Thank You Volunteer Morning Tea

Yesterday we were joined by a number of parent helpers and community volunteers at our thank you morning tea. It was lovely to have the opportunity to formally thank all of our volunteers who do so much to help and support our children both in classrooms and through other activities such as school banking, tuckshop and bookclub.

For those of you who were unable to join us on Wednesday we have a special thank you certificate of appreciation coming your way in the next couple of days.

On behalf of our whole school community I would like to thank all of our wonderful volunteers.

Celebrating Academic Success at our Academic Awards

Earlier this week all children who are receiving Academic Awards received their official letters.

• On Tuesday 3rd December we will celebrate the Senior Academic Awards (Yrs 4-7) commencing at 1.30 pm sharp in the school hall.

• On Wednesday 4th December we celebrate the Junior Academic Awards (Prep – Yr 3) commencing at 1.30 pm sharp in the school hall.

This semester we have a large number of children receiving Principals Awards for Outstanding Achievement in English, Maths and Science.

We also have a number of students receiving a Principal’s Encouragement Award for improvement in the areas of English and/or Maths.

This Semester there is an additional award, “Principal’s Achievement Award in Visual Arts” for children who have achieved high results through our Visual Arts Program.

These award ceremonies are scheduled during school time so that our whole school can celebrate along with our parents the outstanding achievements of our hard working and high achieving students.

I am very much looking forward to sharing these awards with you on Tuesday and Wednesday of next week commencing at 1.30 pm.
Staff Movement for 2014.
At the end of the year we will be farewelling a number of staff who will move on to teach in other schools. We also will be farewelling (for a little while) 2 of our staff members who are welcoming an addition to their family in the new year.

• Mrs Kym Warman will be transferring to Kawana Waters College on the Sunshine Coast in 2014.
• Ms Christina Hill will be transferring to Mary Valley College in the Gympie Hinterland in 2014.
• Mr Cameron Hanrahan will be transferring to Maryborough State High School in 2014.
• Mrs Sanders will be teaching Chinese at Kawungan and Torbanlea State School in 2014.
• Mrs Leisa Staunton will be taking up the promotional position of Head of Special Education at Urangan Point State School in 2014.
• Mrs Franz headed off on Maternity Leave last week and will return in 2015. She will spend next year at home with her new baby.
• Mrs Ferguson will head off on Maternity Leave at the end of year awaiting the birth of her baby in the new year.

It is always sad to farewell staff, many of whom have been a part of the Sandy Strait family for a very long time. They will be sadly missed and we wish them all the best in their new teaching locations or in the case of Mrs Franz and Mrs Ferguson we wish them all the best as they await the birth of their children in the new year.

School Photos and Feedback
Each year the school in consultation with the P & C select a photography company to take on the task of school photos for the upcoming school year.

We have no alliances to any particular company and we are very much guided by our parent and community satisfaction with the current school photography provider.

Last week all families should have received their pre-ordered school photos from Advanced Life Photography.

We would welcome your feedback on the quality of the photos you received so that we may make informed decisions about the 2014 photography booking.

If you would like to provide feedback about the quality and/or your satisfaction with the photographic product you received please feel free to send in your thoughts.

A comments/feedback box will be in the school office.
We appreciate your feedback.

Planning Ahead for the 2014 School Year
In order to ensure that we are well prepared and staffed appropriately for the 2014 school year it is essential that our enrolment predictions are as accurate as possible.

We ask all families who may be moving or relocating to a new school for the start of the 2014 school year to please contact our school office so we can update our records.

If you have yet to enrol your child in Prep or to return your completed enrolment forms can you please be sure to do so ASAP as we are currently working on the allocation of classes for the 2014 school year.

If you have family or friends who are planning on relocating to Hervey Bay or enrolling in our school for the 2014 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.

Position Vacant

Position: Bookkeeper (Casual)
Employer: Sandy Strait State School
Location: Urangan, Hervey Bay
Supportive environment, Small team

The Sandy Strait State School P&C are looking for a Bookkeeper to assist the Executive Committee meet their financial record keeping obligations.

Your work would be integral to the successful recording of the Sandy Strait State School P&C finances and therefore your experience in MYOB or Quickbooks software would be essential. Your ability to be self-directed, motivated, reliable and flexible will also be important attributes as will your good written and interpersonal skills.

The role:-
• Accounts Payable and Receivable
• Accounts reconciliation
• Payroll end to end
• Superannuation
• Data entry
• Reporting to Executive Committee
• Reporting to external Accountant

Applications close: 3.00pm on 12 December, 2013
Interviews will be held: Early February, 2014
Commencement: Immediate start
Working hours: To be negotiated.

If you believe you have the attributes required to be successful within this role, we invite you to apply. An Application Package may be collected from Sandy Strait State School front office.
News from the Junior School

Mr Mark Hansen

I hope you have had a great start to the week. Students in all grades have been very busy with the start of their 8th unit for the year in English, which include topics such as letter writing, narratives, advertisements and persuasive writing. In Mathematics students are also learning a range of topics including measurement and money as well as revising and extending concepts already taught this year.

Christmas Shows in the Junior School

Last week in the junior school, Timbarra Productions visited the Prep and Year 1 students- performing their Christmas shows. Students (and teachers) had a fabulous time.

Swimming

Students in year 2 and 3 will begin swimming at the Aquatic Centre from Friday this week- we wish these students all the best for fine weather and lots of fun. (Don’t forget the Sun Safety message!)

RIBBIT Rewards

Year 2 and 3 RIBBIT reward students will have their movie reward on Thursday during the middle session. Well done to these students on their commitment to good behaviour and following the 5 Keys to Success. Prep and year 1 RIBBIT reward students will have their reward session on Friday morning next week, and will move through a range of different activities with various teachers.

Other News

Please see all the fantastic samples of line, texture, shape and colour from year 6 and 7 students- these have been displayed in the hall- our upper school students have worked extremely hard on these fabulous pieces. Congratulations to Katrina Linford, and other staff and students who assisted in the sausage sizzle fundraiser which was a massive success, raising in excess of $1100.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns, and we wish our Deputy Principal, Helen Forbes, all the best for a speedy recovery from her shoulder operation.

Chappy Chat With Luke

Amazing Raffle-

Thank you to everyone that bought raffle tickets to support next year’s camp! We raised: $495.05! Thanks for all of your support.

The three lucky winners of the Amazing Raffle were drawn on assembly on Friday and the winners were as follows:

1st: Miss Hunter
2nd: Conan 1/2/3M
3rd: Miss Lea 4P

Well done to our three lucky winners! Thank you to Mrs McMorrow, Mrs Davis, Mrs Brady, Nathan Shelly, Mrs Wood, Ashleigh Abbott, Shannon Leech, Destiny Farrell and Jasmine Tenholder for helping!

ADOPT A FAMILY-

The Chaplaincy activities over the term have been revolving around the theme of: “Giving Hearts Create Caring Communities” A part of our “Giving Hearts Create Caring Communities” activities, is that everyone in our school community is invited to be a part of the ‘Adopt a Family’ program. This is a community focused program organised by WE Care 2.

Each year level (Prep-7) has been allocated a Family to Adopt for Christmas. Giving is exciting as students can either purchase or create a heartfelt gift for one or each individual in the family. When you have wrapped the present and written on the card, then place the gift in the Christmas Box which is in the wet area of each grade’s block.

Bay Crest visit: On Wednesday Chappy Trina, Miss Hunter, the senior choir and welfare leaders visited Bay Crest and performed for the residents. The Choir sang amazingly as normal. The welfare leaders performed magic, were the MCs, read poems etc. The residents at Bay Crest thoroughly enjoyed these performances. Thank you to Chappy Trina and Miss Hunter for organising this visit and concert.

On behalf of Elley, Abbey, Destiny and Chappy Trina thank you for an awesome year and make sure to have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Luke Strochnetter
Welfare Leader
**Bus Travel**

How can we be thinking of 2014 when there is still so much left of 2013. On that note the office at Hervey Bay will be open throughout the school holidays except from Christmas Eve until 6 January 2014. For enquiries regarding school bus travel or if your student/s are changing schools in 2014 contact Hervey Bay on 4128 6411. Please note that any change to a student’s personal circumstances voids any current travel subsidy and a new application is required. As the start of a new year is extremely busy please allow up to 6 weeks for your application to be processed. Students may use the school bus until their travel is approved but it may have a cost involved. Written approval will be sent by Queensland Transport to the student/s address. If your student/s circumstances are **not** changing e.g. going to the same school and living at the same address, bus travel assistance should continue into 2014 with no new application needed.

Wide Bay Transit  
Ph: (07) 4128 6411  
Fax: (07) 4128 6499  
E-mail: schools@widebaytransit.com.au

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**P&C News**

As another year draws to a close, we reflect on some of the activities of the P&C. We have been very lucky and had another successful year.

**Our Fundraisers for the year were:**

- **Family Portraits** $350.00  
- **Spell-a-thon** $6936.15  
- **Mothers Day Stall** $1031.23  
- **Fathers Day Stall** $1050.22  
- **Disco** $3451.80  
- **Crazy Hair Day** $548.00  
- **Sausage Sizzle** $-132.90 (Sports Day, a wash out!)

**We were able to contribute/donate:**

- $6000.00 for an Ipad for each Classroom. The School also contributed financially for this project covering the cost of Ipad cover, Anti virus etc.  
- $1074.00 towards the ‘Leap Into Learning Mural’ with great Sponsorship from various local Business Owners.  
- $99.00 for an Electric Pencil Sharpener for the Preppies.  
- $600.00 — Catering for 200 — Grandparents Day.  
- $210.00 — Catering for 60 — World Teachers Day.  
- Donated 176 Sausages, BBQ Sauce, Tomato Sauce – Preppies Fathers Day BBQ  
- Donated 176 Sausages, Sauces, 201 poppers – Fund raising grade 5/6 Camp.

Thank you to all of the P&C members for making this year a success. And to my regular small band of wonderful volunteers, (some are Committee members and some are not). You have helped me beyond measure and I can’t thank you enough.

Three cheers must go to our wonderful Tuck-shop Convenor Kerry Searle, Kerry has volunteered her time and cooking skills to cater for our Grandparents Day for 200, and World Teachers Day for 70. You have done a great job and it is much appreciated.

We introduced our Sports Shirts, and have received much satisfaction and pride seeing all of the Students, Teachers and Parents wearing them. We have given our School Shirts a new look, the final design was picked out by the majority of you, by completing a survey. These will be available soon.

We thank all of the Teachers and staff for supporting us this year in all of our efforts. Especially to Sharon McMorrow, Bruce Jackson, and Helen Forbes, and our office staff, Tanya and Debbie. But most of all we thank our Students/Parents/Caregivers and School Community for participating in our Fund-raising endeavors, and helping us achieve our goals.

**We wish you all a safe and happy Christmas, and we will see you next year!**

* **Special note:** Were you happy with your School Photos this year?  
  If not please let the Office know, this way we can look at our options for next year. - Thank you.

Cheers- Kim, Sharon, and Tash – P&C Executive Committee 2013

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**Library News—Mrs Melanie Mills**

A reminder that all library books must be returned to the library by the end of this week. Bills will be issued for any outstanding loans and will be sent out with students next week.
This week our staff and Yr. 5 & 6 Students were privileged to listen to 21014 Senior Classes and 2014 Student Leadership Speeches. Students will also be placed in one of three subject classes for each year of primary school. These cohorts of students will benefit from a transition program that duplicates some of the key aspects they will experience at high school.

The formation of the 2014 senior classes has been our response to 2014 Senior Classes, the 6 teachers responsible for teaching the Senior Classes include: Mrs. Aslett, Mrs Bertolli, Mrs Chapman, Mrs Landon, Ms Mason, Ms Sinclair. It is anticipated that our 2014 Yr. 6 & 7 student numbers will create 6 Home Group classes. It is expected that our 2014 Yr. 6 & 7 student numbers will create 6 Home Group classes. Student will be placed in 1 of the 6 home groups (Sen A, Sen B, Sen C, Sen L, Sen M, Sen S) creating classes that contain a mixture of Yr. 6 & 7 students. Home Group classes will cater for roll marking and housekeeping activities. These classes will also receive either English or Mathematics with their Home Group teacher. In addition PE, LOTE, Music and pastoral care lessons (YCDI) will be provided to students in their Home Group. Most Home Group lessons are taught in the first session of the day (8:45 to 10:45 am).

Home Group teachers are the first point of call for parents to discuss any issues involving their children.

**Subject Classes:**

Students will also be placed in one of three subject classes for each of the following subjects:

- English or Mathematics (whatever subject NOT taught in Home Group)
- Science
- SSOE (History, Geography)
- Art and Health.

**Teachers of Senior Classes**

The 6 teachers responsible for teaching the Senior Classes include: Mrs. Aslett, Mrs Bertolli, Mrs Chapman, Mrs Landon, Ms Mason, Ms Sinclair.

**2014 Student Leadership Speeches**

This week our staff and Yr. 5 & 6 Students were privileged to listen to 16 students from the senior school who articulated their passion and desire to be student leaders for next year. The speakers were being considered for the position of Student Leaders: School Promotion. This year as for last year students and staff were invited to identify their preference via a Survey Monkey survey.

**Thanks for the support of Senior Students’ Sausage Sizzle**

Thank you for supporting last weeks’ sausage sizzle. People’s support helped us raise over $1000.00 to go towards the 2014 senior students’ camp. A big thank you to Mrs Linford for all her hard work in ensuring the sausage sizzle was a fine-tuned operation. Thanks to Mr Friske and Mrs Aslett and a number of senior students who gave up their time to help as well.

**Groundsman pedals student behaviour**

We are fortunate to have some fantastic people make up our school community. This article, from the Hervey Bay Independent, is a great example. Jasmine Tenholder was awarded the new Repco bike.

Jasmine has taken to riding to and from school every day since she first won the bike. “I’ve never missed a day and I’m always pushing myself to do more. I enjoy it. It was really exciting. Before they announced it they put a snippet of my head on the screen and my friends and I just knew it was me. My parents were really proud too,” Jasmine said.

“I wanted to give back to the school and thought this was the perfect way to instil some pride and encourage kids to strive in every way.”

The groundsman said he had originally bought the bike for himself but it did not suit his requirements and instead of selling it, came up with the idea to award it to a student who worked hard, was responsible and disciplined. After much thought teachers at the school awarded Year 7 student leader Jasmine Tenholder the new Repco bike.

“it was really exciting. Before they announced it they put a snippet of my head on the screen and my friends and I just knew it was me. My parents were really proud too,” Jasmine said.

“I’ve never missed a day and I’m always pushing myself to do more and my marks have gone up, and I don’t want to be average.”

Jasmine has taken to riding to and from school every day since she first won the prize at assembly two weeks ago and has managed to stave off any interest from her three brothers and sister. Jasmine’s teacher Kerri Sinclair said her star pupil was “a good choice” to win the bike.

“She always does more than is expected and is an all-rounder, motivated, helpful and friendly child,” she said.

Mr Friske said he was busy thinking about what prizes he could offer in the future.

“I’d love to give the littlies a go – I’m thinking of some movie passes but I’ll have to run that by the wife,” he said.
KAWUNGAN CANTEEN MANAGER POSITION

Applications are invited for the position of permanent part-time canteen convenor at Kawungan State School.

The canteen operates 8.15am-2.15pm 5 days a week and caters for 900+ students and staff.

Experience in food management, hospitality & catering, along with a Certificate in Food Safety (or ability to obtain) is preferred.

The successful applicant will be employed on the basis of successfully obtaining a Suitability Card from the Commission for Children & Young People (blue card).

For further information or to request a Canteen Application Package please contact the school on 4197 9111. Applications can be collected from the school office.

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO THE SCHOOL (as outlined in the Canteen Application Package).

Applications close 3pm Thursday 5 December 2013. Shortlisted applicant’s interviews will be conducted Thursday 12 December 2013 from 3.30pm.

Position to commence Tuesday 28th January 2014.