At Wheatlands State School we put safety of students above all else. The Department of Education has released a new directive around unexplained absences and the notification from parents and carers. Commencing in 2017, this directive compels all schools to notify parents that their child is absent. Wheatlands State School has already commenced this process. Teachers are required to mark class rolls prior to 9.30am, administration staff will then print a report to show all unexplained absences. A text message is then sent notifying parents /caregivers of the absence. The message will ask the parent/caregiver to contact the school with an explanation for the absence. This lets us know that the student is safe and you are aware of their absence.

It is still the parent’s responsibility to notify the school of a child’s absence and this will eliminate us contacting you for an explanation. This notification can be done by undertaking one of the following procedures:

- Phone 41684970 and speak to a staff member.
- Email admin@wheatlanss.eq.edu.au.
- Advise administration staff or teachers of student’s absence in person.

After receiving a text message from the school, the parent must contact the school to say they have received the message and they are aware of the situation.

Failure to hear from a parent will result in the following procedure:

1. 30 minutes after the text message administration staff will call the parent.
2. 30 minutes after the first call a second call will be made.
3. The Principal will be notified if there is no response from the parent/caregiver.

If your child/children leave early due to illness and are away the following day you are still required to advise the school. The school cannot assume they are still sick.

I would like to also encourage parents to communicate with teachers about any issues or concerns that they may have. If you have an idea or would like to see something change in the school then please talk with your child’s teacher. There may be reasons why things are being done in a certain way that may not be obvious to parents. A simple conversation can usually put at ease such concerns. If you still have concerns then you are welcome to come and talk with me and hopefully we can resolve any issues. I find that teachers here are very welcoming and easy to talk with and always willing to meet with parents.

We will soon be starting the process of choosing our two school captains for 2017. I encourage all current year five students to undertake the school captain qualifying process as it is a great way to reflect on your time here at Wheatlands. We will not be limiting the outcome to one boy and one girl but looking at all applicants on merit. A booklet will be presented to all year five students before the September holidays which will outline the requirements for this very exciting process. Good luck to everyone who applies.

Kind regards

Adam
We have completed all PAT testing and benchmark testing and are preparing for interviews. Thank you to the parents who have submitted their times for an interview. Remember that this is an important time to celebrate distance travelled since the beginning of the year and to set important educational goals for your child’s future education.

The prep/one class will have a number of visitors next week – on Monday we will welcome a teacher from Goomeri and Tuesday we will have a teacher from both Murgon and Goomeri coming to observe how amazing we are.

A note went home on Wednesday about the Prep to Year 4’s attending a show in Wondai. We will be able to witness a choir performing in style. I know this will inspire the “singer/performer” in all of us. More singing in the shower perhaps?

What Prep/Year One are learning:

- In English, we have been learning the “Five Little Owls” poem and have made up actions to help us remember it for one part of the final assessment. Next week we will begin our final written assessment. Students will use the framework and rhyming pattern of “Five Little Owls” to come up with a poem containing an animal of their choice. We have already started brainstorming.

- In Maths, “space and shape” has proven to be the best strand in maths so far. Students have picked up on the shapes so quickly – being able to determine the differences between 2D and 3D shapes, their properties and symmetrical attributes. This is one of our smaller booklets and we expect them to complete it by week ten and tested before holidays.

- Reminder to keep up with reading: students have made significant progress in their independent reading and comprehension. They will be tested for the second time in week 10.

- Our Technology challenges have been “challenging” this week. We are preparing for our final assessment. Students have been able to type independently (finding the letters on the keyboard can be a challenge on its own), change font, font colour, style and insert clipart with minimal assistance.

- Spelling Mastery A: Keeping you informed. We have new students in our class and also two prep students who have started spelling. I have started the Spelling Mastery A program from Lesson one for all students completing Spelling Mastery A. This will be great revision for those who have completed these lessons prior to now, keep everyone together and allow those students just starting Spelling Mastery A to learn the foundation spelling rules required for the remainder of their education. Parents will be notified in Term 4 whether their child is able to move on to Spelling Mastery B in 2017.

- A big thank you to the parents who encouraged their child to dress up as a book character for our book week parade. What a smashing success it was. Thank you Tracy Anderson for inspiring us to love books and for your continued efforts in our school library (this includes coming up with new and exciting craft activities during our lunch breaks).

Miss Sarah Sullivan
Years 2/3 News

We have had a busy couple of weeks. The highlight was definitely participating in the Book Week parade last week. We have now completed PAT and reading testing and I am in the process of collating this data for interviews next week. I now have most booking forms back, and have returned these highlighted with interview times.

We have begun working on the draft and final copy of our animal information reports. I sent a note home this week with the notes students’ collected for them to prepare for their lecturettes for Week 10.

In maths ‘Bright Sparks’ and ‘Smarty Pants’ are working on chance and data and ‘Whizz Kids’ are working on fractions. Miss Hite has made many useful resources for students to practice fraction concepts, including cake and biscuits Mmmm mmm!

**Week 7**
Green Slips- Hannah, Amber

**Week 8**
Green Slips- Jessica, Pixie

This week we welcome Prac Teacher Tanya Hite to our classroom, she brings with her a wealth of experience from her work at Mother Kate’s Daycare Centre in Wondai. This is her first professional experience placement in her teacher education program through the University of Southern Queensland.

A little about Tanya… from Tanya - *I have worked as a qualified educator in the childcare industry since 1999. I am currently working at Mother Kate’s Early Learning Centre as the kindergarten teacher. I have held this position since the beginning of 2014 and have been studying part time at USQ during this time.*

**Mrs Alex Brimblecombe**

Well done to all 55 participants in the P&C’s Read-a-thon fundraiser. There have been reports of some students now voluntarily engaging in reading more often which is fantastic.

All student incentive prizes for sponsorships obtained have now been ordered. Fingers crossed they will arrive prior to the school holidays! The draw for the Samsung tablet will be held when prizes arrive – 29 families will be in with a chance to win.

And the other big news is the fundraising total profit – drumroll please …… total profit $3,262. That’s an amazing effort from students, parents and their sponsors – thank you everyone! The P&C are inviting suggestions for how the front bush area of the school grounds may be revamped so please speak out if you have any ideas which you would like to see incorporated.
Greetings from the Year 4 class. PAT testing is done and dusted. Woohoo!! We have been very busy in the last couple of weeks finishing our testing and getting ready for parent/teacher interviews. Only two more weeks until holidays (not that anyone is counting).

**English**

Weeks 7 and 8 saw the students engaged in PAT testing as well as their English unit work which focused on language in literary recounts and writing a recount in the first person.

**Science**

In Science we have been focusing on how to write up a science experiment and what language should be used. Students wrote up the last experiment they did, which was leak, soak or repel. Students were observed on their neatness, setting out and correct language use. We also discussed tensile materials and what constituted low, medium and high tensile materials. This will be followed up with another experiment which will test materials to see how tensile they are.

**Maths**

In weeks 7 and 8 we have concluded our unit of length, area and perimeter. The next unit of work is based on space, shape and position. This will then be continued after the school holidays.

**Geography**

Unfortunately due to PAT testing we have missed a couple of our Geography lessons to enable students to catch up on tests they missed. Now testing is all done we are going to be back on track and raring to go.

**Green Slips weeks 7 & 8:**

Jorja Forsythe, Matthew Kunde, Lacy Lee, Isabella Fox

**The Arts - Drama**

Students have been, and will continue, working on their assessment, which is a group activity, in which they have to express in a still frame of a chosen topic from our unit.

Mrs Michelle Bishop
The end of term is drawing nearer with only two weeks to go. Our classroom has been very busy with PAT testing as well as all the usual unit assessments. Your child’s attendance is of the utmost importance at this point in the term. We have had many interruptions due to illness, sporting events and the absences of the year 6’s for the Canberra trip which has meant that this term has seen us playing catch up for a large majority of the time. The next two weeks will be pivotal in us completing the work needed for the end of term. We are however in the home stretch with the holidays being a much deserved reward at the end, but until then, every day counts!

Book week was a great success! A big thank you to Mrs Anderson for organising the day and a big congratulations to everyone who participated. It is the effort and involvement of the students and their parents that help make events such as book week such a success. The Wheatland’s school spirit was flying high and it was an absolute pleasure to be a part of.

Lectureettes have been presented this week during class. The students presented an informative speech about an Australian hero/icon. It was an interesting and engaging topic with many of us learning about Australian icons that we may not have been very familiar with in the past. Well done Years 5 and 6.

Parent teacher interviews are due to commence next week. If you have not yet indicated an interview time that suits you, please return the note that was sent home with your child ASAP as the available time slots are filling up fast. Parent teacher interviews are not only about gaining a snap shot into your child’s progress, it is also an opportunity for you to communicate with your classroom teacher any concerns or feedback that you feel need to be addressed. Having said that, I would like to remind you that my door is always open and you don’t need to wait until parent teacher interviews to contact me.

The end of Term rewards day is due to be held on Thursday the 15th September! I am hoping that everyone from the Year 5/6 classroom will earn an invitation to this event. Good, consistent behaviour, attendance (no unexplained absences) and completion of homework all contribute to qualifying so keep up the good work!

Book work awards – Week 5 Jayden Monk
Week 7 Elly-Mei Cook

That’s all for this week,

Ms Fox

Sports News

Congratulations to Denim Brown, Amy Henderson, Joe Meikle and Nick Divljak on your efforts at the Wide Bay Athletics trials last Thursday. You performed well and displayed excellent sportsmanship. Great results for a small school.

Mrs Goschnick
Introductions to Auslan

11th August - 8th September

A free course, designed to introduce the basics of Australian Sign Language (ASL), with opportunities for further learning. This introduction to Auslan workshop was run annually from 11th August - 8th September, 10am to 12pm at Promote Little Learning.

WPJRLC AGM

9 October 2016

Wolves Club House

10am

Save the date!
Bring a plate!
A huge congratulations to all the students that participated in the 2016 Book Week Dress-Up Parade! It was an awesome morning, with students once again doing an outstanding job on costumes, making it such a hard job for our judges. Winners and runner up received prizes with everyone who participated also receiving a small prize of recognition. Well done Wheatlands students!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Runner Up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under school age</td>
<td>Thomas Hancock, Danika Ramke, Cassidy Mollenhauer</td>
<td>Hayden Mirtschin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Gabriel Mollenhauer</td>
<td>Shaun Gordon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>J Monk</td>
<td>Shaun Gordon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Ruby Ackinclose</td>
<td>Jessica Towells</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Hannah Mollenhauer</td>
<td>Erin Kunde, Peter Anderson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Dustin Ramke</td>
<td>Clair Anderson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Nick Divljak</td>
<td>Madison Bishop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Larissa Ramke</td>
<td>Joe Meikle</td>
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A reminder to all students that borrowing day is Wednesday and to be eligible to win a borrowing prize at the end of the term, students will need to remember their library bag and borrow at least 7 times throughout the term. Also, students are encouraged to borrow over the school holidays, the only holidays students are not allowed to take books home is at Christmas break.

This week during lunch time we had some fun with paper craft making some paper fish. These turned out great and students had lots of fun cutting, pasting and decorating their fish. Lastly – if there are any parents willing to do some book covering for the library, please come and see me. This can be done in the library or books can be taken home to do if that is more convenient. It is a never ending job, but needs to be done if we want to get more books on the shelves for our school. Your help would be much appreciated.

Mrs Tracy Anderson
Teacher Librarian
Congratulations to Kai Allan who competed in the National Karate Titles in Adelaide last weekend. There were competitors from all over Australia, Japan, Malaysia and New Zealand.

Kai won the following medals:
Bronze in team demonstration
Bronze in individual Kumite (fighting)
Silver in team fighting
Well done
**HONEY NOW AVAILABLE FOR SALE**

Donated by Denmar Apiaries (Kiem family)

50% of proceeds go to P&C

$8.00 per 1 kg tub—please see Glenda in Office.

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**P & C NEWS**

Next Meeting — Tuesday 11th October 6.30 pm

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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**Dates to Remember**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Events</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesdays</td>
<td>Library borrowing day and all tuckshop orders to be placed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursdays</td>
<td>School banking day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>School parade (2.40 pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7th September</td>
<td>Watoto choir - Wondai Town Hall (Prep—Yr 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>15th September</td>
<td>End of term Rewards Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th September</td>
<td>Last day of Term 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd October</td>
<td>Queens Birthday Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>11th October</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting 6.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>17th October</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th October</td>
<td>School Banking Qld Team visit</td>
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<tr>
<td>29th October</td>
<td>P &amp; C Comedy Night fundraiser</td>
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</tbody>
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**RECYCLE FOR THE SCHOOL!**

Do you have any old automotive Batteries lying around?? Please drop them off at Murgon Tyre & Auto who can recycle them for you and all proceeds will be donated back to our School.