What an Exciting, Action Packed Fortnight.

While preparing this fortnight’s newsletter I was reflecting on all of the fantastic events that have occurred across the school since our last newsletter went to print.

- Grandparent’s Day
- Bookweek
- The Math’s Team Challenge
- Brian Falkners Story Sports
- Leap into Junior Secondary Parent Forums
- JC Epidemic at USHS
- Father’s Day Stalls
- Musical Cast performing on assembly
- Year 4/5 Visual Arts Blocks
- Prep Father’s Day BBQ
- Wide Bay Athletics

Our children are immersed in so many great learning opportunities and it has been an absolute pleasure to see how engaged our students have been in all of these events.

I would like to thank all of our staff for the vast amount of time and effort they have all put into the above events. A big thank you also must go out to our Sandy Strait Community for supporting all of these learning celebrations. Your support and positive feedback make it all so worthwhile.

iPads have arrived

Last term our whole school community rallied and supported our major fundraiser for the year, the Spell-a-thon. The purpose of the Spell-a-thon was to raise funds to purchase an iPad for every classroom to enhance learning across the school from Prep to Year 7.

The community raised over $6000 to support this great cause. The school then matched the P&C contribution dollar for dollar and we have purchased 32 iPads, cases and iTunes cards for classroom use.

This week our teachers attended a 3 hour Twilight PD Session after school learning more about how to use these devices in their classrooms and accessing the various Apps etc to support learning.

The iPads are now out in the classrooms and the children have been eager to utilise them as part of their classroom activities.

Thank you to our school community for your support in bringing this project idea to reality.

We look forward to sharing some of the great work that is happening with these devices on our school Facebook page, assemblies and upcoming newsletters.

Key to Success this Week: Resilience

From the Principal - Sharon McMorrow

COMING EVENTS

13 Sept—String Ensemble performing on Parade
20 Sept—End of Term 3
7 Oct—Queen’s Birthday Holiday
8 Oct—Start of Term 4
24 Oct—Beginner String Workshop
24 Oct—Pre-Prep Session—Developing Reading
26 Oct—School Musical
14 Nov—Pre-Prep Session—Oral Language
13 Dec—End of School year
Network 10 Production Team Filming for Showcase Awards
On Monday the Network 10 Production Team visited our school to film in various classrooms as part of the Showcase Awards for Excellence in Education.

Sandy Strait is one of 3 schools selected as State Finalists in the area of Educational Leadership. As part of the preparation for the Gala Awards in October film crews visit each of the finalist schools to produce a short video clip which will air at the Gala awards where the Grand Final winners are announced.

While we would have loved for the film crews to film in every classroom we had to limit the number of classrooms visited. The film crews captured learning activities in 1L, 1M, 4G and 4P and also teachers involved in professional sharing and target meetings. The video creation has focussed on capturing various aspects of our Leap into Learning whole school improvement focus which is the essence of our Showcase Submission.

Have you Enrolled for Prep in 2014?
Enrolments are now being taken for the Prep Year in 2014. 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 2014 school year.

Children who turn 5 by the 30th June 2014 are eligible to attend Prep in the 2014 School year.

It is important that we have an early indication of our anticipated numbers for the 2014 school year so we can begin planning ahead.

Leap into Pre Prep Session 2 – Sounds to Letters
Today we have welcomed back our future Preppies and their parents and children for the second of our Pre Prep Sessions. The focus of today’s session was “Sounds to Letters”. It was lovely to see the children so confident at coming into the classrooms and joining in with learning activities focussed on letter and sound recognition which is an important part of school readiness for Prep.

At the end of today’s session each of the children were presented with a “Takeaway Pack” of activities to continue their learning at home before they return again for the next Pre Prep session on the 24th October.

Please register your attendance (for yourself and your child) for your next session on the 24th October to ensure we have a Take Home Resource Pack ready for you.

Please be sure to register your attendance for the sessions below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Date and Time</th>
<th>Focus of Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session 3 For parents and children</td>
<td>Thursday 24th October 9.30-10.30am</td>
<td>Developing Reading Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 4 For parents and children</td>
<td>Thursday 14th November 9.30-10.30am</td>
<td>Oral Language Activities</td>
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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

Staff on Leave in the coming 2 weeks.
In the coming 2 weeks we have a number of our staff who are taking Leave. Relieving teachers have been organised to replace our staff while they are on leave. Classroom teachers have also contacted their individual classes to advise parents of their upcoming leave and the classroom teaching arrangements.
The following teachers will be on leave:
Ms Mason—7M (week 10, 11)
Mrs Aslett—6A (week 10, 11)
Ms Lee—1L (week 10, 11)
Mr Hansen—4MH (week 11)
Mrs Ryan—1R (week 11)
I will also be taking Leave in Week 11. Mr Jackson will back fill the role of Acting Principal and Mrs Franz will backfill the role of Acting Deputy Principal in my absence.

Have you Visited our School Facebook Page?
Our School Facebook page is proving a very effective way of providing up to date information to our parents about a range of school events and happenings.
If you find notes and newsletters in the bottom of school bags long after an event has passed then our school Facebook page is a great way of ensuring you stay up to date with all that is happening around the school and that you don’t miss out on important information.
Reminders about upcoming special events, notes and payments due, photos and stories that allow us to bring the classroom to our parents are shared daily through our Facebook page.
By ‘Liking’ us on Facebook you will receive all of the updates through your news feed each day.
You can locate our Facebook page from our school website www.sandstruss.eq.edu.au
Or through Facebook on at http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sandy-Strait-State-School/354729921302918
Prep Father’s day barbecue
Prep teachers and students would like to thank all of the fathers and parents who attended the Father’s Day barbecue to enjoy being looked after by your children and to be in their classroom chatting about their work. Your presence at such important events makes the occasion memorable for your child and confirms the importance of the work they do at school so on behalf of teachers and students thank you for attending.

Book week celebrations
Book week celebrations are over for another year and students had a great week focussing on the joy of reading and the learning we acquire through books, magazines, posters, web sites and apps.

One of the activities that classes undertook was to create a display depicting the theme ‘Read across the Universe’. Mrs Mills and Mrs Fallon judged these displays and had great difficulty choosing a winner from each year level as the standard was very high. The following classes were the winners in the junior school.

Prep D, Year 1 L, Year 3 H and year 2 had a combined display so the judges selected a space creature and the winner was from 2/3P – Katie S.

If you would like to see these displays please visit your child’s classroom or our school’s Face Book page.

Leap into Learning - History
This term our students have been working on History unit 2 which will complete their studies in History for this year. Next term students will work through their SoSE unit which will be replaced by Geography next year. Unit 2 History requires the students to explore and respond to the following inquiry questions:

Prep – Tell me a story about the Past
Inquiry question/s:
• How can stories of the past be told and shared?
• What stories do other people tell about the past?

Students will need to understand how stories communicate information about the past and that people often tell these stories and celebrate events that remember the past. Teachers will share many stories about the past with students and discuss pictures of significant events and commemorations.

Prep teachers selected a space creature and the winner was from 2/3P – Fallon judged these displays and had great difficulty choosing a winner from each year level as the standard was very high. The following classes were the winners in the junior school.

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Inquiry question/s:
• How has family life changed or remained the same over time?
• How can we show that the present is different from or similar to the past?

Year one students will explore the way childhood was in the days of their grandparents and parents so they can compare that childhood with their own. They will interview their grandparents or older person to provide a story to the rest of their class about how life used to be.

Year 2 – Exploring my local community
Inquiry questions:
• What aspects of the past can you see today? What do they tell us?
• What remains of the past are important to the local community? Why?

Year 2 students will begin to research and investigate the past by looking at historical sites and or people connected to our community. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples past is also explored in relation to our community. Students will need to present an oral report using reliable sources about a person or place in their community as an assessment of the unit of learning.

Year 3 - Exploring continuity and change in local communities
Inquiry questions:
• Who lived here first and how do we know?
• How has our community changed? What features have been lost and what features have been retained?

Year 3 students will need to recognise and explore the importance of Country and Place to Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples who belong to our local area – The Butchulla people. They will explore and record information after listening to an Elder and/or resources about the Butchulla people. They will also recognise historical features and remains of the past in their community and create a response to the changes they observe.

Library News
What a very busy few weeks we have had. We enjoyed sharing the short-listed books from the Children’s Book Council of Australia - Book of the Year Awards during week 7, and had great fun dressing up as favourite book characters and sharing stories on the oval on Grandparent’s Day. What a lot of visitors we had sharing this special time.

Thanks to your support of our Book Fair, we were able to take just over $1000 commission in books – that’s about 85 new books to put into our library collection. Thank you☺ Re-orders should be distributed this week.

Visiting author Brian Falkner came to Sandy Strait last Friday afternoon to present his Story Sports session. This is a competition where teams of 4 have to write in a certain genre and style in a 3-5 minute time limit, and then present their work to an audience. For example – write the opening lines of a western in the style of Playschool! Whilst teams are working on their answers, audience members participate in fun games too.

Our year 5, 6 and 7 students provided the audience for Story Sports, and had great fun whilst the competing teams from Torbanlea, Yarrilee, Pialba, Urangan Point and Sandy Strait battled it out! Our team of Ellie, Lilly, Gabi and Destiny were fantastic – winning the competition and beating close competitors Torbanlea by just 2 points! Great effort girls! Each of the girls chose a signed copy of one of Brian’s books as a prize.

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**Grandparents Day**

A great day was had by all, we have received lots of positive feedback. The P&C put on the Morning tea. It is always hard for us to know how many people to cater for as many people do not return their RSVP forms, or they are filled in incorrectly.

We received about 150 RSVP's, and catered for 250 people. All the food was eaten. Kerry Searle and her Mum did a fantastic job at the Tuckshop catering/cooking for 250 people. A big thank you to Mel one of our Tuckshop Volunteers who assisted with serving on the day. Also a big thanks to Sharon Sadler for getting dressed up with me for the day, and having a bit of fun. There were some spectacular costumes. Well done to all those involved in planning this Event.

**Fathers Day Stall**

$2157.53 was spent on Stock, we were left with one medium sized box of stock at the end, this will be used next year. The P&C raised $1050.22. Thank you all for supporting our stall and I hope all the Dads/Stepdads and Carers enjoyed their gifts. Thank you to Danielle Shepherd, Amanda Meagher, Susan Blyth and Karen Stillman for Volunteering for this Event.

**P&C Meeting**

The next P&C Meeting is on Wednesday the 4th of September, at 3.00pm in the Admin building. All are welcome to attend.

Kim Parnell (President)

**Instrumental Music—Strings**

The Sandy Strait String Ensemble will be playing for the Junior Parade on Friday 13th September at 9.00am. (And yes! – there will be a slightly scary piece about a Ghost Ship). Any parent interested in their student (particularly Year 2 or 3) learning a Violin, Viola, Cello or Double Bass is invited to attend to hear the ensemble, and get information from me about the program. Of course, parents of ensemble members are welcome as well!

Yours in Music
Marsh Robinson
String Teacher

**Bus Travel**

Our duty of care to your student/s is to get them safety to and from school from their home address only. Occasionally students need to be dropped off or picked up at a different address and we will endeavour to do so but a note MUST be written by a Parent/Guardian with the date and drop off/pick up point. This note is be given to the driver and will be kept by Wide Bay Transit. This ensures that not only is Wide Bay Transit fulfilling it's duty of care to your student/s but you the Parent/Guardian are aware and have given permission for your student/s to do so. If a note is not received a driver may refuse to allow your student/s to alight at a different point.

**LOTE News**

Hi all
It's getting closer to the holidays! But, before we can wind down, we have a few things left to do.
Thank you to all the parents & caregivers who returned the yellow slips with your preferred contact details. It will make it much easier to get in touch with you about positive and negative issues relating to your child. If your child has not given you the yellow note, please ask them about it. If they have lost it, they can request a replacement from me.

A reminder to Year 7s to have their poster card at school this week for their written assessment task. Well done to those students who were organised and got to the shops early!
Assessment items for both year 6 and 7 are due next week. Please ensure you are up-to-date with the tasks required to complete these items. If you need help, please come and see me or ask a reliable classmate to help you. (I don't like giving “E’s” for non-submitted work).

Have a great week.
Mrs Sanders – LOTE Teacher
Congratulations to our 3 teams who competed in the Maths Team Challenge. The students who represented our school did extremely well. The children in team 2 – Annabelle, Abbey, Jack, Hayden and Blair came third. Team 1, the Year 7 boys, Kane, Emil, Matthew, Jayden and Jai, also performed admirably, managing to come 4th. A year 6 team consisting of Connor, Tahlia, Patrick, Kristy and Reece came 8th and worked extremely well together. It was a fabulous day and it ran smoothly thanks to Mrs Franz's great organisation.

Smart Steps

Our Year 5 students have been involved in a program, coordinated by USQ, promoting the value of Tertiary Education and its connection to getting a successful job. The program, Smart Steps, has seen our students complete a brief survey a few weeks ago. The students have then participated in some lessons at school. These lessons intended to build students' knowledge and understanding of Tertiary Education. The highlight and culminating activity of the program will occur next Tuesday with a visit to TAFE for a Jobs Expo.

Shae Staples……..Future Olympian

I wonder how it feels to be one of the top ten hockey players in Australia. One person who knows what that feeling like is our very own Shae Staples. Shae has recently returned from Canberra where she was an integral player in the gold medal achieving QLD side. The always humble Shae was nice enough to let us share her excitement when she brought her gold medal to show on Assembly. Congratulations Shae we are very proud of you.

Congratulations to Lara who has been picked to compete in Long Jump for the Wide Bay Zone Athletics Team.

RIBBIT

Our level 1 & 2 RIBBIT students in Year 6 & 7 will have an opportunity to participate in another PCYC rewards program next Wednesday and Thursday. Students will travel by bus, departing from school at 10:30 am and returning at 2:30 pm.

Year 6 & 7 Gala Day

This Friday 6 September HBZ School Sport will be holding an Interschool Sport Gala Day. This one day event replaces the 4 – 5 afternoons of Friday Interschool Sport that have traditionally been held for these year levels.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Over the coming fortnight all teachers will be conducting Parent Teacher Interviews. Invitations for Parent Teacher Interviews with booking sheets have been sent home to all families. Our teachers who have leave planned during this time have been conducting their interviews over the past fortnight. We strongly encourage all parents to book an interview to discuss your child's progress and ways in which you can assist them in the coming term.

This fortnight we profile our SEP Teacher Aides.

My name is Adrienne Skill and I am an SEP teacher aide, working with SWD's and those awaiting verification. I work with students in years 1, 4, 5, 6 & 7 doing language and math intervention and also supporting students in all their other subjects. I have worked with Education Queensland for 9 years.

My name is Elke Voigtlander and I've been working for Queensland Education as a Teacher Aide since 1985 with experience in general classrooms, library, Special Education Units as well as the office at primary and high school level. When I started at Sandy Strait School in 1997 I was employed as a Teacher Aide for the Hearing Impaired and used Signed English and later on AUSLAN to communicate with our hearing impaired students, supporting and interpreting for them in class and in the Hearing Impaired Unit. The school community embraced the performances of our Sandy Strait School Signing Choir which I conducted for a few years and raised awareness of deaf children in the school system. This year I'm working with students with disabilities in their 4/5S withdrawal class, implementing alternative and individual programs and enjoy the interactions and daily challenges. In the afternoons, I support the students with learning in their year level cohort classes in history, science and art lessons.

My name is Kylie Pozzebon I have been working at Sandy Strait for the last 3 years, mostly in the SEP with Adam Cattell. Prior to this I worked at McGregor State High School working with Students with Disabilities in all year levels and selected subjects. I have completed a Diploma in Education in 1992 and worked in childcare as a centre director and group leader for many years. In 2006, I attained a Certificate IV in Juvenile Justice at Yeronga TAFE. I have also home tutored students and worked as an at home day care mum.

My name is Joanne Lewis and I have been working as a Teacher Aide in the SEP for 1 year but have been a part of the school community for 6 years. I was the bookclub co-ordinator for 4 years before I became a Teacher Aide. I have met many wonderful students and enjoy helping them learn.

My name is Toni Wales and I have been working for Education Queensland for the last 10 years and at Sandy Strait for the last 3-4 years. I work mainly with the junior SEP students which can be challenging but rewarding.
We would like to remind all parents/caregivers who wish to enrol their students into year 8 at Urangan State High School for 2014 that we are currently accepting applications. To ensure your student’s enrolment is processed in time please submit their application as soon as possible.

Information relating to your student’s enrolment can be accessed by visiting the school’s website: [www.uranganshs.eq.edu.au](http://www.uranganshs.eq.edu.au) or contacting our Enrolment Management Officer on 4197 0111.

**Urangan High Facebook Page**
The school now has a presence on Facebook. This Facebook presence is for information only. Posts to the page from students and school community are not possible at this time. To receive information and status updates from Urangan State High School on Facebook, go to [http://www.facebook.com/uranganshs](http://www.facebook.com/uranganshs) and Like the page.

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**Hervey Bay Cricket Association**

**Sign-on dates**

- Saturday 7 Sept at SportFirst, Boat Harbour Drive, Pialba 10am - 1pm (with sausage sizzle)
- Sunday 15 Sept at HB Cricket Club, Walkers Road, 10am - 12noon
- Sunday 29 Sept at HB Cricket Club, Walkers Road, 10am - 12noon

_Come and Play_
Cricket this Summer, it’s FUN!

For more information contact Deb Gibson 0431036471
Fraser Coast Pro Tennis
Junior and Adult Lessons
School Holiday Camps
Tournaments
Fun
For your free trial lesson please call Bruce Eaton on 0401 230 882 or email Janelle at fcpt2013@gmail.com

ASD Support group meets on the first Thursday of every month, during school term, at 9.30am in the library of Urangan Point State School, Miller St (please sign in at the school office first). The next meeting is 5th September. This meeting’s focus topic for discussion will be “Surviving the Holidays” so please bring along your great ideas/suggestions.

Rugby 7’s Sign on Day Saturday 14th September 12 noon - 2pm
Get together & have some fun, you and 9 or 10 friends to make up to 11 in a team.
Registration Cost will be $50 per player for the 10 weeks.
Encourage one of the parents into being your coach & another to be your manager. You may be even more successful by involving your favourite teacher from school! Get down to the Rugby fields, Walkers Rd, Urangan on the 14th September at 12 noon & sign your team up & enjoy the free sausage sizzle & other activities.
Each game last 15 minutes: 2 halves of seven minutes with a one minute break for half time.
U7 teams do not tackle & a hybrid ‘ruck touch’ game introduces them to the concept of seven aside rugby.
U9 & U11 teams play full contact & this format of the game is suitable for males & females & mixed teams to compete in.
Under 13’s, 15’s and under 17’s are specified male & female teams only.
This season will have teams named around a maritime theme.
Get involved. Form a team & have some fun. An Adult manager will be required for each team.

Season starts Friday 10th October for boys and girls aged 5-17
Games will commence from 5pm every Friday Night
It runs for 10 weeks
www.frasercoastrugby.com.au and/or look up Hervey Bay Junior Rugby on Facebook or Ring Andrew Beattie 0414780074

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to work as a Zoo Keeper! Well, wonder no more because the school holidays are back, and so is Australia Zoo’s holiday program, Zoo Keeper For a Day: Khaki Discovery!
If you are aged between seven and eleven you can join the zoo crew to help feed the animals and clean enclosures, with exclusive behind the scenes access and plenty of hands-on action with some of our gorgeous animals. Children aged twelve to fourteen can step it up a notch with Zoo Keeper for a Day: Khaki Extreme. It’s a day you won’t forget! Places are booking out fast so call 07 5436 2025 to make a reserve your spot.
Ages: 7 - 11 years or 12-15 years Price: $85 Includes: Zoo entry, Zoo Keeper for a Day cap and water bottle, lunch, photo with one of our animals Duration: 5 hours Location: Australia Zoo Dates: 21 September to 6 October 2013
Further details are available at www.australiazoo.com.au/education/zoo-keeper-for-a-day