Dear Parents,

**Resiliency Robbers** by Michael Grose

Robber #2

**Make their problem, your problem**

Sometimes parents can take too much responsibility for issues that are really up to children to work out or decide. Here’s a clue if you are wondering what I am talking about: a jumper is something a mother puts on her son when she is cold!

**Resilience notion #2:** Make their problem, their problem.

**Language of resilience**

“Don’t let this spoil everything”

Strategy: containing thinking

**Good for:**

Kids who feel overwhelmed; kids who experience refection; perfectionists. The ability to compartmentalise bad events and keep them from affecting all life is a powerful coping skill. Sportpeople, politicians and others who work in the public arena need to be adept at it. When something unpleasant happens during recess, for example, kids need to park their thinking about that event so they can get on with the rest of the day. The ability to compartmentalise thinking is a fantastic life skill kids can learn within their family.

The term is flying by with some very exciting things happening at our school. Genes for jeans day, Awesome After School Activities (AAA), science day and the fun run coming up.

**Bursary**

Students in year five, six and seven don’t forget to be working on your bursary, especially the year sevens. Up to $700 is awarded each year to a community minded student.

**School Photos**

**Monday 19th August school photos.** If you wish to purchase school photos envelopes with correct money need to be returned to school on the 19th August. Photos cannot be ordered or paid for after this date.

**SunSmart Practices**

Bluff state school has been awarded a SunSmart practices award for demonstrating a commitment to providing a SunSmart environment from the Cancer Council. Bluff State School ticks all the boxes for providing a SunSmart environment except one, encouraging parents to wear broadbrim hats. So come on parents start waring your broadbrim hats.

**Steven Bell and Josh Hannay U10 Football Challenge**

Seven boys have nominated to participate in the U10 football challenge at Capella today. Good Luck and have a great day.
Fundraising opportunities – volunteers needed
Bluff Rabbito’s have made the semi-finals. The Footy club will donate money to the school P&C if 4/5 volunteers can help out in the canteen between 7pm and 9pm on the 24th August.
Dingo race club have also offered to donate to the P&C if we can help out on the gate at the races on the 5th October. If you can help at either of these events it would be greatly appreciated let us know as so as possible.

Change of Date
The Emmi Bielenberg memorial fun run will now be held on the 30th August. We still need volunteers for water stops and runners. The route will be similar as last year so if you live along the route and could help us out with a water stop or can run with the children that love to run all the way please let Max in the office know.

Awesome After school Activities (AAA)
We had our final week of sewing this the week and the end results were fantastic a very big thank you to Kyleigh for her expertise. The activity for the next four weeks will be touch football. Keep your eye out for the permission note and we will start next Wednesday.

Gene for Jeans
Gene for Jeans day was a huge success, a big thank you to all who participated from designing jeans to bidding at the auction. A massive $858.80 was raise for an excellent cause and a fantastic afternoon was had by all. An extra special thank you to Miss I, Mrs Clanfield and the student council for the hard work and excellent idea.

Science Day
Wednesday last week students had a fun filled day of science. After viewing a science show upper school students were involved in 12 different experiments where they had to conduct the experiment and explain what was happening. They then became the teacher for the lower school students were amazed and intrigued.

Camp
Year 5-7 camp is coming up very quickly. It is in the last week of term 16th to 20th September. We are after a male volunteer to attend camp. You don’t have to have a child attending the camp. You would need to attend a 30min code of conduct before we leave. If you can help us out please contact the office ASAP.

Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students
Brock- fantastic effort with handwriting; Bailey- good effort at school; Makaylah- working hard

Isabelle- enthusiasm and fantastic work; Lexy- consistent effort in her work;
Will Hepworth- consistent good work  (Bailey and Lexy away at time of photo)
Prep students received their very first home readers this week to much excitement. I am so proud of how far they have come – most students now display beginning reading concepts and are able to use their strategies to read simple texts. Parents please take the time to read through the home reader booklet. A lot of time was spent preparing that booklet so that you are able to assist your child in becoming successful readers. Reading is supposed to be an enjoyable experience so please encourage this attitude towards reading and approach reading in a way that supports this. Year 1 students have also progressed with their reading and comprehension and several have moved reading levels. This is due to their work at home and especially in class. Well done all!

We are starting our new English unit on Poetry this week and last week we started planning our drama performance. Students read and voted between two books, with “The three little pigs” winning out as the story to perform. Students are also becoming very proficient at giving and following locational and directional language in Maths. Year 1 students are using the technical terms of ‘clock-wise’ and ‘anti-clockwise’ accurately – well done year 1’s!

We are now halfway through our long term 3 and I am noticing and hearing that students are starting to speak and behave negatively towards school and the workload. A fair bit of talk has been happening outside of class about how school is “hard work” and students don’t want to give things a go. I have been talking in class about why school is hard and how their hard work pays off with what they are able to do. Please reinforce the importance of school, learning and persisting with difficult things with your child. I understand that they are getting tired, as everyone is at this stage of the year, but it is disappointing and upsetting to see that children who have been so positive and enthusiastic all year, starting to lose these great qualities. Across the school we encourage children to be resilient and the more this is backed up at home, the more the students will use these skills in their lives.

It has been said lots of times already but another huge thankyou to all those students, parents, families, staff members and community members who assisted, participated in and supported our Jeans for Genes Day. Bluff SS Student Council raised $858.80 for the Children Medical Research Institute. This money goes towards finding treatments for genetic diseases and provides more equipment to be bought, and testing for and of these diseases to occur. Miss I assembled a video comprised of video snippets and photos of the day which was then sent away as our submission to possibly win a visit from Australian recording artist Adam Katz. Within hours of the video being emailed, an email was sent back from the J4G Day foundation who were very impressed with the effort and money raised.

“It has made our morning to receive such a great video, which shows incredible support for Jeans for Genes and CMRI.Well done on putting it all together and sharing it with us and on raising so much to support our research. This is truly incredible!”

Student Council is having a Sweets Stall at the Garage Sale this Sunday. They will be selling 30cm Pucker Powder Straws for $3, Lolly Bags for $1 and will be running a chocolate toss game where 50c will provide you with one chance to toss a counter onto a chocolate. If the counter lands and stays on the chocolate, you win that chocolate. Please support Student Council on this day.
Nelle Frances will be delivering a training workshop in Emerald on Saturday 19th October 2013.

This workshop gives Teachers, Professionals, Child Care workers and families a vivid insight into the subtle intricacies of the Autism Spectrum condition and provides participants with a myriad of strategies to help them cope.

Aurizon would like to inform you that we will commence construction on the Wiggins Island Rail Project, Dingo to Bluff rail duplication in August 2013. The construction works will involve duplicating 24 km of track between Dingo and Bluff on the Blackwater Rail System and construction of three rail bridges alongside the existing bridge structures at Charlevue Creek, Springton Creek and Walton Creek.

Continuing our commitment to safety, Aurizon will upgrade the Rockview Road, Pinegrove Road and Quarry Entrance Road level crossings to ensure the safety of motorists and pedestrians.

While Aurizon endeavors to minimise disruption to the community during its works, please allow for sufficient travel time around the area.