Gympie State High Centenary
Queensland’s oldest high school, will celebrate its centenary from Friday to Sunday March 9 – 11, 2012.

The planning committee wish to contact as many as possible of the thousands of students and hundreds of teachers who have passed through Gympie State High over 100 years.

Contact details are: email: info@gympiehs.eq.edu.au
Phone: Lee Francis (07) 54828530 or Felicia (07) 54898396.
Fax: (07) 54898300.
Post: Gympie State High School Centenary Committee, PO Box 22 Gympie… 4570.
Online registration and further information: www.gympiehs.eq.edu.au

MURGON SWIM CLUB
Starts Wednesday
29th February at 6pm
Enquiries 4168 1754 or Theresa Holding 4168 6017

At Wheatlands State School we place high importance on regular and consistent student attendance. Disappointingly our school data shows a decline in student attendance over the past 3 years with a low point of 90% for the 2011 year. The brochure Every Day Counts, attached to this newsletter will help parents and caregivers to understand their responsibilities in relation to school attendance.

Additionally, I have included a fact sheet on regular school attendance. It contains answers to common questions that parents and carers may have as well as highlighting the importance of attending school and providing strategies for parents to encourage their child to go to school. Every Day Counts is a state wide initiative addressing the issue of student attendance at school.

The initiative is designed to change parent, community and student attitudes to school attendance. It requires the support of both parents and the community if student attendance is to be successfully addressed.

Every Day Counts promotes four key messages:

• all children should be enrolled at school and attend on every school day
• schools should monitor, communicate and implement strategies to improve regular school attendance
• truanting can place a student in unsafe situations and impact on their future employability and life choices attendance at school is the responsibility of everyone in the community.

Research shows that higher rates of attendance at school are related to higher achievement. There is no quick and simple solution, nor a ‘one-size-fits-all’ approach to improving school attendance. However, partnerships between schools, parents and the local community have been proven to assist in reducing absenteeism and making every day count at school.

As all parents are aware, our school takes unexplained attendance into consideration when it comes time to attend end of term and semester rewards trips. In the instance of genuine explanations for absenteeism parents and caregivers must notify the school as soon as practicable clarifying the reason for absence.

Yours in Education
Daniel Bishop
## Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar 12</td>
<td>BookClub orders due back to school today</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 19</td>
<td>School photos—9am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 30</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 16</td>
<td>First Day of Term 2</td>
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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. Contacts.

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. We sent home new consent forms with the last newsletter. If you have not already returned these forms to the school office, would you please do so as soon as possible. Thankyou to those families who have already done so.

## South Burnett PCYC Open Day

**26th February 9am – 1pm**

**Activities**
- Face Painting
- Jacq's Circus School
- Inflatable Rock Climbing Wall
- Horizontal Bungee Castle
- Sausage Sizzle $1.50
- Drinks and Refreshments Available

Come along and enjoy a day of fun with the whole family.

## Wondai Proston JRLFC Training Times

Under 7's & Under 8's commence March 13th & 15th from 4.30pm to 5.30pm. Under 10's & Under 12's commence 28th of February & 1st of March from 4.30pm to 5.30pm. Under 14's commence 21st & 23rd of February form 4.30 to 5.30pm. For more information go to [www.wondaijprostonJRLFC](http://www.wondaijprostonJRLFC) or email kmhoul@bigpond.com

## 1/2 Class

It is half way through Term 1 already. Thank you to those parents who have set times to meet with me to discuss your child's academic levels and goals for the year.

As you may already know, homework is checked off each morning. Your child must have, at the very least, their reading completed and signed off in their reading diary, and their sight words or spelling words signed off each night. The students who have every night signed off will be awarded an end of term prize for their efforts.

I would like to thank all the students from the grades 1 and 2 for working to their best at all times. Congratulations to Lawson Schloss for completing his Blue Words, Alysse Bell for completing her Red and Blue Words and to Jari Davis for completing all 200 Sight Words. Well done.

Miss Sarah Sullivan.

## Does Your Child Love to Sing?

Join the South Burnett Youth Choir!

Places available in Kingaroy Choir (rehearsing Tuesdays from 5:30pm).

Limited places available in Wondai Choir (rehearsing Mondays from 4:30pm).

Option for children 10 - 18yrs to participate in “Next Generation Sings” Festival at Brisbane Grammar School (April) and to tour Tasmania with Birtallee Voices (July).

Free choir shirt with SBYC logo (value $25) for children joining in February. Ring Jane on 0411 118 510 or email jane@datawave.net.au for more information.

No previous singing experience necessary – no scary auditions.

*** The South Burnett Youth Choir is a proud recipient of a $15,000 grant from the Building Rural Communities Fund (DEEDI). ***
**Age Champions**

**Barambah Small Schools Swimming Carnival 2012**

**Prep/One News**

This week we are talking about the letter ‘Ii’ and we enjoyed writing our names in ‘invisible ink’. In maths we have been singing lots of counting songs as well as sorting and classifying things as ‘same’ or ‘different.’ In our C2C unit we are exploring messages, we looked at how people sent messages in olden day times and we are looking at how we send messages now. We have been emailing Mr Bishop and other staff members as well as some parents.

Mrs Alex Brimblecombe
Prep Teacher

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**INVOICES FOR STUDENT WORKBOOKS**

You will find invoices attached to this week’s newsletters for all students in Years 1 to 7. These invoices are for cost of 3 student workbooks that your child will be using in class for Handwriting, Spelling and Grammar. Please note that BPay can now be used for all school payments. If making payment for more than one child, please add them together and simply make the one BPay payment. Prompt attention to these accounts would be appreciated. Thankyou.

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**BARAMBAH SMALL SCHOOLS CLUSTER SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

Our Swimming Carnival for students born 2003 or earlier was held at Wondai Pool last Friday. Congratulations to all who participated. Wheatlands won the trophy for overall points gained. Photos of our students who won Age Champion appear on following pages. More photos will be published in next Newsletter.
PAULS COLLECT-A-CAP promotion continues in 2012. Reminder to bring all specially marked caps off your Pauls Milk cartons to the school, as every cap is worth 10cents redeemed by Pauls.

SCHOOL BANKING REMINDER
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.

TUCKSHOP ORDERS
Please have your child put their tuckshop order in the basket provided in their classroom, by 3pm each Wednesday. (No longer in the Admin building) Thankyou.

Fun not Fuss with Food

What is Fun not Fuss with Food?
It is a free single session, two-and-a-half-hour workshop that covers nutrition for children and behavioural management strategies. Options for further support or assessment are provided as required.

Why should we address problem eating behaviours in children?
Problem eating and mealtime behaviours are common in children. If these behaviours are not addressed, children are at risk of developing both short and long term health problems such as mild nutritional imbalances, constipation, iron deficiency anaemia, failure to thrive, and obesity.

Common problem eating and mealtime behaviours:
- gaging or vomiting
- difficulty with managing appropriate food textures
- spitting out of food
- refusal or inability to chew foods
- refusal or reluctance to try new foods
- refusal to come to or to stay seated at the table
- whining or crying
- playing with or throwing food
- fighting with siblings during mealtime

What is covered in the workshop?
There are three sections to the workshop:
1. Nutrition for children covering the importance of good nutrition, safety, the parent-child feeding relationship, nutritional needs, and tips for dealing with food refusal.
2. Managing behaviours covering common mealtime problems, road to success, and a five-step action plan.
3. Community resources and where to go for further help.

When is the workshop?
Wednesday 7 March 5.30-8.30pm

Where is the workshop?
Supper Room, Kingaroy Town Hall, Glendon Street Kingaroy