COMING EVENTS

11 September—Pre Prep Session 2 Sounds to Letters 9.30-10.30am
11 September—5/6 Gala Day
17 September—Snr Assembly 2.15 pm
18 September—Jnr Assembly 2.15pm
18 September—Talk/Dress like A Pirate Day
18 September—Last Day of Term
21 Sept-2 Oct—School Holidays
5 Oct—Labour Day Holiday
6 Oct—First day Term 4

From the Principal - Sharon McMorrow

Key to Success this fortnight: Resilience

Last Newsletter for Term 3

It is hard to believe that we are now heading towards the end of term with school holidays commencing next Friday 18th September. This term has been another busy one for all members of our school community with various events such as Zone Sports, Pre Prep Programs, Excursions, Book Week and Grandparents Day, Author Visit, Choral Fest, School competitions, Father’s Day BBQ in Prep, parent teacher interviews and of course all of the day to day learning programs that occur across the school.

This term we also have continued with our Whole School Numeracy Focus with teams of teachers from various grades across the school working each week with the Master Teacher and Leadership team on Maths Warm ups and student engagement to develop Mathematical Reasoning, Thinking and Engagement. Yesterday Mr Hansen and myself were invited to share our school’s Numeracy journey on the Sunshine Coast at the Numeracy Summit to share best practice.

Term 4 will be upon us before we know it with a range of exciting events and learning activities across the school.

To all of our families I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you for all of your support throughout the term. I hope that you have the chance to enjoy some time together with family and friends in the upcoming Spring holidays.

A Reminder That School Returns on Tuesday 6th October

A reminder to all of our families that term 4 commences on Tuesday the 6th October. Monday the 5th October is a public holiday with the Labour Day Public Holiday scheduled on this date.

We look forward to seeing all of families return on this date in term 4.
Leap Into Learning - Data and Target Setting Meetings with Teachers and Leadership Team

Across all reaches of our school you will hear the phrase “Leap into Learning”. Schools are about learning, it is our core business each and every day.

This year we have continued to invest a great deal of time as staff discussing what our focus for this “learning” will be. We have a very clear and defined goal around improving our results in Reading, Word Study and Numeracy and we are very committed to this plan.

Every 5 weeks teachers meet with a member of the Leadership team (Principal, Deputy Principals, HOSES) to share data that has been collected and to discuss student progress towards their 5 weekly goals or targets. This process sits within the framework which we have entitled “Leap into Learning”.

Next week is target setting week and teachers have come off class for approximately an hour to work in partnership with their Leadership team member.

Why 5 weekly targets?

Students make progress in their learning each and every day. It is important to carefully monitor these little steps forward to ensure that our programs are tailored to the needs of our students. Often a concept has proven more difficult to grasp than expected and a teacher needs to reassess how he/she is going to plan future teaching experiences to ensure that children have truly understood the task, hence the need for a cycle of ongoing data and “check in” points or targets. It is vital that the timeframe is short, for this reason we establish 5 weekly targets and goals.

I am very proud of the work our teachers have produced as part of this school wide focus. To have the opportunity to sit and work with our teachers and share the improvements and gains made by our students over a 5 week period is very rewarding.

We are very lucky at Sandy Strait to have such a hard working and dedicated teaching team who are focussed on ensuring that all of our students are making leaps in their learning each and every day.

Have you Enrolled for Prep in 2016? Do You Have Family or Friends Planning to Enrol in Years 1-6 in 2016?

Enrolments are now being taken for the Prep Year in 2016. Parents are invited to come into the school office and collect an enrolment pack containing information about the Prep Program, enrolment information and other brochures and documentation about the 2016 school year.

Children who turn 5 by the 30th June 2016 are eligible to attend Prep in the 2016 School year.

It is important that we have an early indication of our anticipated numbers for the 2016 school year so we can begin planning ahead.

Enrolments are also being taken for Years 1-6 for the 2016 school year. If you have family or friends who are planning on moving to Hervey Bay or enrolling at Sandy Strait for the 2016 school year can you please encourage them to contact the school to collect an enrolment pack as we have commenced planning ahead for the 2016 school year and staffing our school?

Leap into Prep Session 2 – Sounds to Letters

On Friday we will welcome back our future Prep students and their parents for the second of our Prep Sessions. The focus of tomorrow’s session is “Sounds to Letters”. It was lovely at our last session to see the children so confident at coming into the classrooms and joining in with learning activities which is an important part of school readiness for Prep.

At the end of each session children are presented with a “Takeaway Pack” of activities to continue their learning at home before they return again for the next Prep session on the 16th October.

Please register your attendance (for yourself and your child) for our next session on the 16th October to ensure we have a Take Home Resource Pack ready for you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Focus of Session</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session 3</td>
<td>For parents and children</td>
<td>Friday 16th October 9.30-10.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 4</td>
<td>For parents and children</td>
<td>Friday 6th November 9.30-10.30am</td>
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</tbody>
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Purpose of the Program:

- To provide an orientation and skill based program to help prepare our future students for the Prep Curriculum in the year ahead
- To model and provide activities and ideas for parents to work on with their children at home to ensure that they have the best opportunity to succeed in the Prep Year.
- To foster and build relationships between teachers, students and parents prior to the commencement of the school year
- To provide opportunities for our future Prep students to interact with one another and build relationships prior to commencing school.

How the Program will work:

- The program will be conducted over 4 separate 1 hour sessions throughout term 3 and 4.
- Children and parents attend each of the sessions
- At the end of each session parents will be provided with a pack of activities to take home to use with their child between sessions. Each of the activities contained within the pack will have been modelled throughout the morning session. A different activity pack will be distributed at each of the sessions.
- Each session will have a particular teaching focus with activities and games developing the following:

  Session 1: Early Number Concepts
  Session 2: Sounds to Letters
  Session 3: Developing Reading
  Session 4: Oral Language

Mrs Sharon McMorrow
Parent Teacher Interviews in 2015

Letters and interview booking forms for Parent Teacher Interviews have been sent home with all families over a week ago. The interview period is now underway across the school.

With the end of term fast approaching I would like to remind all parents about the timing of our parent teacher interviews in 2015. In order to provide parents with timely snapshots of how their children are progressing throughout the year we stagger parent teacher interviews and student report cards.

The timing of our Interview and Reporting Schedule for 2015 will be:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>Focus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>End of Term 1</td>
<td>Face to Face Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
<td>Progress to date through term 1 units of work, school based data collection results (reading, word study, numeracy), observations to date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of Term 2</td>
<td>Semester one report cards</td>
<td>Formal report cards issued with the student assessment folio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of Term 3</td>
<td>Face to Face Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
<td>Progress to date throughout term 3 units of work, what requires further focus in term 4, strengths/weaknesses etc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of Term 4</td>
<td>Semester Two report cards</td>
<td>Formal report cards issued with the student assessment folio</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our teachers look forward to meeting with parents throughout week 9 and 10.

Spring Gala Day

We wish our Year 5 & 6 students good luck and hopefully they will be injury free at the end of the Spring Gala day being held this Friday. Sports on offer include: AFL, Aus Tag Football, Basketball, Cricket and Newcomb.

Mrs Forbes Health Update

Mrs Forbes was admitted to hospital a few weeks ago with an inflamed appendix, unfortunately even after having it removed she is still struggling with pain and discomfort in her lower abdomen.

Hopefully she will find some answers shortly and she can be on the road to recovery.

Mrs Forbes will be on sick leave through until the end of this term.

Mrs Franz and Mrs Mason will be sharing the role of Acting Deputy Principal during her leave.

Ways to Encourage Appropriate Independence

- Allow your child to make simple choices from a range of options you are prepared to accept. For example, allow your children to have a say in which clothes they will be wearing each day, even if this is limited to basic colour selection. Let children make mistakes and support them to learn.
- Let children participate in household chores, such as vacuuming, dusting and making beds.
- Develop a responsibility chart so your children can keep track of the household chores they have completed.
- Let children know you are interested in their thoughts and ideas. Ask their opinions on things that are to do with them.
- Respect your child’s decisions wherever possible.
- Help children to understand the impact of their choices.
- Teach children problem solving skills – encourage them to think about what they could do to fix the problem rather than telling them what to do.
- Provide positive support for your child in situations that may be challenging.
- Encourage and praise children’s attempts to do things for themselves no matter what the outcome.
- Provide age-appropriate toys so that children can learn to play by themselves for short periods of time.
- Help children take responsibility for packing up their toys.
- Teach older children to use a watch and incorporate time in some directions you give. For example “You can go next door to play, but I want you to be home by 4:30.”
- Help children to set achievable goals and work toward achieving those goals.


News from SSSS Lost Property

Parents and students please check the Lost Property for any items that may have been lost as the Lost Property cupboard will be emptied over the holidays.
**News from the SSSS and Goddards Bus Company**

**Talk/Dress like a Pirate Day**

Our school has been invited to join forces with Goddards Bus Company to help raise some money for Childhood Cancer support.

Sandy Strait State School and Goddards will host - Talk/Dress like a Pirate Day **Friday, 18th September** (last day of term). Students are encouraged to dress up, (no swords, knives, guns). Our school will collect money from students (gold coin donation) and Goddards will donate $1.00 per Goddard student that gets involved.

All funds will be donated to towards supporting families in regional areas who have children fighting childhood cancer ……… the website link is [www.talklikeapirateday.com.au](http://www.talklikeapirateday.com.au)

In Australia, a child is diagnosed with cancer every 14 hours. Many of these families live in regional areas, and must travel to a major city for treatment. Often, this treatment takes place over months, or even years. It is an experience that no family should have to go through.

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**News from the School Banking Co-Ordinators**

**Hello Parents**

Over the past few weeks we have had a number of students wanting to claim reward prizes with the tokens which they receive for making deposits via the school banking system.

For your child to be able to claim a prize, they need a minimum of 10 tokens (these are inserted in your child’s banking wallet each time they make a deposit and are gold or silver in colour).

We have had several students recently wanting to claim prizes, and have tried to redeem a number of tokens, however our records indicate that they do not have enough tokens to claim a prize.

Some students have received tokens from friends, siblings or other students. Unfortunately tokens cannot be transferred from one child to another, this is to make the prize system fair for all students and to encourage students to bank money on a regular basis so that they can claim a prize.

Each time your child makes a deposit, the banking system records the number of tokens which they should have. If your child does not have enough tokens, we will unfortunately not be able to request a prize for them via the banking system.

Also, if we have made an error and not provided your child with a token when they have made a deposit, please leave a note in their banking wallet advising us of this, and we can provide a token.

Thank you.

Helen and Carly, School Banking Co-Ordinators

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**News from Finance**

**Centrepay**

We are happy to announce that the school is now offering parents the option of Centrepay to pay their School Resource Scheme Fees, Camps and Excursions. This is a free service that is offered by Centrelink to help parents to meet their child’s education expenses. Deductions come from your Centrelink payments. You can start, change or cancel deductions at any time, to meet your needs.

There are several features to help you to control your Centrepay deductions:

- a set amount to be deducted each fortnight (minimum of $10).
- setting a target amount so deductions automatically stop when the target amount is reached.
- setting an end date so deductions automatically stop at a date in the future - you can set an end date up to 12 months in the future.
- changing deduction amounts for a temporary period up to a maximum of 13 weeks from a future Centrelink payday. At the end of the temporary period, the deduction amount will automatically change back to the original amount.

If you are interested in setting up this function for your child’s SRS fees, Year 6 Camp for next year please come to the office for a form and discuss your options with our BSM. We will then send the form off to Centrelink for you. Once Centrelink have processed your form payments will automatically come out of your payment directly to the school’s bank account which will be matched against your child’s account. Centrelink will send you a letter confirming these deductions as well.

**Overdue SRS Fees**

Thank you to parents who have paid their overdue SRS Fees for this year. Your prompt attention to these Fees is appreciated for your child/ren to access the resources/technology required for our educational programs. As the Student Resources Scheme operates for the benefit of participating parents/carers and is funded solely from participation fees, resources provided by this scheme will now not be issued to students whose parents choose not to participate in the scheme. Centrepay is now available to parents to pay these fees.
KAUNGAN STATE SCHOOL
PARENT AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION'S TRIVIA NIGHT
When: Friday, 23rd October, 2015
Where: Kawungan State School Hall
Time: Doors open at 6:30pm.
Trivia will start at 7:00pm.
Teams of max. 8 people.-- $15 per person, includes light refreshments for your team.
Licenced bar available
Multi draw raffle
Prizes for the best dressed team
*Limited tables! Register your team at Kawungan State School office (ph. 4197911) by Monday 19th October

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