Dear Parents

It’s hard to believe that we are at the end of week four already. That only leaves five weeks to the end of term and next Thursday will be our mid-term rewards BBQ. An invitation will be sent home on Monday to the students that have qualified for the reward. Congratulations to all those students…you have been setting a great example by following the rules and completing homework. Over the last four weeks I have been visiting all classrooms and seeing some awesome work being produced by the students. It is great to be in a school where the teacher’s focus is on teaching and learning. You can all be proud of your children and the way they conduct themselves at Wheatlands State School.

Preparations for the Canberra Camp are well underway and last night parents and teachers met at Murgon State School for an information session. I will be attending the trip and am looking forward to the experience. There will be a letter sent home next week with more details, prices and information around a payment plan.

All teachers have been conducting Parent /Teacher Interviews over the last week and have almost seen everyone. If you have not met with your child’s teacher can you please contact the school to arrange a time that suits you? The teachers are very flexible and willing to accommodate your requests as best they can. It is important that you are aware of where your child is academically and how you can support the school with their education.

Thank you to all the community members that turned out last Friday to meet the new staff and parents to the school. It was a great night and I enjoyed meeting so many people. Thanks to the P&C for organising and preparing the food. I would also like to thank the students for their warm birthday wishes.

Can I remind everyone of the uniform policy and dress code as laid out in the parent handbook:

**UNIFORMS – DRESS CODE:**

**CLOTHING OPTIONS:**

- **School polo shirt in blue with black trim and school logo**
- **Summer:** School approved blue shorts or skorts (netball skirts are not encouraged for modesty reasons)
- **Winter:** Plain long blue pants (i.e.: track pants, leggings)
- **School jumper – Plain blue or school supplied spray jackets only**

**SHOES:**

Enclosed shoes are compulsory. Black is preferred with white or black socks. Sports shoes are ideal. Shoes must contain shoe laces or velcro.

**HATS:**

Blue, broad brimmed hat, 7cm brimmed bucket hat or legionnaire to be worn at all times when outdoors.

**JEWELLERY:**

Jewellery is not encouraged to be worn to school. Students are permitted to wear a watch, simple chain and studs or sleepers.

*Items which could cause injury to the wearer or others in a sporting context must be removed before the child participates and remain the responsibility of the student.*

**MAKE-UP:**

Make-up is not permitted at any time, other than for a special occasion such as make-up required for a school concert. Nail polish is also not permitted.

We are starting to see some decline in the code so can you please ensure that your child/children are in harmony with the principles that have made Wheatlands State School one of the most appealing schools in the area.

Adam Head
Hello from Prep/1

Soooo.... Did anyone see that photo on the frontpage of the South Burnett Times on Tuesday? Yes, that’s right, our Preps are FAM OUS! Please note that I will professionally print that famous photo (signed by all students) for parents. These will be sent home next week.

What Prep/Year 1 have been up to

- We have started classroom dojo! YAY! We were able to choose our own character and work towards building up points to win prizes from the prize box.
- Miss Sullivan has been helping us (the Year 1’s) to rule up books correctly, focus on our pencil grip, remember to use spaces between our words, capital letters to start our sentences and the use of full stops to finish our thoughts.
- We have been learning to recognise the letters ‘Ss, Aa, Tt’ and the sounds they make. We have also completed some really fun craft related to our sounds. Sssnakes, A a ants and T t turtles.
- Mrs Sullivan is helping us re-write and illustrate our own fictional story. We can’t wait until it is published.
- Mrs Stanley is working us (year 1’s) really hard! Those Reading and Grammar Conventions books are tricky but we are getting the hang of them now.
- Handwriting in those red and blue lines started off being a bit PROBLEMATIC but with the help of Casey Caterpillar we improve with every lesson.
- NUMBERS! Numbers to 5, numbers to 10, numbers to 20, backwards from 20, writing numbers, recognising numbers, matching numbers… did we mention NUMBERS?
- We have enjoyed discussing our families. Did you know that some families have ALL boys apart from Mum? Poor M UM! We discussed what families are, have and can do. Most importantly, we have learned that ALL families are different.
- Our favourite lesson of all is …. GARDENING!! Luckily the majority of our seedlings have survived the extreme heat this week. A big thank you to Michelle MacCartie and family for supplying mulch to help protect our plants.
- Next week we are going to use some egg cartons to grow our own seedlings (from SEEDS!) How exciting.

Note for parents:

- A BIG thank you for your support. It is so wonderful to see that ALL homework has been completed thus far. Know that your involvement in your child’s education goes a long way. We really appreciate the effort and time taken to complete these tasks and to talk with us about the progress your child makes every day.
- Thank you to the Ackindose family for donating some fresh new toys to our room—They are definitely a hit!
- Another thank you to our families who have brought in egg cartons—we now have plenty.

Miss Sarah Sullivan
**Years 2/3 News**

Last week I sent home to each student our class Term 1 overview and our weekly timetable. As part of our English/Drama Unit this week we have been reading over a range of short plays based on fairytales. Students have sent me a note to request certain roles and I will do my best to accommodate students' interests where possible. A note will come out early next week to explain the task in more detail with the student's role and script attached.

In maths we are continuing to look at Number and continuing with our tables challenge. In Science we have been classifying plants and animals. In history we have begun to discuss 'Celebration and Commemorations' and looking at the differences between the two.

Thank you to the parents I have met with so far in Parent/Teacher interviews and I look forward to meeting with more parents next week.

**Week 3**

Green slips—Ruby A, Mia  
Bookwork Award—none this week

**Week 4**

Green slips—Erin, Shea and Jessica  
Bookwork Award—Mia

Mrs Brimblecombe

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**Year 4 News**

Wow, Week 4 already...where has the time gone? We have been very busy in the Year 4 class looking at some very interesting humorous poems, one in particular ‘Little Girls Giggling’.

During Maths we have been investigating different Addition and Mental Strategies in which I am pleased to report that most of the students are finding very helpful in working out their addition and subtraction sums. Science has been fun looking at different types of ‘forces’ that are involved in different types of experiments that we have been conducting. One experiment in particular the kids enjoyed was the balloon experiment where we had to fill it with water and drop it from a certain height. History is proving to be interesting as we are starting to learn about the local Wakka Wakka people in our region and finding out different facts about them and also interesting facts about the area/region we live in. The students are super excited to start designing and then making their repurposed items in Technology using the material that has been kindly donated by various families. Thank you to those parents who have donated so far...it is greatly appreciated. Well with five weeks left in the term it is going to be very hectic but exciting to see assessment pieces finished and on display.

Strive Words

**Week 3:**
- Repurpose
- Components
- Green Slips

**Week 4:**
- Colonisation
- Longevity

Mrs Bishop

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Cooper Mollenhauer  
Isabella Fox  
Zac Kennedy

Mrs Bishop
It has been a busy past two weeks – time seems to be flying by as we edge our way through the term. I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting with parents this week as we undertake parent/teacher interviews to discuss student’s individual education plans and targets for the following terms. For those parents whom I’ve not yet had the pleasure of meeting with, I look forward to catching you over the following week to formally introduce myself and discuss your child’s progress.

Our unit work for Technology is in full swing as students begin to investigate the factors involved with creating their “Breakfasts of Champions”. Students are expecting to prepare their breakfast for their classmates during week 8 and we are anticipating great success as most students appear to be highly motivated by the design challenge.

I am witnessing some fantastic writing from the students during our 7 Steps to Writing Success program. We are working on transforming our ideas into engaging pieces of work and it is rewarding to observe how students are embracing the new concepts to develop and improve their original ideas. It is a slow process that we are systematically working through and I look forward to reading the completed pieces as the term progresses.

The Year 6 students have been involved in discussions and voting involving their senior shirts. Many interesting and thoughtful designs were submitted for consideration. A few new factors have been brought to Mr Head’s and my attention so the final design has still not yet been officially decided upon, however, we are making every effort to deal with this as swiftly as possible so the seniors can receive their shirts with ample time to wear them throughout the school year.

Last week’s green slip awards were presented to Jordan Louis and Nick Divljak with Joe Meikle taking home the bookwork award for exceptional and consistent bookwork. This week’s green slip awards were presented to Hannah Rosenthal and Denim Brown for showing initiative as independent learners - qualities which I highly value and believe will benefit students as they progress into the senior years and eventually high school.

Our STRIVE words last week were PROFOUND and MONOTONOUS and this week we explored the meanings of CATASTROPHE and ANXIOUS. These words have been targeted as they appeared to be words that many students struggled with during our comprehension testing at the beginning of the term. With our Lecturette focus on persuasion and techniques such as exaggeration and emphasis, these words will no doubt contribute to student’s abilities to create powerful persuasive arguments.

All in all, things seem to be travelling very smoothly in the 5/6 classroom. I would like to commend every student in my class for their dedication and cooperation during learning time. It is this positive attitude which shapes our classroom community and atmosphere which contributes to creating and maintaining a pleasant and productive environment for all involved.
South Burnett School Sports Dates

Attention students who would like to trial to represent the South Burnett.

Trials are for students who are turning 10, 11 or 12 in 2016. Please note that students who would like to trial to represent the South Burnett are expected to be participating at a club level or have demonstrated a significant ability in a sport. Please note that it is not have a go day. Students who are interested need to speak to Mrs Goschnick. These dates and venues are subject to change at the convenor’s discretion. All venues for these trials are in the Kingaroy town area. Notes and permission for these sports will be sent out as the information becomes available.

- SB Boys and Girls Softball Trials 4 March
- SB AFL Trials 4 March
- SB Boys and Girls Touch Trials 18 March
- SB Boys and girls Basketball Trials 18 March
- SB Boys and Girls Soccer, Tennis 15 April
- SB Girls Netball 15 April
- SB Boys Rugby League U/11 and U/12 15 April
Invitation to Try Scouting

You are invited to visit and participate in our Scout Sign On Day

Juniors & Cubs (6 to 11 years old)
When: Saturday 10/3/16 10am-2pm
Scouts & Venturers (11 to 18 years old)
When: Saturday 10/3/16 10am-2pm
At: Warwick Central Scout Den:
33 Kiwee Street, Warwick Qld. 4370
Contact: Dan Lang 0429577729
dlang47@gmail.com

WINDERA MUSIC MUSTER
JUNIOR TALENT QUEST
Saturday, 20th February 2016
1 p.m. Start
(MUST BE OF A COUNTRY 00-5000 WATER ONLY)

REGISTER BY 12.45 p.m.
- 6 years group
- 7 to 12 years group
- 13 to 18 years group

HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS WORTH OF PRIZES

For information or to register:
Phone: 0416761753

It's on again...
The Chronicle
Lifeline
Darling Downs & South West Qld
Toowoomba's Biggest Recycled Book Sale
In the Pounds Pavilion at the Toowoomba Showgrounds Glenvale Road, Toowoomba

Saturday 5th March and Sunday 6th March 2016
Saturday 8.00am - 5.00pm - Sunday 8.00am - 2.00pm

Bargain Books
where nothing is over $5 and most books are considerably less

FREE Admission
FREE Parking

Enquiries to -
Ph: 1300 991 443

2016 WINDERA MUSIC MUSTER
Saturday 20th
February at
WINDERA SCHOOL

Music TILL LATE
ALICE BENFER, BOB HUNT, AMBER GOLDSMITH, ALONG WITH LOCAL ARTISTS
and DIRECT FROM TAMWORTH
KERRY KENNEDY AND DOUBLE BARREL

Licenced bar, food and heaps of fun for the Family and kids

Comedy available @ $20 per site

Ball sites from $35 plus admission

Admission $15 adults / High school children $5
Under the trees at Windera State School
20 min north of Warwick on the Warwick-Benaraby Rd

For all bookings info please contact 0407 085 622

PLUS: JUNIOR TALENT QUEST
1 PM START (Register by 12.45 p.m.)
Seven Steps to Writing Success

PERSUASIVE WRITING

Included this week are examples from the Year 2/3 Class -
Thanks Mrs Brim

Books are lame! They don't do anything, they are just stories. Books are lazy and rot your brain. Who wants to read? That is just a dumb idea.

Miley

TV fills up your mind with rubbish! When you go outside you feel like you need to go back inside and watch TV again. If you read a book you can learn.

Miranda

Books are better than TV because you learn stuff in books and on TV you do not really learn anything. Only if it is in the news. Books do not have ads! If you watch too much TV you will get square eyes. If you have any other brothers or sisters they might want to change the channel and with a book...no one can change it. Some chapter books have no pictures and that's good because then you can imagine what it looks like.

Erin

Books are better than TV because you can learn a lot from books but TV makes you lazy and unhealthy. So get up and read a book and get healthy. Then you don't turn out to be really, really, really lazy!!! So go read a book...be smart and learn knowledge.

Pixie

Books are boring! All you have to do is read and some books don't even have pictures. Can you believe it? So that's why I think TV's are wayyyy better than books. Books are just dumb stories.

Mia

TV is the best! It is sooo exciting and you always like to get excited!

Peter

Books don't have ads. Books are more relaxing. Books are more interesting and they are longer than TV.

Shea

TV makes people lazy! Books make you learn. Sometimes books make you laugh. Ha! Ha! Ha! Sometimes you can read to make you sleep. Sometimes you learn how to read, so you know different words. Olivia

Wheatlands SS Resilience and Wellbeing

This week and next week students will explore ‘Diversity’

Diversity

Appreciation for diversity within the school promotes healthy relationships among students and an understanding of our differences and similarities.

We look to address, promote and provide:

- Appreciation that we are all different
  
  - Positive relationships among students
  
  - Strategies to address our differences and similarities

The activities include: Everybody is Unique. Words Can Hurt, Me and We: We Are All Similar and Different, Looks Like Respect, Sounds Like Respect, Feels Like...and much more.

Miss Sarah Sullivan
Next Meeting — 8th March—AGM

If you have anything you would like to add to the agenda for the next meeting, please add it to the form at the front office counter.

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