Yours in Education
Daniel Bishop

February Lutheran Church Hall (Edward St).
1913 Chambers (Edward St).

**South Burnett Youth Choir**
**Sign-On Days:**
Wondai – Monday 6th February. Lutheran Church Hall (Edward St).
Juniors (8 – 10yrs) @ 3:45pm. Seniors (11 – 18yrs) @ 4:30pm.

Kingaroy – Tuesday 7th February. 1913 Chambers (Edward St).
Juniors (8 – 12 yrs) @ 5:30pm. Seniors (13 – 18yrs) @ 6:15pm.

***Senior Choirs touring Tasmania in July 2012***
Phone Jane today for an enrolment package on 0411 118 510
or email — jane@datawave.net.au

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**Wheatlands State School Newsletter**

**Term 1 Week 2**
**3rd Feb 2012**

**BE A LEARNER**
**BE RESPECTFUL**
**BE SAFE**

Welcome everyone, particularly the new families to Wheatlands State School. This is the first of our fortnightly newsletters for 2012. It has been a busy start to the year and I am pleased to say that all students have settled in well to school life. All teachers are busy planning and teaching using the Australian Curriculum, some aspects of which have proven to be quite challenging.

Our day 8 numbers have officially registered as 81. This is a significant jump from 2011 and puts our school into the category of requiring a fourth teacher. Erin Hubbard has joined us on contract to fulfil this role. Erin comes to us after a year as a Prep teacher at Kingaroy State School. Please make her feel welcome. We have also picked up Janet Powne as our teacher for students with disabilities as well as two days in the year 6-7 class. Some of you will be familiar with Janet after her last stint here a couple of years ago.

All staff have commenced diagnostic testing of spelling, reading, vocabulary and math. These results will guide planning and individual targets to be set at 3-way meets early this term. Please stay tuned for interview schedules from teachers. With the large number of students enrolled this year it may not be possible in each case to see every teacher on the one afternoon, I will however try to accommodate parent requests where possible.

Year 7 students depart Monday morning for Barambah Environmental Centre for a 3 day Leadership Camp with the other Small Schools in our District. I will be attending with the students as they participate in numerous individual and team building activities.

Could I please remind parents and carers about the pick-up and drop off times. Please avoid dropping students off before 8.30am in the morning. We are unable to roster a supervising teacher on before this time, consequently we request you make every effort to assist the school to keep your child safe. In the afternoons it is expected that children not catching the bus will be collected at 3.00pm at the conclusion of the school day. All bus students are supervised until 3.25pm. It would be appreciated if parents were prompt in collecting their children as staff quite often have meetings and personal appointments to attend after school. If an unforeseen circumstance should arise that prevents you from collecting your child at 3.00pm, if someone else is collecting your child or if they are not going on the bus, you must ring the school to inform us of the changes and to make arrangements. I would like to thank everyone in advance for their cooperation with assisting the school on this matter.

Yours in Education
Daniel Bishop
### Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 6, 7, 8</td>
<td>Year 7 Leadership Camp</td>
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<td>Feb 7</td>
<td>School Banking starts Tuesday mornings</td>
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<td>Feb 9</td>
<td>Scholastic Bookclub orders due back at School</td>
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<td>Feb 10</td>
<td>Meet n Greet BBQ</td>
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<td>Feb 17</td>
<td>Small Schools Swimming Carnival Years 4–7</td>
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<td>Feb 18</td>
<td>Windera Music Muster</td>
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<td>Feb 21</td>
<td>P&amp;C AGM followed by usual P&amp;C meeting</td>
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<td>Mar 30</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
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<td>April 16</td>
<td>First Day of Term 2</td>
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### Class 1/2

**English**

This term will include a number of familiar texts (stories) for the students. Texts such as ‘The Wonky Donkey’, ‘We’re going on a Bear Hunt’, ‘Koala Lou’ and so forth are included in this unit of work. Students will listen to and read familiar texts (picture books) and explore how authors create their characters. The assessment for the unit will include students dressing up as one of their favourite characters and delivering a short oral talk on that character from the book.

In this Mathematics unit students will apply a variety of mathematical concepts in real-life, lifelike and purely mathematical situations. Students have opportunities to develop mathematical understandings through the sub-strands Number and place value, Patterns and Algebra, using units of measurement and location and transformation. This week students have been working through a booklet on Measurement – Time (time words, calendars, days of the week and months of the year). Next week students will begin learning and revising numbers 1 to 100, addition fast facts and problem solving strategies.

During Term 1 the main KLA focus will be on Science and SOSE. The Science unit ‘Spot the Difference’ links science with literacy in the classroom. By observing change, students will glimpse the diversity of materials in our world. Students will learn about how heating or cooling food can change its properties and whether that change can be reversed or not. The SOSE unit ‘My Place in Space’ will continue throughout the remainder of the year. During Term 1 students will complete Part A of the unit. They will describe and complete activities on their home, their town or closest town, their district and their location in Australia. Part B will be completed in Term 3 and will involve discovering Continents, Countries and planet Earth itself.

The main focus in Homework for Term 1 is READING EVERY NIGHT (to be signed off by a parent or guardian and presented to teachers daily). Spelling or Sight Words need to be revised each night and handed in on Friday and revision Math and English activities to be completed weekly.

**Miss Sarah Sullivan.**
**Tennis Coaching** will be offered at the Murgon Tennis Courts during school term starting the second week of school. Lessons will be 45min duration (depending on numbers) at a cost of $8 per child per lesson. Wednesday lessons will be filled first, with lessons offered on Mondays if numbers require. If you are a student from last year, please re-confirm your attendance at your earliest convenience. Please phone Leanne if you are interested in your child attending tennis lessons on 0438 684 705.

**Shorinjiryu Koshinkai Karatedo** is held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at the Murgon Anglican Church Hall. A beginners/junior class is held from 5.15 – 6pm. A class from 6.15 – 7.45 is held for more advanced students and adults. Lessons are $3 per student (child or adult) for the beginner class and $4 per lesson for children / $6 per lesson for adults. There is a maximum fee of $12 for family. Annual membership is also required for insurance purposes at $30 per year for U/18 and $55 per year for adults. Please phone Leanne if you are interested in you or your child attending karate on 0438 684 705.

**Kingaroy Touch Football**

Touch football coaching is held in Kingaroy on Monday evenings for children aged 4yrs and above. Session times depend on age and run from either 5-6pm or 6-7pm. The opportunity to compete in carnivals is also offered if desired. Weekly Fixtures are available for high school children in the senior competition.

If you are interested in your child attending touch football in Kingaroy, please contact Bill or Leesa Johnston on 4162 7067.

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**Can You Assist The School?**

Over the coming weeks I will post a list of jobs, some ongoing, that the school requires assistance with. As you may or may not know the school has a very small budget allocation for grounds – approximately 3 hours a week. In order to keep the grounds and gardens looking A1, I am seeking volunteers to assist maintain our great school. It would not be rostered simply help out when you can where you can. If interested please contact me at the school and stay posted for some of the jobs you can assist us with.

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**Prep News**

All 22 new prep students are settling in well to school routines and expectations. We are off to a flying start in English exploring new letters and sounds, and also stories- print, digital and animated text. We are looking at numbers in maths and are counting to 20. ‘Show and Tell’ rosters went home this week. We look forward to hearing about the things that interest your child, we have seen a butterfly lifecycle and some constructed vehicles this week. This time gives students the opportunity to develop oral language skills and confidence to speak in front of a group. We have been talking a lot about the school rules and most students can recall these rules!

*Mrs Alex Brimblecombe*

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**COMMUNITY**

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**ADMINISTRATION UPDATES**

At the beginning of each year we ask parents to update any changes to their contact details, or the contact information of the people you have nominated as being emergency contacts for your child. If you have had any changes, please advise the office in writing to update our records as soon as possible.

Wheatlands is committed to supporting students’ health and wellbeing. We would appreciate parents/carers providing the school with any relevant health information that is required to support the student at school. This information is also collected at enrolment but needs to be updated regularly, or if a new health condition develops.

Information about medically diagnosed conditions such as allergies, asthma, diabetes and epilepsy and other health conditions that may require school staff to provide support to students, including administering medication and performing health procedures, should be provided to the school. Additionally, any health need that may impact on school activities such as sports, outings (including camps) should also be discussed with the school.

Information should be provided in writing, and any specific health plans (only to be completed and signed by the medical practitioner) should be included. Please contact the school to discuss any specific requirements.

Thank you for your assistance in this regard. All information is kept confidential and only disclosed to the relevant staff required to supporting your child.

Our records also must be updated annually for permissions/consent to attend excursions, sporting activities, Religious Instruction, and for photos/videos etc of your child to be used by the school in their newsletter, website, local newspapers etc. Please sign the attached two permission forms and return to the office as soon as possible.

Thank you for taking the time to help us keep our records up to date.
P & C UPDATE

January’s P&C Meeting
Thanks to all of the parents who attended this week’s P&C meeting. We had a great turn out, and made some important decisions for the new year. The major priorities for the year will be set after the AGM, which will occur 6:00pm Tuesday, February 21. All interested parents are welcome to attend. The first meeting P&C with its freshly-minted 2012 executive will take place immediately following the AGM. Be sure to come along and get involved.

Wondai RSL Raffle Ticket Sellers
A very useful way to volunteer for the P&C is to donate one Saturday night this year to sell raffle tickets at the Wondai RSL. The P&C raffle is run on the second Saturday of each month, and usually the tickets are sold within an hour. Please let Faye Kerkow know if you would like to volunteer to sell on a particular month this year.

While on the topic of the raffle, all families are welcome to reserve their lucky numbers for the year. Each number costs $2 and goes into the draw for one of five $20 Ryan’s Butchers meat vouchers. Faye has the list of available numbers and you can reserve it for the whole year if you get in early.

Mowing and Yard Work Volunteers Wanted
If you are the outdoors type, and would like to help keep our school looking neat and tidy, please let Mr Bishop know if you are willing to drive the ride-on mower at any time during the year. The goal is to have a group of mower drivers who can knock over a section of the oval or run the push-mower around the outside of one of the classrooms. Alternatively, if you notice that the lawns are looking a little scruffy, just ask Mr Bishop for a key to the shed when you have the time to spare.

Grant Writing Workshops
Mr Bishop is seeking expressions of interest from parents wishing to attend any grant-writing workshops which may become available during the year. Just give him your name and he’ll keep you informed of any opportunities he discovers.

SCHOOL BANKING STARTS
This year we will be offering the opportunity from the Commonwealth Bank to conduct a special bank account for your child through the school. Today your child was given an application package to open an account. If you wish to apply for an account, please return the paperwork to the school by Tuesday 7th February.

As an incentive for children to take advantage of the school banking service, the P&C will donate $1 to every new account opened through the school. If you have an existing Commonwealth Bank account, simply bring that account with you to use for school banking, and it will be eligible for the P&C $1 incentive as well.

School banking will be available every Tuesday in the Library from 8.30am. Banking will be supervised by one of our parent helpers, Cathy Davis. Each week, on parade, there will be a variety of incentive prizes handed out If you have any questions, please contact Cathy.

PAULS COLLECT-A-CAP promotion continues in 2012.
Please bring all specially marked caps off your Pauls Milk cartons to the school, as every cap is worth 10cents redeemed by Pauls.

Adopt-a-Cop Program
My name is Senior Constable Danielle Gordon and I am the Wheatlands State School Adopt-A-Cop. I have been a Police Officer for 6 years and have been based at Murgon Police Station for the past 5 years.

The Adopt-A-Cop program was implemented in 1985 as a way to build better relationships between police and the children within the school community. Throughout the year I will be visiting the schools and speak to the children about different topics such as road safety and personal safety.

I would like for you to view me as a resource, if you have any areas or topics you would like to address with the students, please feel free to contact me and I will arrange something. I am very approachable so if you see me walking in the street, I would like for you to come up and introduce yourself. I’m look forward to meeting everyone throughout the year.

Danielle GORDON

Healthy Lunch Boxes
Please ensure that you are packing a healthy and nutritious lunch for your child. It is advisable to limit the amount of sugary items as this tends to affect the child’s ability to concentrate over prolonged periods of time. These items give your child a quick initial energy boost however when this over they are often left feeling lethargic and unable to sustain concentration. I have been and will continue to do random lunch box checks throughout the year to ensure all children are eating a healthy well rounded lunch. If you are unsure about what sort of items to pack for your child please contact the school.

Homework
We are a homework school and as such students are required to complete homework nightly; however Prep students will not have formal homework in Term 1. This is a great opportunity for you to spend some time with your child to see what they are learning at school and engage in the learning process with them. Homework generally consists of spelling, mental maths and some reading. Issues with our book order has delayed the delivery of reading diaries however we anticipate the resources to arrive in the coming week. Please ensure that you are sighting and signing your child’s homework on a nightly basis. Completion of the weeks homework is one on the criteria students must fulfill in order to attend the rewards activities at the end of each term. Despite what they may say, they will always have homework!

First Aid Course
Any parents interested in completing a First Aid course can do so here at the school on Thursday 23rd of February from 3.30 – 8.30pm. The online theoretical component of the course is completed in your own time with the evening session purely practical based. To register and find out more information including the cost please contact the school.