Dear Parents,

S&P
Cooper – for showing great improvement in his reading.

PS
Luke – for being on fire with all class work.
Jessie M. – for good cooperation and completing class work neatly.

LL
Ariana – for persistence with homework and lovely manners.

MACS
Lena – for excellent behaviour and striving for high standards, especially in times of adversary.
Ayla – for outstanding attitude and behaviour.

April
7th – Tony
9th – Sebastian, Piper
17th – Jessica M
19th - Dermott
21st – Ben O., Chanel

DATES TO REMEMBER
1st April Crazy Hair Day
2nd April East Raffle Drawn on Parade
2nd April Final day of Term 1
3rd April Good Friday
4th April Easter Saturday
6th April Easter Monday
7th – 19th April Easter Holidays
20th April Term 2 Begins
25th April Anzac Day

GIN GIN DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY
The date for the Gin Gin District Cross Country is Friday, 24 April. This is not a day for anyone to come “if they feel like it”.

Firstly, students must be born in 2005, 2004 or 2003 to be eligible to compete. Secondly, they must be in training for the event. They should be able to run a time at school to convince me that they are serious about competing and not just going up to Gin Gin to walk around the school.

Students hoping to compete in the Bundaberg District Cross Country must qualify through the Gin Gin Cross Country.

ASBESTOS REMOVAL DURING HOLIDAY BREAK
On Tuesday 7 April and Wednesday 8 April there be Asbestos Removal taking place in A Block (Old Building). One of the safety rules with asbestos removal stipulates that there cannot be anyone on the school grounds during this time. All areas of the schools grounds including the tennis courts will be closed during this two day period. Thank you for your understanding.

EASTER RAFFLE DONATIONS
RAFFLE TICKETS – please return all sold and unsold tickets as the P&C will need to finalise the tickets sales and account for unsold tickets.

Draw is this Thursday on Parade. If tickets are not returned before Wednesday morning before school they will not be included in the draw.

ANZAC DAY CEREMONY – FRIDAY, 24 APRIL
ANZAC Day falls on Saturday, 25 April when none of our students will be at school.

With this in mind, we will be having a small ANZAC Ceremony at school at 1:30pm on Friday, 24 April.

$5 000 CLASSROOM MAKEOVER
Still waiting, it will be sometime this week that the winner will be announced – fingers crossed still.
**NAPLAN - 2015**
The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will take place over 3 days from Tuesday, 12 May through to Thursday, 14 May.
NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy.
NAPLAN tests broadly reflect aspects of literacy and numeracy common to the curriculum in each state or territory.
Questions are multiple-choice or require a short written response. The Writing task requires students to write a persuasive text.

I've attached a timetable of tests below for your information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Tuesday, 12 May</th>
<th>Wednesday, 13 May</th>
<th>Thursday, 14 May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Language Conventions (40 minutes)</td>
<td>Reading (45 minutes)</td>
<td>Numeracy (45 minutes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Language Conventions (40 minutes)</td>
<td>Reading (50 minutes)</td>
<td>Numeracy (50 minutes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>Language Conventions (45 minutes)</td>
<td>Reading (65 minutes)</td>
<td>Numeracy (Calculator) (40 minutes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writing (40 minutes)</td>
<td>Numeracy (Non-calculator) (40 minutes)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9 are expected to participate in NAPLAN tests. Parents or carers may withdraw their child from the tests to address issues such as religious beliefs and philosophical objections to testing.
If you are concerned about your child sitting the tests, please discuss this with your child’s teacher as soon as possible.

**Are the Tests Important?**
Yes and no. When we look at results overall and over a number of years, the tests can help us to get an idea of how we’re travelling as a school in different areas.
Individual student results can be anything from “spot on” to “way off the mark” (in either direction).

**RUGBY LEAGUE STAR**
Congratulations to Riley Kearton who has been selected in the Bundaberg Primary Schools Representative Rugby League team for the 2nd year in a row. Riley will now go on to play teams from Mackay, Rockhampton & Maryborough. Congratulations, Riley on what you’ve achieved and all the best for the coming games.

**SPELLODROME HIGH FLIERS**
Students in the Macs class only have to score 300 points in Spellodrome each week. However, quite a few live up to our school motto of “Aim Ever Higher” and go well beyond that minimum expectation.

Special congratulations to Ayla (1 410 points), Cloe (2 000 points), Emma (1 480 points), and our top scorer, Cameron (5 430 points) who all finished with fantastic scores in Spellodrome last week.

**MATHLETICS 100% CLUB**
Students in the Macs for maths are also set a Mathletics task each week. While we try to set the task at the ability level of each student, it takes a lot of concentration to pick up a perfect score. Congratulations to the following students who did exactly that:
India, Patrick, Riley C., Bree, Lily, Lara, Indi, Dylan, Jake, Emmy, Jack L., Daniel, Lena, Cloe, Byron, Ben O., Cameron, Olivia and Alex.

**SAUSAGE SIZZLE IS ON EVERY FRIDAY**
with sausages and Home Ice Cream.
Sausage and bread $1.20
Ice block $1.00
Sausage and Ice Block deal $2.00

Roster – Term 2
If you are interested in being on the Roster for Term 2 please let the office know in person or via email: admin@sharonss.eq.edu.au

We’ll be holding a Crazy Hair Day tomorrow, Wednesday, 1 April. Different hair styles, colours and even wigs are allowed on the day.
You do not have to take part in the day if you do not wish to. If you do take part, we’re asking for a gold coin donation.
We’ll send all money raised onto “Camp Quality”.
Camp Quality is a children’s family cancer charity. Their purpose is to create a better life for every child living with cancer in Australia.

Keep in mind that, should the crazy hair prevent the wearing of a broad-brimmed hat, we cannot allow that student out in the sun to play. Damaging UV rays do not take a break on charity days.
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 others can be as simple as handling only your own food at eating time.

END OF TERM ONE – THURSDAY, 2 APRIL

Just a reminder that Thursday, 2 April, is our last day of term. Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable Easter break with your family.

Students return to school on Monday, 20 April.

Kind regards,

We will be stocking both the packs and the solution after the Easter holidays for sale in the Tuckshop on Tuesday and through the School Office, Monday to Friday. P&C is only able to accept Cash Sales.

Packs (solution and comb) $30
Solution $20

The solution as a deterrent will last you several months and parents have mentioned that they have had no issues with head lice with regular use of the product.

If you wish to get a hold of the solution and/or comb prior to the school stocking it – please contact Christine Binns directly on 0438 169 928 and mention you are from Sharon State School and the P&C will still benefit from the sale.

AGROTREND RODEO
Still looking for Volunteers.

We have places available during the following shifts on Friday, 15 May:
3:30pm to 5:00pm – help set-up
5:00pm to 9:00pm – serving

If you are able to help out in either of these two time slots please contact the Office to be added to the roster or email: admin@sharonss.eq.edu.au

CENT SALE
Our first Cent Sale for the year will be held at South Kolan Hotel on Saturday 18th April which is during the School Holidays.

Still looking for Volunteers:

- Saturday at Cent Sale 10:00am-12:00pm
  2 Volunteers (Sandwiches, Set Up)
- Saturday at Cent Sale 12:00-3:30pm
  2 Volunteers (Selling Tickets, Running Prizes, Pack Up)

Please see Sharon in the Office or email admin@sharonss.eq.edu.au if you are able to lend a hand to help fundraise for our school. It really is easy and a little fun too.

Tuckshop News

Tuckshop has starting up a Facebook page “Sharon State School Tuckshop” which has details on menu items, specials, photographs of current menu items and plenty of other interesting facts.

Tuckshop WILL BE operating on the 1st Tuesday of Term 2 – 21 April.
TENNIS HOT SHOTS - LEARNING
Bundaberg Tennis Academy together with Bundaberg & District Junior Tennis Assocn Inc. are inviting players from 5-12 years of age, who would like to experience the "Learn n Play" programs using the modified courts, balls and equipment at Rotary Tennis Court complex, 68B George Street, South Bundaberg, next to St. Vincent de Paul & up from Hinkler Central. Classes are conducted by Professional coaches, Kevin Banner & Murray Whitbread: 0407 639824 for Term 2 on Wednesday 22nd April: 4-5pm and Saturday 2nd May: 8-9am & 9-10am. Registrations are being taken by Kevin: 4152 0753 / 0409 520 753

TENNIS HOT SHOTS - GAMES
Girls & Boys who wish to gain the experience of playing tennis games, using modified equipment in 3 different levels (Red, Orange & Green ball) at the Rotary Park Tennis complex, 68B George Street, South Bundaberg, next to St. Vincent de Paul & up from Hinkler Central are asked to Register with Kevin: 4152 0753 / 0409 520 753. The new season will commence: Saturday 2nd May 2015.
Looking for school holiday fun? Look no further than *PLAY! In the PARK!* An interactive and hilarious one-of-a-kind adventure aimed at awesome people aged 4—10*.

The performance is lead by 2 actors who, in character, take the audience through a storytelling experience that includes games, magic and all kinds of hilariousness as everyone works together to try and follow a map, find some treasure and meet some interesting characters along the way! Be sure to pack a picnic so you can relax afterwards in the beautiful Bundaberg Botanical Gardens.

*though there'll be fun to be had for the whole family who are welcome to join!*

"The performers were fantastic, everyone was laughing and calling out and interacting with each other and it was great to see how engaged they all were. All and all a smashing success."
- Children’s Librarian, Darwin City Council Libraries Performance

- **When?** 10am, Monday the 13th of April, 2015
- **Where?** Bundaberg Botanical Gardens (meet at the playground near Mt Perry Road—look for a fairy holding an umbrella)
- **Cost?** Gold coin per child or $5/family
- **How long?** Approx. 60 min performance
- **Bring?** A picnic lunch if you’d like to stay after the show and relax in the park!

For Bookings and more info:
Kyle.walmsley@gmail.com
0418 950 801

*Performers Alyson Evans and Kyle Walmsley have performed with young people around the world from the Northern Territory to Cambodia to the UK and are so excited to add Bundaberg to the list!*
Lost in concentration

Electronic devices such as tablets and mobile phones are ever present. They are heaps of fun, the source of so much knowledge and a great way to stay in touch with others. The flip side is that their hypnotic effect is powerful so that frequently all our concentration is directed at them rather than our kids.

There are five BIG opportunities available to you as a parent if you choose to be in the moment when you have children.

1. Build their language
Recently, I saw a mother walking side by side with a young toddler playing a simple language game. She would make a sound with her mouth and her young son would mimic her. This is language building at its most natural and finest, and wouldn’t have happened if this mother was on the mobile phone rather than being present with her child. Whether you are with a toddler, primary aged child or a teen the language building opportunities are endless. You just have to focus on the one you are with and let things happen naturally.

2. Teach your children about their world
Most children are naturally curious and will ask lots of questions. “Why do dogs bark?” “Why is the sun round?” “Where do babies come from?” Yes, some are simple, some are hard to answer and some you are just not ready for. But it’s through these simple interactions that you become your child’s first and most important teacher.

3. Impact their thinking
Influential British educator Charles Des Forges says, “If you want to influence your child’s thinking then you need to talk to him. If parents want more influence then they need to talk more to their children.” According to Des Forges it’s through the conversations that parents have with their children that they impact the way they think, as well as influence their values. Nothing kills personal conversation with a child or young person like a mobile device.

4. Build relationships
Relationships are built through common interest, good intent and respectful behaviour. I can think of no better reason for being in the moment with your child than the opportunity it presents to build some common interest and rapport. It’s reassuring to know that you’ve made plenty of deposits of goodwill to draw on, particularly in the tricky teenage years.

5. Build memories for you
As a parent of adult children I now treasure the memories of times I was fortunate to have spent with them as young children. It’s strange how these memories resurface at the most unexpected time. Recently, I was in a supermarket and I remembered the time when I enthusiastically asked my youngest, who was three at the time, to get the box of cereal with the big red K. Off she went feeling all important and returned with a triumphant smile armed a box of dog food. “Thanks darling. Nearly!” was my reply desperate not to quell the enthusiasm to help that only a three year old can have. The key to positively influencing your kids, building strong relationships and building enough fond memories to last a lifetime is to make sure that your mind is where your body is and be fully present when you are with your kids.

By parenting expert, Michael Grose.