At Wheatlands State School we view reading as central to learning in all subjects. We prioritise our guided reading session to the prime learning time – at the beginning of the day. It is extremely important that your child is at school, every day, on time, to make the most of every learning opportunity. Children who are late to school miss daily routines including roll marking, marking homework, calendar and oral language practice. Please ensure that your child is at school on time, every day.

The holidays are fast approaching. While it may be tempting to let your child stay home for the last day, or even the last week of term, our school would prefer to see every child on every day of every term. We strongly believe children need to attend school every day to receive the most benefits from their education. Did you realise that skipping the last day of every term adds up to more than a whole term of schooling missed throughout a child’s education? Skipping a whole week of school each term means your child will miss more than 15 months of their education!

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>93.46%</td>
<td>94.74%</td>
<td>94.43%</td>
<td></td>
<td>96.23%</td>
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Supporting your P and C

There are many different ways to participate in our school community. Attending P and C meetings is a forum where you can learn more about how our school runs and share your ideas. P&Cs are part of their local school, building a stronger school community where all children benefit. Big fundraising events are successful when all members of our community contribute. I encourage you to assist where you can, it may be setting up, cleaning up or food preparation. Some of the work of P and C’s is ongoing. Would you be able to help with tuckshop? Assist with Book Club? Can you lend your muscles to setting up for community events?

Parent Teacher Meetings

What a great week! It has been wonderful listening to feedback from parents and staff as they share data about our children’s academic achievements this year. If you missed your appointment, please check in with your child’s teacher to reschedule.

Great Results Guarantee 2015

In 2015 the Queensland Government is investing $183 million in Great Results Guarantee funding for state schools. Here at Wheatlands State School, our estimated 2015 allocation is $25,705 to continue the great work to improve our student’s performance. This funding has enabled us to keep teacher aides in all our classes, purchase resources to support children in writing and vocabulary and ensure all our teachers and teacher aides are able to participate in professional development in reading and writing. We have exceeded our goal of 95% of children in Year 3 reaching the national minimum standard in Reading. 100% of our children in Year 3 reached the national minimum standard in Reading. Our second goal was to increase the percentage of students in the upper two bands in Year 5 to 20% in Reading, Writing and Numeracy. We well exceeded this goal with 60% of students in the top two bands in Reading, 35% in the top two bands in writing and 67% in the top two bands in numeracy. We are also looking forwards and supporting students in Year 4 with extension programs in Writing and Number.

Year 4’s BOOSTER projects

A group of 8 Year 4 students are participating in an online numeracy and online writing project. They work with teachers from The Brisbane School of Distance Education in one web conference per week for 60 minutes, each, in writing and numeracy. Each child has a laptop and communicates with the teacher via a headset with microphone. Mrs Webber also has a headset and supervises the lessons at school.

The Booster – Numeracy Project is an extension program. It is offered to students who are already good at numeracy. It aims to help them go “from good to great” and should develop a greater sense of confidence and achievement in numeracy. The major focus is developing problem-solving strategies.

The Booster – Writing Project is also an extension program. It is offered to students who are already good at writing. It aims to help them go “from good to great” and should sharpen up their writing skills and develop a greater sense of confidence and achievement in writing.

Our 8 students are grouped with students from other small schools including Surat SS, Julia Creek SS and Mt Isa State School. The students are really enjoying the activities, thriving with the technology and loving the opportunity to ‘chat’ with other kids around the state.

Libby Meikle
This week I have seen most parents to discuss their child’s academic progress and wellbeing. We have looked at the new evidenced based plans, as well as the student tracking graphs to get a clear picture of each child’s progress to date. In English we have chosen a favourite rhyming picture book from the books we have read in our C2C unit over the term. Next week we will construct posters about the books we have read.
In Maths we have looked at collecting data and graphing it. We have graphed eye colour, favourite ice-cream flavours and favourite colours. We also used the sorting equipment to graph items (see pictures below). We sorted the items by one attribute, then ‘graphed’ the groups.
We are really looking forward to Rewards Day next week!

**Week 8**
**Green Slips-** Shaun, Riley

**Bookwork Award-**

**Week 9**
**Green Slips-** Connor, Jimi and Anna

**Bookwork Award-**
As we near the end of Term 3, students in Year 3 are working hard to finish assessment, complete class work and behave well; with Rewards Day in our sights!

In English, students have been practicing paragraph writing. We have been looking at the specific structure of a paragraph, which should include a topic sentence, supporting sentences and a concluding sentence – fitting it all together nicely, just like a burger! We have also been trying to ensure each paragraph is focused on one topic, and starting a new paragraph for each new topic.

The Year 3 and 4 students have now completed the fractions Math unit and we are now moving on to measurement. This unit is very hands-on. We have already measured our height, the length of our jumps and even how far we could fly paper aeroplanes out on the oval!

In Science, students are busy creating a map of where we should bury a time capsule. In creating this map, students must use their scientific understanding of erosion, weathering and landforms to ensure their time capsule is in a safe spot, and will survive for 1000 years.

Year 3 students continue to compare and contrast environments and places in Geography. Recently, we have been studying climate zones and we are learning how to read and interpret data, and convert data into bar graphs.

We have had a blast this Term in Year 3 and plan on continuing the good work into Term 4!

**STRIVE WORDS:** Merriment and Vegetation.

Year 3s have a new game, that has been a whole lot of fun during playtimes recently!

**Miss Amy Snow**
** Photos included in the newsletter this week: Construction and Army Camps in the Bush Area **

**ENGLISH**
This week, students continued to work on their final copies of their English assessment. Students have recorded at least 5 interesting facts about their chosen character from a fictional text, and spent today finishing their published copy. Year 1/2 students did a fantastic job asking Google questions and discussing the interesting answers about a wild animal.

In 7 Steps to Writing Success, students completed persuasive arguments as to WHY they believe cats are better than dogs OR why dogs are better than cats. Next week, we will argue our points against one another.

**MATH**
This week, along with online Mathletics and workbooks, students completed plenty of hands on measurement activities. Students have been enjoying the hands-on aspects included in this strand of Mathematics. We have been comparing and measuring various lengths of leaves, hefting and weighing items from around the classroom and have begun capacity. Next week, students will revise these concepts and complete the final test for measurement.

**SCIENCE**
This week, students completed a "My Seasons Flip Book" to assist them in remembering the order of seasons and discussed the various clothing they wear throughout the year. Next week, students will be given their second mini-assessment. Students will use the information gathered to fill in the Galactic Information Report to deliver to the aliens that have been sending us on missions.

**GEOGRAPHY**
This week, students completed Task B in their final assessment. They were asked to observe the latest town plan of Bright Bay and add an important feature to the town that was not already included. Students will complete the final page of this assessment next week by explaining WHY they believe this feature would be significant to the town of Bright Bay.

**ART**
In Art this week, we finished off all our projects from the term. Our classroom is now completely covered in plants, suns, moons, rockets and constellations.

**HIGH EXPECTATIONS HANDWRITING AWARD**
Week 8 & Week 9 – Miranda & Xavier.

**GREEN SLIPS**
Week 8 & 9 – Pixie, Miley, Peter, Harley & Mia.

**READING AWARDS**
Week 8 & 9
125 Nights of Reading: Miranda & Shailee
150 Nights of Reading: Tamika & Ruby
175 Nights of Reading: Leo
200 Nights of Reading: Amber M
225 Nights of Reading: Shea

Miss Sarah Sullivan
From the realms of the 4/5/6 class:
Wow! Time has flown. It’s hard to believe that next week is week 10, the last week before holidays. Because of this, over the last fortnight we have been busy completing assessment tasks.

English: Students’ personal letters have been written, edited and neatly handwritten to share some of their experiences with students who may come to our school 45 years in the future. There was some very interesting reading in these.

Maths: We have been focusing on perimeter and area which has involved lots of measuring inside and outside of our class. Included in this unit was the development of a fun run around the school. Students had to estimate a course that was only 1km long. This could include obstacles. The closest length and most interesting course will become a part of our end of term activities.

Science: I heard the science lesson this week was not the quietest lesson we’ve had. Mrs. Meikle and students developed their own seismographs in relation to particular measurements on the Richter scale. The outcome, I believe, was an experience that could be compared to that of a real earthquake. Nothing can beat hands-on learning.

Geography: Students completed their test this week on the diversity of countries. They have learnt a lot about interpreting graphs and other forms of information to determine the differences in population, economy and social and cultural aspects of countries. We are now learning more specifically about Asia.

It has been great to meet so many parents this week and to get to learn a little more about each student’s background.

Wishing everyone a safe and relaxing holiday period,

Mrs. Michelle Newton
7 Steps to Writing Success

Ending with IMPACT

This week, we have examples from Year 4/5/6.

I was laying there thinking if I was going to live or die. I jumped into the water and there it was ... the 6m long great white shark! I was sinking and shark came after me. He grabbed me and he ripped my guts out and my heart ....

NICK

I took my brand new iphone 6 out of my pocket and rang Dad. He said, "I'll be there in a heartbeat!" Before he got there, I could feel my soft squishy muscles being ripped out of my arm. When Dad got there he grabbed my arm and took me to the hospital.

MIKAYLA

I have had problems with my heart for the last couple of days and I've nearly died 5 times. I lost my left leg and the shark beat me in the fight. The shark was cunning, quick and it had the look of death in it's eyes! Oh my God! What's happening? My heart is pounding, I can hardly breathe! Am I going to die for real? I hoped it wouldn't come to this, but I'm going to pull the plug on the heart rate monitor so I don't have to go through this any more! Beep, Beep, Beep, Beep .... BEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEP!

WILLOW

As I lay on the wet floor of the boat wondering what the shark would use my left leg for ... I thought, maybe a paddle so he could swim faster or use it to kick fish. OH well, I still survived today. Please, never ever EVER tease a shark with a piece of steak, unless you hate your left leg!

TEAJ

I was thinking how I would survive and then I died. At the funeral my Mum, Dad and sister were all crying. But there was Jaws in the crowd. How did he get here? Then I became a zombie but then Jaws ate me! How is that even possible? In the end they killed him and got me out but the only problem was they buried him next to me!

AMY

I grabbed some rope to climb to the top of the boat. I got a tank and threw it into the shark's mouth. I got my lighter before the shark jumped and was about to plummet down and threw it into the mouth of the shark. The whole shark exploded. The moral of this story is ... Don't go fishing in the ocean.

DAMIAN

I am scared and frightened, as I screamed for help. Nothing responded. I couldn't even think of what I could do. I'm so sore but I can't give up and let him eat me. That's not what the world would want. He snapped at me. I kept trying to dodge the eager shark's mouth. So far I am missing my right arm which stinks like blood and my left foot. I think I'm pretty lucky. Well I AM still ALIVE. I wonder if I will live though?

DENIM

I heard something behind me. It was a shark. Water splashed onto the boat. Razor shark teeth bit my boat but I escaped. I tried to swim to shore but a big current took me. A big pack of sharks came swimming towards me. The sharks bit my legs. Blood went everywhere. The life savers came to save me. They grabbed my arm and we went to shore. They took me to the hospital.

MACKENZIE

The shark was forceful. It had great impact. It almost ate me whole but it didn't. We are still fighting. I'll kill that shark or it will kill me. It's pretty scary being in a shark attack. Who would you vote for the win? Me or the shark? I guess we will find out today!

HANNAH R
**Centenary Memorabilia CLEARANCE SALE**

- Centenary & Recipe books $10
- Caps $5, Wine Glasses $2
- Water bottles $2
- Croc Clips $1, Pens 50c

*Limited stocks - available at office*

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**Circle of Security Parenting Program**

Would you like to be a more effective parent?

Teaches you how to:

- Understand your child's emotional and social needs
- Build your child's confidence and self-esteem
- Strengthen your child's social skills
- Cultivate a positive home environment
- Explore your child's needs and desires in a safe, secure and supportive environment

- Friendly and casual atmosphere as well as being very informative.

You will have the opportunity to talk with other parents and share experiences.

**5 Week program will be held in**

**KINGAROY**

**Time:** Every Tuesday from 7th to 15th November 2015

**Place:** 51 Tiller Street, Kingaroy

**MURUGAN**

**Time:** Every Thursday from 15th to 29th November 2015

**Place:** 927 Main South Road, Murgon

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**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](http://www.quickbeds.com) enter our unique Grassroots ID: 1201 and you’ll be helping our school

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**Important Notes:**

This does not work on our mobile site yet.
Australian and New Zealand properties only at this time.
**Dates to Remember**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesdays</th>
<th>Library borrowing day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursdays</td>
<td>PE &amp; Music sessions and School banking day</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th Sept</td>
<td>Rewards Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>18th Sept</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 3—NO TUCKSHOP TODAY</td>
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<tr>
<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>6th Oct</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 6.30pm</td>
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<td>9th Oct</td>
<td>Tuckshop starts again—please order by Wednesday</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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<td>24th Oct</td>
<td>P&amp;C Comedy Night fundraiser at Wondai</td>
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**P & C NEWS**

REMEMBER—NO TUCKSHOP FRIDAY 18th SEPTEMBER—LAST DAY OF TERM

Next Meeting — 6th October Tuesday 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.

**WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN—CLOSED**

Woolies Earn and Learn promotion has now closed. Please return your stickers to the school office by 16th September. Thank you for your support.

**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!