Welcome Back to Term 3

Welcome back to a brand new term. I hope that all of our students and families had a restful and relaxing break and had an opportunity to recharge the batteries for the next phase of the 2013 Learning Journey at Sandy Strait.

To all of our new families I would like to extend a warm welcome to our school and the Sandy Strait family.

NAIDOC Week Celebrations

This week our school community joins to celebrate NAIDOC Week with various cultural activities occurring for all year levels throughout the week. The theme of this year’s celebration is “We value the vision: Yirrkala Bark Petitions 1963.”

Please refer to attached timetable of events and activities. We look forward to having you join us.

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 June 2014 are eligible to attend Prep in the 2014 School year.

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

The first in a series of Prep open days will be conducted on Thursday 25th July from 9.30am. Future Prep children and their families are invited to participate in classroom activities and meet our friendly staff. An evening session will also be conducted at 6.30 pm to cater for the needs of working parents. This is the first in a series as we implement a Pre-Prep orientation program for our students and parents.

Parent information sessions will be conducted later in the year for our 2014 Prep Parents and families. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the upcoming Prep Year or enrolling your child.

From the Principal - Sharon McMorrow

Key to Success this Week: Organisation

COMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>17 July</td>
<td>Athletics Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 July</td>
<td>Beginner String Workshop</td>
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<td>24 July</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting</td>
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<td>25 July</td>
<td>Prep Open Day</td>
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<td>2 Aug</td>
<td>Disco</td>
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<td>24 Oct</td>
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<td>26 Oct</td>
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17 July — Athletics Carnival
23 July — Beginner String Workshop
24 July — P & C Meeting
25 July — Prep Open Day
2 Aug — Disco
24 Oct — Beginner String Workshop
26 Oct — School Musical

11/07/2013
Hi, my name is Jenny McCartin. I have been a school cleaner for over 25 years. I was transferred from Gayndah State School to Sandy Strait in 1995. I currently team clean with Lanie and look after the senior part of the school, Admin and Middle Covered Area.

Hi, my name is Elaine McDonald and I have been a cleaner at Sandy Strait for 3 years. I came from Mackay, North Queensland, and was an industrial cleaner for the Coal Mines Terminal at Hay Point where the coal ships dock in. Prior to that I was a cook for 20 years and a relief cleaner for drinks bottles and hats in the cupboard. Any items left by the end of the month will be donated to charity.

Hi, my name is Debbie Fluerty. I have been part of the cleaning team since the school opened in 1995. I work in the Junior school section with Sean. I love interacting with the students as I go about my daily work.

Hi, my name is Sean Christie. I am one half of the team that cleans the lower half of the school. Together we are responsible for the general cleanliness of the buildings, both inside and out, in the junior area. Both of my children attended this school and have now progressed to High School. Fate drew us to the school as we moved from W.A and all of our first names start with S and we drove past and saw the SSSS out the front and the rest is history!!

Please Confirm your Attendance at the First of our Pre-Prep Program Session on the 25th July
All parents who have enrolled children for Prep in 2014 are reminded to confirm your attendance at the first of our Pre-Prep Program Sessions.

There will be a session conducted from 9.30-10.30am and an evening session for working parents from 6.30-7.30pm. Please register your attendance by contacting our school office.

A Reminder about Attendance this Term. Every Day is a Learning Day and Every Day Counts
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%. This term is an 11 week school term that allows for children to be absent for only 3 days. Ideally we would like every student to strive for 100% attendance.

This year we continue with the changes to the way in which we follow up unexplained absences and chronic absenteeism. Parents 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.

Posters outlining our focus on attendance are 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 once again this term included a parent information sheet outlining the legal responsibilities of school attendance and some common questions and answers for parents with this newsletter.

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.

Spell-a-thon Prizes on Next Week’s Assemblies. Please note change of time for Junior Assembly
This term our fortnightly Junior Assemblies will be scheduled from 9.00—9.30 to allow for the Visual Arts Program which we will occur on Friday Afternoons.

During our week 2 Junior and Senior Assemblies we will announce the winners of the Spell-a-thon Prizes and present them with their prizes.

I would like to thank all families for their wonderful support of the P & C Spell-a-thon.

Sausage Sizzle & Coffee Van here on Sports Day
On Sports Day 17 July the P & C have organised a sausage sizzle. The BBQ will be fired up around 12.00 pm. There is no pre-ordering required, just come on over to the BBQ and Marquee. Sausages in bread will be on sale for $2.50. We will also have cold drinks available. The Caffeine Fix Van will visit the school in the morning with a variety of coffees and drinks available for purchase. The coffee van will donate a percentage of their sales to the P & C.

We look forward to seeing you on sports day.

Non-Teaching Team—This week we introduce our Cleaners.
Due to the area and the enrolments of the school, Sandy Strait has four Cleaners and each team are responsible for their own section. Jenny McCartin and Elaine McDonald maintain the Senior area of the school and Debbie Fluerty and Sean Christie maintain the Junior area of the school.

Lost Property—Have you lost any school items?
Can parents please take the time to take a look through lost property as we seem to have a ever growing pile of clothes, lunch boxes, drinks bottles and hats in the cupboard. Any items left by the end of the month will be donated to charity.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Tuesday 9th July</th>
<th>Wednesday 10th July</th>
<th>Thursday 11th July</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 – 9:00</td>
<td>Set Up Area</td>
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<td>9:00 – 9:30</td>
<td>2Q – (Eating Area) ‘Painting’</td>
<td>All Year 1 Groups (Eating Area) Dancing Ceremony</td>
<td>4MH – (Lawn Area) ‘Collage &amp; Writing’</td>
<td>6L – (5/6/7 Eating Area) ‘Collage &amp; Writing’</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 – 9:45</td>
<td>Clean and Set Up Area</td>
<td>1F – (Eating Area) ‘Painting’</td>
<td>9:30 – 10:00</td>
<td>4P – (Lawn Area) ‘Collage &amp; Writing’</td>
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<td>10:15 – 10:45</td>
<td>2/3P – (Eating Area)</td>
<td>Clean Up Area</td>
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<td>Clean and Set Up Area</td>
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<td>7H – (5/6/7 Eating Area) ‘Collage &amp; Writing’</td>
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<td>12:45 – 13:15</td>
<td>Clean Up Area</td>
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**Morning Tea**

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<td>11:30 – 12:00</td>
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<td>7B – (5/6/7 Eating Area) ‘Collage &amp; Writing’</td>
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**Lunch**

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<tr>
<td>1:30 – 2:00</td>
<td>3H – (Eating Area) ‘Painting’</td>
<td>4G – (Lawn Area) ‘Collage &amp; Writing’</td>
<td>1:30 – 2:00</td>
<td>5W – (5/6/7 Eating Area) ‘Collage &amp; Writing’</td>
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<td>2:00 – 2:15</td>
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**Debriefing Time!!**
NAIDOC

This week is NAIDOC week at Sandy Strait and students will be involved in a number of activities related to this year’s theme. The theme for NAIDOC Week 2013 is: We value the vision: Yirrkala Bark Petitions 1963. This theme recognizes and celebrates the 50th anniversary of the presentation of the Yirrkala Bark Petitions to the Federal Parliament.

We commenced our NAIDOC week with a flag raising ceremony for our Indigenous students and were entertained by the Indigenous dancers from Torquay State School who performed a number of Indigenous dances and songs.

Each year level will be involved in activities related to the theme to assist students in developing an understanding of the history and culture of our Indigenous people which is linked to this year’s theme. Karen Steyger our Indigenous Teacher Aide has prepared these activities and will be leading our NAIDOC week with the help of other parents with knowledge and expertise in Indigenous culture.

Leap into Learning – The Visual Arts

On Friday we begin our very exciting six week Visual Arts program for all Prep to Year Three students. Students will be given lessons in each of the four elements – Line, Shape, Colour and Texture and will be creating works of art to display at an art exhibition in week six. Students will be working with a different teacher each Friday afternoon as they rotate through the various lessons. Assembly will be held on Friday morning next week to accommodate the program.

Leap into Learning – English

Over the next five weeks our students in the junior school will be learning about the following concepts in English:

Prep

‘Interacting with others’ This term our Preps are listening to, viewing and providing responses to a number of rhyming texts. This will help them develop their letters and sounds and many common words and visual patterns. Their assessment will require them to create and recite a rhyming story for their classmates. They will also provide gestures to go with their presentation and write and draw a personal response to a rhyming story. Our small group reading program in Prep has been very successful in that many of our students have improved in their ability to use reading strategies to decode texts and are able to discuss the main messages in the texts. The more practice and enjoyment your child has in reading and listening to you read makes a difference to their desire to read and want to read.

Year 1

Students are learning about how authors create characters and how they create animal characters who reflect human qualities. Students need to be able to connect to these characters by sharing their own similar experiences and by showing understanding of characters actions and behaviours. Being able to answer literal –’right there’ type questions and to be able to ‘read between the lines’ to understand what the author has inferred are an important part of this learning. Our year one students will be required to a written and spoken character interview as their main assessment of this unit. To do this they will need to know the difference between a question and a command and statement and be able to ask questions and listen to answers as they interview their classmates. They will also continue with their small group and Independent reading which is tailored to their individual abilities.

Year 2

Year two students are using Roald Dahl’s novel ‘George’s Marvelous Medicine’ to analyse characters. They will learn how to write a procedure, the use of comma’s in a list and the appropriate words to use when describing characters. They will need to sequence a jumbled procedural text as part of their assessment for this unit as well as writing and presenting a multimodal procedure to present to their teacher and classmates. In reading students will continue working in small groups for Guided Reading where they will be developing their ability to use their reading strategies and comprehension to help them read unfamiliar texts.

Year 3

Year three students are examining myths and Aboriginal Dreaming stories. They will learn to analyse verbs, clauses, sentence structure, evaluative language and compare and contrast different myths. For their assessment they will need to answer comprehension questions to show understanding of the texts, analyse a rhyming text and to present a retell from another perspective. Students are using Dr Seuss ‘The Lorax’ to tell the story from the Lorax’s perspective. Students will also continue to develop their reading skills and comprehension through small group guided reading, independent reading and reading activities related to their unit of work.

SCHOOL BANKING

Welcome to Term 3!! Isn’t this year flying by. It is so fantastic to have such a large number of bankers. Keep up the great work. We welcome a new school banking coordinator Nicole Hill. Remember if you have any problems or enquiries we are at The Cottage on Thursdays at 2pm.

BOOK CLUB

We would like to thank Nicole Hill for offering her time to help with book club. Bookclub flyers have been sent home. All orders must be returned by 26 July for processing. Sorry no late orders will be processed after this date. Please make sure that you include your child’s name and class on the order form as it is very difficult to get your order to your child without correct details. We require correct money to be included in the envelope. Thank you for your continued support.
**Time to refocus**

Half way through the year is always a good time to take stock and reflect on progress. With this in mind here are a few questions that students could ask themselves when reflecting on their learning this year:

1. Was I happy with my Semester 1 report card?
2. Do I believe I did the very best I could in Semester 1?
3. Did I submit all the key assessment tasks?
4. Do I “specifically” know where I need to improve to get better results in Semester 2?
5. Did I regularly reflect on my learning throughout the Semester?

I am sure many of our students will return to school motivated to do their best in Semester 2. It is worthwhile to note though that while:

**MOTIVATION** is what gets us started to do something difficult it is our **SELF DISCIPLINE** that keeps us going. This suggests that motivation will wane from time to time……….. and of course it does. So, instead of focusing all our energy on being motivated we should spend our energy on being self-disciplined to do the hard yards even when our motivation is not there.

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**“Burunga-m gambay - Learning Together Day**

Our Year 7 students attended the 2013 NAIDOC cultural celebration festival “Burunga-m gambay - Learning Together” in the last week of Term 2. The day celebrated the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples within the local area.

Students were involved in six rotations during the course of the day. Activities focused on; Language, Song, Futures, Music & dance, Traditional games and Art. It was a very enjoyable and informative day.

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**Spin Off**

Almost every school in Hervey Bay utilises a school chaplain and almost every school has their school chaplain providing a service to their community beyond the funded amount (eg at our school we receive funding for 2 days to have Chappy Trina but in fact we get her for 3 days). **How can we do this? Who pays the extra day?**

**Is there a good Samaritan helping us out?**

All good questions.

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**String Music News**

The **second** beginning string workshop is being held on Tuesday 23rd July. The venue is again the Kawungan SS hall. The beginning string students will be issued with the information form this week.

Students who paid for and attended the **first** beginning string workshop (Wednesday 20th March) do not need to pay again. Students who didn’t pay for the first workshop will need to pay $20 to include this one and the **third** workshop (October). The workshop, held over a whole school day, is the equivalent contact time of an entire term of lessons, and aims to review technique already taught, but also to set up the students for success for the rest of the term.

As before, this workshop will conclude with a concert to demonstrate the students’ progress.

Yours in Music

Marsh Robinson, String Teacher
Spell-a-thon: To date the Spell-a-thon has raised $6561.20, we still have some money to count so this amount will change. What a fantastic result!
Each classroom will be getting an iPad to use in the coming months, this will be another great learning tool that will benefit everybody.
I have been busy over the school holidays gathering prizes and gift cards for our highest fundraisers and the year level draws. We will also be drawing our Encouragement Awards. These have nothing to do with how much money has been raised but are chosen by the Teachers on merit alone.
Prizes/ gift cards will be distributed on School assemblies on Thursday the 18th of July at 2.15pm for our seniors, and Friday the 19th of July at 9.00am for our Juniors.
Congratulations!

Disco: The P&C will be holding a Disco on Friday the 2nd of August. The Junior Disco (Prep - 3) will be from 5.00pm - 6.30pm, and the Senior Disco (4 - 7) from 7.00pm - 8.30pm.
The cost will be: Disco plus Pizza: $8.00. Disco entry only: $4.00 - No tickets will be available at the door.
All money/ forms are to be returned no later than Wednesday the 24th of July. Letters will be sent home this week.
Please bring only a small amount of cash. We will be selling glow products, and chocolates, chips and drinks from our canteen on the night.
To make things smoother for us we need a separate form and envelope per child attending the disco. Please ensure that all details are filled in correctly and that you have enclosed the correct amount of money. Don’t forget to include your child’s preference for pizza, if no preference is given the P&C decide who gets what pizza.
Remember if you do not write down your child’s name and grade on the envelope we have no idea who it belongs to this creates problems for everybody later on. We also have nobody to give the money back to.

Mural: If you get a chance check out our new Mural located on the wall in the undercover Senior area. Adrienne who is one of our Teacher Aides has been busy painting in the school holidays with her husband and a small band of people.
The Theme was 'Leap Into Learning', and I think the Mural definitely portrays this.
The P&C have been wanting to do this project since last year, and it has all come together nicely. Adrienne was able to get some great Sponsors on board. The Sponsors at this stage are:
- SSSS P&C
- CLM Chartered Accountants
- VMS Maintenance
- Innovation Graphix
- 4x4 Fanatix
- T & A Skill Painters
- Arrow Biz solutions
- Chilled Heat Air-conditioning
- Wild Lotus Restaurant
(This list is subject to change)
The P&C are yet to work out the final costing for this project as it is the first week back to school, but will update in the next newsletter.

Tuckshop Volunteers: The Tuckshop is always after new Volunteers. Remember you can Volunteer for as little or as much time as you choose. Our days of operation are: Thursday and Friday between the hours of 8.30am - 2.30pm. If you are interested ring the Office on: 4197 0333 and speak to Tanya or Debbie, or pop in and see Kerry in the Tuckshop.
Our next P&C Meeting will be held on Wednesday the 24th of July at 3pm in the Admin Building - ALL WELCOME!
Kim Parnell (P&C President)
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
Athletics Carnival—Year 3—7
Due to wet weather we had to postpone our Athletics Carnival last term. We have rescheduled this to be held on Wednesday 17 July. Below is a timetable of events for the day. All parents are more than welcome to attend and watch their child/children compete in their events.

SSSS Athletics Program 2013

Wednesday 17 July

Assemble on oval in House Areas

100m Sprints for 10,11, 12 and 13yr olds

12 and 13yr  Kondari  Discus
Tulara  Shot Put
Corrawinga  High Jump

Busy Rotations – (NO PIGGY PEN) 15 MINUTES THAN ROTATE
Grade 3  Tug of War (Grade 3 Teachers)
9yrs  3 Legged Races (Grade 4 Teachers)
10yrs  Sack Races after 100m (Grade 5 Teachers)

Rotation 2

Gr 3  Long Jump
9yr  200m
10yr  High Jump
11yr  Shot Put
12 and 13yr  Discus

10.15  Rotation 3

Gr 3  Discus
9yr  Long Jump
10yr  200m
11yr  High Jump
12 and 13yr  Shot Put

Morning Tea (Normal)

Rotation 4

Gr 3  Shot Put
9yr  Discus
10yr  Long Jump
11yr  200m
12 and 13yr  High Jump

12.00  Rotation 5

Gr 3  High Jump
9yr  Shot Put
10yr  Discus
11yr  Long Jump
12 and 13yr  200m

12.45  Big Lunch (Normal)

1.30  Relays over 80m – teams of 6

2.30  Presentation of Shields for Winning House
Tidy Up
Home
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

LAWN MOWER RACING
When: Sunday 14th July from 10am to 2 pm.
Where: Our Track in the Maryborough Speedway Grounds,
Gympie Road, Tinana. Follow the signs.
What: The Fraser Coast Lawn Mower Racing Club are
holding an interclub race event. Bring your chairs and
family members to watch an action packed day of lawn
mower racing. Canteen Facilities Available.
Cost: $5 per head, children u12 free if accompanied
by and adult.

Music in the PARK
Scarness
SUNDAY 14 July
9am-3pm

Dan & Steah will be cooking & serving a Sausage Sizzle
with the Sparks team from 11am - 12.30pm

Dan & Steah meet and greet from 12.30pm
[just purchase a snag to meet them!]

Meet Dan & Steah
Microphone Winners

Closeup photo of a microphone with a heart shape and the text 'Meet Dan & Steah Microphone Winners'.