Leap into Learning with us at Sandy Strait

The start of the year is always a busy time as we gather data on children, develop and establish routines and build relationships with children. One very important aspect of successful schooling is the partnerships that are developed between home and school. These important relationships between class teachers and parents are paramount ensuring that we work together to support children to achieve their full potential each and every day.

If you have not had the chance to meet with your child’s teacher or introduce yourself I would strongly encourage you to attend any information sessions that may be organised or pop in before or after school to touch base with your child’s teacher.

Here at Sandy Strait we frame our whole school improvement agenda around the context of “Leaping into Learning”. Every day is a learning day and every day as a school we expect all members of our school community to make leaps forward in their learning. Each of us may leap at a different rate, but leap forward we must, if we are going to develop to our full potential.

Our Intensive Focus on Student Attendance in 2013. We need your Help and Support

One of the biggest factors affecting student achievement is attendance. Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance at school is associated with higher student achievement. Putting it quite bluntly students need to be here at school to have the best chance at learning and succeeding.

The target for Student Attendance is 95%. In a 10 week school term that allows for children to be absent for only 2.5 days.

Ideally we would like every student to strive for 100% attendance.

We will be making changes to the way in which we follow up unexplained absences and chronic absenteeism. Parents will receive letters advising them of the number of days absent their child has accumulated throughout the term and the impact this absenteeism has had on their learning programs.

Parents must explain the reasons for the absenteeism and may be asked to provide medical confirmation.
Parents may also receive follow up phone calls regarding their child’s absenteeism outlining the impact such absenteeism is having on your child’s learning program and their achievement.

Posters outlining our focus on attendance will be displayed in all teaching spaces and the school administration to highlight to our school community the importance of coming to school each and every day.

I have attached a parent information sheet outlining the legal responsibilities of school attendance and some common questions and answers for parents.

Our teachers and support staff are committed to ensuring our students have access to dynamic learning programs. We ask that you help us give children the best opportunity at succeeding by working together with us and supporting our focus on student attendance.

Remember every day is a learning day and every day counts.

A Reminder about Parking and Vehicle Movement in the School Grounds
Additional signage has been placed on our school gates and within our school grounds to remind parents and visitors about the safety arrangements in place within the school grounds.

To ensure the safety of all children the top vehicle entry gates are locked of an afternoon between 2.30—3.00pm. These gates will only be opened to allow the entry and exit of Special Taxis and special permit holders.

No vehicles will be permitted to leave the school grounds until after 3.00pm (unless by special permit) to ensure that our children are not put at risk due to moving vehicles.

This arrangement may cause inconvenience to some staff and parents but it is absolutely necessary to ensure that our school grounds are safe.

The only gates that pedestrians are permitted to enter and exit the school grounds through are the small gates. There is one near the school bus shelter the other is located near the Prep Building.

Parents and children are not permitted to enter or exit the school via the double gates at the top driveway. This is a message we reinforce with our children each fortnight on assembly. We ask that as parents you model this behaviour and comply with the safety signs that are erected to protect our children.

We also have a number of parents who persist in double parking down near the pedestrian crossing or in the disabled parking spots, calling out for children to run between cars or to cross the road away from the crossing. Such behaviour is dangerous and illegal. The police will be out in force on roads surrounding schools, enforcing speed limits and parking rules ensuring our children are safe.

Recently we were contacted by the police and bus companies with a request to remind parents that cars are not permitted to park or collect children from the bus lanes. This places children at risk.

I thank you for your support and understanding as we all work together to protect the most precious of things, our children.

Delivery of Sports Shirts
Due to the recent floods the delivery of the sports shirts to our local supplier was delayed. Signature Sports have been working around the clock to embroider the school emblem and sports house names on each of the shirts.

These shirts are now expected to be delivered to the school on Thursday. Once received here at Sandy Strait we will need to sort and pack them. We will then send the shirts home with the children.

I would like to thank you for your understanding regarding this unavoidable delay.

Tuckshop News
Volunteers
We need you for 45 minutes of your time! Please consider putting your name down to help out every so often.

Volunteer Roster this fortnight:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wed 13th Feb</th>
<th>Thurs 14th Feb</th>
<th>Fri 15th Feb</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nicky 1.00 – 1.45pm</td>
<td>Fiona 1.00 – 1.45pm</td>
<td>Toni 12.15 – 1.45pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wed 20th Feb</th>
<th>Thurs 21st Feb</th>
<th>Fri 22nd Feb</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Melissa 1.00 – 1.45pm</td>
<td>Kristy 1.00 – 1.45pm</td>
<td>Nicole 12.15 – 1.45pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Special for this fortnight *If we sell out, you miss out*

- Chocolate Frogs 60 cents
- Red Skin lollies 35 cents
- Chocolate mousse cups $1.00

Lee Smith, Tuckshop Convenor
Parents who arrive early to pick up their children from Year One, Two and Three are asked to wait in the undercovered areas—not the horseshoe shaped learning areas outside Year One and Two. These horseshoe shaped areas directly outside classrooms are used as learning areas so please assist us by organising with your child to meet you in the undercovered areas. Thank you for your assistance with this.

Last newsletter I provided an overview of the English curriculum being covered for the first half of this term, this newsletter will assist you with curriculum overviews for Maths and Science for the whole term.

**Prep**

**Maths**—students will be learning maths concepts to enable automaticity (instant recall) in the areas of counting and understanding numbers to 10. They will learn to count from any given number to 20 and sequence numbers. Students will need to compare numbers as bigger than or smaller than, sort and classify numbers as well as make connections to numbers. They will also copy, continue and create patterns with objects and drawings. You can help your child by practising counting on a daily basis, playing number games with your child and looking at prices when shopping as these real life activities all help make their maths learning fun and meaningful.

**Science**—Prep students will be exploring a unit titled ‘Our living world’ which will develop their understanding that the survival of all living things is reliant on basic needs such as water, air, sun and food. If you have a pet you can help your child with practical examples of an animal’s needs.

**Year One**

**Maths**—students will build on their mathematical learning from Prep as they explore numbers to 100, start to learn to do skip counting by twos, fives, and tens and solve simple addition and subtraction problems. They will also begin to tell the time to the half-hour, describe duration using months, weeks, days and hours and connect days of the week to familiar events and actions. Discussing what day it is and what events will be happening during the week will assist your child in better understanding the difficult concept. If you help your child to talk about ‘yesterday’, ‘tomorrow’ and ‘today’ you will help them build their language around the time concepts for this early learning.

**Science**—Year One Science unit – Living adventure—will examine a range of living things to explore links between external features of living things and the environment where their needs are met. They will use this information to predict consequences of environmental change.

**Year Two**

**Maths**—Students will be building on prior learning from year one as they continue exploring number sequencing, counting, grouping and ordering collections to at least 1000. Helping students hear and see the counting patterns reinforces their early knowledge on numbers to 100. Year two students will continue to investigate the connection between addition and subtraction through mental number facts and written strategies. They will use this knowledge to solve number problems. Students will use their counting and number patterns to explore multiplication as arrays, groups, and patterns. In time they will be reading time to the quarter hour and exploring monthly and seasonal data and then using this in the creation of data displays.

**Science**—Year two will be looking at a chemistry unit titled ‘Mix, make and use’ where they will investigate combinations of different materials and give reasons for the selection of particular materials. Students will make something they can use in their daily lives.

**Year Three**

**Maths**—students in year three will also build upon prior learning from earlier years as they investigate number patterns with addition and subtraction, investigate odd and even numbers, apply place value to 10,000, recognise and explain the connection between addition and subtraction, recall and use single digit addition facts, represent money and count change, measure, order and compare length, mass and capacity and tell time to the minute. If you know your child is experiencing difficulty in maths please contact your child’s teacher and discuss ways you can help them at home.

**Science**—Year three’s first Science unit is a biology unit titled ‘Is it living?’ Students will describe patterns and relationships as they classify living and non-living things. They will gather data on the diversity of living and non-living things in their local environment. Year three students will record their observations throughout the unit and undergo an interview to share their findings as part of their assessment.

I hope the above overview provides you with enough information to know what your child will be learning in English, Maths and Science. Please contact your child’s teacher if you need further advice or information.

**Student Banking**

Don’t forget that Thursday is School Banking day and students should bring in their weekly deposit.

For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarsmites token. The first token will be received upon the first deposit at school. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can then be redeemed for a range of great exclusive reward items in recognition of their continued savings behaviour. There are some great new rewards this year. During term 1 and 2 new items released are a wallet, knuckles game or handball, the money boxes are also still available.

To encourage students to start or continue banking we are holding a competition in Term 1. For new students who sign up to school banking and for every deposit made in term 1 you will get a ticket into a raffle with a fantastic prize to win! This will be drawn in the last week of term 1. Remember if you have any questions please come and see us in the cottage from 8:45-9:15 on Friday mornings.

Your school banking co-ordinators.
**Student Leaders**

Our staff are looking forward to working closely with our 2103 student leaders.

The student leadership team have already started their duties performing activities like: supporting teachers and our chaplain coordinate lunchtime activities, assisting with assemblies, raising and lowering the flag each day, contributing to newsletters and providing peer support.

To formally welcome them a badge presentation ceremony will take place at our next senior assembly; February 21st commencing at 2.00 pm.

**Meet your child’s teacher**

Have you met your child’s teacher for 2013? Over the last few days teachers have been holding, “meet and greet” afternoons. Parents are encouraged to take the opportunity to attend these informal meetings (if they can) to hear how their child’s teacher runs their classroom. Key topics teachers discuss include:

- Teaching Philosophy
- Expectations of Students
- What a Typical Day looks like
- Behaviour Management
- Home
- Communication

If you missed on attending a meeting or have not received any communication about your child’s teacher and how they do things in their classroom please take the time to visit him or her as soon as possible.

Most teachers are keen to utilise email to communicate with parents throughout the school year or when the need arrives. So if you utilise email, please let your child’s teacher know so they can add you to their contact list.

**Tips for a Good School Year**

As a parent, there are many things you can do at home to help your child have a good school year. These include making sure your child gets enough sleep, getting him to school on time, and reading at home every day.

Here are ten important ways to get started!

1. **Medical care**
   - Children need regular medical checkups, immunizations, and dental care.

2. **A healthy diet and exercise**
   - Children who eat a healthy diet and get regular exercise can concentrate better during the school day. It is important that your child eats a balanced diet with plenty of fruits and vegetables, and has opportunities to exercise every day through a sports team, fun activity, or playtime outside.

3. **Sleep**
   - Getting enough sleep will help your child get up on time, feel good, and be ready for a full day of learning. Children need different amounts of sleep at different ages. Most need 8 to 10 hours.

4. **Getting to school, every day and on time**
   - It will be easier for your child to complete daily lessons, homework, and tests if she/he gets to school on time every day. **Limit the time** your child misses for family trips and activities. Please contact the school immediately if your child will be absent.

5. **Homework**
   - Help your child set a regular time and place for homework: choose a quiet place to do homework. Choose a quiet place to do homework. When possible, do these activities together, and look for educational programs and games. Help your child understand that he/she should never give out personal information on the computer or talks to strangers online.

6. **Television, video game, and computer time**
   - Limit the time your child spends watching TV, playing video games, and using the computer. When possible, do these activities together, and look for educational programs and games. Help your child understand that he/she should never give out personal information on the computer or talks to strangers online.

7. **Talking about school together**
   - Ask your child to tell you about the school day. Ask him/her what she learned, and how he/she felt during the day. Listen carefully to his/her answers, and help him/her to think of ways to solve any problems he/she might be having in her schoolwork or in the classroom.

8. **Reading**
   - Set aside time to read with your child each day. You can make reading a part of daily routines by reading stories at bedtime and keeping lots of books and magazines in the house.

9. **The library**
   - Help your child get to know the library and what you can find there, including books, audio books, magazines, CDs, and DVDs. Libraries also offer homework resources and a quiet place for students to work.

10. **Learning at home**
    - Help your child learn at home by sharing activities together, singing, talking, and telling stories. Visit educational places such as museums, the zoo, the park, or a historical monument. Find out what your child’s interests are, and look for activities and books that are connected to that interest.

Let’s have a great year.

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**Student Leader News**

Hi, my name is Hannah Cain and I am a Student Leader for promotions. All promotion leaders speak on assembly and as you can probably guess, write in the newsletter. All Year 7 students, parents and carers, remember to pay for the amazing Year 7 Leadership Camp at Maranatha. The money is due by the 22 February.

Next week, on the second assembly of the year, will be the student leader badges ceremony. It’s from 2.00 pm onwards. All student leaders are excited for this event. We have already been given heaps of jobs, which have been interesting. All the student leaders are going to give 110% this year to help be good role models and make this school the absolute best it can be.

Thank you for reading this segment of the newsletter.

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**Bookclub News**

All bookclub orders must be placed into the box in the office by Friday 15 February. Please make sure that all order forms include your child’s name, class and correct money is enclosed in the envelope. Thank you.
“Ahh… Thank God for School...” I hear you say… Six weeks is a long time, the kids are pretty keen for holidays when they begin but are going mad by the time they end; along with parents who are pulling their hair out trying to think of what else they can do to keep the kids occupied that won’t cost sooooo much… (Does that sound familiar?)

Welcome back to school all continuing students and new students!!!

It has been a rough start to the new school year with all the destructive rain and winds from ex-tropical cyclone Oswald. It is heart breaking to see so much devastation in our communities and my heart goes out to all those families in the community who are recovering. For those families that are affected, the Fraser Coast Regional Council’s website has a lot of information on cleaning up and financial support, however if there is anything that can be done to help students settle quickly into school routine, please let me know.

Also, I would like to introduce the 2013 Welfare Leaders of the school. They are Luke Strochnetter, Destiny Farrell, Elly Waring and Abbe Skeet. The Welfare Leaders are here to ensure that all students are welcome in the school community, to help new students settle in and make friends, to send cards to students who are sick and let them and their families know we are thinking of them, and to meet the general concerns of students. Each Leader will certainly bring with them their diverse abilities that will only serve to enrich this school community.

We are all looking forward to a great year ahead despite its beginnings... Let me leave you with the words of Myla Kabat-Zinn

“Each difficult moment has the potential to open my eyes and open my heart”.

Chappy Trina

LOTE NEWS

Hi all

Welcome to a new year of LOTE. There are a few things I need to let you know about:

- **Parent Information Note**: Each LOTE student in Year 6 and 7 should have received a blue note to take home to parents/guardians. This note outlines assessment, expectations, rewards and consequences for LOTE in 2013. Please ensure you have read this note. Students have their own copy of this information – on a yellow piece of paper located in their LOTE books or folders.

- **LOTE Virtual Classroom**: I’ve asked students to log on to the Learning Place website from home and access the LOTE Virtual Classroom. (The instructions for this are on the blue note). I’ve asked students to show their parents/guardians the LOTE Virtual Classroom and what it offers. Please take the time to do this if you have internet connection at home.

- **Year 7 assessment**: A change has been made to the Year 7 assessment schedule. Due to Year 7 camp in Week 7, the second assessment task (a Listening Task) has been removed from the schedule. We would not have had enough time to adequately prepare for this assessment task. However, there will be occasional listening quizzes during the term to ascertain students’ progress in the listening and comprehension skill.

- **Weekly Reflection Task**: Each week, students will be recording their experiences in LOTE lessons in a diary. Students therefore require a small exercise book (48 pages) or small notebook for this task. Please ensure your child is equipped with this book as the reflection task is counted towards the overall semester result. Further information about this task is located in your child’s LOTE booklet and on the LOTE Virtual Classroom.

If you have any queries about the above information, please contact me by phoning the school or posting a message on the Virtual Classroom Discussion Board.

I look forward to working with you this year.

Kind regards

Mrs Charlotte Sanders – LOTE Teacher
Welcome to another exciting year at Sandy Strait School. We certainly had some wild weather at the beginning of our first School term, hopefully not to many of you were badly affected.

Following is some great Information on Volunteering and Joining your P&C. We are always after new members. Keep an eye on our Noticeboard (In Admin Building), or in this newsletter for all the latest information from your P&C

Fact sheet
P&Cs Queensland
Benefits of joining your school’s P&C

Actions always speak louder than words when it comes to valuing your child’s learning. Joining the P&C is one of the best ways to show your children how much you value their education and how interested you are in what they do. By joining the P&C, you are showing your children how committed you are to helping students and your school community. Participating in P&C activities can also help you to form friendships with other parents/carers and feel a part of your school community.

A lot can and has been achieved through the P&C and school working together towards common goals. To continue this important work, P&Cs need people from all walks of life and with a range of talents who are committed to delivering great outcomes for their children and school. Everybody has a role to play and your ideas will be heard. The more people involved, the more exciting and successful it will be. And research shows that children perform better at school when their parents are involved in their education.

The P&C is about people just like you – parents, care-givers and community-minded people who want to help their school. P&Cs work very closely with the school, building a stronger school community where all children benefit.

The functions of a P&C are:

• to foster general community interest in educational matters;
• to encourage closer cooperation between the parents of students attending the school, members of the community, the staff and students of the school;
• to provide advice and recommendations to the Principal on issues and concerns in respect to the student body and the general operations and management of the school;
• to provide or assist in the provision of financial or other resources or services for the benefit of students of the school;
• to perform any other functions as the Minister may determine, not inconsistent with the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006.

Are you interested in contributing your thoughts on school policy? Do you have a spare hour or two when you can help out in the bookshop, uniform shop or canteen? Can you find two hours once a month to attend a P&C meeting? These are all ways you can be part of your school’s P&C.

Just by joining your P&C, you can add your voice to what’s happening in the school.

As a P&C member, you can contribute opinions on:

• positive school-wide behaviors
• student dress code
• school routines
• P&C budget
• school budget
• school surveys.

Remember: the things you do make a real difference, so why not join your P&C?

Please contact your P&C President on: 4125 1630 (Please leave a message if phone unanswered), for more information on how to become involved in your P&C and its activities.

(Information taken from P&C Queensland’s Website)

Advanced Life Photography Fundraiser: The P&C will be holding a photo Fundraiser on Sunday March the 17th. The Information will be sent home shortly. All portraits must be booked in as per forms. We will need 30 families to participate otherwise this will not go ahead, keep your eyes peeled.

AGM: We have been really busy organising our books for the Auditor ready for our AGM on WEDNESDAY THE 6TH OF MARCH 2013 at 3.00PM. All are welcome to attend!

Kim Parnell
(President)
HOME TUTOR
- qualified primary school teacher P-7
- Maths and English
- Help your child succeed at school
Call Emma- 0420371614, 41249778

Disco @ KIDZONE
EVERY FRIDAY: 4pm till 8pm
79 Islander Rd, Pialba. 41940479
$9.50 per child. Inc: Entry meal & meal.

TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER
Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in July 2013 for their 3, 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Japan, and Spain will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at www.scce.com.au, email ssceaustralia.scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

Community News

FUTSAL FEVER

CHILDREN OF AGES 5+ WELCOME!

HARVEY BAY PCYC 42945211

NEW SEASON STARTING EARLY FEBRUARY, 2013

TEAMS & INDIVIDUALS WANTED!

PRIMARY SCHOOL MONDAYS
HIGH SCHOOL WEDNESDAYS
TRAINING ON THURSDAYS!
COST: $30 PER TEAM

EMAIL US NOW; smartybell@pcyc.org.au

A place to call home
World Education Program (WEP) is inviting you to experience another culture in your own home by becoming a volunteer host family to one of our international students arriving in July 2013. Our students from Italy, Belgium, France, Switzerland, The Netherlands and South America are looking forward to experiencing life in Australia, making new friends and becoming a member of an Australian family soon.

Find out more!
Getting to know your student before he or she arrives brings fun and joy to everyone involved.
Take the next step and contact WEP today to receive a full information pack for your family.

Sylvia Kelly
Manager - Inbound Exchange Programs
Phone: 1300 884 733
Email: info@wep.org.au
Online: www.wep.org.au

Open your home and hearts to an international exchange student!

Come & Try the Thrill and Excitement of BMX Racing for FREE
When: Saturday 23rd February 2013
Where: Maryborough BMX Club
Gympie Road, Tinana
(Enter via Maryborough Speedway entrance)
Time: 3pm-5pm
What to Bring: Must bring own bike, Helmet, Gloves, Long Sleeve Shirt, Long Pants and Water to Drink.
Bikes don't have to be race bikes yard bikes are accepted.
Must Participant in Come & Try event to receive a Free Showbag.
Community News

NRL Game Development and One Community NRL Super Coaching Clinics

Petro Civoniceva
(Broncos, Penrith, Queensland and Australia)

Nathan Hindmarsh
(Parramatta, NSW and Australia)

Mario Fenech
(South Sydney, NSW and The Footy Show)

Come have fun and meet NRL Legends at the NRL Super Coaching Clinics in your local area.

Burrum Miners JRL (Torbanlea)  Monday 18 Feb 4.30-6.00pm (Petro Civoniceva)
Hervey Bay (Stafford Park)   Monday 18 Feb 4.00-5.30pm 12 yrs and under
5.30-7.00pm 13-17yrs
(Mario Fenech/ Nathan Hindmarsh)

Childers (Childers Showgrounds) Tuesday 19 Feb 5.00-6.30pm (Nathan Hindmarsh)
Maryborough (Eskdale Park)  Tuesday 19 Feb 4.00-5.30pm 12 yrs and under
5.30-7.00pm 13-17yrs
(Mario Fenech/ Petro Civoniceva)

All children and students (club and non-club players) welcome from ages 6-17yrs.
Participants will require hat, water bottle and suitable training attire/footwear.
(Please note there will be some basic contact activities)

FREE OF CHARGE

No prior registration is required. If you require any further information, please contact Richard Dugdale (NRL Game Development Of-
peror 0409 069 437).

POSITION VACANT—EDUCATION QUEENSLAND

Position:   Administrative Officer - A02 -Permanent 36.25 hpw
Location: Yarrilee State School
Contact:  Ann Ney (Business Services Manager) – 41977111
Application packages are available at the School office or email: admin@yarrileess.eq.edu.au

All applications must address the ‘how you will be assessed’ section within the role description (maximum of two pages). This should by submitted with a current resume with 2 referees and forward to: Attention: Private & Confidential, Business Services Manager, Yarrilee State School, 15 Scrub Hill Road, Hervey Bay 4655

Closing date for applications is 3pm Friday 22 February, 2013.

A non-smoking policy is effective in Queensland Government buildings, offices and motor vehicles.

PLEASE PROVIDE 3 COPIES OF YOUR APPLICATION

Play YOUR MUSIC Academy
Learn shortcuts to start playing
YOUR FAVOURITE MUSIC
FREE FIRST LESSON
* Instrument not necessary. * Private or Group Tuition
* Our Studio or Your Home * Beginners welcomed
* Ages 5-95. * Patient Teachers
Phone: 4194 5265 <= or 0407 586 761

FOR SALE: One ¼ size Enrico violin in case - $150, and one ½ size
Enrico violin in case with shoulder rest - $170. Both in very good condi-
tion. Phone 4125 6196 or 0418 301104.
Regular school attendance
Information for parents and carers

Did you know? Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance at school is associated, on average, with higher student achievement.

Why is regular attendance at school important?
Regular school attendance will mean that your child has a better chance in life. Your child will achieve better when they go to school all day, every school day.
• they learn better
• they make friends
• they are happier
• they have a brighter future.

Why must I send my child to school?
Under Queensland law, you must make sure your child of school age is enrolled and attends school all day, every school day unless they have an acceptable reason. Illness, doing work experience or competing in a school sporting event are acceptable reasons for being absent from school.

Principals decide if the reason given for your child’s absence is acceptable.

Avoid keeping your child away from school for:
• birthdays, shopping, visiting family and friends, if they sleep in, looking after other children, minor check ups or care such as hair cuts.

Routine medical or other health appointments should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays.

What should I do if our family is going on a holiday in school time?
You are encouraged not to schedule holidays during school time. If your family holiday is during school time, let the school know in advance and talk about what arrangements can be made for your child. Depending on the circumstances the school may be able to provide tasks for your child to complete while they are absent or assist you to organise an exemption from schooling.

Do I need to let the school know if my child has been away from school?
Yes, you must let the school know the reason why your child has been absent from school within two school days of their return. If possible, advise the school beforehand.

Are you having problems getting your child to school for some of these reasons?
• won't get out of bed in the morning
• won't go to bed at night
• can’t find their uniform, books, school bag …
• slow to eat breakfast
• haven’t done their homework
• watching TV
• have a test or presentation to do, have an assignment to hand in
• it's their birthday.

If so, a set routine can help
• have a set time to go to bed
• have a set time to get out of bed
• have uniform and school bag ready the night before
• have a set time for starting and finishing breakfast
• set a time for daily homework activities
• speak about school positively
• be firm, send your child to school every school day including their birthday and the last day of term!

What should I do if my child won't go to school?
You should contact the school as soon as possible for advice and support.

Every day counts – Is your child at school today?
www.education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts

Queensland Government