Welcome back to Term 2. All students have settled tremendously back into school routine with classrooms abuzz with learning. As the weather begins to cool it is time to dig out those winter uniforms to ensure they still fit. It is an expectation that all students will be dressed in full school uniform during the cooler months. I would like to congratulate all parents and students on the efforts to wear full and correct school uniforms—everyday. Please remember that that the school uniform also pertains to shoes. When purchasing new school shoes, please buy plain black shoes in accordance with the uniform policy.

It is that time of year again when our students in year 3, 5 and 7 undertake NAPLAN tests. Please assist your child to do the best they can by ensuring they have a good night sleep, eat a nutritious breakfast, pack a balanced lunch and is at school on time. The tests will be run from the 14th – 16th of May. Some students may feel a little pressure to perform and do well over the course of these 3 days. Please reassure them with confidence and encourage them to simply do their best. Class teachers will endeavour to keep class routine and structure as normal as possible during these days.

Is your child getting a good night sleep? By school age, your child should be regularly sleeping through the night without waking up. A good night’s sleep is important for their growth and development. When your child sleeps well and gets enough sleep they are more settled, happy and ready for school the next day. Getting enough sleep also strengthens their immune system and could reduce the risk of infection and illness.

Children aged 5-11 need 10-11 hours’ sleep a night. They’re usually tired after school and should be in bed by about 7.30 pm. A bedtime routine is very important at this age. It helps your child wind down from the day. Keep the bedroom dark, cool and quiet so they can drift off easily, avoid watching television and movies in bed as this will continue to stimulate the brain.

Please remember the pick-up and drop off times at school. In the mornings we advise parents not to drop students off before 8.30am for the safety of all students. It is at this time that staff members are rostered on to watch children play before school commences. The school day finishes at 3.00pm and as such, the school requests that children not catching the school bus be collected at this time. Quite often, staff have work and personal commitments outside of normal school hours. Please be prompt in collecting your children. If your child is travelling home by means different to what they usually do you must contact the school. If contact is not made then the staff member on duty will assume the child is getting home as they usually do. Your cooperation with these matters is appreciated.

Wheatlands State School is turning 100 years old in November 2013. To celebrate this momentous event the organising committee is holding regular meetings at the school to make it a weekend to remember. The meetings commence at 6.30pm. Your attendance does not mean you will be lumped with an official position, but many hands do make light work. We understand there are people who love to work behind the scenes without the ownership of a position on the committee. Please date claim the 16th of November and spread this date around the community.

Your child has homework every night – despite the stories they may tell you. Generally speaking all students from year 1-7 will have some form of English (usually spelling), Math and Reading. Please ensure that you child is reading with you, to you or independently every night. This must be documented into their reading log. All homework must be signed by a parent. The completion of all aspects of nightly homework is a consideration taken into account for the schools rewards activities. You play an important part in ensuring your child completes these activities.

Yours in learning

Daniel Bishop

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Prep/One News

This week the class has slipped straight back into class routine, a fantastic start to the term. We have been constructing robots out of boxes as part of our work about the letter ‘r’ and technology.

We received handwriting text books this week and we are teaching correct letter formation, pencil grip and posture through the ‘Casey Caterpillar’ program. This is to ensure this foundation skill is firmly grounded.

This week’s green slip awards go to Blair Ewart and Xavier Clarke- both for following the school rules consistently this week leading to improved behaviour.

Handwriting award goes to Mia Bishop.

Mrs Alex Brimblecombe

Library News

I’m very excited to announce that this term Wheatlands State School will be hosting an ‘All Stars – Book Fair’. Scholastic Book Fairs are a fantastic way to resource our library with lots of beautiful and educational books. Books are on display in the library for students and parents to browse and purchase. 30% of sales from books will go back into buying new books and resources for the school library.

Scholastic All Stars Book Fair will be held in the school library daily from the 20th – 24th May (times to be advised). Students will be involved in activities leading up to the book fair and have the opportunity to win vouchers to go shopping with. The Book Fair is also being held in conjunction with a ‘Read more in May’ challenge. To participate, your child can go online and enter at : www.scholastic.com.au/bookfairs/enter.

The top 25 entries will each win a book pack valued at $250 from Scholastic plus the winning student will receive $1000 in Scholastic awards for Wheatlands! Have fun and I look forward to seeing you at our All Stars Book Fair in May.

Tracy Anderson – Teacher Librarian

3/4 News

We have had an excellent start to Term 2. We have settled straight back into our routines and school work.

In week 5, the year 3s will be completing NAPLAN testing. To prepare for the writing test in English, we have started our unit on persuasion. We are going to look at a variety of persuasive arguments and also begin to write our own arguments on a range of topics.

This week in maths we have been learning about chance. We have used spinners, dice, and coins to make predictions about outcomes and find the probability of certain outcomes. We have used mathematical language related to chance such as impossible, unlikely, likely, and certain.

In science, we have started a unit called Beneath our Feet. We are very enthusiastic about this unit which is all about rocks and soils, and how our landscape changes over time and is affected by weather and erosion. A note went home in communication books this week asking students to bring in a soil sample and a couple of rocks from around their homes.

In history, we are continuing our unit about celebrations and commemorations. Next week we will be looking at ANZAC day in preparation for the upcoming holiday on Thursday.

We had a great time on our rewards day last term despite the weather preventing us from going outside in the afternoon. It was a great sight to see every student in the class joining in on our rewards after so much hard work and excellent behaviour. We are looking forward to another great term.

Erin Hubbard
1/2 Class

Welcome back!

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

I would like to say how impressed I am at the high standard of work displayed in our classroom this week. This made it very difficult to award only one student with the High Expectations Handwriting Award. So we narrowed it down to 2 students who have demonstrated outstanding book work.

I have tested each student on their reading during the week. The good news is that all students have shown improvement in their fluency and expression. Most students have moved 2 or more levels already. They have all enjoyed sharing their success with Mr Bishop and other staff here at Wheatlands. Well done to the 1/2 class and the parents who take the time each night to read with their child/ren.

You may have heard about the experiment we are conducting in our classroom. YES .. this involves leaving food sit on the bench top over time. Interesting experiment – yes, the students thought this one up!! It does not relate so much to what we are learning but I do encourage their inquisitive minds and enjoy the fact they would like to know the outcome. We would like to track and record what happens to a variety of foods over the course of a term. We will photograph and display the results each week and discuss our findings. I am asking that each student bring in a piece of food (It can be from any food group) for next week.

An outline of what we are learning this term will be glued into Communication Books on Monday.

High Expectations Handwriting Award:

Jackson Brown and Jorja Forsythe

Reading Awards

Week 1 – Congratulations to Ty Kelner or completing his 25 night’s certificate. Congratulations to the following students who have all completed their 50 nights of reading: Lawson Schloss, Dallas Gordon, Kyle Sempf, Mikayla Ward, Julia Kerkow, Hannah Rosenthal, Cooper Mollenhauer, Olivia Ashley, Rory Scott, Jorja Forsythe and Wilson Iszlaub.

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

Week 1 – Cooper Mollenhauer, Jackson Brown and Wilson Iszlaub.

Miss Sarah Sullivan.
Dear Parents,

To celebrate our 100th Anniversary on the 16th of November 2013, we are asking that you consider supporting us with a donation to assist with publication of a quality centenary book.

With a history of providing a great education program to over 1200 students since the opening 100 years ago, we believe that apart from meeting up with old school friends the cornerstone to any centenary celebration is being able to walk away with a commemorative book, detailing the history and progression of the school through abundant articles and photos.

Founded in 1913, Wheatlands State School has stood the test of time and has become a thriving small school in the local community. Our stability results from the loyal dedication and hard work of many staff, P&C volunteers and from the many individuals, businesses and families, who support what we do year after year.

We write to ask you to support this valuable community event held later this year. In appreciation of your support for the publication of the commemorative book celebrating 100 years, every donation will be formally acknowledged inside the book as a sponsor. Remember that your gift is tax-deductible!

The Centenary Committee will be selling these books purely for the cost of the print and is not aiming to profit from this venture.

Please submit donations to Jenny at the school office in an envelope with your family name clearly marked.

Thank you for helping us make this great community event to remember!

Sincerely

Daniel Bishop
Principal
Wheatlands State School
Grocery store promotions which Wheatlands State School are actively involved in:

**Woolworths**
Wheatlands is again participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program and it's on now! Every time you shop at Woolworths you will receive one point sticker for every $10 you spend. Collect the stickers then drop them into the collection box at school (in the P&C Office at the front of the admin building as you walk up the stairs) or drop them into the Wheatlands collection box at Woolworths Kingaroy. Get your family and friends collecting too and we can again redeem points for fabulous resources for the school – last year we purchased over $1,600 worth of lego for the younger students to be creative with or older students to use in model building in science classes. The promotion runs until June 9 so if you shop at Woolworths start collecting now!!!

**Cornett’s IGA Murgon**
Families who joined our school community in 2012 or 2013 will find Cornett’s IGA keytags attached to their newsletter. Each time you shop at IGA Murgon present your tag to the checkout operator and you will be earning points for the school. If your family requires extra tags they are available in the P&C office at the front of the admin building. It’s surprising just how many points the school can earn if each family shopping at IGA Murgon presents their tag. Feel free to ask extended family, friends or work colleagues who may shop at IGA Murgon for their support by supplying them with a keytag to use also.

**CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS RECIPE BOOK**
The Centenary committee is compiling a recipe book that will be released in 2013 to coincide with the school’s centenary celebrations.

We would like every family currently involved in the school to be in the recipe book. At this stage we are calling for one recipe per family. (Please, no more scone recipes). If you would like to be involved, please supply the recipe along with your child/children’s names and drop it off at the office, or if you have an electronic copy please email direct to Kate Scott at katescott8@bigpond.com

**CENTENARY RAFFLE**
If anyone would like to donate any NEW items to be used as prizes in our Centenary Raffle, please see SHANE UREN or phone 0477 440 732.

**CENTENARY NOVEMBER 2013—LET’S CELEBRATE!**

**CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL**
Barambah Small Schools Cross Country Carnival will be held at Cloyna State School on Friday 3rd May. Please make your own arrangements to get your child/ren to Cloyna for the event. You will need to provide lunch and snacks for your child/ren as Cloyna is not operating a canteen this year. However drinks, tea, coffee and slices will be available for sale.