BE A LEARNER
BE RESPECTFUL
BE SAFE

Book Week Parade
This year’s parade was definitely the best ever. I am happy to report that all children participated by dressing as a book character. There was obviously a lot of crafting happening in the build up to the parade. We also enjoyed the company of lots of Mums and Dads, Grandparents, friends and younger siblings at the parade. There are many photos following in this edition of the newsletter.

Wide Bay Regional Athletics Carnival
Our congratulations are extended to Elly-Mei Cook who competed in Shot Put and Amy Henderson who competed in Long Jump and High Jump at the Regional Carnival in Maryborough this week. Both girls enjoyed the day and Amy came fourth in her high jump event.

Parent Teacher Meetings
Timetables for parent teacher meeting will be sent home next week. We encourage all parents to commit to meeting with class teachers to discuss your child’s individual learning plan.

ARD Visit
Our Assistant Regional Director, Mrs Debbie Hails visited our school last Friday. Debbie observed our students were effectively engaged and could articulate what they are learning. The classroom environments were positive and consistent with school expectations and that students were enjoying the lessons. I congratulate our Teachers and Teachers Aides for their commitment to ensuring our students are achieving every day. Mrs Hails also congratulated our school on the presentation of the grounds. Narelle Wenck our cleaner and Faye Kerkow and Bronwyn Hales our grounds persons consistently work hard to ensure our environment is clean and safe for our children.

School Support Staff Recognition Week (31 August – 4 September),
Next week is a great opportunity to celebrate the important contributions that support officers make every day. Their quality work behind the scenes ensures teachers, school leaders and students have the strong foundation they need to be successful. Teacher Aide Day will end the week on Friday 4 September and is another great opportunity to recognise the skills, abilities and flexibility that teacher aides contribute to the daily life of the school.

Comedy Night
I encourage you to support our Pand C for their major fundraiser this year. The adults only comedy night will be held on the 4th October at Wondai Town Hall 7pm Tickets are available from Wondai Pharmacy, Murgon Paint and Panel, Keiran 4168 9873 or Kimberley 0409 593 124. Helpers will also be required before and after the event.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Attendance Data</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>93.5%</td>
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Libby Meikle
The past few weeks have continued to be very busy, productive and some fun too! In English we completed our photostories. Any parents wishing for a copy, please send in a USB stick. We have continued to look at CVC word families and diagraphs. In unit work we have looked at character friendships in ‘Noni the Pony’, this week we looked at unusual characters like “The Gruffalo” and “Bertie the Bear”.

In Science we looked at various objects and sorted them out by what they are made of - wood, plastic and metal. We then discussed properties and features.

We really enjoyed participating in the Book Week parade and if you are at the Wondai Show please look out for our pictures on display, with the rest of the school, in the schools section.

In the Prep maths program we have been naming coins and revising counting to make sure it is ‘perfect’.

Over the past two weeks we have been gathering data to share with parents at upcoming parent teacher interviews. A note about interview times will be sent out next Monday.

Week 6
Green Slips—Ruby, Riley
Book Work—Sarah

Week 7
Green Slips—Abby, Reagan
Book Work—CJ

Mrs Alex Brimblecombe
Year 3 News

It's that time of year again… Testing time! Students in Year 3 have been hard at work this past week, completing their PAT and reading testing, to track their academic progress. I am looking forward to compiling their results and discussing progress and new goals in the coming weeks.

Meanwhile, normal class activities continue. In English, students have now completed their comprehension tasks about the text *Matty Forever*. Now, we are shifting our focus slightly, to explore the features of a narrative and we may even start our own before the Term is out!

In Science, students continue to explore what’s beneath our feet, with our current focus on landforms, erosion and weathering. After watching many erosion experiments, we are now excited to perform our own investigation (look out sandpit!). In Geography, we have also been exploring the landscape, with a focus on natural landforms of the Australian environment as well as climate, and world climate zones.

Year 3 and 4 students have been continuing to work on *Fractions* in Mathematics, but we will be moving on to *Measurement* very soon. Additionally, we have been learning to improve our problem solving skills. We are currently working on the problem solving strategy *Make a List*. This strategy is very useful for problems where we need to see all of the possible outcomes/combinations.

In Technology, students are just about finished drafting their initial bookmarks. Next, we will survey peers and use feedback to improve our final product.

**Wondai Show!** If you get a chance to visit the Wondai show, stop by the Wheatlands display. The Year 3 class have contributed to the show with artwork, technology bridges and SRIVE writing.

**STRIVE:** Reputation and Verge

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**Footy Colours Day! Friday, September 4th**

This coming Friday, the Wheatlands Student Council will be organising Footy Colours Day. On this day, all students are asked to come to school dressed in their team's colours and **give a gold coin donation**.

All money raised will be donated to *Fight Cancer Foundation*, a charity dedicated to the treatment, care and support of patients and families battling cancer in Australia.
**Photos included in the newsletter this week: Book Week Parade Photos**

**ENGLISH**
This week, students continued to work on their Seven Steps to Writing Success – 6 Senses. We also completed a writing sample for the Wondai Show. Students highlighted what they were looking forward to seeing at the show this weekend. We completed our PAT Reading/Comprehension, PAT Spelling, IPI Reading tests and are working through PM Running Records. Students have remained positive throughout and are keen to see their improvements. Next week, students will begin researching and recording notes for their assessment. They will need at least 5 facts that relate to their chosen fictional text. Our STRIVE words for this week were: surprised and mumble.

**MATH**
This week, along with online Mathletics and workbooks, students completed plenty of hands on measurement activities. Students used standard and non-standard units of measurement to measure lengths and widths. We completed our PAT Math testing and have seen pleasing progress. Next week, we will continue with measurement. Students will learn how to convert metres to centimetres and centimetres to millimetres.

**SCIENCE**
This week, students continued to observe moon phases. Miss G planned some exciting hands on lessons to help us remember each phase (it got a little bit messy). Moon phases created by the students will be displayed on our Science/Art wall.

Next week, students will be given their fourth mission. They will be asked to observe the sun and how it affects our planet. Students will be asked to write a short report on their findings.

**GEOGRAPHY**
This week, students completed tallies and a list of questions related to students' favourite play equipment. Next week, students will be asked to complete a graph displaying the data they collected. They will then be asked to expand on their findings by writing a brief summary. This will complete our Geography assessment for Term 3. We will continue to look at different places for the remainder of the term.

**ART**
In Art this week, we completed our Book Week certificates – photos to glue on and decorations added for a memorable keepsake. What a fun day! Next week, we will go back to paint. Students will be lucky enough to use some unusual objects to paint the planets found in our solar system. Let's hope they have a "popping" good time and don't get "blown" away!!

A NOTE FROM MISS G:
This week in my professional experience, I have had the pleasure to be involved in the book week parade and it was great to see all of the students dressed up. I also had the opportunity this week to teach the year 1 and 2 students about different moon phases in science, measuring with centimetres in math, and their strive words for the week which were "Surprised" and "Mumbled". Thank you to all the students, teachers and parents that have made me feel very welcome.

**HIGH EXPECTATIONS HANDWRITING AWARD**
Week 6 & 7 – Peter & Ruby A

**GREEN SLIPS**
Week 6 & 7 – Natalie, Leo, Miranda, Pixie & Miley

**READING AWARDS**
Week 6 & 7
- **300 Nights of Reading:** Miley & Harley
- **125 Nights of Reading:** Amber W
- **150 Nights of Reading:** Hannah M
- **175 Nights of Reading:** Jessica, Pixie & Natalie
- **200 Nights of Reading:** Shea & Ryan

Miss Sarah Sullivan
Hello from 4/5/6!

My personal highlight this week has been our whole school “Book Week Parade”. What a fantastic experience to see all students, teachers and even community members dress up to celebrate this occasion. Congratulations to all the winners including our Year 4’s Mikayla & Denim, Year 5’s Larissa & Molly, and Year 6’s Matt & Teai!

As we have progressed through the past fortnight, students have been busy writing their personal letters to students of the future. All first drafts have been completed with the focus now on editing for the presentation of their final letter.

After a busy assessment period, we have started our Maths measurement unit and are in the process of planning an imaginary fun run around the school. Students have to estimate measurements to keep the course under 1km and are enjoying adding obstacles to the course to increase the original length. In the coming weeks we will be measuring this course out and may even be able to undertake the course ourselves.

As part of our Science unit on earthquakes, students returned to their younger days by using play dough to create group displays of tectonic plate movement. This was recreated as part of our Wondai show display.

Our studies in Geography have helped us interpret data to understand the diversity between countries. We have also revised our ability to plot points on a map using coordinates of latitude and longitude.

You may have heard about our Art unit. Students are excited to be creating their own short story in the form of a poster, comic strip, booklet or media display such as PowerPoint slides. The main criteria are they use pictures taken from other media sources such as magazines, newspapers, photographs or the internet. As we look for images, students are mindful of our THINK cyber safety protocol. There are some great ideas developing and I can’t wait to see the end results.

After such a great fortnight, I can’t wait to see what the next two weeks will bring.

Mrs. Michelle Newton
Don't forget the date!

October 24

The P&C's Comedy Night is on Saturday October 24 at Wondai Hall. Tickets are on sale now for $40 – includes finger food. Steady Eddy and 4 other professional comedians from Brisbane will be performing 2 hours of top quality, side-splitting adults only comedy. DJ and Bar till late. Buses from to Murgon and Proston (via Monduire). Tickets available from Wondai Pharmacy, Murgon Paint & Panel, Kimberley Kunde, Kieran Ramke and Kylie Ward.

But Wait....
The P&C require as much help and support as possible on the weekend of the comedy night. A small committee of volunteers simply cannot host this massive event without the helping hand of our school families. Assistance is required with:
* Setting up tables, chairs and the hall on Saturday morning until the job is done (a few men would be great to help with moving the tables and ladies plenty of decorating and chair setting up for you!)
* Food preparation in the kitchen from 3pm until 10pm
* From 7pm - taking tickets at the door, selling raffle tickets, serving food platters to tables, clearing tables at interval (around 9.30pm), kitchen clean up
* Hall clean up on Sunday morning (including packing away tables and chairs – blokes it’s your turn again to put your hand up here!)

If you can help with any of the aforementioned tasks for any amount of time please contact Kylie Ward (0400 045 366) or see Kimberley, Kieran or Ngaire.

Our 2014 Comedy Night was a huge success and fantastic night of entertainment. We are expecting to pack the Wondai Hall to the max this year so if you are considering coming along we urge you to purchase your tickets as soon as you can as they are selling very fast! And whether you are or are not attending we would appreciate you lending a hand at some stage over the weekend.

Stand-up comedy –
the best abdominal workout without going to the gym!
**Dates to Remember**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesdays</td>
<td>Library borrowing day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursdays</td>
<td>PE &amp; Music sessions and School banking day</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Sept</td>
<td>Bookclub #6 orders due</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Sept</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 6.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th Sept</td>
<td>Rewards Day</td>
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<td>18th Sept</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 3</td>
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<td>5th Oct</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
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<td>6th Oct</td>
<td>First Day of Term 4</td>
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<td>19th Oct</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
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<td>20th Oct</td>
<td>Visit by QUESTACON—all year levels</td>
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<tr>
<td>24th Oct</td>
<td>P&amp;C Comedy Night fundraiser at Wondai</td>
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**P & C NEWS**

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 until 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 lets all get involved. The box is located near the service desk at Woolworths Kingaroy or you can drop your stickers into the school office. Thank you.

**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!*
Exploring the New Frontier in Parenting

So what is this new frontier of parenting? Emotions are now recognised as an important part of the parenting landscape. Here are five ideas to help you explore the alien landscape of kids’ emotions.

It’s official!

- Emotions are now part of the parenting and educational mainstream!
- For some time they’ve been relegated as a sideshow to the main events of discipline, confidence building, character building, and lately, resilience.
- Not now.

The recently released movie *Inside Out* gives life to emotions in a fun, accessible way. It’s a wonderful demonstration of why we must put emotional intelligence front and centre in our parenting and teaching. The quickest pathway to happiness and success is the acceptance and recognition of feelings.

This is not a new idea. Over 2,000 years ago Socrates reminded his Greek compatriots, “Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.”

Current day muse Dr. Marc Brackett, Director of the Yale Centre for Emotional Intelligence is more expansive. He says, “Emotions matter as they drive learning, decision-making, creativity, relationships, and health.”

This is not to say that we ignore children’s poor behaviour, neglect to set limits or not ask anything of them when they’ve experienced hardship at school. Accepting and recognising emotions is an added layer in our interactions with kids, which may well be the missing link in building cooperation, connection and resilience.

Emotions are messy. They can be loud. They can be hidden. They so often interrupt our well-organised schedules. “What do you mean you’re sad? We’re off to watch a movie. It’s a happy time!” Emotions are hard to control and difficult to see. Like slippery eels swimming in a dam, you know that they are down there somewhere but it’s hard to figure out just what they are doing.

It’s a wonder parents haven’t smartened up to emotions earlier because ‘good parenting’ is hard emotional labour. When your three-year old throws a tantrum in a supermarket and all you can do is grin and bear it (rather than throwing your own tantrum or doing what you really feel like which is disowning your own child!) you’re doing hard emotional labour.

When you console and contain the hurt of a primary school aged child who throws himself at your feet howling that everyone hates him, you are doing emotional labour.

Staring down a teenager who looks you straight in the eye while spitting out “I hate you!” because you’ve denied their request to go out is hard emotional labour. Parents do emotional labour all the time. That’s one of the reasons its so draining.

Accepting kids’ emotions mean we need to listen to them. We need to be mindful of their feelings as well as their behaviours and thoughts, which is what most parents and teachers are conditioned to do. We’ve built a broad vocabulary around behaviour management featuring terms such as consequences, limits and boundaries, and time-out to name a few. The perennial ‘To smack or not to smack’ question shows we are very willing to have debates about behaviour management methods, but discussions about emotional management are few and far between.

The limits of many parents’ emotional vocabularies are matched by the limitations in method as well. Most parents when asked can provide plenty of ways to raise a well-behaved child but I suspect many would struggle if asked to name three or more ways to build their children’s emotional smarts. This is not a criticism but an acknowledgement of lack of training in the area.

Ask yourself, “Who taught you how to recognise, manage and regulate your emotions?” If you answered your parents then lucky you. They’ve given you the tools you need to have successful relationships, to maximise your earning potential (I kid you not) and to behave like a champ, not a chump, when playing sport and participating in other competitive or high performance activities. If you were able to identify any adult who taught you emotional intelligence then I suspect you are in rare company. My guess is you probably couldn’t identify anyone, so your emotional intelligence (if you’ve read this far you have the emotional smarts needed for focus, self control and concentration) is unconscious, rather than conscious, making it hard to teach or pass on emotional intelligence skills to kids. So where do we start?

Here are five ideas to help you explore the alien landscape of kids’ emotions, the new frontier of parenting:

1. **Listen first**
   When your child fusses and fumes about some wrong-doing or hurt they’ve experienced clear your mind and listen. Avoid trying to fix the situation just show understanding and compassion. There is no better feeling then being understood.

2. **Contain rather than manage (let your kids do the managing)**
   Children’s behaviour can become tangled up in upsets and disappointments. It’s hard to separate their behaviour from their feelings. Sometimes as a loving, caring adult you just have to soak up their feelings, and give them the time and space to soothe their own souls. We don’t have to do that for them.

3. **Know that emotions can be pleasant and unpleasant**
   We often place value judgements on emotions by saying some emotions are good or positive (happy, motivated, energised) while some are bad or negative (sad, worried, sullen). Avoid passing judgement in such ways. Recognise that emotions are pleasant or unpleasant and that all emotions are acceptable, whereas some behaviours (such as hurting someone when you are angry) are unacceptable.

4. **Build a vocabulary around emotions**
   Just as feelings have names, there are terms for the emotional intelligent parenting method. For instance, I-messages* are a type of communication used by parents and adults who take an emotions-first approach.

5. **Help your kids recognise, then regulate emotions**
   Ever told a child to calm down only to see their emotions escalate? Kids, like adults, need to recognise their feelings before they can regulate their emotional state, and that’s not easy. Emotional recognition is a complex process that takes practice. Even when we are good at it we don’t always get it right. Learning to recognise your feelings is a continuous process that’s best started when young, before the ups and downs of adolescence becomes a reality.

Emotional intelligence is best learned when it becomes part of your family’s culture, or way of doing things. When it becomes part of your family’s DNA then emotional intelligence will be passed down from generation to generation. You’ll know it’s had generational impact when your children identify you as the person who trained them in the skills of emotional intelligence. How cool is that!

Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter, my FREE weekly email parenting guide at parentingideas.com.au. You’ll be so glad you did! When you subscribe you’ll also get my fantastic Kid’s Chores & Responsibilities Guide with plenty of ideas to get your kids to help at home without being paid.

Michael Grose

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parentingideas.com.au