Wide Bay School Sport
Our athletes had a great time at the South Burnett Zone Athletics Carnival in Nanango this week. Seniors participated in track and field events on Tuesday and Juniors participated in track events on Wednesday. Our congratulations are extended to Elly-Mei Cook who will compete in Shot Put and Amy Henderson who will compete in Long Jump and High Jump at the Regional Carnival in Maryborough on the 26th August.

Attendance
Every day counts is a state wide initiative that aims to assist in improving student attendance at school through a shared commitment by students, parents, caregivers, schools and the community to improve students’ attendance at school. The key messages for our school are all children should be enrolled at school, attend on every school day and arrive at school on time. All absences must be explained by direct communication with the school. We consistently monitor and track attendance.

Class Attendance Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Prep-1</th>
<th>Year 1-2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4-6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>93.89%</td>
<td>94.62%</td>
<td>94.79%</td>
<td>96.42%</td>
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NAPLAN
Student reports and school achievement data from NAPLAN 2015 have been released in the past few days. Wheatlands State School students achieved Outstanding Results. 100% of students achieved or exceeded the national minimum standard in Numeracy, Writing, Reading and Grammar and Punctuation. 75% of Year 5’s were in the top 3 bands for Reading and Grammar and Punctuation and 84% of Year 5’s were in the top 3 bands for Numeracy. 90% of Year 3’s were in the top 3 bands for writing, 81% of Year 3’s were in the top 3 bands for reading and 76% of Year 3’s were in the top 3 bands for Numeracy. Parents can have every confidence that the curriculum programs, routines and procedures at Wheatlands State School are working to ensure every student is achieving every day.

AFTER HOURS ACCESS TO SCHOOL GROUNDS
The Department of Education and Training requires that prior approval from the Principal must be sought for after hours access to school grounds. Parents please be aware this includes ‘a quick play on the fort’ or ‘a simple game of tennis’.

Mid Term Rewards Sausage Sizzle
Thank you to the community members who were able to drop in for our Sausage Sizzle yesterday. We hope you enjoyed the chance to have lunch with your child and check out some of their work in the classroom.

P and C Winter Raffle
Congratulations to the members of the P and C for organising and coordinating the Winter Raffle. Thanks also to the parents who were able to sell tickets in Murgon. Your support of P and C events and fundraising helps provide valuable resources for our school.

Libby Meikle
Greetings from Years 4/5/6!

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Mrs. Michelle Newton and I am excited and privileged to be teaching this great 4/5/6 class from Wednesday to Friday each week and on occasion, Monday and Tuesday. I am a mother of three children and previously a private music teacher. I could possibly be considered a local, having lived in the South Burnett area for the last 31 years and may be familiar to students that have attended schools in Murgon where I have been a teacher aide and relief teacher.

So, what have we been learning this fortnight?

Our English focus is on writing a personal letter to share our experiences in a way that someone in the future would know it is 2015. The students have been identifying what language features we need to use to be able to do this. Our “7 steps” writing program has definitely helped to add more description to our writing.

In Maths, students are finishing the Mathletics unit of fractions, decimals and percentages. After completing their assessment, they will move onto learning about area, distance and perimeter. This promises to be an enjoyable unit with opportunities for real life learning.

In Geography we are discussing the differences between countries, and using data to interpret and compare these differences. Some new words that we have come across are ‘developed and developing countries’ and ‘gross national income’.

In Science, the unit on earthquakes is extremely relevant considering our recent experiences with earthquake tremors.

Before class, students have been enthusiastically showing and sharing some of the precious rocks and gemstones that they have found or bought. We have had so many brought in that we have begun a photographic display for everyone to look at in their leisure. If you have a spare moment, drop in and take a look.

As the fortnight has progressed, it has been great to learn about my students’ interests and abilities, and to begin meeting parents. If you have any questions or concerns or information you would like to share with me, please come and see me or send me a note. I look forward to the opportunity to meet you all and get to know you in the near future.

Mrs Michelle Newton

Prep/One News

This week has been hectic! We have completed Running Records and Alphabet Identification for tracking individual student progress and reporting to parents at the end of the term. We have also been innovating on the text “Brown Bear, Brown Bear what do you see?” by Bill Martin. We have then taken photographs to illustrate each child’s story. We will use the photos in the software program “Photostories 3” for each child to narrate their own story. A copy of these will be available at the end of next week, if a USB stick is supplied.

Preps have been looking at the diagraph- ‘ng’ and we made penguins. We have also explored the ‘in’ CVC word family ie fin, tin, bin.

In Prep Maths we have been making numbers with the ten frames, threading numbers and looking at the number 14. We have also begun using Mathletics on the computers.

Week 4

Green Slips- Ethan and CJ

Week 5

Green Slips- Breanna and Reagan

Bookwork Award- Ethan

Mrs Alex Brimblecombe
Year 3 News

The year 3 students and Miss Snow have been having a lot of fun with this new classroom arrangement! Although it has taken us some time to get to know each other and what is expected, we are now settling into our new class routine together.

In English, students are continuing to explore the text, Matty Forever. It’s a good thing the year 3s have been practicing their comprehension skills, because they had to fill Miss Snow in on the novel’s plot!

In Mathematics, year 3 and 4 students have just started their new unit, Fractions! This topic can be tricky for some, but we are off to a flying start, with many lessons on Mathletics already completed as well as workbooks underway. Fractions is a very real-life unit, as it is the type of Math that easily transfers to our daily lives (such as how we cut Clair’s birthday cake, so that everyone received a piece).

We have finished our bridges! Year 3s had a lot of fun finishing and testing their bridges in Technology. While some stood up better than others, we were all able to explore different methods and structures that are used to create strong bridges.

The Year 3 class is continuing their Beneath our Feet Science unit, with a focus on Rocks and Weathering over the past fortnight. It has been fun exploring rocks and finding real-life examples of natural chalk and clay in the army bases in our playground. In addition to this, we have been exploring the world more broadly in Geography. We had a lot of fun learning and using alphanumeric grids (far more fun than we expected!), as well as looking at where different continents are.

Year 3 students have been excitedly participating in ticket collection and prize draws during class. Miss Snow hands out tickets in class to students who are on-task. These tickets are put into the weekly prize draw bucket and then one is drawn out every Friday, with the winner choosing a prize. At the end of the term, the student with the highest ticket tally will be rewarded with an overall prize!

STRIVE: Absent-mindedly, Preserving, Endurance, Curious

Miss Amy Snow
** Photos included in the newsletter this week: Art creations from grades 1 & 2 (and some very messy students)**

**ENGLISH**
This week, we researched facts related to our Science unit. Students discovered how long it takes space explorers to travel to another planet in our solar system.
Next week, students will begin their assessment. They will select a fictional story that interests them from our school library. Students will then write a list of questions they have about: the animal in the story, a plant, an occupation, or environment and so forth. We will then begin researching and recording facts.
Our STRIVE words for the last two weeks were: Miserable, curious, gigantic and fascinating.

**MATH**
This week, along with online Mathletics and workbooks, students completed their Chance and Data test. We spent the remainder of the week revising areas were the majority of students displayed difficulty. I’m pleased to announce that the Year 2 students are now beginning to complete Level B in their Times Tables Challenge and are progressing into Level C. We are so proud of them 😊
Next week, we will begin Measurement. The students will complete a number of hands on activities, their workbooks and online lessons, based around length, mass and capacity, for the remainder of Term Three.

**SCIENCE**
This week, we have been recording our daily temperatures, weather and rainfall. Students have been discussing weather patterns and the sudden changes in our weather, completing mission two.
Next week, students will be given their third mission. They will be asked to observe and record the phases of our moon. Students will work in small groups and provided with very tasty materials to assist with the completion of this mission. ORIOS 😊

**GEOGRAPHY**
This week, students demonstrated their understanding of traditional aboriginal symbols by creating a mud map of their own. They were then asked to design their own symbols to represent items they would need or animals they would see.
Next week, students will understand how to collect and represent data about features in a familiar place. We will learn how to interpret familiar and unfamiliar maps, discuss the features located on the maps and provide feedback on what we believe the place could be by identifying the symbols E.g. a park, a school, a town etc.

**ART**
Did I mention last fortnight that .... We... Love .... ART !?! 😊
Last week, we completed our constellations and have displayed them along the windows. They look AMAZING!
This week, we designed a rocket or spacecraft. Students began by researching what flying machines are used in space and began sketching their designs. Instead of paint, this week, we used oil pastel. A very messy material (as some students discovered – see display photos). The rockets were a 5, 4, 3, 2, 1... Blast Off Success! They are now displayed above our constellations.
Next week, we will go back to paint. Students will learn a number of techniques – splatter, scratch, flick, tap, dab, press and so forth. After experimenting with the new techniques, students will be asked to create their own galaxy. It’s going to be .... Out of This WORLD ! 😊

**HIGH EXPECTATIONS HANDWRITING AWARD**
Week 4 & 5 – Miley & Pixie

**GREEN SLIPS**
Week 4 & 5 – Xavier, Mia, Shea, Ruby, Amber M, Erin, Tamika

**READING AWARDS**
Week 4 & 5
75 Nights of Reading: Jett.
100 Nights of Reading: Mia, Peter, Jayde, Hayden, Xavier
125 Nights of Reading: Tamika.
150 Nights of Reading: Leo.
175 Nights of Reading: Amber M.

**Miss Sarah Sullivan**
Library News!

Remember Book Week will be held on Week 7 from the 24th August through to the 28th August. This year the theme for Book Week is ‘Books Light up our World’, and as in previous years here at Wheatlands the Book Week Dress Up Parade will be held once again on Wednesday 26th August at 9am. Students can come dressed up as their favourite book character for the day, with a special parade held in the morning and great prizes for each year level. Students need to start thinking now about costumes, and all are welcome to attend! Younger siblings and parents are encourage to dress up and participate in the parade.

Please remember that borrowing is every Wednesday afternoon, and students receive stickers each time they borrow on their borrowing charts. Students need to borrow at least 7 times in a term to receive an end of term prize. Students must also have their library bags if they want to take books home, but are allowed a book for their chair bag without one.

Mrs Tracy Anderson
RSPCA Kingaroy open day!

Aug 29
10am - 3pm

25 - 75% off everything

BBQ / JUMPING CASTLE / FACE PAINTING
CUPCAKES / COLOURING COMP / $2 HYDROGELS / SEE PLAY GROUPS IN ACTION / BEHIND THE SCENES LOOK AT THE SHELTER

St. Joseph’s Parish & School fete

Saturday 5 September 3pm - 9pm

COME and DUNK Mr Cruz!! Be the first! Up for dunking are teachers, police, Fr. Michael and others.

Double Lane Big Slide is the steamiest. Be ahead... this is the action slide of all time and fastest slide in town.

Test your name and climbing skills when you are climbing to the top. Not for the faint hearted.

Watch on the children climb to Giant Slide and scramble up the side race ladder!

Bucking Bull .... Who will be the first to Ride and Stay Out! Will it be Fr. Michael?

HOT FOOD & DRINKS • NOVELTY • CRAFTS
BIG DROP SLIDE • THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE
GET DUNK’D • BUCKING BULL • LICENCED BAR
RAFFLE • 2 JUMPING CASTLES • $25 RIDES PASS
CHILDREN PERFORMANCES • POLICE PIPE BAND
SCHOOL BANDS • FUN FUN FUN FUN FUN FUN

See you there!

quickbeds
Grassroots Fundraising Program
Supporting local sport & community groups

Help raise funds for Wheatlands State School P&C

Next time you are booking accommodation, go to www.quickbeds.com enter our unique Grassroots ID: 1201 and you’ll be helping our school

Important Note:
The deal not work on our mobile site yet. Australian and New Zealand properties only at this time.
Get your entries ready for this year’s WONDAI SHOW (28th & 29th August)

What about ….

- Best Decorated Egg (p46 in Schedule)
- Floral Saucer (p50 in Schedule)
- Decorated miniature/novelty watering can with floral arrangement (p50 in Schedule)
- Iced and decorated Arrowroot Biscuits (p48 in Schedule)
- Patchwork pot holder (p60 in Schedule)
- Christmas decoration (p64 in Schedule)
- Bead jewellery bracelet (p64 in Schedule)
- A3 Poster (p68 in Schedule)
- Original Lego/Duplo creation (p69 in Schedule)

Check out the LEGO/DUPLO SECTION and JUNIOR SECTIONS in a number of Pavilion Sections (Fruit & Vegetables, Floriculture, Culinary, Handcraft, Needlework, Fine Arts and Photography).

There is also an overall prize (McALLISTER TROPHY) for the boy and girl receiving most points in the Junior Divisions in the Pavilion sections.

SCHEDULES are available at various outlets throughout Wondai and surrounding areas or contact the Secretary

Email: secretary@wondaishow.com.au
Mobile: 0400 305272
Or check out the webpage: www.wondaishow.com.au

Does your child use MATHLETICS at home?

Please note the following message from 3P Learning…..

Here at 3P Learning our technical team are continually working to update our learning resources to ensure they remain as powerful as possible for our users. Over the coming months, we will be releasing some great new features and updates. We are very excited to share them with you, watch this space!

In order to continue to build world-leading resources, our team are working with the latest technologies - working towards our goal of being able to make our products available to as many users, across as many devices, as possible.

As a result, we are updating our minimum technical requirements - specifically in relation to the browsers we now support. Older browsers are simply unable to handle the more modern web technologies. We encourage all users to ensure they are using the latest versions of Firefox, Chrome, Safari and Internet Explorer 10+.

If you have any questions, of course do not hesitate to contact our friendly technical team at techsupport@3plearning.com.
Next Meeting — Tuesday 1st September at 6.30 pm.

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.

The P&C is assisting the Wondai Show Society with setting up of gazebos on Friday 28th August from 8am to 12 noon and again on the Sunday 30th August dismantling the gazebos from 8am to 12 noon. In return for our help, the Society is donating $500 to the school. If you can spare some time on either of these days to lend a hand, it would be very much appreciated. Please contact Fay Kerkow (Mob 0458 669 255) to indicate your availability. Thank you.

**WOOLWORTHS EARN-N-LEARN**

Remember “Woolworths Earn and Learn” stickers available between Wednesday 15th July and Tuesday 18th September. Please encourage friends and family to support our school by putting their stickers in our box when shopping at Woolworths. There are plenty of educational resources the school can purchase through the scheme so let’s all get involved. The box is located near the service desk at Woolworths Kingaroy or you can drop your stickers into the school office. Thanks.

**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! Another $640 received this week.
Donations to-date total—$1719
KEEP RECYCLING!
Centenary & Recipe books $10
Caps $5, Wine Glasses $2
Water bottles $2
Croc Clips $1, Pens 50c

Limited stocks - available at office
The winners have been drawn and we had some very happy recipients of prizes yesterday. The P&C bank account is now over $5,000 healthier following the fabulous success of the raffle.

A huge thanks to our families who donated prizes and also sold and/or purchased their tickets. Also a special mention to our team of helpers who sold tickets outside Wondai and Murgon IGA stores – Kylie Ward, Kimberley Kunde, Kieran Ramke, Fay Kerkow, Alisha Cook, Bronwyn Hales, Kevin Begeda, Kate Scott, Carley Ackinclose, Michelle Bishop and Susan Mollenhauer. Also thanks to Ryan’s Butchery and Wondai Pharmacy for actively selling multiple books of our tickets to their customers. These sales outside of our immediate school community contributed to around two-thirds of sales so their help and support pushed our raffle from being a good fundraiser to great!

And the winners were…..

1<sup>st</sup> Beau Jorgensen
2<sup>nd</sup> Maddison Wecker
3<sup>rd</sup> Liesa Bauer
4<sup>th</sup> Pat Smith
5<sup>th</sup> Beryl Smith
6<sup>th</sup> Laura Holding, prize redonated - redraw winner Natasha Monk
7<sup>th</sup> David Hartwig
8<sup>th</sup> C Cambra
9<sup>th</sup> Fay Jensen
10<sup>th</sup> Pat Hansen
11<sup>th</sup> Ward family
12<sup>th</sup> Angela Ellwood
13<sup>th</sup> Pam Jones
14<sup>th</sup> M Ellis
15<sup>th</sup> Scott Henster
16<sup>th</sup> Maureen Dendle
17<sup>th</sup> P Sproule
18<sup>th</sup> Mark Bell
19<sup>th</sup> Thomas Kelly
20<sup>th</sup> Bverlene Robanson
21<sup>st</sup> M Bishop
22<sup>nd</sup> Keith Ramke
23<sup>rd</sup> R Sanderson
24<sup>th</sup> Merv Keevers
25<sup>th</sup> Leanne Lee
26<sup>th</sup> Gary Sewell
27<sup>th</sup> Carissa Beddows
28<sup>th</sup> Teresa Hodson
29<sup>th</sup> Jessie Hodgson
30<sup>th</sup> L Ponder
A good friend enthusiastically told me how he was looking forward to spending a few days away on his own with his two kids, aged 10 and 13. He was feeling quite chuffed.

He was having some ‘dad time’ with his kids.

Good on him!

He was doing some memory building & relationship building, as well as having some fun.

He told me that he was aware that his kids were getting older and he knew such opportunities were diminishing.

Gone are the days when the only relationship many men had with their kids was through their wife. She would explain him to the kids (‘Your dad’s very busy but he would love to see you play sport but he can’t make it.’) As well, she’d keep him up-to-date with the children’s lives.

Blokes, it seems, are valuing the time they spend with their kids on their own.

Or at least the dads I mix with are. Spending time alone with kids is a great way to build confidence in dads.

And the kids usually just love it.

Mothers can play a role here by not getting in the way if their husband or partner wants a little time alone with kids. (Most mums I meet welcome this!)

Children usually associate their fathers with activity. When I ask children to tell me about their dads they usually talk about the things that they like to do together with their dads. Playing, walking, fishing, wrestling… the list goes on.

It’s through shared activity and involvement in kids’ lives that dads build up frequent father points. It’s hard to build good connections with kids when you are not there!

Don’t wait until adolescence

These relationships are best built in childhood, when kids just love their dads to bits and want to be around him. It gets trickier in adolescence, but having shared interests developed in childhood gives you a connection point during these sometimes-turbulent times.

Dads also benefit from spending time with their kids. Most health scales state a healthy relationship with their children is a predictor of good health and longevity for men. I’m not sure where the health benefits come from, but I suspect there is something relaxing and de-stressing about getting into a child’s space. There is a big kid inside most men just bursting to get out.

These days we take parenting pretty seriously and it’s easy to forget that one of the fundamentals of raising kids well is to spend some time in your child’s space, doing stuff, or not doing stuff, whatever the case maybe.

So how are your (or your partner’s) Frequent Father points going? If they need some topping up then you can start by doing something together that the kids enjoy. Having a bit of fun together is the best place to start.

Author’s note: Sole mums can take these ideas on-board to have a NO RULES weekend with your kids, where you have a change of routine and activity that can give kids the chance to see you in a different way.