Permanent Appointment as Principal
For the past 18 months I have been in the role of Acting Principal at Sandy Strait. Once a year a State Wide Selection and Recruitment Process occurs for Principals. Sandy Strait State School was identified as a vacancy and opened up to all applicants across the state. This is a lengthy process involving many written applications, shortlisting, panel interviews and finally a best fit panel process. I am very proud and honoured to announce that I have been appointed through this process as the permanent Principal for Sandy Strait State School.

I love this school, it means the world to me and I am pleased that I can continue the journey I have been on with our staff and school community.

I would like to thank all of our school community for your kind words of congratulations and support. It is very much appreciated.

Planning Ahead for the 2012 School Year
In order to ensure that we are well prepared and staffed appropriately for the 2012 school year it is essential that our enrolment predations 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 2012 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 2012 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.

2012 Prep Parent Information Sessions Next Wednesday 19th October
Next Wednesday the 19th October we move into our next phase of our Prep enrolment process. Parents are invited to attend an information session focussed on our Prep Program, the beginning weeks of school and our changing National Curriculum Expectations for Prep.

Two sessions have been organised to meet the needs of working parents.

Session 1: 9.30–10.30 in the Cottage
Session 2: 6.30–7.30 in the Cottage

Children are welcome to attend and will be supervised in an adjoining Prep room by our friendly staff.

If you have not already done so can you please register your attendance at one of the above

Key to Success for this week: Organisation

From the Principal – Mrs Sharon McMorrow

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The Queensland Government recently announced a review of the spread and allocation of public holidays in Queensland, as well as the arrangements for student free days in state schools. The proposed changes include moving the Queen’s birthday public holiday to the second half of the year as well as allocating an additional public holiday when Christmas Day, Boxing Day or New Year’s Day fall on a weekend.

The government is also proposing extending the Easter state school holidays to two weeks. This will be achieved by moving the student free days currently allocated for a local show holiday and at the start of Terms 2 and 3 to the Easter school holiday break.

The changes are designed to help Queensland families find a better balance between work and family life.

For more information about the changes or to have your say visit www.qld.gov.au/holidayproposal. The deadline for feedback is Monday 31 October.

**NAPLAN Student Reports Coming Home This Week**

The 2011 NAPLAN Student reports have now arrived at school and we will be sending these home with our Year 3, 5, 7 students this week.

Please be sure to keep an eye on your child’s homework folder for this report which provides information to you on your child’s results from the National Testing Program that was implemented in May this year. Please be sure to read the back ground information on the front of the report which helps explain how to interpret the report.

If you have any questions regarding your child’s report, please contact your child’s teacher to arrange a time to meet. Our teachers are currently analysing the NAPLAN report data looking for trends and future direction to support student learning.

**School Musical “Rock Toyz” only 3 weeks away**

It won’t be long now until our talented year 5-7 students will dazzle audiences with the 2011 school musical “Rock Toyz”. Our students have been working hard for months rehearsing and it would be wonderful to have as many families from our school community attending the performances on the 29th October at the Great Hall, Hervey Bay High. Tickets are on sale now from our School Office.

- Adults are $9.00, Pensioners $7.00, Children $6.00 and a family ticket (2 Adults, 3 Children) for $30.00. Matinee at 2:00 pm and Evening show at 7:00 pm.

Please support our talented and hard working students.

**Pupil Free Day on Monday**

A reminder to all of our families that this Monday is gazetted as a Pupil Free Day. Students are not to attend school on this day. Teachers and staff will be involved in Professional Development tasks and district moderation processes throughout the day.

**Top**

**NEWS FROM THE JUNIOR SCHOOL - MRS HELEN FORBES**

**Welcome back**

Students are now working intently in all areas of the curriculum for this term. Parent’s support and interest in what their children are learning and how well they are coping provides a stimulus for them to persevere and feel proud of their efforts and achievements so please check in with your child at every opportunity and praise them appropriately.

Teachers have been testing students as part of our assessment cycle and have retested students in reading and mathematics using a commercial diagnostic test called PAT R and PAT M.

Teachers have been very happy with the results as they have shown improvement in both areas. Well done students!

**Prep**

Our Prep students are doing ‘an author study’ this term with different classes learning about one particular author and the stories they write. The theme around all of their stories is ‘animals’ with each class doing exciting variations to this broad topic. Prep D and M are studying Lynley Dodd and the wonderful series of stories based around the characters of ‘Hairy Maclary’, Hercules Morris and ‘Scarfase Claw’. Those of you who remember these books from your younger days will recall the importance they created around humour and rhyming. The students will create their own stories based on these characters as well as looking at ‘Pets’ in general.

Prep S is studying Eric Carle stories and extending these stories to observe and understand things that live in our garden. The students will be learning about insects and will no doubt have many interesting facts to share with you. Prep T is studying three authors their current author being Rod Campbell and his story ‘Dear Zoo’

**Year 1 News**

Year One students have been studying emotions in stories. Students are using illustrations and words in stories to then describe how these make them feel. The students have read and
Words in stories allow children to express how these make them feel. The students have read and responded to 'Where the Wild things are' and 'David Gets in Trouble', this week. They have been looking at the emotion of fear.

Year One students are also reading indigenous stories to focus on different beliefs held by different cultures.

**Year 2 News**

In their Science Unit of work Year 2 students are exploring how water is used, where water comes from and how to use it responsibly.

In their Health Unit they are also investigating how to stop the spread of germs through hygienic practices and dental care practices.

In their English Unit they are investigating texts that pose persuasion. This fortnight they shared books by John Grogan about his dog Marley and discussed arguments for or against keeping Marley as a pet so watch out if your child has been asking for a dog or cat!

In Maths the students are learning the concept of kilograms, division, quarter of a shape and group and quarter past times.

**Year 3 News**

Year 3 have major focus on Science this term with their unit Feathers, Fur and Leaves. Students have to bring in living or non-living specimens as part of this study.

This unit of work will require students to develop a specialised language around the vocabulary scientists use. Please encourage your child to use scientific words such as living and non–living, features, specimens and classification etc.

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**WELCOME TO THE SCHOOL COUNCIL **

Congratulations Mrs Angove

Congratulations to Mrs Angove who gave birth to a beautiful baby boy on Friday night. Both Mum and baby are doing well.

**Year 6 Fraser Island Trip**

On 2 November our Year 6 students will travel to Fraser Island to finalise their unit of work on sustainability. Students will engage in a field study that will allow them to further develop and apply concepts and skills that have been taught in the classroom. A guided “walk and talk” highlights the importance of caring for our natural environment and what better place to do that than on Fraser Island?

**Year 4 Museum Trip**

Year 4G & 4P will travel to the Hervey Bay Museum on 18 October as part of their Learning Journey—Our Place: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow. Students will engage in a guided tour of the Museum that will allow them to further develop their understanding of what life was like in days gone by and how much it has changed.

**Interschool Sport**

Interschool Sport continues this term for Year 6 & 7 students for the next 2 weeks on Fridays.

**Beanbag donations**

Frog FM broadcasts every week from the Hall and we are looking for beanbags for the students to sit on while listening to the broadcast. We desperately need more beanbags and any donations would be greatly appreciated. Please send any beanbags you are willing to donate to the office.

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**BOOKCLUB NEWS**

New pamphlets have been distributed to classes. All orders are to be returned by Tuesday 18 October. Please ensure that all orders include child’s name, class and correct money is enclosed in envelope and placed into the Bookclub slot in the blue box at office.

**Top**
Photos will done on Tuesday 25th October & Wednesday 26th October 2011 by Advanced Life Photography.

Students will bring home a Flyer/envelope for each of your children explaining the products available and prices.

Please ensure that each student returns his/her own envelope even if payment is made in the eldest child’s envelope or you do not wish to purchase anything. Envelopes are not to be placed inside other envelopes.

Students are to bring envelopes on Photo Day only—a timetable will be published in next week’s newsletter.

The photography company have an automated system for payments by credit card. You can go online to www.advancedlife.com.au for easy to understand payment instructions. You will receive a receipt number which MUST be written on the order envelope in the space provided. You can also make payments by cash, cheque or money order.

Sibling, Student Leaders, LCC Representatives, Student Council Representatives, Musical Cast, Band Students and Strings Student photos are also available for students in these extra curricular groups, please collect an envelope from the office next week.

Fundraising News—Picture Products

Students have been sent home order forms for our picture products. Each child has been designing a bright and colourful artwork piece which will then be on display for parents to view and decide which product they wish their child’s artwork to appear on. Products on offer include Photo Calendar for $11, Art Calendar for $10, Greeting Cards (packet of 8 with envelopes) for $12 and Diaries for $16.

A display of products available are on display in the office foyer.

All orders are to be returned by Wednesday 19 October and placed into the P & C slot in the blue box in office.

A reminder that the Trivia Night has been postponed until a future date to be determined.

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OFFICE NEWS

A reminder to parents if you haven’t bought in your child’s ream of paper or box of tissues for the year could you please do so ASAP? We will be sending home statements to families with money owing to the school for this year. Please make payment of any outstanding fees to the office.

Thank you.

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STUDENT BANKING

Student Banking is done on a Wednesday morning at 8.30 am. Please make sure that you have your bank books to the office by Tuesday to ensure that your child’s deposit is made.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

AUSKICK

Next term we will be holding a 5-6 year old Auskick centre at the Hervey Bay TAFE oval at the rear of the complex. The sessions will be held on a Wednesday afternoon starting at 3.45pm. We are also holding an All Girls Auskick centre at Star of The Sea (awaiting final approval) on Monday afternoons at 3.30-3.45pm. There was good numbers last year and with girls football kicking off next term, there is somewhere to go afterwards.

Both centres are free for Auskickers that have already signed up in 2011 and $6 for new Auskickers (inc backpack, ball etc). Information will be on the website www.aflauskick.com.au or call AFL Development Manager Rob Searle on 0450 909 267.

GIRLS FOOTBALL

We will be kicking off a girls AFL competition on Friday afternoons at the Hervey Bay TAFE. It will be U13, U16 and Open and will be a 9-a-side competition. You can nominate your own team or register yourself. The competition will kick off on the 21st October and will run for eight weeks. The girls doing interschool sport are certainly very keen to play. Cost will $50 for the eight week season which will cover full insurance, umpires etc. There is a Wide Bay Womens/Girls AFL Facebook page which will have updates on it. More information will be available in soon but you can register your interest or your team by emailing AFL Development Manager Rob Searle on rsearle@aflq.com.au.

Primary School Indoor Soccer – Monday Afternoons at the PCYC; High School Indoor Soccer – Wednesday Afternoons. Phone Marty BELL at Hervey Bay PCYC Ph. 4124 5211 Email: marty.bell@pcyc.org.au
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

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