COMING EVENTS

29 Oct—P & C Meeting
12 Nov—Pre-Prep Session 4
17 Nov—Prep B & T Santa Show
18 Nov—Prep A & D Santa Show
18 Nov—Year 1 Santa Show
20 Nov—Showcase
10 Dec—Year 7 Farewell
12 Dec—Last day of school year
26 Jan 15—Australia Day Holiday
27 Jan 15—First day of 2015 school year

Key to Success: Getting Along

From the Principal - Sharon McMorrow

Information about Bookpacks and School Sports Shirts for 2015

Over the last couple of years we have offered our parents a book pack service to get ready for learning in the coming year.

Once again we have engaged a local business to order and pack all of the books and school resources needed for each year level. The prices that are quoted are always very competitive, are heavily discounted and are based on early bird orders and payments.

The purpose of the school bookpacks initiative is:

• To bring consistency and quality to the books and equipment students use at school
• To assist parents with a task that can be very time consuming and confusing
• To give parents the opportunity to plan ahead and budget for the costs of schooling that often are compounded at the start of the school year
• To enable all students to be prepared and organised for their learning on the first day of school in 2015.

The Bookpack Early Bird offers are currently being priced and costed out by our local supplier and the order forms will be coming home to all families in the coming weeks.

School Sports Shirts

Also coming home in the coming weeks will be an order form for the school Sports Shirt which children can wear on the days on which they have PE, for sporting carnivals, cross country and gala sports days.

Tulara (Blue)
Kondari (Yellow)
Corrawinga (Red)

The School Sports Shirts this year will be available for a cost of $25 through the school. A new manufacturer and taking advantage of a bulk purchase order has decreased the cost of the shirt. The shirts are currently being manufactured and we are awaiting notification and samples for sizing.
We hope to have order forms sent home in the very near future to assist families to prepare ahead for 2015.

**Leap Into our Pre- Prep Program- “Oral Language Activities”**

Wednesday 12th November

The third in our series of Pre Prep Sessions on “Early Reading Concepts” was conducted yesterday. It was lovely to see so many of our parents and future PrepPies returning and eagerly participating in this session. We also welcomed a number of first time attendees to the program who very quickly settled in and joined in the fun. If you have not yet returned your completed enrolment forms can you please do so as a matter of urgency to secure your enrolment for the 2015 school year.

We look forward to sharing our next session on “Oral language Activities” on Wednesday 12th November at 9.30am. Please be sure to contact the school office and register your attendance (for yourself and your child) for our session on the 12th November to ensure we have a Take Home Resource Pack ready for you. All Pre Prep Students will also be presented with a personalised certificate of participation at our upcoming session.

At Sandy Strait we believe it is important to provide our students with the best possible start to their first year of schooling.

**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 has 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**

**Planning Ahead for the 2015 School Year**

In order to ensure that we are well prepared and staffed appropriately for the 2015 school year it is essential that our enrolment predications are as accurate as possible. I would ask all families who may be moving or relocating to a new school for the start of the 2015 school year to please contact our school office so we can update our records.

If you have family or friends who are planning on relocating to Hervey Bay or enrolling in our school for the 2015 school year I would also ask that you encourage them to contact our school office for an enrolment pack so we can also have up to date information about new families arriving.

Your help and assistance with this would be most appreciated as we try and ensure a smooth start through accurate staffing and class numbers for the upcoming school year.

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**News from the Junior School—Mrs Helen Forbes**

**End of units assessments**

Over the next fortnight our students will be doing their assessment for their English and maths units so it is important that they attend school every day to ensure they get to complete their assessment tasks and celebrate the work and effort they contributed to these units.

Assessment in English may require students to provide a spoken presentation, write stories or poetry as well as read and answer comprehension questions. Maths assessment will involve students taking tests and problem solving tasks. Science will require them to investigate and record their observations.

**PAT testing**

Classes have been busy doing our second round of PAT testing. This is important assessment we do in February and October that shows distance students have travelled in reading comprehension and maths. It helps teachers to measure the gain across the year as well as reflect on their teaching and set targets for the remainder of the year. Teachers and students have discussed student results and your child will be able to discuss results with you. It is always exciting to hear students talk about their own progress in terms of what areas they have improved in and the extent of their improvement.

**Prep Early Years trial**

This month our Prep teachers are working with their students to complete the second round of testing from the Early Start trial. This trial has provided teachers with useful data around students’ knowledge and understanding of reading, comprehension of reading, writing and maths. Students will sit with their teacher one on one as they are supported through the tests. The data will be used to support student learning for the remainder of this year and into next year.

**Timbarra productions are visiting for Prep and Year One in November**

Next month Prep students will be entertained by a show called ‘Santa Around the World’ with Prep students searching for Santa in this interactive production. Year One students will be entertained with a show called ‘Here Comes Santa’ where they need to stop the evil witch from taking Christmas away.

All children in Prep and Year One are able to come dressed in Christmas clothing (e.g. T-Shirt). The shows will also be stimulus for ongoing work in English and students will also learn many traditional songs for the show such as Rudolph, Jingle Bells, Santa Claus is Coming to Town and Here Comes Santa.

The cost of each show is $7.00 per child.

Prep T and Prep B will attend the 1:30pm show on Monday the 17th November.

Prep D and Prep A will attend the 9:00am show on Tuesday 18th November.

Year 1’s will be attending on Tuesday the 18th November.

A letter will be sent home next week with permission slip and further details.
Mr T, from Year 5, is leading the 2015 student leadership process. He has developed a comprehensive training and election process including:

**Week 6  2014 Leadership Morning (In The Hall) Friday 14/11/2014**
- 8:45am  Mr Jackson (Introductions/Expectations)
- 9am – 10am  Leadership PowerPoint Presentation
- Leadership Activity Booklet and Team Building Activities
- 10am – 10:45am  2015 Student Leadership Nomination Form (Rough Copy)

**Week 7  Student Leadership Nomination online Wednesday 19/11/2014**
- Students complete online nomination by Wednesday (Good Copy)
- All students write speeches in class during week 7
- Shortlisted students are notified by Friday afternoon.

**Week 8  Speeches/Voting Monday 24/11/2014**
- Students present their speeches at 9am to year 5 students and teachers; students then vote.
- Students present their speeches at Monday’s staff meeting to staff; teachers then vote.

**What is a Leader?**
A leader is a person who guides others toward a common goal, showing the way by example, and creating an environment in which other team members feel safe, respected and appreciated.

**Message to parents of Senior Students…...**
Recently the senior students met to discuss Term 4 expectations and the end of year Farewell and Break Up day. Historically, we have held a Year 7 Farewell to celebrate student achievements and for successfully completing their initial phase of learning. However, this year is unique in that we have two year levels leaving the Primary sector at once, Year 6 and Year 7; therefore it is important that we celebrate both year levels equally.

Both Year 6 and Year 7 will celebrate the end of their time in Primary schooling together on the evening of Wednesday the 10th of December. There is no cost to attend this event however it is an invitation only event where students are required to meet a minimum behavioural standard throughout this term to attend. This evening is followed up with a day at the Hervey Bay Aquatic Centre on Thursday the 11th of December.

To attend either of these events students must be on RIBBIT Level 3 and to allow every student a fair opportunity to put their “best foot forward” all students have commenced this term on a RIBBIT Level 3 and no student was allocated a behaviour card.

Outlined below are the schools expectations for students to be eligible to attend the events:
- Be on or above a RIBBIT Level 3 – (Must be a Level 1, 2 or 3) this means they must demonstrate the following behaviours:
  - Be respectful to students and staff both inside and outside of the classroom.
  - Be respectful to property and follow the school “sign in” rules regarding phones and other electronic devices.
  - Participate in class activities and complete work to the best of their ability, including submitting assessment items on time.
  - Be focused on class work and does not distract others from doing their work.
  - Be punctual to all classes and has a record of regular school attendance.
  - Be organised and have items required for school (including hats, pencils etc)
  - Wear the correct school uniform. This includes the correct jewellery (1 set of studs / sleepers, 1 watch only). No brightly coloured hair.

**Headspace Visits**
In the coming weeks the senior students will receive a visit from personnel from Headspace to highlight the services they provide. Headspace is the National Youth Mental Health Foundation. They help young people who are going through a tough time. With more than 60 centres around Australia, Headspace can help young people with:
- General health
- Mental health and counselling
- Education, employment and other services
- Alcohol and other drug services.

**Senior Gala Day**
Friday the 31 October will be the last Gala day for the year. We hope all our senior students will be able to participate.

Sports on offer include:
- Boys and Girls AFL
- Oz Tag
- Newcombe
- Boys Basket Ball
- Girls Basket Ball

**Music Count Us In News**
The day is finally here! Next Thursday at 11:30am, 500 000 students at 4000 schools across Australia, including Sandy Strait State School, will be getting together to sing ‘Paint You a Song.’ Our school will be gathering together in the Hall just after morning tea on Thursday to sing and all families are welcome to join us. So come along and celebrate Music Education in Australian Schools and support our kids who have worked so hard to learn the song. As Hans Christian Andersen said ‘Where words fail, music speaks’

Kylie Hunter
Music Teacher.
Date: Thursday, 6th November, 2014  
Time: 9.30 am – 11.00am  
Venue: Library, Urangan Point State School, Miller St, Urangan – please sign in at office first.  

This month’s topic: **What REALLY works?**  
This month we will have a short session, looking at ways in which you can evaluate strategies and programs which claim to help children with ASD. We will look at some resources which will give you the tools to be informed consumers and avoid falling victim to false claims.  

ALL WELCOME

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**Hervey Bay High School—PLEASE NOTE**  
**New date for enrolment session and tour of new buildings within the Junior Secondary Precinct**  
The enrolment session and tour previously advertised for Saturday 25 October has been re-scheduled.

If you have recently enrolled by completing and returning the required documents, or intend to enrol, we would like to invite you to the following enrolment information session and tour.  
**Saturday 15 November**  
- 9:00am to 10:30am – Year 7 & 8 parents  
- 10:30am to 12:00noon – members of public welcome  

Administration Building