Thank you to all of our Grandparents
It has been a big week across the school as we celebrated Book Week and Grandparents day. On Tuesday we invited all of our Grandparents to come along and join us for a morning of activities as we celebrated the magic of children’s literature.

Our whole school community were invited to come dressed as their favourite story book character. Our Grandparents were entertained by our school choirs and then visited classrooms to join in with reading and Book Week Activities.

The whole school and our special visitors then moved out to the oval for “Rug Reading”, a storytelling event in which our older students read to our younger grades.

Our Grandparents were invited to join us for a special morning tea provided by our P&C.

Thank you to all of our Grandparents and special visitors who helped celebrate this special event.

A big thank you also goes out to our school staff, Kerry Searle our tuckshop convenor and our P&C for making this event possible.

Leap into Junior Secondary Parent Forums for our Year 5 and 6 Parents
Thank you to the parents who have returned attendance and feedback slips for the Leap into Junior Secondary Forums planned for Tuesday 27th August at 9.30 am and 6.00 pm.

From 2015 all students across Qld will complete Year 7 in the Secondary School Setting. 2014 is a unique year as we will have 2 year levels (the Year 6 and Year 7 cohorts) transitioning to Secondary School at the same time.

It is essential that in 2014 we prepare our Year 6 and Year 7 cohort together for the transition to Secondary School.

Here at Sandy Strait we believe we have a responsibility to prepare our children for Secondary School providing the best possible program we can in 2014.

We have some special plans in place for 2014 that we would like to share with our parents at these Parent Forums planned for the 27th August.

If you missed out on receiving this information a copy of the letter will accompany this newsletter for our Year 5 and 6 families.
Special Presentation of $5000 Chq at assembly last week.
Last week on Senior Assembly Mr Hull from Elastoplast presented the school with a chq for $5000 as part of a competition prize that was won by one of our families, The Hall Family. The prize money will be used to support both our sporting and environment education programs which focusses on having our children Active and Outdoors.

I would like to send a big thank you to both Elastoplast and The Hall Family for sharing this prize with our great school.

Quadrennial School Review
Every 4 years all schools across Qld participate in a Quadrennial School Review. A variety of consultation processes occur involving staff, students and parents to review our progress to date around some key items. The review also allows us to gauge the effectiveness of our planned strategies and to identify areas for further development.

The Teaching and Learning Audit that was conducted in November is one aspect of the review and other areas in focus are:

- School achievement data
- Professional learning and team development
- Parent and community partnerships
- Positive school wide behaviour
- School grounds and facility requirements.

This week we are asking all of our families to participate in a short survey (either online, as a link from our Facebook page or as a hard copy) to help inform our decision making.

The first in our series of Pre Prep Sessions on Early Number Concepts was conducted last week. It was lovely to see so many parents and future Preppies eagerly participating in this session. We look forward to sharing our next session on Sounds to Letters on the 5th September.

Please register your attendance (for yourself and your child) for our session on the 5th September to ensure we have a Take Home Resource Pack ready for you.

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

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Date and Time</th>
<th>Focus of Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session 2 For parents and children</td>
<td>Thursday 5th September 9.30-10.30am</td>
<td>Sounds to Letters Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 3 For parents and children</td>
<td>Thursday 24th October 9.30-10.30am</td>
<td>Developing Reading Activities</td>
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<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

Leap Into our Pre-Prep Program
At Sandy Strait we believe it is important to provide our students with the best possible start to their first year of schooling.

This year we are continuing with our Pre-Prep Program to assist our children and parents to best prepare for the curriculum and learning expectations of the upcoming Prep Year.

Enrolments for the 2014 Prep Year Are Now Open
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 August in 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.

News from the Principal continued  Mrs Sharon McMorrow

Special Performance from our School Musical Cast on Junior and Senior Assembly 29th and 30th August
The cast of the 2013 School Musical “Little Stars” have been busily rehearsing and are ready to dazzle audiences. On Saturday the 26th October the musical will debut with 2 performances, one at 2.00pm and the other at 7.00pm. Tickets for this year’s musical will go on sale after the September holidays.

On the 29th and 30th August the cast will perform one of the numbers for the show for the Junior and Senior Assemblies.

Special Presentation of $5000 Chq at assembly last week.
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.sandstrass.eq.edu.au

Or through Facebook on at http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sandy-Strait-State-School/354729921302918

Spin Cycle Challenge Success
After a number of delays and postponements throughout the year, the first Spin Cycle challenge in Hervey Bay was finally held last Friday at the PCYC. The event was well worth waiting for. Rev Brian Hoole, the chief coordinator organised a fast paced exciting event.

Teams of 5 riders (4 students and 1 adult) were given the task of riding as hard as and fast as they could on a stationary bike for 30 minutes. The event was like a “tag” event with team members swapping the task of riding the bike at any time.

Our school entered 3 teams and I am sure the competitors and their entourage enjoyed the event immensely. Back ground music and cries of encouragement filled the stadium helping the exhausted athletes push themselves to the limit.

After all the 12 teams had participated the crowd waited with anticipation for the final results to be complied and announced. Our 3 teams performed brilliantly placing 1st, 2nd and 4th.

A huge thank you to Chappy Trina, Mr Hansen, Mr Baldwin and Mrs Blyth for being the driving force behind our teams. In addition thank you to the many parents who came along to encourage and cheer on our school. Your support was greatly appreciated.

Next year the event will be even bigger and better.

The Spin Cycle Challenge was held to raise awareness and funds for the chaplaincy programs within Hervey Bay.

JC Epidemic
Our Year 7 class have been invited to see the radical BMX group JC epidemic in action next Thursday at USHS. JC Epidemic is a not-for-profit Christian action sports organization that was established in 2004 by 3 young people who saw a need for providing action packed entertainment that portrayed good old-fashioned values; treat people how you expect them to treat you and look after things as if they are your own. They speak to smaller groups of youth, get them actively involved in the activities they run, and encourage them to live life to the full.

Maths Team Challenge
Good luck to all our Maths Team challenge Teams who compete in the Hervey Bay / Maryborough Mathematics Team Challenge 2013 this Wednesday. A big thank you to Mrs Franz and her hard working team for coordinating the event. This is the 4th consecutive year our school has hosted the event. It is highly regarded amongst schools, gaining a reputation as a well organised and exciting event.

Parent Tip for this week:
“Online Harassment”, a more accurate word for “cyber-bullying” can become a troublesome issue for students who use the internet for social networking. From time to time some of our students and parents will report that their child has been a victim of “Online Harassment”. Here is a reminder of some prevention tips to help reduce the likelihood of you becoming a victim of “online harassment”.

For Internet and SMS users:
Prevention – Tips:
• Be extra sensitive about what you say online (what you project may be perceived differently)
• Don’t incite any bullying, by arguing, flaming or annoying someone
• Don’t share passwords with friends – they fight!
• Make hard-to-guess secret questions so people can’t get into your accounts
• Turn on comment moderation to stop offensive comments from ever being published
• Tell your friends if a joke goes too far
• Ask them to stop harassing you, and if they don’t, read on…

Resolution – 5 Steps:
1. Don’t respond to the bully at all
2. Save the evidence, whether it is text, images or websites
3. Block and delete the bully from the service
4. Report abuse to the Admins of the service
5. Tell trusted people, which may be friends, adults, teachers, parents and police if necessary - as it is a criminal offence

This fortnight I’d like to share some student reflections on reading. Part of our Whole School reading approach includes Independent reading which encourages students to select books they enjoy reading and take time to read daily.

Reading for pleasure helps children become good readers and helping children to choose books they can read and want to read requires some guidance.

Helping your child to select an appropriate book for Independent reading:
• Is your child interested in the book?
• Can your child read and figure out most of the words?
• Can your child understand what they are reading?
• Can your child read the book fairly smoothly?

In helping young children to select a book to read independently have them count on one hand any unknown words. If there are five or more different unknown words on a page, this book is too hard for your child to read alone, although you may still want to read it to them or with them.

Older children or children who are already good readers read at least several pages before deciding if the book is too hard. Sometimes, a book that may initially seem too hard is ‘just right’ once the child has read enough for meaning to ‘kick in’.

Some children may want to read aloud however, it is not necessary for your child to read aloud to you every night. Once students are readers, they do most of their reading silently. Talk to your child about what they are reading in a relaxed and informal way to allow your child to share their thoughts and comprehension of the books they read.

If possible set up a bookshelf with a selection of books that your child is interested in reading as children will often return and reread favourite books. Rereading familiar books helps children develop smooth and fluent reading which promotes better comprehension. Please enjoy reading the following reflections from 2/3P students on reading.

Reading is finding words you don’t know and then find the meaning. Reading also means looking at the pictures and getting clues. The title can help you predict what it is about. You can read on if you get stuck on a hard word. It also means you can learn how to read and be a good reader. Reading can also help you become a teacher. Reading can give you facts and information. You can have a wonderful life and you can read through words easy. You can have lots of fun and you can enjoy the book and have a wonderful life. You can read words you didn’t know and you can be a great reader.

Elise 2/3P

Reading books helps you read better. When you read books it puts a picture in your head about what’s happening in the book. Like chapter books it makes you have a good imagination. You can predict what’s going to happen next. Anything could happen. My favourite book is Diary of a Wimpy Kid, it has a lot of imagination.

Cooper 2/3P

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**Reading Strategies**

**"Eagle Eye"**
Look at the Pictures!
• Look at the pictures for clues to help work out the word.

**"Lips" the Fish**
Get Your Lips Ready!
• Say the first few sounds of the word out loud.
• Read the sentence again and say the word.

**Stretchy Snake**
“S-t-r-e-t-c-h” it out!
• Stretch the word out slowly.
• Put the sounds together quickly to figure out the word.

**Tryin’ Lion**
• Read the sentence again. Think what will make sense?
• Try a word that makes sense.

**Chunky Monkey**
Chunk the Word!
• Look for a “chunk” that you know.

**Skippy Frog**
“Skip It, Skip It!”
• Skip the word (skip it, skip it)
• Read to the end of the sentence.
• Hop back and read it, read it.

**Helpful Kangaroo**
Ask for Help!
• After you have tried all the other strategies ask for help.
**P & C Kids**

**Fathers Day Stall**

When: Thursday the 29th, Friday the 30th of August

Where: The Cottage

Time: All classes have been allocated a time

Price Range: Gifts range from $2.00 - $15.00 per item

Don't forget to ask your Parent or caregiver for a couple of dollars!

Our Fathers Day Stall will be held on Thursday and Friday the 29th - 30th of August at the cottage. This stall will be held during school hours. Our stock has come from Smart Fundraisers once again, we find the stock to be of excellent quality.

Please check your child's class time on the Roster below, this is the time and date that your child will be visiting the Stall. Please ensure that your child has some money to spend on their allocated day. Items will be priced from $2.00 - $15.00.

I will need 2 Volunteers to help out over both days. If you would like to assist contact Kim on 4125 1630.

We thank you for supporting our P&C in the final Fundraiser for term 3.

**P&C Meeting:**

Date Change: The next P&C Meeting is on Wednesday the 4th of September, at 3.00pm in the Admin building. (The meeting on the 28th of August has been cancelled.) All are welcome to attend.

Kim Parnell
(President)

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<td>PREP B</td>
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<td>9:00 - 9:15</td>
<td>4P</td>
<td>PREPT</td>
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<td>9:15 - 9:30</td>
<td>4KH</td>
<td>6A</td>
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<td>9:30 - 9:45</td>
<td>4MH</td>
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**Clean fill wanted**

If anyone has clean fill that they could donate to the school to help with filling in divots along pathways please ring the school and talk to Redge Friske the Facilities Officer.
Non-Teaching Team—Teacher Aides

This fortnight we start profiling our Teacher Aide Team. We are commencing with our Prep Teacher Aides and Library Teacher Aide.

Hi, my name is Lyn Fallon and I work as a Teacher Aide helping out in the Library and Year 3 and 7. You will see me on Playground Duty in the tuckshop area. I have been working at Sandy Strait State School for 17 years and enjoy working with the students. I am currently reading with the Year 3s and like seeing how much they improve with their reading skills. I am also working with the Year 7s on novel writing/reading and enjoy interacting with the students.

Hi, my name is Ann McPherson and I work as a Teacher Aide in Prep. I have worked at Sandy Strait State School for 13 years. I enjoy interacting with the younger students watching them develop their skills. You may see me working in Prep T’s and Prep B’s classrooms.

Hi, my name is Donna Farrell and I work as a Teacher Aide in Prep. I have been working at Sandy Strait for 5 years and always worked with the Prep students. I enjoy the interaction with the younger children and watching them develop their reading and writing skills. All of my 3 children also attend Sandy Strait State School. You may see me working in Prep D’s classroom.

Hi, my name is Jane Leary and I work as a Teacher Aide in Prep. I have been working at Sandy Strait for 18 years and enjoy my day interacting with the younger students. I have enjoyed watching the school grow from 300 students to over 700 throughout the years and enjoy my interaction with students, parents and families throughout the years. Both my children attended Sandy Strait State School. You may see me working in Prep A’s and Prep D’s classrooms.

Hi, my name is Madonna Grinter and I work as a Teacher Aide. This year is my first year working in Prep. Previously I have been working with the Senior school students. I have worked at Sandy Strait for the past 7 years. You may see me working in Prep B’s classroom. Unfortunately this is my last week working at Sandy Strait State School as my family is re-locating to Cairns. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time working here and wish the Prep B students and all of my friends and colleagues all the best for their future.

Bus Travel

Sometimes things don’t go according to plan and buses will either break down or be detained. If this situation arises Wide Bay Transit will always send out another bus and your student/s will be taken to their destination, perhaps a little late. It is not necessary for your student/s to contact you and ask that you pick them up. If this does happen please tell your students to wait patiently and quietly for the new bus to come and collect them. If you have any questions or concerns then please contact Wide Bay Transit on 4128 6411. The office will be able to inform you on what has happened, what has been done about it, and what time your student/s should get to their destination.
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

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

We want YOU!!
Juniors and Seniors

Its sign on time again at Hervey Bay Oztag.
Oztag is one of the fastest growing sports in Qld
It’s like rugby league but without the tackling so its
safe & fun for men, women & children of all ages, sizes & skill levels.
Enjoy lots of evasive running, kicking, tagging and try scoring!
So kids and parents, start getting your teams together now, or just
come and join a team with a friend or by yourself if you wish.
It’s lots of fun, over 140,000 registered players can’t be wrong!
Senior divisions sign on is Sep. 3rd from 5.30pm – 7:00pm
Junior divisions sign on is August 29th and Sep. 5th from 4pm – 5.30pm
All sign ons at Walkers Rd Sports Grounds Urangan at Rugby Union fields.
For more info or to sign on online visit www.herveybayoztag.com
Or call 0414893840

GET TAGGED......YOU’LL LOVE IT !!!

National Animal Rescue Groups of Australia (NARGA) Inc
Have you always wanted to help animal rescuers but don’t know how or just can’t over
commit?

Home Checks are for you! Rescue groups all over Australia struggle to be in all the places
they would like to be at any one time, and can’t always do home checks and yard checks for
potential fosterers or adopters, which most would prefer to do if they had the resources.

If you have an hour or two to spare a week and can help, for any specified length of time,
please send us an email to admin@narga.org.au and we can discuss this new program with
you.
Together we will make a difference! www.narga.org.au

Condy Park’s Biggest Annual Fundraiser
Teddy Bear Picnic
Sunday 25th August 2013
9am – 1pm.
Come along for a great family fun day.
Major Raffles, free activities, face painting,
Jumping castles, Rides, Stalls, Food, Drinks
And lots of entertainment Come and listen to
Chris Collins read his book ‘Funky Chicken’.
HERVEY BAY LITTLE ATHLETICS INVITES YOU TO OUR FUN DAY.

Qualified coaches demonstrating "how to" for the athletics events.

Novelty events and face painting.

Zumba and Mini boot camp sessions instructed by the friendly staff from Breathe Health Club.

Food and drinks for sale - sausage sizzle