Welcome back to Term 3 Semester 2 we are officially half way through the school year. Bearing this in mind, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate students on their impressive efforts in Semester 1. Whilst challenged by the new curriculum, students met the challenge head on and gave it their best.

Below my piece for this edition you will also see a reminder about the 5 Key Priorities for 2012 as submitted in our Annual Operation Plan. Please re-familiarize yourself with these priorities. I would also like to share and explain briefly some information about a significant research paper all parents of State School students should familiarize themselves with; The Gonski Report.

The recently released Gonski Review of school funding found Australia is seriously under-investing in education, particularly in state schools. It recommends a complete overhaul of the way funding is delivered and a significant increase for state schools across the country.

All children at Wheatlands School would benefit greatly from the implementation of the Gonski Review’s recommendations. The exact amount of additional funding we would receive is still to be finalised. However, even if the school received the average increase of $1,500 per student per year it would provide an additional amount of $122000 for the education of the students at our school. This is a significant amount of money.

**Benefits of Extra Funding**

*With additional funding we could:*
- Improve student-teacher ratios
- Provide more assistance in the classroom for students with special needs and disabilities
- Employ specialist teachers, particularly for literacy and numeracy
- Provide additional training and support for teachers

I’m sure you will agree that these resources would have a really positive impact on teaching and learning at our school. It would help us improve the education of every single child.

**Why We Need Your Help**

The Gonski Review found that this additional funding is urgently required, but unfortunately neither major political party has made a commitment to providing it.

We really need to make the politicians understand that they should be putting the interests of our children first. This is too good an opportunity to miss. There needs to be a commitment made to the funding and new laws passed through parliament this year. Further information on how our school and community can assist will be forwarded in the coming weeks.

Yours in Learning

Daniel Bishop

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**Wheatlands State School 2012 Key Priorities**

- Implementing the Australian Curriculum
- Reading and Oral Language
- Student Performance in Spelling
- Student Attendance (Every Day Counts)
- ICT and Online Learning Environments

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates to Remember</th>
<th>event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20th July</td>
<td>Small Schools Cluster Athletics Carnival at Moffatdale SS</td>
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<tr>
<td>24th July</td>
<td>Bookclub Orders close today</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th August</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 6.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>13th Aug</td>
<td>RNA Show holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Sept</td>
<td>Wondai Show</td>
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</table>
Please note that Daniel will be absent from school from the 1st – 3rd and the 27th – 29th of August attending Principal Business meetings and Research Conferences.

SAFETY ALERT

Please ensure that children are supervised after school in the pick up and drop off area adjacent to the school. The traffic in this area is increasing and unfortunately, our younger students do not look before moving.

THANK YOU to Wondai IGA for their continued support and kind donations of Pauls Collect-A-Caps.

HEAD LICE ALERT

There have been two reported cases throughout the week from parents that they have found live lice in their child’s hair. Please check your child’s hair and take appropriate action should you find eggs or live lice.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

The accredited Religious Instruction Program conducted by the Barambah Ministers Assoc will continue at the school for Semester 2 commencing Tuesday 24th July. (Year 1 to 7 students only) If you wish to change your approval for your student to attend this program, please notify the school in writing as soon as possible to make other arrangements.

Girls 5-7 Class

On Tuesday 24th July, female students in Years 5-7 will have the opportunity to attend a Self Awareness and Health Talk here at the school between 12 noon and 1pm. This talk will be conducted by the Community Health Nurse. Please contact the school if you do not wish your daughter to participate in this session.

P & C CATERING

The P&C is catering for a Pratts Auction at Moffatdale on Saturday 28th July. Any helpers and donations of food/baked goods would be appreciated. Please see attached note to be returned to the school office, if you are able to help in any way. Thankyou.

NEWS FLASH — Inter School Equestrian Challenge 2012

Congratulations to Grace Christoffel who has won the “Stockman’s Challenge” for 9-10 year olds today in Maryborough!!

1/2 Class

Welcome back!

We have enjoyed jumping back into our classroom routine. I hope that everyone had an enjoyable holiday.

Please check your child’s communication book as we have placed a Term 3 overview in there for you.

Reading Awards

Week 1 – Congratulations to Samantha Hetherington and Jordan Louis for reading 100 nights, Hannah Rosenthal for reading 125 nights and Larissa Ramke for reaching a massive 150 nights of continuous reading.

Week 2 – Congratulations to Molly Anderson for reading 50 nights, Harry Iszlaub and Madison Bishop for reading 75 nights, Jackson Brown, Denim Brown and Hannah Farrer for reaching 100 nights of reading.

Green Slips – Each week 2 students will be awarded a Green Slip from the 1/2 Class.

Week 1 – Elly-Mei Cook and Hannah Rosenthal.

Week 2 – Madison Bishop and Larissa Ramke.

Miss Sarah Sullivan.
**Kingaroy Community Garden**

**Working Bee & Planning Meeting**

**Date:** 28 July 2015

**Time:** 9.30am to 11.30am

We are having a Working Bee & Planning Meeting to get the garden operation underway and establish a Community Garden for the whole community to enjoy.

**Where:** Kingaroy Central Community Garden, Ross Street

**What:** A meeting to discuss the future vision and plan for the garden. We will review the current status, discuss the next steps, and plan for the future.

**What to bring:**
- Buzzers (for pollinators)
- Gardening tools and gloves
- Dresses and sunscreen

**Who can attend:**
- Existing gardeners
- Potential new gardeners
- Community members

**Contact:**
- Kingaroy Council
- Community Development Officer
- Tel: 1300 650 000

**Support:**
- Kingaroy Community Garden
- Kingaroy Landcare
- Kingaroy Rotary Club

**About the Community Garden:**

- A place for community members to grow vegetables, fruits, and flowers
- A place for community members to learn about gardening and the environment
- A place for community members to socialize and have fun

**Mission Statement:**

- To provide a space for community members to grow and enjoy fresh produce
- To promote sustainability and environmental awareness
- To foster a sense of community and belonging

**Objectives:**

1. To establish a sustainable and self-sufficient garden
2. To provide educational workshops and training sessions
3. To promote healthy eating and lifestyle choices
4. To support local businesses and the economy

**Goals:**

1. To have 50% of the garden space occupied by edible plants
2. To have a mini-farm for chickens and other livestock
3. To have a composting system in place within the first six months
4. To have a community kitchen garden by the end of the first year

**Expected outcomes:**

- Increased community engagement and participation
- Improved local food security
- Enhanced environmental sustainability
- Increased social cohesion and community pride

**Support:**

- Kingaroy Council
- Local businesses
- Community members

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CLOYNA STATE SCHOOL—THE GREAT MAILBOX MAKEOVER—FUNDRAISER

Cloyna School invites you to give your mailbox a makeover, plant, paint and prune your grids and entrances … let your imagination run wild. You could win a $300 voucher from Murgon Tyre and Auto.

Judging will take place between August 31st to September 14th. Winners will be announced at a BBQ at Cloyna School on 20th September. A nomination fee of $10 together with a Nomination Form (available at school office) needs to be returned to Cloyna State School by the 27th August. Any questions, please contact the Cloyna State School.