Dear Parents,

S&Ps

Tye – for great improvement in his handwriting

LLs

Jessie – for her exceptional efforts with her home reading! What an amazing reading whiz kid!

PJs

India – for continually working hard in all aspects of her school work

Logan – for his good listening and conscientious attitude in class

MACS

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May

8th – Josh, Sam, Grant
10th – Jessica
12th – Jack, Tyler

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DATES TO REMEMBER FOR TERM 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 13 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN (language &amp; writing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 14 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN (reading)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 15 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN (numercy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 29 May</td>
<td>Bundaberg Show Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNSW Science Test</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 12 June</td>
<td>Field Events Day (Born 2005 &amp; older)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 13 June</td>
<td>Interhouse Sports Day (Main day - all students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 9 June</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 23 June</td>
<td>Year 3/4s leave for Barambah Camp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 25 June</td>
<td>Year 3/4s return from Barambah Camp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 27 June</td>
<td>Final day of term 2.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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SAUSAGE SIZZLE IS ON EVERY FRIDAY

with sausages and Home Brand ice blocks.

<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>

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Roster – Term 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Student</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd May</td>
<td>Kaz Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th May</td>
<td>Kate Giles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30th May</td>
<td>Leigh Critchlow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th June</td>
<td>Kaz Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27th June</td>
<td>Kate Giles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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South Kolan Hotel Monthly Cent Sale

The Sharon State School P&C will now be running the monthly cent sales at the South Kolan Hotel which were previously run by the South Kolan Kindergarten.

The next Cent Sale will be on Saturday 17 May starting at 1:30pm. This is a great opportunity for the P&C to fundraise in the local community.

We are also looking for one-off or regular donations of produce for the prizes, if anyone knows someone with farm produce.

If any of our parents work for a company that may be interested in offering a one-off or regular voucher/donation for prizes, that would be great.

We are all very excited to be involved in this new venture and would also like to welcome those interested in a fun day out to come along to South Kolan Hotel for our Inaugural Cent Sale.

SALE - 2nd Hand Jumpers, Long Pants, Shorts and Skirts

The P&C will be holding a sale of 2nd hand winter and summer clothes in the Killerdome on Friday 9th May after morning parade. Any parents interested in picking up some winter clothes or extra shorts and skirts – all items will be $2 each. Cash Only.

Hot Dog - Thursday

Hot Dogs will continue to be available on Thursdays to raise funds. The cost is $2 per hot dog payable in advance for the remainder of the term through the office or weekly in each classroom.

Sausage Sizzle - Friday

Sausage Sizzle can also be paid in advance for the remainder of the term through the office or weekly in each classroom.

BOOK CLUB

Brochures for book club issue no. 3 have been sent home. Orders are due back on Wednesday, 14 May.

Please allow one week after that date for delivery.
SPELLODROME HIGH FIERS
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 Ben (1 035 points), Maverick (1 020 points) and our top scorer, Madi (1 080 points), who all finished with fantastic scores in Spellodrome last week.

TOP EFFORT IN CROSS COUNTRY
Congratulations to Alex Wondrock who represented Gin Gin District Schools in the Bundaberg Zone Cross Country Championship held at St Luke’s on Tuesday, 6 May. Alex ran a mighty race against the best distance runners in the Bundaberg District, finishing 17th out of 30 or so competitors. Well done Alex!

EISTEDDFOD PUBLIC SPEAKERS
We took a busload of students into the Public Speaking Section of the Bundaberg Speech Eisteddfod on Friday, 2 May at the Playhouse Theatre.

It was fantastic seeing our kids, (some of whom were terrified), get up on stage, in a strange place, in front of strange people and deliver their speeches so well. They deserve to be proud of their efforts.

Special congratulations to the following students who received special prizes from the adjudicator after the public speaking section.

9 Years & Under (Prepared Speech)
Highly Commended: Jada Critchlow, Jeremy Clarke. Molly Birchley, Lena Stapleton, Lilly Stapleton

2nd Place: Byron Lerch

10 to 18 Years (Prepared Speech)
Highly Commended: Andrew Gover, D-Jay Wilson, Jay Loveday

2nd Place: Scarlett Rowe

9 Years & Under (Impromptu Speech)
Highly Commended: Jack Lester, Charley Boving, Daniel McDonnell, Katie Green, Emma Pacey.

1st Place: Byron Lerch

10 to 18 Years (Impromptu Speech)
Highly Commended: D-Jay Wilson, Kimberly Riedy, Scarlett Rowe, Mitchell Green.

Byron also picked up 1st places in his Impromptu Prose and Impromptu Verse, a 2nd in Set Verse and Memorised Prose and a Highly Commended in his Light Verse.

Scarlett picked up 1st places in her Memorised Verse and Impromptu Prose along with 2nd places in Impromptu Verse and Memorised Australian Light Verse. She also collected Highly Commended in her Prose Reading and Light Verse.

Byron and Scarlett were asked by the adjudicator to perform pieces at the Gala Concert on Friday night, where Scarlett was awarded the Rebecca Hutchins Encouragement Award and Byron was awarded the Adjudicators Award.

NAPLAN - 2014
The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy, (NAPLAN), will take place over 3 days form Tuesday, 13 May through to Thursday, 15 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. The types of test formats and questions are chosen in the hope that they are familiar to teachers and students across Australia.

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, 13 May</th>
<th>Wednesday, 14 May</th>
<th>Thursday, 15 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></td>
<td>Writing (40 minutes)</td>
<td></td>
<td></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></td>
<td>Writing (40 minutes)</td>
<td></td>
<td></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></td>
<td>Numeracy (Non-calculator) (40 minutes)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9 are expected to participate in NAPLAN tests, and schools should not exert influence on parents to withdraw their child from the 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).

For example, look at these questions from the Year 7 NAPLAN numeracy test in 2012.

The correct answer is 60. However, some students had it wrong because they focussed on the number “7” in the sign and knew there were “7” days in a week. They knew, (or calculated), that there were 12 hours from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm. Being strong at their tables, they also knew that 12 x 7 = 84. Sure enough, one of the choices is 84! It must be right! They
didn’t even need to check it. I’m actually pleased with the “numeracy” skills shown by these students. However, because they didn’t read the question carefully enough, they are just as wrong as the student who has no idea how to calculate time.

Some students thought this question had a typing error because “24” was not shown as an answer (12 hours for Monday + 12 hours for Friday). Worse still, one student had the “correct” answer because he knew there were “60” minutes in an hour and saw “60” as one of the choices. They didn’t know enough to answer the question but still had it “correct”.

In this question, one student told me how he was clever enough to recognise that 8 months represents 8/12 of a year. He also knew that to work out 8/12, you first need to work out 1/12. He broke $30 000 into $24 000 + $6 000. 1/12 of $24 000 = $2 000. 1/12 of $6 000 = $500. Join them together and you get $2 500. Yep, she earns $2 500 a month. Oh look! That’s one of the choices – it must be right! Unfortunately, he left it at that and forgot that the question asked how much was earnt for 8 months. A second student had recently received $20 for her birthday. For no other reason, she chose $20 000 as an answer. She was correct, but the first student clearly has a better grasp of maths concepts.

NAPLAN tests can be useful but don’t always show what kids know or don’t know.

**WINTER UNIFORM**

Winter hasn’t officially arrived as yet but, over the last few days, she’s certainly sent us a message that she’s not far away. The mornings and evenings are getting cooler and children are starting to come to school in jumpers and tracksuit pants. This usually brings up 2 problems for us as a school.

**Firstly**, the days usually warm up and the children remove their warmer clothes – anywhere! Their minds are then totally absorbed with what happens next and the clothing is forgotten. Before long, we have a pile of “orphaned” winter clothes and reports of lost and “stolen” clothing. PLEASE NAME all clothing. In the past, students have confidently stated a jumper is not theirs only to be shown, (much to their surprise), that they have their name on it.

**Secondly**, while we are envied by other schools and parents with the way our students turn up in full uniform, there is often a mysterious deviation with winter uniform. While the vast majority of our students wear royal blue jumpers, we sometimes see a variety of colours when cooler months arrive.

Sharon is NOT a “near enough’s good enough” school. Please help us to maintain our high uniform standards. In the past, many of the chain stores in town have sold full royal blue tracksuit tops and bottoms at ridiculously cheap prices. Alternatively, I can also order in slightly dearer, (but good quality), royal blue tracksuit tops with the school logo on them.

We will never let a child be cold. However, we have spare clean royal blue tops to offer students if they are unable to come in uniform.

If ever purchasing a uniform is a genuine financial difficulty, please contact me and I’ll do whatever I can to help.

**SMILE AWHILE**

Mrs Stapleton found our cartoon for “Smile Awhile” this week.

She likes it because it makes her chuckle. I also like it because it’s not a bad 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 directly 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
- Clarence’s thoughts

By looking back at NAPLAN reading data from the past, we’ve noticed that *inference questions* have, generally speaking, proved to be the most challenging for our students. Because of that, the skill of inferring has been a focus in our reading lessons.

Kind regards,
Next Meeting:
The next P&C meeting will be held in the library on Thursday, 5 June. Everyone is very welcome.

2nd Hand Uniforms:
Friday 9th May we will be selling jumpers, track suit pants and some shorts, skirts and skorts. If you are interested the items will be $2 each and available for sale in the Killerdome after parade.

Need an excuse to go shopping? Why not join Carinbundi for its annual Mother’s Day Shopping Trip to Eumundi Markets and Sunshine Plaza, and help to raise funds for people with disabilities in the Bundaberg Region.

When: Saturday, 24 May, 2014. Bus leaves at 6am and returns at approximately 8pm from our office at 4/44 Johanna Boulevard.

Pick up is also available from Childers. Cost is $55. So gather a group of friends and phone Carinbundi on 41513510 to book your seat.