Reflections of Term 1
It is hard to believe sometimes how time flies. We are now in the last week of term 1, with nearly a quarter of the school year completed. It has been a challenging start to the school year with school closures due to floods with many of our staff and families impacted on by the extreme weather events.

This term I have been extremely proud of how hard our students have worked to reach their targets, strive to make leaps in the learning and have engaged in all aspects of school life.

Our teachers continue to embrace the National Curriculum which is now being implemented in the areas of English, Maths, Science and History. Technology and ICT’s have been an integral component of this new curriculum as children make links to the world beyond their classrooms with the click of a mouse, through live online activities, video link, clips and many other activities.

This year our teachers are also implementing a new Whole School Reading Framework focussed on consistency of practice and implementation school wide. This framework coupled with a focus on learning goals will ensure that all of our children continue to make Leaps Forward in their Reading from Prep to Year 7.

Many of our students have been involved in various extension and enrichment activities to extend their learning through Maths Olympiad, Mathletics, Reading Extension and much more.

Last week our year 6 children worked with the CSIRO and a travelling scientist participating in a range of hands on experiments testing their knowledge and understanding. It was very pleasing to see our children so engaged and excited about their learning.

Last fortnight our year 7 students travelled to Marantha, near the Sunshine Coast for their Leadership and Team Building camp. Once again the staff at Marantha and our own teachers who accompanied them spoke so highly of the behaviour, attitude and conduct of our children.

Auditions have commenced for this year’s school musical, “Little Stars” with many children lining up for lead and chorus roles.

I am so very proud of the students and staff at Sandy Strait who strive every day for excellence in all that they do.
Have you Visited Sandy Strait on Facebook?
Did you know that Sandy Strait State School is now on Facebook? Our school Facebook page provides us with another form of communication with our parents and wider community. I regularly post information on the school Facebook page about school happenings, reminders and updates and general information about things that have been happening in classrooms. Please be sure to visit us at http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sandy-Strait-State-School/354729921302918 or follow the quick link from the school website homepage www.sandstrass.eq.edu.au (listed on the right hand side).
By “liking” our school Facebook page you will then receive updates and posting regularly through your Facebook newsfeed.

School Sport’s Shirts
Thank you to all of the parents who responded to the opportunity for a second round of Sport Shirt Orders. We had an additional 100 shirts ordered during this process which is a wonderful response.

The manufacturer and supplier, Signature Uniforms has indicated the shirts should be delivered to the school during the first week of next term. We will then endeavour to process and package the shirts ready for distribution.
I look forward to seeing even more of our students wearing these shirts on the days in which they have PE, Interschool Sport or at school carnivals such as Athletics, Cross Country or Zone representation/selection.

Term 1 Parent Teacher Interviews
Term 1 comes to an end signalling that ¼ of the school year is over. With this in mind, how well do you know:
• Whether your child’s teacher believe he/she is working up to his/her ability?
• Whether there is anything you could do at home to reinforce the skills that teachers are working on in the classroom?
• How much time your child should be spending on his homework?
• Your child’s strengths and weaknesses?
• The grades your child is achieving?
• How your child behaves in class?
• Your child’s learning style?

Hopefully this week’s Parent Teacher interviews will help you answer these questions. If you have been unable to attend a meeting with your child’s teacher please take the time to arrange another way (phone call, letter home or email) to receive an update from your child’s teacher.

Remember, good relationship between the parent, teacher and student allows all three parties to have a shared understanding of learning goals, the curriculum and ways they can work together to achieve the best for your child.

2013 Student Resource Scheme Return of Forms
Thank you to the large number of parents who have returned their Student Resource Levy Scheme forms and have either made the payment in full or have paid the term 1 instalment payment.

All parents are reminded that we require you to return your Participation Agreement Form by the 27th March 2013 indicating:
☐ Yes they wish to participate in the scheme
☐ No they do not wish to participate and understand they are responsible for providing their children with the resources covered by the scheme.

If you have misplaced your forms you can download additional forms from our school website: www.sandstrass.eq.edu.au

From the home page if you navigate to the bottom right had corner under the Quicklinks you will locate the Parent Information and the Participation Agreement Forms. Alternatively you can collect additional forms from our school office.

School Holidays
Thursday 28th March is the last day of term 1. This year all state schools will have a 2 weeks Easter Vacation with school recommencing on Monday 15th April. I would like to wish all members of our school community a safe and restful Easter break.

Term 1 RIBBIT Reward
Our level 1 & 2 students will be recognised for displaying outstanding behaviour this term by receiving an ice block this Thursday. We had over 300 students who achieved level 1 & 2 behaviour. Key indicators that teachers look for when identifying level 1 &2 behaviours include:
• A level 1 or 2 student:
  • Is sensitive to the needs of others and respects the rights of others
  • Respects self and uses appropriate conflict resolution skills when required
  • Is punctual for all school activities
  • Works to the best of their ability
  • Actively discourages bullying behaviours
  • Takes responsibility for personal belongings
  • Continues with learning / work even when it gets difficult
  • Follows instructions given by supervising adults and
  • Seeks and uses teacher feedback

Congratulations!
Reading tips for the holidays
Helping your child with reading can provide opportunities for fun as well as practice in essential reading and comprehension strategies.

Prediction is an important strategy that allows your child to make a guess about events in what they are reading or watching.

Encourage your child to predict by asking questions such as, “What do you think will happen next?” “Who do you think ………?” These types of questions we ask children as they’re reading help them learn to monitor their understanding of the story while thinking ahead to the next part.

If your child is able to make good and fairly accurate predictions while reading, chances are they comprehend the story well.

Another important strategy to practise over the holiday break is to encourage your child to visualize parts of the story in their mind. These “mind movies” help clarify information and increase understanding, and can be done with fiction or nonfiction text. The images can include any of the five senses.

Many of the books you read with your child may already contain beautiful illustrations, so try visualization practice with the longer books you read aloud or using a picture book, sit facing your child and read a few pages without having your child look at the pictures. Then provide your child with practice developing their mental images by sharing images you have in your mind and talk about the words which helped you make your mind pictures.

As you continue to read allow your child to share what he sees, hears, tastes, smells and feels. Ask what words helped them create the mental image and emotions. By doing this, you are providing your child with practice with this new skill. The fun of sharing these mental pictures allows children to see how each of us can have different pictures in our mind based on our experiences and that it’s interesting to discuss these mind pictures.

This term we have been working with Australian National curriculum – History, This is a new subject for our students as in the past history was incorporated into SoSE (Studies of Science and the Environment). The following overviews provide you with information on what students have been learning and researching in History over this term.

History units term one

Prep
Exploring fabulous families
Inquiry question/s:
• What is my history and how do I know?
In this unit, students:
• understand how the past is different from the present
• investigate their personal history, particularly family relationships
• examine the nature of and structure of families
• recognise similarities and differences between families
• appreciate diversity within their family and others
• share information about their family with others.

Year 1
Exploring this moment in time
Inquiry Question/s:
• How do we describe the sequence of time?
• How can we show that the present is different from or similar to the past?
In this unit, students:
• understand concepts and terms used to describe the passing of time
• explore change and connections in personal and family histo-
ries over time
• understand how a timeline can order events according to past, present or possible future
• recognise events that happened in the past may be memorable or have personal significance
• collect and discuss sources, such as images, objects and family stories, that have personal significance
• sequence events of personal significance
• describe an event of personal significance, referring to sources, and using terms to describe the passing of time.

Year 2
Exploring the impact of changing technology on people’s lives
Inquiry question/s:
• How have changes in technology shaped our daily life?
In this unit, students:
• appreciate that history involves the study of the remains of the past
• examine the remains of the past in the local area through a focus on daily life
• investigate continuity and change in technology used in the home, for example, toys or household products
• ask questions of older generations about the impact of changing technology on their lives
• sequence key developments in the use of a particular technology in daily life over time
• compare and contrast sources depicting use of technology in daily life now and in the past
• describe ways technology has impacted on peoples’ lives making them different from those of previous generations.

Year 3
Investigating celebrations, commemorations and community diversity
Inquiry question/s:
• How and why do people choose to remember significant events of the past?
• What is the nature of the contribution made by different groups and individuals in the community?
In this unit, students:
• recognise the historical features and diversity of their community
• appreciate the remains of the past in the local area through a focus on events celebrated by the community and the contributions of different groups to the community
• investigate the celebration and commemoration of significant events in their lives, their local community and other places around the world
• pose questions about the enduring significance of these events, particularly through the use of symbols and emblems
• use provided sources to examine the significance of these celebrations and commemorations from a range of perspectives including Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other identified cultural groups linked to the history of the local area
• sequence key events in the history of the local community
• report on how identified groups have contributed to the development and character of the local community.

Happy Easter
Thank you for your support and understanding during the term as we have worked through the various challenges and highlights and I hope you have an enjoyable break with your children.
**PE News**

**Cross Country Program Thursday 28 March**

All children are encouraged to participate in the Cross Country to be held on Thursday 28 March. Below is a timetable of when students will be running/walking. Parents are welcome to come and watch their children race.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.45</td>
<td>Years 1, 2 &amp; 3 gather on the oval in house groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.50</td>
<td>Grade 1 Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>Grade 1 Boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.10</td>
<td>Preps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.20</td>
<td>Grade 2 Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.30</td>
<td>Grade 2 Boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.40</td>
<td>Grade 3 Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.50</td>
<td>Grade 3 Boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>9yr Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.10</td>
<td>9yr Boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.20</td>
<td>10yr Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.30</td>
<td>10yr Boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.45</td>
<td>Normal Morning Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.15</td>
<td>11yr Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30</td>
<td>11yr Boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.45</td>
<td>12yr Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>12yr Boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.15</td>
<td>13yr Boys and Girls combined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.30</td>
<td>Presentation and Clean Up (All students out to the oval)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Congratulations**

Congratulations to the following students who have been picked for various Wide Bay Zone teams.

**Touch Football** Byran Love, Damon Mack

**Softball** Shae Staples, Lilly Michel  
Byran Love, Daniel Goodwin, Jordan Armstrong  
Daniel Goodwin has also been selected in the Wide Bay Softball Team

**Basketball** Annabelle Healy

**Netball** Jasmine Tenholder, Hannah Cain

**AFL** Byran Love, Daniel Goodwin and Jordan Ennis

*Darren Baldwin, PE Teacher*
School Banking
What a great first term we have had for school banking with a lot of new students and some old bankers starting back up! It’s great see so many of you begin great saving habits. Please make sure your bank books are in on time this week as we will processing these first thing Thursday morning! We will also be drawing the raffle and the winner will recieve there fantastic prize. Good luck to everyone and have a happy and safe Easter!!

Book Club
Issue 2 orders are due back early this week so all students should receive there orders before the holidays. We are still looking for someone to help out. This only involves a few flexible hours a term. Books and reading are such an important part of our children’s lives so if your able to help us please leave your name and number at the office. Hope you all have a great Easter and enjoy your break.

Tuckshop News
Tuckshop open Thursday
Tuckshop will be open on Thursday 28th March this week – So have your order in before 9.30am.

Volunteer Roster
Nicole: Thursday – 9.00 – 10.00am
Kerry: Thursday - 12.00 – 2.00pm

Paddle Pop Promotion
We have some Paddle Pop Prizes left over from the last promotion (Frisbees, skipping rope, balls, grip ball) while stocks last. If you place a “Big Lunch order” on Thursday to the value of $6.50 including a paddle pop or lemonade Icy Twist, then you will receive a prize in your tuckshop box from Streets.

Woolworths Earn & Learn
Woolworths Earn & Learn is back again this year. From Monday 8 April until 9 June every time you spend $10 or more at Woolworths you can receive a sticker to go towards some great items for our school. Once you have completed your sticker form please place into the box in the office.

Lee Smith, Tuckshop Convenor
Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I started with the P&C when my son was in Prep which was 2 years ago. I was an interested parent who knew that my child would be at Sandy Strait State School for the next seven years and as a parent at the school I thought that it would be a good thing to find out all about the school, and to see if there were any areas that I could help.

I have been helping ever since. But the P&C cannot run effectively with only one or two people. We need other Parents/ Grandparents/ Caregivers and Members of the Community to step forward. The more people we have on board, the less work for everybody.

The P&C is in danger of folding soon unless we can encourage more parents to attend our P&C Meetings. These meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. These dates and times are advertised in our newsletter and also on the Office noticeboard. We discuss where our funds need to be spent, have input into school policies and decision making, uniform recommendations, fund raising, Tuckshop and many other interesting aspects about your child’s school. Our next meeting is scheduled for the 17th of April at 3pm, please write this date on your calendar. WE NEED YOU!

On a personal note our Treasurer Susan Blyth has resigned. This was not unexpected, but still sad as Susan and I joined the P&C at the same time and have had a great history together. We have shared many laughs, much anxiety at times and Susan has dedicated many hours, days, and weeks to this school over the last two years. Susan did a lot more for her P&C than just her Treasurer’s role. Susan I thank you, you will be sadly missed.

P & C Vacancy’s

The P & Cs Treasurer’s role has become vacant. This role is NOT a full Treasurer’s role as the P & C employs a Bookkeeper to do all of our financial paperwork including Tuckshop wages and accounts and keeping things in order. This voluntary position consists of becoming a signatory on our account and countersigning cheques along with the President and Secretary. It also involves the counting of money and banking. You will be part of our Executive team and assist us with our decision making, you will also attend our monthly meetings.

P & C Volunteer Fundraising Co-ordinator needed:

- Are you good at coming up with new ideas?
- Enjoy planning from the ground up?
- like meeting new people?
- Able to organise Volunteers for various projects?
- Able to follow through and deliver?

If you have answered yes to all of the above, Join us. Just fill in your details below.

Have a happy and safe Easter – we hope to see some new faces in term 2

Kim Parnell
(President)

If you are interested in either position, please complete the tear off section below and put in box in office

Please supply us with your:

Name: ____________________________
Contact Ph No: __________________

For the position of: Treasurer/Fundraising Co-ordinator/Committee Member (please circle)

Get Ready for the Sandy Strait State School 2013 Musical – Saturday October 26th, 2pm and 7pm.

This year’s musical is entitled “Little Stars”. The story focuses on a National TV Talent Competition. Follow the behind the scenes story of five finalists (and their neurotic parents) as they compete in the national TV hit sensation singing competition seeking the next... Little Star!

Crooked judges, hyperactive presenters and a live studio audience – a perfect parody of the well loved Idol TV format...and just as humorous!

Any year 5, 6 or 7 student interested in participating in this year’s musical (lead roles and chorus) are asked to put their name down at Ms Pritchard’s year 4 classroom. Auditions for lead roles will take place during week 8 this term and students interested in auditioning for a lead role will need to pick up an audition script.

Students who commit to the musical are required to pay a $20 levy in term two and attend afternoon rehearsals every Tuesday until 4.30pm for all of term two and until October 26th in term three.

Any questions regarding musical please see Ms Pritchard or Mrs Ryan.
Community News

**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

**HOLIDAY SWIMMING LESSONS**
• FAST TRACK SWIMMING LESSONS-
Learn to swim, stroke correction & infant classes.
Winner -QLD. AUSTSWIM Teacher-2012
APRIL 2nd-5th COST- $54 (week 1 = 4 days)
APRIL 8th – 12th COST $67.50 (week 2= 5 days)
Both weeks $115 SMALL CLASSES
ELDERS SWIM CENTRE Islander Rd. Pialba
Ph. Penny 4128 4888

**WIDE BAY GYMNASTICS CLUB HOLIDAY GYM FUN**

Holiday classes are suitable for beginners and seasoned gymnasts. Children must be 5 to 17 years to attend.

**WHERE:** Wide Bay Gymnastics Club, Walkers Road, Urangan. Ph: 41253011

**DATES:** Mon 8 Apr, Tues 9 Apr, Wed 10 Apr, Thurs 11 Apr, 2013

**TIME:** 8.30 am to 11.00 am each day

**COST:** $15 per child for 2½ hours. This includes Gym Fun class; please bring something to eat and a cold drink.

Phone and book your place or simply turn up on the day.

**Helping Hands Easter Vacation Care Program**

Helping Hands is pleased to be able to offer an opportunity for all the children at Sandy Strait State School to attend a fun-filled and exciting Vacation Care program over the Easter Holidays at Pialba State School or Yarrilee State School.

Helping Hands provides Vacation Care for school children in Prep to Year 7 during public school holidays. Vacation Care is a safe, supervised environment for children, and offers a range of fantastic incursions, excursions and centre activities.

The program encourages children to socialise, learn new skills and relax with free and imaginative play.

Qualified and experienced staff cares for the children between the hours of 6.30am and 6.00pm.

For more information or to book onto the Helping Hands Vacation Care program please contact Helping Hands Pialba on 0488 330 261 or Yarrilee on 0459 131 552 or email pialba@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au or yarrilee@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au

Copies of the full Vacation Care program and booking forms are also available from your school office.

**KidZone Play Centre**

Tickets $10.50
Available at KidZone
($4 from each ticket will go directly to Make-A-Wish)

79 Islander Road
Hervey Bay
Phone: 07 4194 0479

Includes:
~Entry
~Meal Deal

**CHILDREN’S EASTER PARTY**
(Ages 1 years-12 years)

TUESDAY APRIL 9th 2013
9:00-Midday
Come along for some great fun including:
Play, Easter Crafts & Face Painting

**MAKE-A-WISH Australia**

Supporter Event 2013
Star of the Sea OSHC has an AMAZING vacation care program planned for the upcoming holidays. We have lots of exciting activities including excursions to Bowling and Gymnastics and great craft experiences for your child. Our new and improved Get Active! program will be running, giving children the opportunity to participate in a variety of sporting experiences run by our qualified coaches. Our new operating hours are Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) from 6:30am to 6:00pm. Breakfast and Afternoon tea will be supplied (time limits apply). Our service is CCB approved giving parents the opportunity to send their child for as little as $3.00 a day! For more information on our exciting vacation care program as well as the Before and After School Care please contact our friendly staff on 4125 6051 or alternatively send an email to torquayoshc@bne.centacare.net.au.