For the past 3 years Wheatlands State School has engaged in an explicit improvement agenda of Reading with a focus on Comprehension. We have enjoyed some outstanding growth across the student cohort during this time. To further advance our students reading ability we are now focusing on developing our students to become fluent and phrased readers.

According to the research conducted on reading, the term “fluency” refers to the ability to read the text with speed, accuracy and proper expression. Typically fluent readers

- Recognise words automatically
- Read aloud effortlessly and with expression
- Do not have to concentrate on decoding
- Can focus on comprehension

Fluency is important because it provides a bridge between the word recognition and comprehension. Fluency doesn’t ensure comprehension, but comprehension is difficult without fluency. If a reader is constantly stopping to decode and figure out unknown words, most likely meaning will be disrupted and the process of reading becomes long and laborious.

When students make gains in reading fluency, they are able to put their energies into comprehension and are able to analyse, interpret, draw conclusions and infer meaning from texts.

There are 3 main components of Fluency

**Accuracy:** also known as automaticity, it refers to the person’s ability to read words in text.

**Rate:** the speed a person reads.

**Prosody:** Refers to stress, intonation and pauses, commonly known as reading with feeling.

Students across the school will continue to participate in Guided Reading groups on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9.00-9.30. These groups are ability based and are determined through the diagnostic data gathered by teachers at the start of the year. You may notice students bringing home books that they have already read and it may be at a level below what your child has been assessed at. Please don’t be alarmed; this is just one of many strategies used to increase student fluency and phrasing. Rereading familiar and simple texts has been validated as an effective means of developing fluency and promoting phrased reading.

I am pleased to inform all parents that the implementation of the schools new vocabulary program STRIVE is well underway and is already developing student vocabulary. Have a look at this week’s class reports to see what interesting and exciting new vocabulary your child has been learning.

As an addition to the schools rewards program, we are now running sausage sizzles in week 5 of each term to reward those students who consistently follow the school rules. Parents will be invited along to have lunch with their child/ren. Please support this new initiative and celebrate the success of your child’s achievements.

Current Attendance for the year is 96.9%. This is a tremendous start to the year let’s keep it up!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep -1</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1-2</td>
<td>96.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>96.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4-6</td>
<td>96.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations Prep -1 for the highest attendance rate!

Yours in Education,
Daniel Bishop
This week Preps have looked at the letters ‘Ii’ and ‘Nn’. On Wednesday we made Indian headbands for the letter ‘Ii’. In maths we saw if things were full or empty, as well as working on the number 2. Year Ones are fully rotating into their own programs, so we have Year Ones disappearing off to guided reading, spelling and maths groups at their level—no one has got lost...yet!

In History we began reading about ‘Simpson and his Donkey’ and talking about things that happened 100 years ago. In Science we talked about our Five Senses, we touched rough, bumpy, smooth, soft and hard items. We also completed a ‘popcorn’ investigation— we used our senses to observe what popcorn feels, tastes, looks, sounds and smells like!

STRIVE Words this week—Dwelling—a place where someone or something lives
Creep—when you get down low and move slowly

**Week 2**
Green Slips—Ethan Gordon, Shaun Gordon  
Bookwork Award—Sarah Clegg

**Week 3**
Green Slips—Amber Porter, CJ Monk  
Bookwork Award—Jimi Christie

Mrs Alex Brimblecombe

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**South Burnett Representative Sports**

The following are representative sports events available for students who are turning 10, 11 or 12 this year and are enrolled at a school in the South Burnett district. Students who would like to trial to represent at the South Burnett are expected to be participating at a club standard. These dates and venues are subject to change at the convenor’s discretion. If you would like your child to be nominated in any of these events please have your child’s name submitted to Mrs Goschnick. These teams are U/12 therefore if your child is 10 or 11 they need to be of a very high standard for their age. THIS IS NOT HAVE A GO DAY. STUDENTS MUST BE OF A HIGH STANDARD. STUDENTS NEED TO FIND THEIR OWN TRANSPORT TO AND FROM THE TRIALS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What</th>
<th>When</th>
<th>Where</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Swimming nominations due</td>
<td>Feb 17th</td>
<td>Times submitted straight to Wide Bay—must be club times or competitions (must be done in a 50m pool) signed off by swim club president and submit to school. Swim qualifying times are quite high.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB Softball Trials – boys and girls</td>
<td>Mar 2nd</td>
<td>Taabinga SS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB AFL Trials</td>
<td>Mar 2nd</td>
<td>Taabinga SS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB Touch Trials boys and girls</td>
<td>Mar 9th</td>
<td>Kingaroy SS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB Basketball Trials – boys and girls</td>
<td>Mar 9th</td>
<td>Kingaroy SS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB Winter Trials – Soccer— boys and girls, Netball, Tennis — boys and girls and Boys Rugby League</td>
<td>Mar 20th</td>
<td>Kingaroy TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB Cross Country (nominated via school results)</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Murgon SHS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB Girls Rugby League</td>
<td>July 15th</td>
<td>Taabinga SS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB Athletics (nominated via school results)</td>
<td>August 11-12th</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I would like to thank all the parents who took the time to speak with me about your child/ren’s targets for the year. Let’s continue the partnership for the benefit of education 😊

**ENGLISH**

This week, we have been reading a variety of poems. Our favourite books at the moment are, “The Puffin Book of Fantastic First Poems” and “Doodledum Dancing”. They are both filled with a variety of entertaining and informative poems that we have used daily and throughout our unit lessons. Last week our STRIVE words were brave and reeling. This week we have focused our attention on aquaplaning and warning. Next week we will discover cunning and bold. In The 7 Steps to Writing Success, we have been completing brainstorming activities and observed how newspaper articles link with our story mapping.

**MATH**

Dare I say it? Our Maths Rotations have been running smoothly and are FUN! Students have been completing activities in their workbooks with Mrs H, Mathletics online and hands on games with Ms Ange, and small group explicit teaching of new concepts with me. We have been completing activities around Number. So far we have been counting forwards and backwards, looking at numbers before and after, numbers written in word form and fast facts. Year 1 will continue these lessons with numbers to 100 next week. Year 2 will begin lessons based around place value of numbers to 999.

**SCIENCE**

This week, students completed a number of listening activities. We compared the sounds that we can hear inside our classroom to those we heard outside. Next week we will tabulate our findings and begin our lesson on “sounds on the move”.

**HISTORY**

Students learned who the ANZACs are this week and read 2 eBooks online – one was written by a year 1 student about his grandfather taking him to an Anzac Parade for the first time and the second was Simpson and His Donkey. Next week, we will continue learning about war and the Dawn Service.

**TECHNOLOGY**

This week we discussed what a shelter is and what it can be made of. Students chose groups to complete next week’s activities based on matching wildlife to shelters in their natural habitat and why we need shelter.
Year 3’s News

We are loving ‘The Twits!’ It is such a great book and we are enjoying the plotting of Mr and Mrs Twit.

Parent Teacher Meetings FAQ

Thank you for making time to meet with me to discuss your child this week. Some answers to frequently asked questions.

- Children mark their own Maths Mentals Homework before they go out to play each morning before school.
- Homework each night includes, Maths Mentals, Spelling and Reading – all initialled by a parent
- Lecturette check dates are important to ensure that your child does not leave it to the last minute.

NEW !!!!! Weekly Progress Report

Please keep an eye out for your child’s weekly progress report. We will fill out our weekly results on our form and glue it in to our diaries. You will be able to celebrate our marks for Maths Mentals Friday Tests, Spelling Mastery Friday Tests and Times Table Challenge.

STRIVE Words Week 3

thoroughly – if you do something thoroughly, you do it properly
biology – looking at living things and how they grow

STRIVE Words Week 4

miserable – if you are really very sad, you are miserable
smeared – to totally and thickly cover something

Cheers
Libby

2015 updated Consent/Permission Forms were sent home earlier this week. If you have not already done so, please complete and sign these forms and return them to the school office as soon as possible. Thank you to all families who responded promptly.

Jenny Allan
Admin
Our leadership camp in Barambah

By Teai Begeda

On Wednesday the 4th of February, we took a trip to Barambah Environmental Education Centre, a place of natural beauty. The first activity we did was the Barambah NAPLAN test. The questions referred to being a leader and on the back were some activities, you had to find the building numbers and answer the questions. We also went on a hike that day. We went to One Tree Hill, it was steep! I really loved the food and the people in the canteen were lovely. That night we prepared for the Barambah Challenge. Wondering what the Barambah Challenge is? Let me tell you…

The Barambah Challenge is when you lead your group to different checkpoints and call in on the radio.

Good morning! Day two! Today we had to be ready for our big walk. Each group was given 500 Barambah Dollars to be spent on equipment (and toilet paper!). We had $75 left over in our group! Our groups name was the Zeppelins! We went to 8 checkpoints on our journey and walked for 5 hours. We also went to one of the highest hills there was. There were vine forests, pine forests, rain forests and open eucalyptus bush. We also saw Rupert the red belly black!

The next day we went to the low ropes course. The course was mainly about trust. You had two spotters who watched out, in case you fell from the ropes. My spotters were Madison and Melena. They were great spotters! Next, we swapped groups and we pulled out some weeds with a rope, it was like a tug-of-war with the bush! I was pulling out lantana. Also, I got a bite from something! It stung! (But, Miss Snow did some first aide. She was wonderful!). We hopped on the bus at 12.30 and headed home.

Barambah is a place I would love to go back to. We all had a great trip!

Year 4, 5, 6 STRIVE Words for Week 3:

Mischievous, obstinate and distinctly

We will be trying to use these words in our writing and also in our general conversations!

Miss Amy Snow
COMMUNITY NEWS ITEMS

Barambah United Football Club Inc.
2015 Season Sign On Days
Men’s, Ladies, Squirts, Mini-roos and Junior Competitions
Saturday 7th Feb 2015
Rotunda in Lamb Street Murgon
8.30am - 12pm
Wondai Sports Ground Junior Clubhouse
Saturday 14th Feb 2015

Mini Roos competition for u6 through to u11

Subway Squirts program for 3 to 5 year olds

For further enquiries or information please contact Sarah on 0429085001

20TH FEBRUARY 2015

BLUE LIGHT DISCO

SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN 6 YEARS TO 14 YEARS ONLY

Cost: $5.00 includes a Sausage Sizzle

TIME: 6:30pm to 8:30pm

Children will not be a lead to leave the premises unless accompanied by an adult.

Experience The Magic Of Hosting

In July our exchange student, Toon, joined our family. And when I say joined he literally did that. He has become my teenage son. Our experience as a family has been amazing and unforgettable.

Too is leaving this week and I feel like my son is grown up and leaving home. There is nothing negative that I can say about our time with Toon. Toon has been through all sorts of things with our family. Through good times, like the birth of our new daughter, and not so good times (but nothing bad).

I would like to say my respects to Toon’s parents. They have done a wonderful job raising such a courteous, well mannered, well balanced son. We have so many fantastic stories from this exchange experience. We have enjoyed it so much that we are hosting again next July. We will have a friend for life and will never forget Toon.

Thank you WEP for the chance to meet Toon. It wouldn’t have been possible without the WEP team. Only a quick few words to show my appreciation in meeting Toon and to WEP.

Enrich your home with a curious exchange student in July 2015

Request student profiles now to find out more!

www.wep.org.au  1300 884 733  info@wep.org.au
RECYCLE FOR THE SCHOOL!

Do you have any old automotive Batteries lying around?? Please drop them off at Murgon Tyre & Auto who can recycle them for you and all proceeds will be donated back to our School.

Thank you to Murgon Tyre & Auto for this great program!

Donations already received total—$1079

KEEP RECYCLING!

OLD COMPUTER EQUIPMENT - GIVE AWAY— AS IS CONDITION

Multiple number of Computer LCD Flat screens
Multiple number of Computer Keyboards
SHARP Multi-function Printer/Copier—in need of repairs to toner drum approx. $1000)—Giveaway—as is condition

FOR SALE

Refrigerator—2 Door—Working condition—for Sale $100—as is condition

First in best dressed—Please see Daniel or Jenny in the office

DENTAL VAN IS COMING TO WHEATLANDS IN TERM 2!

Parent consent/information forms were sent home with last newsletter. If you have not already done so, please complete and return the forms to the school office by Friday 27th February. If you do not return the form we will assume you do not want your child/ren to have access to this service. If you have misplaced the form, please see Jenny in the office for a replacement.

Please note that Parents/Guardians must attend the first appointment with their child/ren.

P & C NEWS

Next General Meeting - To be announced—Term 1—2015

If you have anything you would like to add to the agenda for the next meeting, please add it to the form at the front office counter.

UNIFORMS

Second hand clothes for sale.
Skorts/shorts from $3, jumpers from $2, track pants from $2, shirts from $3. Lots of sizes!
Text/phone Bronwyn 0448 102 157 or see me before/after school.

Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesdays</th>
<th>Library borrowing day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursdays</td>
<td>PE &amp; Music sessions and School banking day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th Feb</td>
<td>Sausage Sizzle—1.15pm—please see note from your child next week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27th Feb</td>
<td>Dental Van forms to be returned to office by today</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd April</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th April</td>
<td>First day of Term 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Dental Van visits the school</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Generous Rebates Available  
Caring Qualified Staff  
Tue, Wed & Thu  
9.00 am - 2.30 pm  
60 Baynes St  
wondaikindy@datawave.net.au  
Ph: 4168 5313

Wondai Community Kindergarten

Paul Henderson ELECTRICAL  
Electrical Contracting  
Lic: 68631  
82 McConnel Way  
Mondure Q 4811  
Fax 07 4168 9741  
Mob: 0408 387 673