For access to documents, newsletters, calendar of events and more, go to our website at: https://sharonss.eq.edu.au

Our Facebook page is used to get quick and/or interesting messages out to our parents.

Dear Parents,

S&P
- Eli – for writing a wonderful story.
- Dakota B – for trying really hard during her “Early Start” testing sessions

PS
- Tia – for her lovely attitude and great work ethic.
- Tyson – for being consistently on task.

LL
- Willow – for doing her best.

MACS
- Charley – for consistently giving her best in all that she does.
- Emerson – for excellent behaviour and positive participation in class.

March
15th – Cruz, Gabriel

16 Mar  Mars ‘Sound of Music’ trip to Brisbane
17 Mar P&C Meeting – Library 7:00 pm
23 Mar DATE CHANGE AGAIN – Dress Like a Farmer Day
24 Mar Gold Coin Donation for the Farmers
25 Mar Term 1 Ends
11 Apr Term 2 Starts
22 Apr Gin Gin District Cross Country

SHARON’S A “HIGH GAIN” SCHOOL

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA), publishes the latest data on around 10,000 Australian schools on the My School website each year.

This year, ACARA has identified more than 300 ‘high gain’ schools across Australia, of which 21 are QLD state schools. High gain schools are those where student gains between Years 3–5, or Years 7–9 are considerably higher than those observed in other schools. Sharon is one of the schools identified! This puts us in the top 3% of schools in the nation. Wow! How special is that? Fantastic news!

A huge congratulations to everyone, (staff, students and parents), for whatever role you played in getting our little school up to such lofty heights.

EXPLICIT IMPROVEMENT AGENDA

While the above information is genuinely wonderful news, state schools are on a mission of continual improvement. One of the “explicit improvement agendas passed down from “above” is to improve attendance at schools. After all, if kids are not at school, we simply can’t teach them.

Our overall attendance rate in 2015 was 94.4% Sharon has set an improvement target of 95% for the 2016 school year. At this point in time we’re sitting on 95.2%.

The current breakdown by Year Level reads as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Attendance Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>96.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>90.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>95.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>91.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>94.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>97.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>97.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At Sharon State School, every child matters for every minute of every day!

Did you know your child’s best learning time is the very start of the school day?
That’s when every minute counts the most!!
The date for the Gin Gin District Cross Country is Friday, 22 April, (2nd week of Term 2). This is not a day for anyone to come “if they feel like it”.

1. The “2 Minute Maximum Loading Zone”
I’m not sure why or how but, at the risk of putting the mockers on it, our 2 minute pick-up zone is working better than it has in previous years – when we had lower enrolments.

I’m particularly grateful, not only to those parents who use the “normal” parking spots, but also to those who seem to be deliberately arriving to collect children from around 3:10 onwards. This helps enormously with reducing congestion. Remember, we have a teacher on gate duty until 3:15 anyway. We also have a teacher on bus duty until around 3:25 if you arrive a little later than that.

2. Speed
Police, (yes, I’ve contacted them), have advised me that cars should be travelling at 5km/h in our parking area. However, I’d hope that we’re more concerned with running into a child than picking up a ticket. Remember, many of our kids have not developed enough awareness to protect themselves from what we might consider to be obvious. Please slow down in our car parking area.

3. Parking Nose In or Out?
There’s no legal requirement to do one way or the other. Having said that, I think it’s safer to park by backing into the parking space. This allows you the best view of children and other cars when you’re leaving. However, that’s merely my personal belief. Please remember that backing can only be done safely if you arrive early enough to back into a parking space where there are no children around. Please do whatever you think is safest.

The staff tend to, (voluntarily), park on the far side of the road in the hope of freeing up spaces on the near side for the after-school pick up. If children don’t have to cross over where cars are moving, the chances of an accident are reduced that little bit more.

The use of cigarettes, other tobacco products or electronic cigarettes within five metres of school property has been banned. Smokers are asked to put out your cigarette and dispose of the litter thoughtfully well before you reach the school boundary.

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SAUSAGE SIZZLE FRIDAY

Sausage Sizzle is on every Friday and money is collected in the classrooms. Students are able to purchase a sausage on bread with sauce for lunch and a Home Ice Cream for afternoon tea.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sausage and bread</td>
<td>$1.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice block</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sausage and Ice Block Deal</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please select a date that suits against one of the classroom that your child/children attends and then let Hayley Lerch, President, P&C know at hayleylerch@aanet.com.au

Roster – Term 1
11th Mar
18th Mar

Roster – Term 2 – Lively Learners
15th April 22nd April
29th April 6th May
13th May 20th May
27th May 3rd June
10th June 17th June
24th June

Roster – Term 3 – Macs
15th July 22nd July
29th July 5th Aug
12th Aug 19th Aug
26th Aug 2nd Sept
9th Sept 16th Sept

Roster – Term 4 – Salt and Preppers
7th Oct 14th Oct
21st Oct 28th Oct
4th Nov 11th Nov
18th Nov 25th Nov
2nd Dec

We are looking for parents who would like to add their names to the roster for this year - 10:45am until 12:00pm - to cook sausages and help serve to students.

We use the bulk of our sausage sizzle funds to subsidise the cost of our camps and excursions. I know for a fact that quite a few children would not have attended school camp at all were it not for the assistance of sausage sizzle funds. **This year is Camp Year!**

SCHOOL RULES

Our school has identified the following 3 overriding school rules to teach and promote our high standards of responsible behaviour. They’re all based on the idea of “caring”:

- **Care for yourself**
- **Care for others**
- **Care for your environment**

Caring for yourself can be as simple as asking the teacher’s permission to leave at the car gate after school.

SMILE AWHILE

I like this cartoon because:
1/. it makes me smile and
2/. it’s a good illustration of the important comprehension skill of “inferring”. An inference is an idea or conclusion that’s drawn from evidence and reasoning. It can be an educated guess.

In this case, the cartoonist doesn’t tell us explicitly that poor old Clarence has already been tricked into stabbing himself with his tusks.

We make that “inference” based on other evidence such as
- the band aids
- the position of Clarence’s tusks
- the sad look on Clarence’s face
- the gleeful request by Clarence’s so-called friend and
- Clarence’s thoughts

By looking back at NAPLAN reading data from the past, it’s clear that inference questions have, generally speaking, proved to be the most challenging for Australian students. Because of that, the skill of inferring is often a focus in our reading lessons.

Kind regards,
**GIRLS AND BOYS GOLF TRIALS 2016**

Nominations are being called from all schools in the Bundaberg Zone, for GIRLS and BOYS to attend the 2016 Wide Bay Golf Trials.

**WIDE BAY TRIAL DATES:** Monday 21\(^{st}\) March 2016

**TIME:**
- Registration 9.00 am.
- Tee times from 9.15 to 10.00 am

**WHERE:** Isis Golf Club, Goodwood Road, Childers

**ELIGIBILITY:** Girls & Boys born 2004, 2005 and 2006

**EQUIPMENT:** All players are expected to have their own clubs.
- Primary Players – 9 holes
- Primary students must provide Golf Link number and AGU handicap to participate at State Championships.

A TEAM OF UP TO 4 GIRLS and 4 BOYS from the students nominated will be selected to represent the BUNDABERG ZONE at the WIDE BAY REGIONAL TRIALS in CHILDERS on Monday 21\(^{st}\) March.

From the nominations entered a WIDE BAY TEAM (State Championships 17 – 20\(^{th}\) July, Yeppoon) will be selected.

All completed nominations forms must be sent to Peter Johnson by Monday 7\(^{th}\) March. Email: pjohn65@eq.edu.au

Selected students for the trial will then be sent the necessary information about the Wide Bay Trials.

All students are to provide a printout of their ‘GolfLink’ data with recent results (minimum of last 6 months) and current handicap. **Non AGU** members should provide their current club handicap stating whether it is a 9 hole or 18 hole handicap as well as recent results.

**PARENTS PLEASE NOTE:** Boys & Girls nominated to trial should display a high level of skills and some playing experience (preferably at club level) and display a sound knowledge of the rules.

Parents and teachers are urged to use discretion when sending students to these trials. Children involved with weekend fixtures are worth nominating.

For further information required contact:
- Peter Johnson
  Bargara State School
  4150 5333

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**GIRLS NETBALL TRIALS - 2016**

Nominations are being called from all schools in the Bundaberg Zone, for GIRLS to attend the 2016 Bundaberg Zone Netball Trials.

**TRIAL DATES:** Thursday 10\(^{th}\) and 17\(^{th}\) of March, 2016.

**TIME:** 3.30 – 5.00 pm

**WHERE:** Norville State School – Sports Hall

**ELIGIBILITY:** Girls born 2004, 2005, 2006 (only exceptional 10 yr olds). No 13 year olds are eligible.

**WHAT TO BRING:** Students MUST wear School sport uniform, water bottle, Sunscreen and completed ZONE NOMINATION FORM signed by the nominating teacher.

Register inside Sports Centre and receive your trial number.

IF NEEDED A SQUAD OF APPROX. 20-25 GIRLS (POSSIBLES/PROBABLES) WILL BE SELECTED TO COME BACK ON THURSDAY 17\(^{TH}\) MARCH. Potentially girls will need to be available for both days.

A TEAM OF 10 GIRLS will be selected to attend the WIDE BAY REGIONAL TRIALS IN HERVEY BAY on Thursday 5\(^{th}\) and Friday 6\(^{th}\) May.

From the Regional Trials a WIDE BAY GIRLS TEAM (State carnival 18\(^{th}\) - 21\(^{st}\) June at Mt Gravatt) will be selected.

**PARENTS PLEASE NOTE:** Parents and Teachers are urged to use discretion when sending students to these trials. Children involved with weekend fixtures or have displayed strong ability level in the school competition are worth sending.

A player who is interested in attending these trials but for some reason is unable to attend should contact: Karen Collin
- Norville State School
  41 326 333

For further information required contact:
- Sharyn Batt
  Walkervale State School
  41 555 666
BOYS SOCCER 2016
Nominations are being called from all schools in the Bundaberg Zone, for Boys to attend the 2016 Football Trials.

EVENT - U/12 Football Trials
ELIGIBILITY – Boys born 2004, 2005 or 2006
Tuesday and Thursday 22nd & 24th March (ALL BOYS INVITED BACK FROM THE PREVIOUS WEEK)
TIME – 4:00pm – 5:30 pm
WHERE – Martens Oval
WHAT TO BRING - school sports uniform; sunscreen; water bottle; football boots; shinpads and completed Zone nomination form
TRAINING – dates will be confirmed to players upon selection in the team.

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE –
Football is an extremely popular zone sport. Please send any boys who display a high level of skill and have a good understanding of the game. Keep in mind we are only selecting one team of 14 players.

NOMINATIONS-
Please nominate the names of boys from your school to the email below so selection sheets can be done ahead of the day saving valuable time on the first day.

Please ensure all students bring along a completed Zone Nomination Form to the trials.

Paul Ash - Convenor
Avoca State School
E-mail – pash10@eq.edu.au

HOCKEY 2016
Nominations are being called from all schools in the Bundaberg Zone, for Girls and Boys to attend the 2016 Hockey Trials.

EVENT - U/12 Hockey Trials
ELIGIBILITY – Girls born 2004, 2005 or 2006
TRIAL DATE – Thursday 17th March & Monday 21st March

GIRLS SOCCER 2016
Nominations are being called from all schools in the Bundaberg Zone, for Girls to attend the 2016 Football Trials.
TIME – 3:45pm – 5:00 pm
WHERE – Hinkler Park, North Bundaberg

WHAT TO BRING - school sports uniform; sunscreen; water bottle; shinpads; hockey stick; mouthguard and completed Zone nomination form

TRAINING – dates will be confirmed to players upon selection in the team.

NOMINATIONS - Please nominate the names of girls and boys from your school to the email below so selection sheets can be done ahead of the day saving valuable time on the first day.

Please ensure all students bring along a completed Zone Nomination Form to the trials.

Paul Green – Convenor 0413 294 324
Burnett Heads/Bundaberg
Central/Bullyard/Booyal Central/Alloway State Schools
E-mail – pgree47@eq.edu.au

Get your whole family active and eating well

The PEACH™ (Parenting, Eating and Activity for Child Health) program is NOW OPEN FOR REGISTRATIONS for groups running in school term 2.

Enrolments closing soon - Groups commencing the week of 18 April.

The program is FREE for families with a primary-school aged child and is run in the local community within a school term and after school hours.

The program covers:

- **Nutrition** – lunchbox and snack ideas, reading labels and ingredients, dealing with fussy eaters, making healthier takeaway choices, making healthy eating affordable and tips on planning ahead.
- **Physical activity** – the benefits of exercise, how to be more active as a family, physical activity recommendations for children, how to reduce screen time and help with setting goals.
- **Parenting** – setting boundaries, planning for change, managing resistance to change, role modelling and how to be balanced and consistent.
- **Family focus** – the program recognises that each family is different and so our facilitators work with individuals to come up with a plan that suits them.

Kids love the PEACH™ program as it helps build their confidence and make new friends. It is run by trained PEACH™ facilitators and aims to help the whole family lead healthier lives.

The PEACH™ program is run by the Queensland University of Technology and funded by the Queensland Government.

The program will only be available in term 2, 2016 so register now.

**LAST OPPORTUNITY** to access the FREE program - don’t delay! Ask us about PEACH™ Online.