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Newsletter No 6  17/04/12

Key to Success for this week: Confidence

FROM THE PRINCIPAL - MISS SHARON MCMORROW

Welcome Back to Term 2
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 enjoy the wonderful weather that we were so fortunate to experience this Easter break.

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

ANZAC Day
The staff and students of Sandy Strait have always had a proud and strong tradition of commemorating ANZAC day.

This year we will be conducting our Whole School ANZAC Day ceremony in our school hall on Tuesday the 24th April from 9.30am. Invited guests from the RSL will address the school assembly as our student leaders share the Anzac Story. Year levels from across the school will be invited to lay a wreath as part of the ceremony.

On the 25th April students are invited to represent the school and participate in the Anzac Day street parade and march to the Cenotaph in Main Street. Children wishing to march with their school are to come dressed in school uniform with a hat and drink bottle and meet in the Woolworths Carpark at Pialba at 9.00am on Wednesday the 25th April. The street march is scheduled to commence at 9.00am and students wishing to march with their school are to arrive at Woolworths carpark and meet in the Woolworths Carpark at 9.00am on Wednesday the 25th April. Children wishing to march with their school are to come dressed in school uniform with a hat and drink bottle and meet in the Woolworths Carpark at Pialba at 9.00am on Wednesday the 25th April.

Term 2 Calendar and Dates
Term 2 is a very busy term with many scheduled events including NAPLAN, Education Week Celebrations, Academic Awards, Zone Sport Carnivals, Athletics, music workshops and much, much more.

The staff and students of Sandy Strait have always had a proud and strong tradition of commemorating ANZAC day.

I have added many of these important dates on to the calendar which can be located on our school website at www.sandstrass.eq.edu.au

I will update this calendar throughout the term as more dates and events come to hand.

In the coming days we will also be uploading the term 2 tuckshop menu as a quick reference for families who may have misplaced their new menu.

Australasian School’s Competitions for Years 3-7
Yesterday all families in years 3-7 should have received information about the 2012 school competitions in English, Spelling, Writing, Maths and Science.

Each year we have a number of students who participate in these competitions and achieve very pleasing results.

These competitions are a great opportunity for children to prepare for “test like” situations like...
These competitions are a great opportunity for children to prepare for test-like situations like NAPLAN and to see how your child compares to children across Australia and the Pacific. Please contact the office if you have lost or misplaced your competition information letter. The closing date for these competitions is Wednesday the 2nd May.

I look forward to working with our students again this year on the 2012 Australasian School’s Competitions.

Leap into Learning Focus
Late last term our Mrs Forbes, Mr Jackson and myself met with our teachers to review their class data and set new targets in the areas of Reading Comprehension, Writing and Maths for the coming 5 weeks.

I am very proud of the effort and commitment our teachers and students continue to place on this most important of whole school agendas.

It is a wonderful opportunity for me to sit and discuss the great work that our teachers do and their relentless focus to assist children to make “leaps forward in their learning” each and every day. I look forward to sharing these “leaps in learning” with our students and school community at upcoming assemblies and on newsletters.

Our Intensive Focus on Student Attendance Continues this term
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%. In a 10 week school term that allows for children to be absent for only 2.5 days.

Ideally we would like every student to strive for 100% attendance.

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.

A Reminder about Parking in the School Grounds
Packing in the school grounds continues to be an ongoing issue at our school. For the safety of our children parents are not permitted to park in the school grounds or to use the school car park for a drop off and pick up zone.

In a school of our size with 800 children leaving through the front of the school, we are endangering the lives of our children by driving in and out of the school grounds.

I would also like to remind parents that dogs are not permitted in the school grounds.

Please work together with us as we ensure that our school grounds are a safe environment for all of our children.

The lives of our children are precious. Please help us to keep them safe.

Top NEWS FROM THE JUNIOR SCHOOL - MRS HELEN FORBES

Focus on reading
Reading involves thinking and making sense of ideas in a text by putting together lots of information. Reading is not just about working out letters and sounds and saying the words on a page.

Reading involves using:
- memory
- visual information (e.g. pictures, logos, colour and size of words/letters, body/facial expressions)
- knowledge of how print is organized (e.g. from left to right across the page, from top to bottom down a page, the use of sections, headings or subheadings)
- skills to work out words (e.g. breaking words into useful chunks — tr- ap, pl- ate, Sat- ur- day; looking at letters and sounds; using the picture clues and knowing when a word cannot be ‘sounded out’, like the word ‘one’)
- patterns in the text (e.g. rhyme or repeated words/sentences)
- knowledge of the world to predict words and check their reading makes sense.

When learning to read, students need to have a real purpose for reading (e.g. to have fun or find out something) and feel it is okay to have a go.

Students
In junior school our students work on a daily basis learning reading strategies that help them decode and comprehend the texts their teachers select for them. Learning to choose the most appropriate reading strategy to help students problem solve through their reading is an ongoing challenge for all of our early readers.

The strategies listed below are useful to use when helping your child to problem solve through their reading. It is also useful to remind them to consider these three important prompts as they read -

Does it make sense? Does it look right? Does it sound right?
Other ways to support your child with reading!

It is important that the student sees themselves as a reader and as someone who can/will learn to read gradually over time. Help your child by:

- avoid pressuring Prep students who are beginning to read to read perfectly. Allow them to approximate and practise reading behaviours in an enjoyable environment
- encourage them to approximate and think ‘does that make sense?’
- read to them every day
- let them see you read every day for real-life purposes (e.g. signs, lists, recipes, letters, websites, labels, packaging, CDs, DVDs and words on clothing)
- help them to use lots of different clues to read (e.g. use pictures, memory and beginning letters/sounds rather than just sounding out words)
- read books (and write/make books for them to read) that are familiar, repetitive short, interesting/fun
- re-read enjoyable, familiar texts so they can join in the reading
- talk about how texts are organised and how they are used (e.g. how a recipe, list or letter is set out and read)
- encourage them to talk out loud about the clues they are using (e.g. ‘I looked at the picture. This letter says /p/ so the word might be puppy. I remembered that word because it was on every page.’)
- point out when/how to use different clues (e.g. You could say: ‘Look at the first/last letter in the word. This word has two parts — ‘Sun’ and ‘day’, so it says ‘Sunday’. This word matches the picture. What might this word be? Try to point to the words as you read from left to right. Can you remember what happened? What does the old man keep saying?’)

Confidence is important!
Build the students’ confidence to read by:

- telling them it is okay to be learning to read and that learning to read takes time
- making sure reading is fun, enjoyable and purposeful
- making sure they know you will help them
- praising them for their approximations/having a go
- explaining clearly that what they did that was useful and telling them what else they could do to help them read a word/sentence.

Leap into Reading
Our whole school focus this month is to help our students build their reading stamina. Just as an athlete builds stamina to perform in their given sport, so do our students in the area of reading.

Classes will be building on their ability to focus on reading without interruption for given periods of time. It is hoped that this will help students improve on their ability to concentrate for increasing periods of time and allow them to comprehend effectively.
Reading

Reading is a strong focus for all our students. It is a critical lifelong skill that is a requirement for success. In older children our focus should include:

- increasing reading stamina,
- developing a joy of reading and
- increasing the range of reading material they read.

Here are 20 ideas we ALL can try to help support our students develop their reading. All of these methods may not work with every student, but some may be the key for some students. These are geared toward parents, but apply well to teachers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Idea Number</th>
<th>Idea Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Research on reading generally agrees that the most critical aspect of reading is how a child feels about reading. Positive reinforcement from parents and teachers helps. Children need to know that adults in their lives care about reading.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Research also agrees that in most cases, forcing a child to read will yield no positive results. Most children should not be REQUIRED to read each day, especially if it’s forced reading for pleasure. Some families find that having a reading time when the whole family reads works. Even if the child is reluctant, he knows that the time is reserved for reading. Let him choose to read light material, if nothing else.</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>A book allowance is a good idea. In addition to whatever other allowance a child may receive, provide an allowance for books. Even if the allowance allows for the purchase of one paperback book or magazine a week, you’ve helped encourage reading.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Regular visits to a good magazine rack, coupled with purchases, provide reading material. Parents will probably want to exercise some judgment on reading purchases, but magazines your child shows some interest in and which you approve are a good way to provide material and encourage reading.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Subscriptions to a magazine or magazines for your child or student are a good idea. There’s a certain amount of excitement in “ownership” and for many students it’s very exciting to receive mail.</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Model reading. Children who see their parents reading, often become readers and come to accept that reading is a matter-of-fact activity.</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>If your child is willing, whatever his or her age, don’t be afraid to read aloud. Reading to children is one of the best ways to encourage interest in reading. Older brothers and sisters can read to younger children. If you’re child is too old to be read to (some would suggest that no one is too old to be read to), just read articles aloud from the newspaper from time to time.</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>Establish a place in the child’s room for his or her books. A feeling of ownership, again, is important.</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Schedule regular family visits to the library—even if your child doesn’t seem interested in taking out books.</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>Introduce your child to the librarian. Librarians are anxious to help children look for interesting reading material. Make sure your child knows our school librarian too. By all means recommend books to your child. Tell the child how difficult the books are (or are not) and let the child decide if he or she wants to read them.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>If your child starts a book and doesn’t want to finish it -- ok. Hasn’t that happened to you? Some advice I’ve heard recommends that you abandon books that don’t “grab” you in the first 60 pages... because life is too short. My threshold is lower than 60 pages.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Outsource your decision to read something to YOU...be patient and let him or her read to himself.</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Let him choose to read light material, if nothing else.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Model reading. Children who see their parents reading, often become readers and come to accept that reading is a matter-of-fact activity.</td>
</tr>
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<td>If your child starts a book and doesn’t want to finish it -- ok. Hasn’t that happened to you? Some advice I’ve heard recommends that you abandon books that don’t “grab” you in the first 60 pages... because life is too short. My threshold is lower than 60 pages.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>Attend used book sales at libraries and other places where good books can be had inexpensively.</td>
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<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>Discuss with your child any book he or she is reading for a class at school. Read the book yourself.</td>
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</tbody>
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Winter Carnival

We wish all our students who are participating in the Winter Carnival this Friday all the very best. The Hervey Bay winter carnival has been a key event for not only schools in Hervey Bay but all primary schools throughout Wide Bay for many years now. The carnival not only gives students an opportunity to represent their area in a variety of sports but the carnival doubles as a selection trial for Wide Bay teams as well.

Chaplaincy Update

You would recall that last year our chaplain, “Chappy Mike Radic” had to reluctantly resign from his Chaplaincy role to take up a teaching position. This left a vacancy and applicants were interviewed during the Christmas holidays. The successful applicant, Mrs Petrina Rowlands, will be our new chappy starting next week.

Top
The school has successfully migrated to the new OneSchool program. We are continuing to develop our understanding of this program so we would like to ask for your patience during this time. If you have any problems or issues regarding receipts or student detail information please contact the office and we will endeavour to assist you.

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**TUCKSHOP NEWS**

The Tuckshop’s first day of Term 2 is **THURSDAY 19 April**. Our trading days are Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from **8.30 am**. If we are closed on a particular day we will notify you via the newsletter.

The New Term 2 Tuckshop Menu has been sent home to all students. Please check your child’s bag.

Please ensure you are using the current menu to allow the tuckshop to run efficiently.

If you do not use the current menu, we then need to try and contact students during class time if they have incorrect pricing or items listed on orders that are no longer available. If we are unable to contact students during education time the tuckshop will substitute the item ordered. Thank you for your understanding.

**Volunteer Roster:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 18 April</td>
<td>Tammy Sloan</td>
<td>12.45 – 1.45 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 19 April</td>
<td>Jacqui Maskell</td>
<td>12.00 – 1.45 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 20 April</td>
<td>Nic Hohn</td>
<td>12.30 – 1.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 25 April</td>
<td>Thurs 26 April</td>
<td>Fri 27 April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLOSED—ANZAC DAY</td>
<td>Nicolle Hohn</td>
<td>12.00 – 1.45 pm</td>
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**YOU CAN DO IT CERTIFICATES**

**30 March**

5H—Sarah Wainwright for bouncing back when bad things happen.
6E—Piper Strasburg for writing a thoughtful story about a resilient little boy.
Prep T—Melody Morrison-van-Lith for recovering quickly when she is hurt or when things go wrong.

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**P & C NEWS**

As you will all be aware, our A.G.M was held on the 27th of March. We were lucky enough for all the Executive positions to be filled, they are as follows:

- President - Kim Parnell
- Treasurer - Susan Blyth
- Secretary - Tracey Bennion

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday the 24th of April, at 3.00pm, everybody is welcome to attend!

If anybody would like to come on board and help out with Fundraising, call Kim on: 0457426625, the help would be much appreciated, and it would help to keep the P & C running to its maximum potential. Remember you can volunteer for as little or as much time as you choose!

Keep an eye out in the newsletters over the coming weeks, as our aim is to hold some P & C working bee afternoons, these will probably start about 2pm - 2.45pm. These will be a great opportunity to have a cuppa, meet other parents and caregivers, and to assist the P & C.

During these working bees we will be doing all the preparation for our planned future fundraisers. We will be stamping, signwriting, stapling, bagging, to name just a few.

Some of the activities planned for Term 2 are:

- A mothers day stall
- Spellathon
- Grandparents day

Keep an eye out in the newsletter, and around the school for ways that you may be able to help!

We have had a busy first term, we had the family portraits:

- Our profit from this venture was approx $540.00
- The Hot Cross Bun Drive: Our profit was approx $645.00
- The Raffle: We raised about $1606.55.

So altogether the P&C made approximately $2,688.55 profit in the first term of school! well done to the small band of people who achieved this!

With the money raised we hope to provide our children with state of the art technology, to support their learning, and the national curriculum.

Congratulations to our Multi Raffle Winners:

1st Prize - Ben Hawkshaw
THANKYOU FOR ASSISTING US IN OUR FUNDRAISING EFFORTS!

The P & C would like to thank the following Sponsors for assisting us with our Fundraising endeavours:

Sa-Di Designs
Con Souvlis
Open House
Spirit Of Hervey Bay
Lisa Collins
Back and Beyond Bowen Therapy
Headlocks
Torquay Post Office
Just Hair and Beauty
Beacon Lighting
Scarness Foodworks
The Boat Club/Sporties
Reefworld
King Kong
Torquay Hotel
Autobarn
Hervey Bay Fisheries
Sports First
Supa Cheap
Amcal Pharmacy
Riverheads Bottleshop
Rustic Designs
Gift Emporium
Officeworks

Kim Parnell, P & C President

BANKING NEWS

Welcome to term 2, we have had such a great 1st term with 25 new students opening accounts with the Commonwealth Bank School Banking Program. In total for term 1 you have earned Sandy Straits $167.66 in commission, what a great effort! Thank you to all the parents who have given suggestions of where this money could go towards the school.

In the last few weeks of term 1 we had a colouring in competition for grades Prep to 3. We are happy to announce the winner and runners up. Congratulations to these 3 students.

1st prize - Jade Johnson in 3W
Runners up - Chanel Franklin 2B
Kelland McNall 3N

In term 2 we have some great things happening:
- We will be having a competition for grades 4-7 with an amazing prize pack.
- A Commonwealth Bank representative will be joining us on assembly.
- The booklight reward will be available in May.
- We have a special reward for all the students who bank EVERY WEEK in term 2.
- The Commonwealth Bank is holding an amazing competition for one special banker to win the opportunity to become adollarmite, there are also prizes for their family, their class and the school. More details will be announced soon.

Did you know that when you open a Commonwealth Bank Youth Savers account you get rewarded straight away? Just by opening an account you will receive a cool Platy Moneybox.

If your child is not involved with school banking and you would like them to start, here are two easy ways:
- If you’re an existing Commonwealth Bank customer, log into your NetBank, go to the ‘Offers and Apply’ tab, the click ‘Accounts’ and ‘Youthsaver and School Banking’. From there you’ll just need to select your child’s School, and have their birth certificate on hand for ID purposes.
- Visit a Commonwealth Bank branch with identification for you (drivers licence) and your child (birth certificate). It takes 5 minutes and your child can start banking the following day.

Don’t forget deposit books need to be handed into the office by THURSDAY.

If you have any questions about school banking please send us an email at

Thank you from your School Banking Co-Ordinators Sarah, Rebbecca and Tara

A portable soundshuttle audio induction loop system has been found in the hall. If you are missing this device, could you please contact Margie Laviano 4197 0327

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

ALL SORTS VOCAL ENSEMBLES INC.
Are looking for new singers to join our groups. We will be presenting a “Best of Broadway” Concert on July 28. Rehearsals are each Tuesday at Kawungan State School Hall - Youth 8yrs-16yrs rehearse 3:45pm-5:45pm, Adults (15 years and over) 6:30pm-9:30pm. Cost $60 per term. For more information Contact Stuart 0403217247.

Does your child need extra tuition?
One-on-one assistance with child at their pace
Qualified primary school teacher
Any year level, NAPLAN preparation if required
One place left
Contact Emma Hansen
41249778, 0420371614

Please return to the office.
☐ I currently get the newsletter emailed to me and no longer require a paper copy.
☐ I wish to get the newsletter emailed to me. My email address is: __________________________
☐ I still require a paper copy of the newsletter as I don’t have access to email facility.

Name of youngest student enrolled at Sandy Strait: __________________________
Class __________________________

Top