From the Principal - Mr Matthew Bulger

Permanent Principal
Mr David Hillhouse has been appointed as the incoming permanent Principal of Sandy Strait State School. Dave is an outstanding school leader who is very excited to be joining the wonderful Sandy Strait school community. He will work with teachers and administrative staff over coming weeks to begin getting to know the school, and commences the role from the beginning of next term.

Academic Awards Assembly
Letters have been sent home to those students who will be receiving academic excellence awards next week. This assembly allows us an opportunity to celebrate the exceptional academic success of our students and encourage all students to continue their hard work. Two students from each class have also been recognised to receive an encouragement award at this special assembly.

Please come along and help us recognise the great work of these students.

Readers Cup
Last week, 32 year 5/6 teams competed in the Readers Cup Regional Final. Two teams from Sandy Strait participated in the event – each of our ten students answered quiz questions on the six nominated titles. Jesse, Andie, Ellie, Madolynne and Georgie placed 4th, and Eva, Charli, Talia, Emily and Jorja finished around the middle of the teams. Our students represented our school superbly. A great effort from everyone! Thanks to Mrs Blyth and Mrs Leak for providing transport and to Mrs Mills for organising our school teams.

Parental Involvement
Research shows that learning outcomes improve when there is shared understanding between teachers and parents of the processes that lead to
News from the Principal Continued ……. Mr Matthew Bulger

to improved learning and wellbeing in the classroom. Positive links between school and the home provide young people with more effective assistance and encouragement. Parents have an important stake in the education of their children and play a significant part in supporting their children’s learning.

There are many ways you can support your children’s efforts at school. While some parents/carers may be able to help at school, others can contribute simply by taking a positive interest in what their children are doing at school. It is important for parents to understand that they are an integral part of our school vision – ‘Striving for Success’.

U8’s Day

What an amazing morning of fun and activities. A huge thank you to all those families who joined us for this wonderful annual event. A particular thank you must also go to Robyn Lee (3L teacher) who organises this event each year and does a fantastic job.

News from the Deputy Principal of Senior School— Mr Bruce Jackson

Mini Minds Alive

This week our Year 4 to 6 students had the opportunity to participate in Mini Minds Alive. Mini Minds Alive gave our students an opportunity to participate in some really worthwhile activities that are outside of the normal classroom activities. Activities ranged from rugby league skill session to French knitting. I am sure our students appreciated a change in our learning schedule; even if it was for just a short time. Teacher’s time is more precious than ever and their willingness to accommodate Mini Minds Alive was very much appreciated.

RIBBIT Rewards Day

Coming up in week 10 and 11 will be our RIBBIT rewards event for our level 1 and 2 students. This term’s reward is a 1 hour session with The Little Street Circus. Activities will include learning to use stilts, learning to juggle, and playing with diabolos.

USHS Come and Try Day

USHS are holding their Come and Try day on Thursday, 23rd June for our Yr 6 students. Only students who have submitted an enrolment application to Urangan State High School Administration Office for 2017 and have returned the Come and Try consent/medical form to our office by Tuesday, 21st June, will be eligible to attend.

Inter House Athletics Carnival

Due to a date clash with the Yr 6 USHS Come and Try day the Thursday section of our Athletics carnival (Thursday, 23rd June) will be altered. Athletics carnival days are now Wednesday and Friday Week 11.

Report Cards

Semester 1 report cards will be issued on the Thursday of Week 11. Student reports attempt to provide you with a clear picture of your child’s progress through the A to E grading scale. The A to E grading scale allows teachers to report on student academic achievements at any point in time using clear standards. Teachers make a professional on-balance judgement to decide which grade best matches the standard your child has achieved.

News from the Chaplain

Sandy Strait has Got Talent Finals

WOW! What talent we have in this school? It has been great to see the students get up in front of an audience, nerves and all, and perform. The names of the final contestants are:

Cool Kid Experience (Charli) 4G
Dance Mix Club and Ebony 5S
Dance Crew 6F
Kiara and Friends 6C
Jacinta 6A

Parents, if you want to be a part of the audience for the finals, the date is Wednesday, 15th of June and the show will start at 1pm. We would love to see you there.

Bring your BEAR Fundraiser

On June 21st FREE DESS DAY...come dressed as a BEAR or bring your TEDDY BEAR to school to raise money for chaplaincy resources for great programs, like My Life Ruiz, Sandy Straits Got Talent, Friendship Club, Chappy activities and the BEAR Plan. It will only cost a gold coin and we will have some fun BEAR activities during lunch time.

Regards, Chappy

News from the P&C and Tuckshop

P&C News

Thank you to everyone for supporting the 5 cent challenge. There are only 2 weeks remaining. Which class will win the pizza party?

A reminder that sports shirts are available from the office for only $20 each. These can be worn for the Athletics Carnival on the last week of term

Next P&C Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 20 July, 2016.

Tuckshop

Friday, 24 June, 2016 is Athletics Day.

The tuckshop will be holding a sausage sizzle and red day throughout the day.
Report Cards

During the past two weeks teachers have been writing end of semester reports. Writing reports is a very time consuming task and in some cases frustrating and others exciting. Teachers look forward to helping students continue to learn and progress next semester as they are always aware of each child’s potential and that some students require more ‘time’ to help them consolidate many aspects of their learning.

On behalf of our teachers I’d like to thank you for your contribution to your child’s education. There is an important partnership that exists between parents, teachers and students and our teachers appreciate and respect your support in the education of your child.

Attendance

To allow your child to achieve to the best of their ability it is important that your child attends school regularly. Students who attend school regularly are better positioned to achieve in their learning and assessment tasks and on behalf of our teachers I need to remind parents of the importance of ensuring your child attends school every school day as this helps ensure your child feels an important and valued member of the class. It is very difficult for a child who has been away for a day or two to ‘catch up’ on the learning they missed and this often creates feelings of stress and concern.

Thankyou to all of those parents who ensure their child attends school.

Days off school add up to lost learning

175 NON SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR

190
10 days absence
160
10 days absence
18 days absence
29 days absence (1 week missed)
38 days absence
47 days absence

175 days of education
161 days of education
152 days of education
143 days of education

100%
95%
90%
85%
80%
75%

Good
Worrying
Serious Concern

100% of education
Less chance of success. Makes it harder to make progress
Bad chance of success. May put your child at risk

Academic Awards

Congratulations to those students who have achieved the necessary results to be recognised with an academic award. This is the result of focussed effort and self-discipline by students and carefully considered planning and teaching by dedicated teachers. These awards also provide an opportunity for all students to reflect on and celebrate their own individual progress in our whole school agenda ‘Leap into Learning’.

Academic Awards will be presented at a special assembly next week. Junior awards are presented on Wednesday 9.00am-10.00am and Senior awards will be presented on Thursday at 9.00am-10.00am.

Prep’s visiting High School

All of our Prep students will be heading to the high school in a couple of weeks – Tuesday 21st June, to be entertained with games by high school students who are doing studies on early childhood. This visit will allow the high school students to have ‘real children’ in their lessons and to assess their ability to provide entertaining and successful activities for children. A permission note will be sent home next week.

NAIDOC

Songlines: The living narrative of our nation

Next term kicks off with NAIDOC week and the theme this year, Songlines - The living narrative of our nation - will highlight the importance of Songlines to the existence of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, the Dreamtime describes a time when the earth, people and animals were created by our ancestral spiritual beings. They created the rivers, lakes, plants, land formations and living creatures.

Dreaming tracks are sometimes called ‘Songlines’ which record the travels of these ancestral spirits who ‘sung’ the land into life.

Songlines have been passed down for thousands of years and are central to the existence of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. They are imperative to the preservation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural practices.

We will be having celebrations and activities during the first week of next term which will be linked into the theme. Parents will be invited to some of our activities and our special assembly at the end of NAIDOC.

Hi to all the families of Sandy Strait State school,
School holidays are fast approaching and we have an amazing school holiday program for these holidays. Flyers have just arrived, please pop down and see me in the school hall. If you have not been involved in any of the Helping Hands programs you will need to come and get an enrolment pack and I will be happy to give you a quote for the holidays. Numbers are limited with our excursions, so get your forms back!

I hope to see some new faces and all our old friends.

If you need any more info, give me a call on 0439730544 or pop in and see me in the hall.

Kind regards
Jade Middleton
Co-ordinator
Helping Hands Sandy Strait State School
Community News

Hervey Bay Athletics Club 2016-17
Season Sign-On
Saturday 18 June, 10am to 2pm
Seafront Oval, Pialba
Competition commences Friday 15 July
from 4:30pm
at Hervey Bay Athletics Club
Dundowran Road, Dundowran
Athletes from age 3 to seniors, Family fun and
fitness. herveybayla@gmail.com

UnitingCare Community
NAIDOC Celebrations...
Friday 1st July 2016
Featuring
• Welcome to Country
• Flag raising ceremony
• Unveiling of Acknowledgement Plaque
• Batemans Dance Troupe
• Stories from Elders
• Bush Tucker Tasting

UnitingCare Community Hervey Bay
94 Old Maryland Road
Pialba QLD 4655
10am to 12pm
Please RSVP by Friday 24th June
2016
07 4131 3132

GIRLS FOOTBALL TRAINING SESSIONS
EXPERT COACHING FROM EX-MATILDA GOAL KEEPER - BELINDA KITCHING
Friday 10th and 17th of June
4.30 – 5.30pm
Hervey Bay Soccer Fields
(closest to Seagulls grounds)
All abilities and ages welcome!