improve) strong literacy and numeracy skills, at the same time as developing science, technology, engineering and mathematics skills. STEM helps to build a culture of curiosity, and encourages students to:

- discover answers to questions
- find creative and innovative solutions to conflicts and problems
- investigate interesting ideas or thoughts
- explore possibilities.

Success in STEM subjects will produce strong NAPLAN results across domains (not just numeracy). When you think about it, this makes sense, because the skills students develop when they study and are inspired by STEM are not exclusive to STEM. Writing often involves the investigation of an interesting thought, while reading is one way to discover answers to questions. I’m sure you can think of other connections, and I invite you to share them below.

In NAPLAN this year, Queensland students recorded the strongest improvement in the nation. Let’s continue this trend and ensure our young people are inspired to become lifelong learners, global citizens, and successful people.

So when you are talking to your child at home about what they are learning at school, remember to reinforce the science concepts by asking them more explicit questions about the content and the terms. Ask them to explain with why and how questions.
**Principal’s Piece**

*Every day is a learning day!*

*Our school attendance target is above 96%*

**The Centenary**

With Nagoorin State School Centenary done and dusted for the next 100 years it is a time of reflection. While I didn’t know a majority of the people who returned for our celebration I still heard people talking about our grounds, our students and our buildings. The feedback was positive! I heard people talking about our students and how well they presented themselves. How beautifully they spoke and how nicely the addressed any questions. I heard people talking about how beautiful the gardens were and how, although the school hasn’t changed a lot it is well maintained and looks great. I heard people comment on the technology that was seen in the classrooms and how good it was to see the students of Nagoorin keeping up with the times. And very importantly I was approached by someone who spoke to me about the strength of our P&C and how wonderful it is to see such a committed team at such a tiny school. Well done Nagoorin State School! You should be proud!

Please find all the photographs from Nagoorin State School’s 100th Anniversary at [http://www.katrinaelliott.com.au/gallery/Nagoorin-Primary-School-100th-Anniversary/G0000F0xlGl2Innw/C0000m37E_d1VDjU](http://www.katrinaelliott.com.au/gallery/Nagoorin-Primary-School-100th-Anniversary/G0000F0xlGl2Innw/C0000m37E_d1VDjU)

The password is 100

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**Attendance**

*Attendance Rate* 98.1%

2016 is going to be exciting! There will be added incentives for children who attend school for 100 days straight of learning!
As the days are getting hotter I’d like to remind everyone to bring a water bottle to school. Please name these bottles so that they can be returned if found.

It must be the season for giving. Thank you to Bechtel for donating a sound system and a pie warmer for our school’s parade and tuckshop. We have put both items to good use already!

A huge shout out to John Holland for the donation of 20 laptops, docking stations and 22 inch monitors for our students to be ready for the new technology curriculum. We will be coding and robotics ready for 2016!

P & C NEWS
Next Meeting
Wednesday 20 May 5 pm

Uniforms
New uniforms have arrived and can be purchased from the school before and after school.
Please remember that uniform sales are by cash or cheque only. If you are unable to visit the school fill out an order form and leave it at the office and we will fill the order and send what you need home with your child.

Shirts are $25 each
Hats are $7

Ella
Good luck Ella with your transition days at Gladstone State High!
Playgroup continues to run well with up to 10 families bringing their littlies to Nagoorin School to listen to stories, paint, play with playdough, sing, dance and share their lunch with the ‘big school’. 9 to 10.30 am Wednesday  All Welcome!

Showcasing what a love of reading can achieve.  A student at Nagoorin State School in 8 months of intensive explicit instruction has achieved a reading gain of approximately 3 years using the MULTILIT Reading Tutor Program.

A huge thank you to Rod Dahl for his wonderful efforts teaching us to play NRL. Three weeks of side stepping, passing a ball like eating a hamburger and catching with Macca’s hands we are ready to take on the Cowboys!

Thank you yet again to an amazing group of parents and students who have worked tirelessly on our Green Days. The grounds looked fantastic for the Centenary! Congratulations all!

Tuckshop was a huge success today. The children had tomato sauce and pie smiling faces at lunchtime. To make it easier – tuckshop will always be $5 and will always happen on a Wednesday.

For our Cluster Day – see the below menu.

Book week Festivities! Thank you to Bettina and Katy from the Gladstone City Library and the Benevolent Society for making this a valuable learning day!