Welcome Back to Term 4.
Welcome back to term 4, it is hard to believe that we are already ¾ of the way through the 2013 school year. I hope you all had a restful school holidays and were able to spend time with family and friends.

To all of our new families joining us at Sandy Strait I welcome you to our wonderful school and look forward to working together with you as we all Leap into Learning this term.

This term both our Junior and Senior Assemblies return to their regular times:
Senior Assembly 2.15pm every second Thursday
Junior Assembly 2.15pm every second Friday.

NAPLAN Reports issued this week
Our Year 3, 5, 7 students have received their NAPLAN reports this week. Our NAPLAN results continue to improve and we have been very pleased by the gains made by our students in 2013.

NAPLAN is just one testing instrument that schools use. It provides information on how students are performing in the areas of Literacy and Numeracy and support improvements in teaching and learning. The data from the NAPLAN test results give schools and systems the ability to measure their student’s achievement against National Minimum Standards and student performance in other states and territories.

Showcase Awards Winners for Excellence in State Education Announced at the Gala Awards on Friday Night in Brisbane

In August Sandy Strait State School was selected as one of the 3 State Finalists in the Showcase Awards for Excellence for our “Leap into Learning” whole school focus. We were awarded $5000 in prize money on top of the $1000 we won as a Regional winner.

On Friday 18th October a team of staff will travel to Brisbane to attend the awards where the grand final winner in each of the 7 categories will be announced. We now have a 1 in 3 chance of winning $20,000 in prize money and being awarded the 2013 Showcase Award Winner for Excellence in Education.

The award recognises the fabulous work of our dedicated staff who ensure that each and every day students are making leaps forward in their learning. The award also recognises the impact this program has had on improved student outcomes and the commitment of our teachers and teacher aides to developing a professional learning community.

Congratulations to all members of our Sandy Strait Family. This is a very exciting and proud time for all of us.
Some Exciting News for our 2014 Prep Program

Sandy Strait State School has been selected to receive a $32,000 grant from the One Education 1-1 Device Program. This program is a Federal Government and corporate Australia initiative.

One Laptop Per Chid Australia is a not for profit organisation dedicated to helping children enjoy learning. By making technology an integral part of education it opens up a world of opportunities for countless children.

Our 2014 Prep teachers have been enrolled in this program and will undertake 15 hours of Professional development in using the XO Laptop device. Once the training is completed each child in their 2014 class will have access to a laptop to enhance their learning.

In 2014 we will have 4 Prep Classes with one hundred 1-1 “XO laptops” to enhance learning. There is no cost to parents for children to access these 1-1 devices.

To ensure that your child has an opportunity to participate in this wonderful program you must have returned your completed 2014 Prep Enrolment forms to guarantee a place for your child.

If you have yet to enrol your child in Prep for the 2014 school year at Sandy Strait or have family and friends who have yet to return their enrolment forms can you please remind them to do so ASAP so they don’t miss out on this exciting learning opportunity.

Leap Into our Pre-Prep Program- Early Reading Concepts

Thursday 24th October

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

This year we are continuing with our Pre-Prep Program to assist our children and parents to best prepare for the curriculum and learning expectations of the upcoming Prep Year.

The third in our series of Pre Prep Sessions on Early Reading Concepts is planned for Thursday 24th October at 9.30am in our Prep Rooms Please register your attendance (for yourself and your child) for our session on the 24th October to ensure we have a Take Home Resource Pack ready for you.

Please be sure to register your attendance for the sessions below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Date and Time</th>
<th>Focus of Class</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session 3 For parents and children</td>
<td>Thursday 24th October 9.30-10.30am</td>
<td>Developing Reading Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 4 For parents and children</td>
<td>Thursday 14th November 9.30-10.30am</td>
<td>Oral Language Activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 will have 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 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.

I would 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 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.

Statement of Fees

Statements of outstanding resource money were distributed Monday 14 October. The due date for payment is Friday 25 October. These resources have been used by your children since the beginning of Term 1 and two School Kids Bonus payments per child would have been received by eligible parents to cover such educational requirements. Please assist the school by paying these outstanding amounts by the due date.

A reminder that Monday 21 October is a Pupil Free Day.
Welcome back to students and parents as we prepare for our last term of 2013. Students in the junior school have settled back quickly into classes and new units of work. Last term I provided you with an overview of the units of work in English, maths and Science that students are undertaking for the first five weeks of this term so I’d like to include Geography / SOSE in this newsletter.

**Prep—Geography**  
**What is my place like?**

Students will be encouraged to investigate and discuss places in which they live and places they are familiar with through asking and answering questions about features of their place and interesting aspects of their place. Students will also make simple maps using pictures and models.

**Year One—Geography**  
**How do people use places?**

Students in year one will be studying the difference between places – natural (e.g. a beach), managed (e.g. a farm) and constructed (e.g. cities). They will collect and record geographical data to show how land is used differently by people and how land is described by people. Students will then create simple maps using pictures and labels describing direction and location of features.

**Year Two—SoSE**  
**How did Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples live before European colonisation?**

Students will investigate why the natural environment was so important for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples before European colonisation and use their knowledge and understanding to make a representation of traditional Aboriginal life. (food gathering, hunting, ceremonies, art, music, shelter, clothing).

**Year Three—Geography**  
**Exploring similarities and differences in places near and far**

Students will understand that a ‘place’ is a bounded space on the Earth. They will be studying and locating Australia in the world along with Australia’s neighbouring countries. They will study different climate types and their effect on landscape and people. They will record data and information to identify similarities and differences between the climates of different places. Students will use maps, atlas, globes and photographs to identify characteristics of places within Australia and Australia’s neighbouring countries.

**Before School activity**

As teachers aren’t scheduled to do duty before school it is important that our students don’t engage in running/ chasing games in and around the buildings unsupervised. Students have been reminded of this and understand the reason for this rule. Many parents bring their children to school and wait with them for the bell and I’d like to thank those parents who supervise their children before school and help them stay safe and remain calm.

**Hairstyles**

On normal school days please ensure that your child attends school with an appropriate hairstyle. Mohawks and coloured hair is not suitable for school days. Thank you for your support with this.

**Dates to remember over the next two weeks:**

- **Pupil Free Day** – 21st October
- **School photos** – 22nd & 24th October
- **School musical** – 26th October

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**Bus Travel**

Your School Bus Driver helps you start your day by getting you safely to and from school. You can help them by:

- Having your money or pass ready
- Smiling and saying hello or good morning/afternoon
- Sitting where the driver requests, without arguing
- Listening and obeying driver requests to quieten down, stop swearing, sit in your seat etc.
- Waiting until the bus has stopped before going to the driver with a problem
- Keeping your bag and belongs with you
- Giving the driver enough warning time when coming to your stop
- Remembering that while on the bus the driver is the rule maker not the students

If you follow these steps you will have made your bus trip not only safer but enjoyable for not only you but also the driver.
School Photos
Students will be photographed on Tuesday 22nd October and Thursday 24th October 2013.

You have received a Flyer/envelope for each of your students explaining the products available.

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

Advanced Life Photography have an auto-mated 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 Photos are also available for students at the school, please collect a “family order envelope” from the school office and return it to the office. There will also be extra curricular photos taken on the day. If your child participates in any of these groups please pick up an envelope to purchase these photos from the office. The extra curricular group photos will be: String Ensemble, Band Students, Student Leaders, LCC, House Captains, Maths Olympiads and School Musical Cast.

Please don’t hesitate to contact the photography company if you have any queries.

Students are to bring envelopes on Photo Day only—a timetable is below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: 22 October 2013</th>
<th>PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: 24 October 2013</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TIME</td>
<td>TIME</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.45 PREP T</td>
<td>8.45 4MH</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.05 PREP B</td>
<td>9.00 4KH</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.25 PREP A</td>
<td>9.15 5C</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.45 PREP D</td>
<td>9.30 5F</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.05 1L</td>
<td>9.45 1-4M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.20 1M</td>
<td>10.00 3-5S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.35 1F</td>
<td>10.15 5W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.45 LEADERS/LCC</td>
<td>10.30 4-7C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.15 1R</td>
<td>10.45 HOUSE CAPTAINS</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.30 2/3P</td>
<td>11.15 6A</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.45 2Q</td>
<td>11.30 6L</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.00 2R</td>
<td>11.45 6P</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.15 2H</td>
<td>12.00 7L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.30 3H</td>
<td>12.15 7S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.45 BAND STUDENTS</td>
<td>12.30 7B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.30 3L</td>
<td>12.45 MUSICAL CAST</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.45 3T</td>
<td>1.30 STRINGS STUDENTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.00 3W</td>
<td>1.45 7H</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.15 4G</td>
<td>2.00 7M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.30 4P</td>
<td>2.15 MATHS OLYMPIADS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SCHOOL BANKING
Welcome to Term 4!! We hope you all had relaxing and safe holidays. This term Commonwealth Bank are holding another competition. All students need to do is make two or more deposits through the school from 21 October to 30 November and they’re automatically entered into the competition. Up for grabs are 60 x Apple Ipod Touches and 100 x Adventure DVD Pack including Despicable Me, Despicable Me 2 & Hop. Remember if you require any further information about School Banking please come and see us in the cottage on Thursdays from 2pm.
Student Leadership Process
Next year our student leaders will come from both the Year 7 & Year 6 cohorts. Last Friday the Year 5 & 6 students were officially invited to nominate to be a student leader for next year.
Students will be required to complete an online nomination form and nominate 2 teachers to be their referees. Nominations close on the 8th November. The nomination form the students are asked to complete can be located as this link:
http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JB7Q3NQ

NAP-CC TESTING
This year, a sample of Year 6 (including our students) and Year 10 students from across Australia will take part in the National Assessment Program–Civics and Citizenship (NAP–CC) Sample Assessment. The assessment is designed to assess students’ level of knowledge and understanding of civics and citizenship matters across Australia. Your child is NOT expected to study for this assessment and last minute preparation is unnecessary. Twenty of our Year 6 students, randomly selected, will be involved in October 23rd.

Positive peers make a huge difference by Michael Grose
There is little doubt that positive peer relations impact on a child’s academic success, emotional well-being and state of mind. A big claim but the truth is that we tend to reflect the views and attitudes our peer groups. It is hugely beneficial if a child’s predominant peer group cares for him, has positive expectations about the future and places high value on helping others as well as personal improvement.
Children’s peer groupings can be quite complex and dynamic. Most children will have a prime peer group consisting of between two and up to five others. These children are generally referred to as best friends, buddies or best mates. These social relationships are often formed early in children’s lives and are strengthened by shared school, extracurricular or informal outside school activities.
Children also have one or two secondary peer groups, which can be larger and generally reflect shared interests or shared best friends. When these groups contain children from different grades and even different schools they have an insulating effect if adverse events happen and also offer exposure to wider peer groups.

Being a member of a positive peer group lessens the likelihood of a child being bullied or harassed. Children in positive peer groups look out for each other and don’t engage in such behaviours, whether verbal or physical, themselves. Positive peer groups tend to be tolerant of differences and have loyalty and caring as key values. Having friends who care also lessens the impact of bullying and helps prevent it from impacting on other areas of a child’s life.

There are a number of broad strategies parents can use to encourage positive peer groups to form and emerge. These include:
• providing opportunities for children to mix and share experiences,
• drawing children’s attention to friendship behaviours and focusing on socialisation rather than achievement when they play sport or are involved in creative or group activities.

In this achievement-oriented society we need to value positive peer relationships and ensure that they are not ignored or undervalued in our efforts to provide the best possible start for our children.

To help your child become a member of positive peer groups try the following four ideas:
1. Discuss with your child how a good friend behaves. Ask him to identify some good friends and talk about what makes them a ‘good friend’.
2. Encourage them to join at least one outside school group and be a member of at least one school artistic, sporting or interest group.
3. Limit your child’s time in passive, solitary activities such as television-viewing, computer activities and Internet chatrooms.
4. Make an effort to get to know some of your children’s friends and their parents.

BOOK CLUB
Issue 7 of Bookclub is due back by 24th October. Please have correct money and orders to the office by this date. There are some great Christmas presents in this issue and the next so get in early and order some great gift idea’s.

Chappy News
Going home this week are raffle tickets for our upcoming Toy Raffle. Tickets are $1.00 each, all youngest in family members have been issued with a book of 10 tickets to sell. All money and tickets must be returned by Monday 4 November. Raffles will be drawn 22 November. There are 3 prizes on offer—1st prize is valued at $250, 2nd prize is valued at $190 and 3rd prize is valued at $120. No change will be given.

1st Prize
2nd Prize
3rd Prize
I would like to extend a warm welcome to Danielle Shepherd, Danielle is signing on as our new Fundraising Co-ordinator for 2014. This will allow me to concentrate on other aspects of my role, I wish Danielle all the best, and thank the School Community for continuing to support our P&C.

Kim Parnell (President)

Message from Danielle

Hi! My name is Danielle Shepherd and I have just taken over the role of fundraising coordinator at Sandy Strait. I have 2 daughters in the school and have been involved in a lot of volunteering within the school over the past 2 years. I look forward to continuing previously held events and also introducing some new ideas.

To be able to continue fundraising we are now forming a sub-committee for 2014. As a sub-committee member you are not obligated to help at every event. You can put in as much or as little time as you want. Obviously the more help we get the better fundraising events we are able to hold. You do not need to attend P & C meetings but we will be holding a morning tea once a term to discuss ideas and decide on fundraisers we want to put forward to the P & C.

If you are interested in joining our sub-committee or think you have some great ideas we can do next year please look out for the note coming home with your child soon or leave your details at the office.

This term our first fundraiser was Crazy Hair Day. Thank you to everyone who participated in this event. We are currently tallying money and will post our total amount raised in the next newsletter.

Danielle Shepherd
Fundraising Co-ordinator

P & C Meeting:
The next P & C Meeting is in Term 4, on Wednesday the 30th of October, at 3.00pm in the Admin building. All are welcome to attend.

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**Sandy Strait State School presents...**

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**A Maverick Musical...**

**Little Stars!**

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**Sandy Strait State School presents...**

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**A Maverick Musical...**

**Little Stars!**

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2 Performances on

**Saturday 26th October 2013**

2pm Matinee

7pm Evening

**The Great Hall**

Beach Rd, Pialba

Tickets: $10 Adults

$7 Pensioners, $6 Children

$35 Family (2 Ad, 3Chn)

Tickets Available

at Sandy Strait State School Office,
or at the door on 26th October.
A very mismatched, young couple find themselves 'in love' or so they think. They embark on a journey to find the man who brought them together - the infamous 'Dr Frankenfarter'. On that journey they find themselves somewhat 'lost' on Broadway. Whilst on the Broadway strip they discover many truths about each other and also about the many faces of 'love' - the good, the bad and the ugly. In the end .... well, I won't tell you what happens in the end! We want you to come along and see what happens at the end of their journey and along the way enjoy some fantastic tunes and actions from your favourite hit musicals from Broadway, such as: The Rocky Horror Show, The Lion King, Chicago, Priscilla, Wizard of Oz and Matilda - just to name a few! If you enjoy a good laugh and Broadway musicals, I am sure you will love our show!

Friday November 8th & Saturday November 9th @ 6:30pm and Matinee Sunday November 10th @ 1:30pm.
Tickets will be on sale from 8th October at Mary Ryan’s Book Shop.

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**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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**BECOME A VOLUNTEER HOST FAMILY – IT’S FUN!**

World Education Program (WEP) is inviting you to experience another culture in your own home by becoming a volunteer host family to an international student arriving in January 2014. Students from Switzerland, Finland, the Netherlands, Brazil, Italy, Japan and Thailand are looking forward to experiencing life in Australia, making new friends and becoming a member of an Australian family.

"Another excellent experience for the family. We learned a lot about Italy. Virginia was very helpful and cooperative at home. It is a wonderful thing to give people new experience. Virginia had never eaten mango, been to ten pin bowling or held a crocodile or koala. This is the part I enjoy most about the exchange experience. Virginia will never forget Australia."

- Susan and Anthony, host parents of Virginia (Italy)

It’s easier than you think and a fantastic experience for all!

Find out more!
To help you make this important decision, contact WEP today to receive a full information pack for your family.

**Sylvia Kelly**
Manager Inbound Exchange Programs
Phone: 1300 884 733
Email: wep@wep.org.au
Online: www.wep.org.au
You're invited to
YARRILEE STATE SCHOOL FETE
15 Scrub Hill Road, Dundowran
4pm, Friday 18th October

RIDES AND SLIDES
(4pm – 8pm)
Storm Rider, Cup and Saucer, Jumping Castle, Accelerator, Rock Wall, Willy The Worm, Bungee Run, Super Slide . . .

MARKET STALLS AND ACTIVITIES
Lucky Dips, Competitions, Games, Activities, numerous stalls including plants, candles, clothing, cakes . . .

FOOD AND DRINKS
Sausage Sizzle, Drinks, Chips and Lollies, Popcorn, Fairy Floss . .

Come and join us for a great family night of fun.

For more information contact the school on 4197 7111 or Vanessa on 0414 287 663.

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Hervey Bay High Parents’ and Citizens’ Association

SWAP MEET
Saturday, 2nd November, 2013
Gates open 6:00 a.m. – close 1:00 p.m.
Admission $2.00
Hervey Bay State High School Ovals
(entrance from Old Maryborough Road)

HERVEY BAY
Something for everyone!
Antiques and Collectables
Rice-a-Bac
Baked Goods
Food and Drinks

Lucky Dip, Competitions, Games, Activities, numerous stalls including plants, candles, clothing, cakes . . .
Food and Drinks

Sausage Sizzle, Drinks, Chips and Lollies, Popcorn, Fairy Floss . .

Come and join us for a great family night of fun.

For more information contact the school on 4197 7111 or Vanessa on 0414 287 663.

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SCOTTY’S MAD ABOUT MEATS
Bay Plaza, Pialba
07 4124 MEAT

All proceeds, including admission fee, are used to improve facilities for Hervey Bay High students.