Dear Parents,

S&P
Benjamin – for stand out oral presentation of the poem “The Little Turtle”. Noah – for always striving to do his best and being attentive.

PS
Skye – for trying her hardest to complete her work. Toa – for always doing his best.

LL
Dermott – for persisting positively with set work and homework.

MACS
Daniel – for great behaviour and consistently giving his best effort in all that he does. Noah – for putting in a huge effort & improving in leaps and bounds.

May 20th – Skye

DATES TO REMEMBER

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<th>Event</th>
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<td>Walk Safely To School Day</td>
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<td>Sharon SS P&amp;C Cent Sale – South Kolan Hotel 1:30pm Start</td>
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<td>25 June</td>
<td>Disco at Sharon Hall 5:00-7:00pm – Prep to Year 3 7:00-9:00pm - Year 4 – Year 6</td>
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AUSTRALIAN PRIMARY SCHOOLS MATHS OLYMPIAD

Once again, students in our school are taking part in the Australian Schools Maths Olympiad (APSMO).

The annual APSMO Maths Olympiads have been operating since 1987. Every year, schools from all over Australia, New Zealand and other neighbouring countries take part. Approximately 41,400 students took part in the 2014 contests.

The Olympiads consist of five separate contests held approximately one month apart between May and September. The overall aim is to encourage students to develop important mathematical problem solving skills in an enjoyable environment.

Our first Olympiad is tomorrow, Thursday, 21 May.

To give you an idea of what the students are up against, I’ve attempted to paste a copy of one of last year’s Olympiads in the next column.

Are you smarter than a primary schooler? Answers next week.

AUSTRALASIAN PROBLEM SOLVING MATHEMATICAL OLYMPIADS

TOTAL TIME ALLOWED: 25 MINUTES

1A. Time: 3 minutes
What is the value of $N$ that makes the sentence true?
$1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 \times 5 = 8 \times N$

1B. Time: 4 minutes
How many $\frac{3}{4}$ L glasses can you completely fill from a 3 L container of juice?

1C. Time: 5 minutes
In the plane figure shown, you are only allowed to move along the lines (moving down, to the right, or diagonally downwards).

How many different possible paths can be taken to move from W to L?

1D. Time: 6 minutes
A, B, and C are different digits.
If $1287 \times C = ABBA$, then what is the value of $ABBA \times C$?

1E. Time: 7 minutes
If Fran piles her stickers in groups of 8, there are 3 left over. If she piles them instead in groups of 10, there are 3 left over. If she piles them instead in groups of 12, there are 3 left over. Fran has fewer than 1000 stickers.

What is the greatest number of stickers Fran could have?

BOOK CLUB

Brochures for Book Club Issue No. 4 have gone home this week. Orders are due back by Wednesday, 17 June. Please allow one week after that date for delivery.
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 your environment can be as simple as making sure taps are turned off as soon as you’ve finished with them.

SPELLODROME HIGH FLYERS
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 Katie G. (1 000 points), Indi (1 010 points), Jack W. (1 090 points), and our top scorer, Olivia (1 100 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 & determination to pick up a perfect score. Congratulations to the following students who did exactly that: Patrick, Bryce, Bree, Lilly, Emma, Byron, Ben O., Cameron, Olivia & Alex.

Winter Uniform
The mornings and evenings are getting cooler and children are starting to come to school in jumpers and track suit pants. This usually brings up 2 problems for us as a school.

Firstly, the days usually warm up and the children remove the 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. I’ve also noticed some fantastic zip-up royal blue jackets being worn to school which I’ve told were found online.

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.

Keep in mind that we sell 2nd hand clothes (jumpers, track pants, shorts, skirts) for only $2 a piece – see the Office.

Fridge for Tender
Our library fridge has not been working properly, (frost up & leaks), and we’re getting rid of it. Dumping it is an option. However, someone out there might be looking for something to use for storage.

Thus, we’re inviting anyone who’s interested to submit an offer for the fridge. The fridge is offered on an “as is where is” basis.

Details:
- Purchased New: 4 June 1991
- Height: 157 cm
- Width: 60 cm
- Freezer Compartment: 79 Litres
- Food Compartment: 227 Litres

The fridge is currently on our library veranda. You’re welcome to inspect it at any time.

Please enclose your offer in a sealed envelope marked “Fridge Tender” and drop it off at the office. Alternatively, you can place it in one of the collection boxes located in the classrooms.

Tenders close on Monday, 25 May at 5:00pm.

Thursday
Hot Dog
Hot Dog Roll with Hot Dog and Sauce $2.00

Friday
Sausage Sizzle
Slice of Bread with Sausage and Sauce $1.20
Ice Block from Home Ice Cream $1.00
Sausage and Ice Block Deal $2.00

Funds raised support school camps to reduce the cost for parents.

Roster:
May
22nd Andrea Hedges 29th Kate Giles
June
5th ? 12th ?
19th Kate Giles 26th ?
SMILE AWHILE

DOG MATH

“If I have 3 bones and Mr. Jones takes away 2, how many fingers will be have left?”

Kind regards,

The next Meeting of our P&C Committee will be held in the Library on **Wednesday 17th June from 4:00pm**.

**P&C News**

**Disco at Sharon Hall**
Thursday 25th June
5:00-7:00pm – Prep to Year 3
7:00-9:00pm - Year 4 – Year 6
Sausage Sizzle and Food/Drink Sales
Gold Coin Donation on Entry

**CENT SALE**
Saturday 20th June
Helpers Needed for Saturday
Please see Natalie or Sharon in the Office

**Tuckshop News**

Last Tuesday was Bangers and Mash

**Next Tuesday - 26 May**
**SPECIAL:** Mac Cheese Burger
$2.50
(Meat Patty, Cheese and Sauce on a Sesame Seed Bun)

**Stickybeaks Re-Usable Lunch Wallet**
Tuckshop will be looking at selling Re-Usable Lunch Bags which can be used for Tuckshop orders on Tuesday. This will save on paper bags and problems with ripped and soggy paper bags.

If you would like to purchase one please fill out a form available at the Office or Tuckshop on Tuesday. Bags will be $8.50 each and can be paid in advance.

**Flourish Family Fun Day**
29 June 2015
Boreham Park, Avenell Heights 9:00am to 11:30am

The annual Welcome Baby event (coordinated by the Family and Baby Network) and the Teddy Bears Parade, are an additional attraction on this family friendly fun filled morning. There will be activities such as; Rides n Slides, Old Mc Donald’s Farm, Face Painting and much much more to entertain the family.

Bundaberg Regional Council is inviting community organisations and businesses to attend this great new event to showcase their services. You will find attached the Flourish flyer and the information for holding a stall.

Please feel free to share this information with your families and friends, newsletters and pin boards as we hope to reach every corner of this great region.

Please phone 4130 4150 or email comdev@bundaberg.qld.gov.au for further information.

**Country Kids**
Before & After School Care

- I’m Registered with Baptist Family Day Care
- Fully qualified (Advanced Diploma)
- First Aid, Asthma, CPR and Anaphylaxis Certificate
- Blue Cards for all family members
- Drivers License for school drop off and Pick ups.

If you are requiring care please don’t hesitate in giving me a call on 0437533496 or email me on kylie_countrykids@yahoo.com
Help your children make sense of natural disasters

As adults we all want our children to live carefree lives and keep them from the pain and even horror of tragedies such as natural disasters. In reality we can’t do this.

Recent natural disasters wreak incredible havoc on so many people’s lives and will no doubt leave an indelible imprint on our collective psyches. Graphical images have been brought into our living rooms via the media over the last few weeks, and will continue to do so in the immediate future.

As adults we all want our children to live carefree lives and keep them from the pain and even horror of tragedies such as natural disasters. In reality we can’t do this.

So what is a parent, teacher, or other caring adult to do when the natural disasters fill the airwaves and the consciousness of society? Here are some ideas:

1. **Reassure children that they are safe**
   The consistency of the images can be frightening for young children who don’t understand the notion of distance and have difficulty distinguishing between reality and fiction. Let them know that while this event is indeed happening it will not affect them directly.

2. **Be available**
   Let kids know that it is okay to talk about the unpleasant events. Listen to what they think and feel. By listening, you can find out if they have misunderstandings, and you can learn more about the support that they need. You do not need to explain more than they are ready to hear, but be willing to answer their questions.

3. **Help children process what they see and hear, particularly through television**
   Children are good observers but can be poor interpreters of events that are out of their level of understanding.

4. **Support children’s concerns for others**
   They may have genuine concerns for the suffering that will occur and they may need an outlet for those concerns. It is heartwarming to see this empathy in children for the concerns of others.

5. **Let them explore feelings beyond fear**
   Many children may feel sad or even angry with these events so let them express the full range of emotions. They may feel sadder for the loss of wildlife, than for loss of human life, which is impersonal for them.

6. **Help children and young people find a legitimate course of action if they wish**
   Action is a great antidote to stress and anxiety so finding simple ways to help, including donating some pocket money can assist kids to cope and teaches them to contribute.

7. **Avoid keeping the television on all the time**
   The visual nature of the media means that images are repeated over and over, which can be both distressing to some and desensitizing to others.

8. **Be aware of your own actions**
   Children will take their cues from you and if they see you focusing on it in an unhealthy way then they will focus on it too. Let them know that it is happening but it should not dominate their lives.

9. **Take action yourself**
   Children who know their parents, teachers, or other significant caregivers are working to make a difference feel hope. They feel safer and more positive about the future. So do something. It will make you feel more hopeful, too. And hope is one of the most valuable gifts we can give children and ourselves.

Children's worlds can be affected in ways that we can't even conceive of so adults need to be both sensitive to children's needs and mindful of what they say and how they act in front of children.

In difficult times, it is worth remembering what adults and children need most are each other.