Welcome to the mid-term newsletter. Teachers are preparing students for their final pieces of assessment for Semester 1 in readiness for reporting. Please ensure you make contact with your child’s teacher should they be away sick so that any missed assessment can be redone.

Student attendance has been excellent this semester with an average attendance rate of 96.4% which is well above the state average. Congratulations to the Year 3 class who have excelled this semester with an average attendance of 98.8%. This is a fantastic effort.

**Parent and community engagement framework launched**

Education Queensland has developed the Parent and Community Engagement Framework to help schools, parents and the community to work together to maximise student learning. Research tells us parent and community engagement that is effectively focused on student learning can deliver powerful outcomes.

Research tells us that the most successful schools engage students, parents, carers and the community as partners in supporting student learning. Many schools have already developed strategies to engage with parents and community. However with the overwhelming evidence that parent engagement has a positive effect on student achievement, all state schools and their communities are being encouraged to strengthen their engagement - with and between students, teachers, parents and carers, support staff, community, industry and business groups.

**Communication**

Effective communication is an exchange between parents and carers, communities and schools that involves information sharing and opportunities to learn about each other.

**Learning partnerships**

Partnerships between parents and carers, communities and schools that promote student learning and high expectations increase student success.

**Community collaboration**

Relationships with the school and wider community strengthen the ability of schools and families to support student learning and development outcomes.

**Decision-making**

Parents, carers and community members play meaningful roles in school decision-making.

**Participation**

Parent, carer and community participation in student learning and the school community is acknowledged and valued.


Yours in learning

Daniel Bishop

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### Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20th May</td>
<td>P&amp;C Pie Drive orders close today</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th-24th May</td>
<td>All Stars—Book Fair Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th May</td>
<td>P&amp;C Pie Drive orders delivered to school</td>
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<tr>
<td>31st May</td>
<td>NO TUCKSHOP TODAY</td>
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<td>10th June</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday</td>
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<td>21st June</td>
<td>Last day Term 2</td>
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Prep/News

We welcome Miley to our classroom. As she knows many of the students from Kindy they have been keen to ‘show her the ropes’.

In Science this week we looked at various types of bags, we investigated a plastic bag, my handbag and their own school bags. We looked at the materials these bags are made of and their uses. In maths we have been looking at number and doing lots of counting. Did you know we can count to a trillion?
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e0dJW1QHF8Y

Last week’s bookwork prize winner was Hayden Kiem for his journal writing. This week Miley is the bookwork recipient for her written work when completing her science table.

Mrs Alex Brimblecombe

News from the big people

NAPLAN week, urgh. We have all been out of routine for the 3’s, 5’s and 7’s to complete their testing this week. The writing task required us to persuade an audience who we thought deserved a hero award. Dads big brothers, Matthew Hayden, Nadia Comanechi, Ned Kelly, Ian Thorpe, Duncan, Mums, Mr Bishop, Jamie Heinemann (Mythbusters Dude), The Man who invented Pokemon (Mrs Meikle can’t spell his name!) and a couple of invented characters.

AASC also started this week and some of us were lucky to have our first go at Golf this week. We are confident we will putt as well as Tiger by the end of term. Mrs Rewald showed us how to use putters and irons (Not the sort of irons that come with an ironing board sorry Mum!).

We also have learned the topics for our major assessment pieces for English and History. In history we will write a newspaper article about a historical event, while pretending we are in the past and our audience will be the miners and the colonists. In English we will be creating a multimodal text and we will be choosing between two topics 1 Graffiti – Street Art or Vandalism or 2 Country schools are better than city schools.

In visual art we have been experimenting with Surrealism. We have had a go at ink blot doodles and a surrealist collage.

Our instrumentalists have also had their second lesson with Mr Mollenhauer. Teagan on Saxophone, Shiannah on flute, Kyra on trombone, Tara on trumpet, Clinton on the bass guitar, Meg on clarinet and Chris on the snare drum.

Mrs Libby Meikle
1/2 Class

I hope all mothers had a wonderful Mother’s Day and were spoilt rotten! I know my class enjoyed wrapping our gifts and making cards for your special day ☺ Thank you to the parents who assisted with the Mother’s Day stall, ordering and sorting gifts, making gift tags and providing us with wrapping paper to help make our mums feel special.

English

Last week the 1/2 class was lucky to have Mr Bishop take them for a writing activity. Students wrote ‘Why We Love Wheatlands’. This piece of writing will be printed in the Wheatlands Centenary Book. Students also wrote down what they wanted to be when they grew up. Photos of each student and a speech bubble with their career choice can be found on the wall around our class apple.

Next week we will choose a topic for our lecturette. All students will need to research this topic in their own time and create a poster to present to the class in Week 9. This gives students 4 weeks to complete the task. After the interest and excitement expressed during our Technology lessons – students will choose one out of the 10 tallest buildings found around the world. A list of these will be provided (with a picture) for students to research one that they find the most interesting.

We will begin planning and recording notes on our character biography next week. Students will choose one character from a story read in our classroom to complete this assessment. Students will work on this assessment for the remainder of the term.

Mathematics

Mrs Webber’s group has continued to review number, place value and fact families in maths this week and completed their Math Assessment today. My Year 2 and extension Year 1 group reviewed place value, addition and subtraction and began learning about fractions this week. They were also given a Math Assessment today to gauge understanding on previous concepts covered.

I will be opening lessons on ‘Fractions’ in Mathletics for my Year 2 and Extension Year 1 group. Please encourage your child to complete lessons and activities at home ☺ Please come and see me after the weekend to see your child’s results from their revision Math Assessment.

Technology

This week students began learning about Benjamin Franklin. We found his inventions very interesting. Especially the lightning rod! We investigated electricity, static electricity and used the smart board to preview pictures of the top 10 tallest buildings in the world. Students enjoyed pointing out the lightning rods on these buildings and also discovering just how tall these buildings stood. (As stated earlier – due to the excitement displayed from students in this lesson we decided this would be a great lecturette topic).

History

Next week in History we will be exploring changes in life. We will discover how our family traditions, leisure time and communications have changed over time or how some have remained the same. This links nicely with our Technology unit also 😊

Art

We have started completing one art lesson a week. Students are so excited to do ART! This week we had to draw a friend without looking at our paper. We enjoyed creating some abstract portraits and will complete them next week. These will then be displayed in our classroom 😊

Reading Awards

Week 4 – Students who were awarded their 50 night certificate: Jorgia Brown, Matthew Kunde, Jackson Brown, Clair Anderson, Madison Bishop, Tyson Christensen and Ryder Brown. Students awarded their 75 night certificate: Olivia Ashley, Julia Kerkow, Cooper Mollenhauer, Dallas Gordon, Rory Scott, Hannah Rosenthal, Mikayla Ward, Lawson Schloss, Wilson Iszlau, Kyle Sempf and River Cook.

Week 5 – Dustin Ramke

High Expectations Handwriting Award

Week 4 – Hannah Rosenthal

Week 5 – River Cook

Green Slips

Week 4 – Cooper Mollenhauer, Hannah Rosenthal, Kyle Sempf and Sean Monk.

Week 5 – Ryder Brown, Mikayla Ward and Madison Bishop.

Sight Words

Week 4 – Congratulations goes to Dallas Gordon and Matthew Kunde for getting their Lemon certificate and for completing all the 200 words.

Week 5 – I would like to congratulate Tyson Christensen, Sean Monk and Clair Anderson for completing their Indigo words. Darcy Mitchell has now finished his Violet words and was awarded his first 100 words certificate today on parade. Well done 😊

Miss Sarah Sullivan.
We did it! This week the year 3’s completed all of their NAPLAN tests. I am proud to say the year 3’s have been enthusiastic and hardworking throughout the whole process and deserve to be congratulated for all their efforts.

In English, we have continued working on persuasive arguments. We have written on a range of topics including why books are better than watching TV, why all children should play sport, and why school holidays should be longer. Students are being challenged to not only share an opinion but to articulate the reasons for their opinion. In the coming weeks the students will write a final persuasive argument which will be their assessment piece for this unit.

In Maths, we have started working on time this week and will continue this in the next two weeks. This week we have focused on telling o’clock, quarter past, quarter to, and half past times, and memorising our time facts. We will continue with this next week as well as moving on to 5 minute intervals, am and pm, and time trials.

In Science, we have been very busy. On Wednesday, we made clay-sand balls which we are going to use in an upcoming investigation about the effects of weathering and erosion. Yesterday, we looked at our soil solutions which have been given the chance to settle for a couple of weeks. If you have any spare glass jars with a lid at home, we would very much like some for our investigation. Thank you!

In History, we completed our first assessment on Monday. We had to compare two different photos. One was from an ANZAC day parade in 1931 and the other was from 2005. We had to observe, respond, and interpret each photograph.

In Art, our tessellation bookmarks are due to be complete today. We have created some very interesting designs.

Brooke

Elly-Mei

Jake

Sammy

I would like to congratulate the following children on being student of the week:

Week 4: Hannah Farrer
Week 5: Claire Brimblecombe

Erin Hubbard
Family involvement in reading activities can have a strong, positive impact on a child’s educational achievement. Come to our book fair and help strengthen the most important skill children can develop – Reading! Have fun choosing together or browse on your own. Students will have the opportunity to fill in ‘wish lists’ during lunch hours Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Dates: Monday 20th May through to Friday 24th May
Times: Open 2:30-3:30pm daily and 8:30-9:30am Friday only
Location: Wheatlands School Library

Wide selection of books and novelty items for sale from as little as $1 including pens, rubbers, sharpeners, posters. Bargain book packs and heavily discounted books on offer. Cash sales only.

Don’t forget to enter and celebrate National Family Read More in May Month. It’s easy to enter, simply visit:

We would like to acknowledge the following families and local businesses for their generous donations towards the publication of our Centenary Book.

- Litfin family
- Iszlau family
- Porter family
- Pursers Coaches
- South Burnett Regional Council
- Barambah Machinery
- GW Roberts
- Mortimer & Co
- Kingaroy RSL

P&C News

Uniforms
At the meeting last Thursday, the committee added black or royal blue long sleeve polo/v neck skivies to be worn underneath the school shirt. Additionally black or royal blue leggings/stockings may be worn underneath shorts or skirts. There has been no change to the uniform policy regarding track pants/jumpers. They must still be plain royal blue. Royal blue jumpers and track-pants can be ordered through the school, please contact Annette Ashley.

Mothers Day
We hope all mothers enjoyed their surprises and had a great day. We would like thank helpers, Kimberley Kunde, Kylie Ward, Alisha Cook and Fiona Clarke. This was a non profit event but I think the children really enjoy the opportunity to get mum a surprise.

Pie Drive
Remember to get your orders back to the school office by Monday 20th May. Delivery will be 28th May.

Donations
Thank you to those families who have donated funds to the P&C Centenary Committee. Any financial contributions will be greatly appreciated.

CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS RECIPE BOOK
Thanks to those people who have provided a recipe for the centenary recipe book. If you have not provided a recipe, and want your children’s recipe and name in the recipe book, this is your LAST CHANCE. The recipe book will be finalized at the end of May, so entries need to be in by 23rd May. Recipes can be either dropped off to Jenny at the school office, or you can email them direct to 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!