Dear Parents,

S&P
Phoebe - for being a brave person when she had her tooth removed at the dentist.
Jayde - for being a brave person when she had her tooth removed at the dentist.

PS
Jessie M – for good listening and working hard to complete tasks.
Tupono – for her friendly nature and working hard in our classroom.

LL
Dermott – for improving schoolwork responsibility and using good manners.

MACS
Bree – for caring for herself by getting her work done, even though she had a valid excuse.
Alex – for a great attitude and demonstrating positive leadership.

September
5 Charlotte
6 Edan
8 Katee
10 Aden
11 Byron

DATES TO REMEMBER
16 Sept Whole School Musical – “Conundrum”
17 Sept Netball & Touch at Oakwood State School.
18 Sept Last Day of Term 3 (Free Dress Day)
5 Oct Public Holiday
6 Oct First Day of Term 4
13 Oct School Photos

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ENROLMENT FOR 2016
Please contact the office for an Enrolment Pack if you have a child starting Prep at Sharon School next year or know someone who is enrolling in Prep at Sharon next year. A parent Information Session will be held later in the year.

NEWSLETTER TO BE EMAILED IN TERM 4
In Term 4, our Sharon State School newsletter will no longer be distributed in a hard copy format. Our newsletter will be available online at our school website https://sharonss.eq.edu.au and emailed to families who have provided us with an email address.

In order for this to transition smoothly, I’m asking families to provide a preferred email address. Please complete the email notification slip included in this newsletter and return to the locked boxes in the classrooms. Alternatively, send me an email with requesting an emailed newsletter. Either way, this will ensure that you are included in our distribution list and we have your most current email address.

It’s also worthwhile to download the QSchools App on your mobile phone which will automatically give notification of newsletters once they are uploaded to the website.

Email: principal@sharonss.eq.edu.au

Why do this? I like a paper copy.
1. Time. I print the newsletter from my computer. Technology can be fickle. Sometimes it works; sometimes it doesn’t. Even when there are no paper jams, empty trays, empty toners, “unable to locate printer” messages etc., the newsletter can take 15 to 20 minutes from the time I press print to the time it completes its run on our photocopier. This is time I’m not teaching. It’s also time the photocopier is tied up and unavailable to other classes. We then have students taking newsletters to different classrooms during their classtime.
2. Cost. Paper & print costs add up over time.
3. Effectiveness. From what parents tell me, and the fact that I find newsletters in port racks & blowing around the school, many paper copies of the newsletter simply don’t make it home. An “electronic” copy cuts out the middle man. Having the QSchools App (see above) will even ensure you get an alert when a newsletter is published.
4. Caring for our environment. Using less paper is more environmentally friendly. We’re living one of our school rules.

Having said all of this, we’ll still leave a few paper copies of the newsletter in the office for those who need them.

SCHOOL MUSICAL – “CONUNDRUM”
6:30pm Wednesday, 16 September, Shalom Theatre
A very important musical note was sent home with all children on Monday. Please take the time to read.

**Musical note? I didn’t get any musical note.**

If Monday’s musical note didn’t make it home, you’ll find another on our school website at https://sharonss.eq.edu.au

**Underneath the heading, “Support & Resources”, you’ll find “Forms and documents”. Click on “Forms and documents”. Then click on “Documents”. The musical note should be the 6th item on the list.**

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**Ticket Sales**

Tickets are on sale. All tickets $7. Please put all ticket orders in Macs’ money collection box. Mrs Mac will endeavour to get tickets back to children at the end of that day. At this stage we need to limit tickets to 5 per family in order to allow every family the chance to see their children perform. In a couple of weeks’ time, we will know whether we can offer more tickets for those families who wish to order extra.

**Catriona**

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**VALE MRS HALPIN**

It’s with much sadness that I pass onto the community news of the passing of Mrs Shirley Halpin last Friday afternoon. Shirley worked at Sharon as a relief teacher and provided priceless advice and help with our musicals. However, she is best known for her tireless work as our Special Needs teacher in 2013 & 2014 where she achieved near miraculous levels of improvement with some of her students. In fact, some improved so much that they became too strong to be classified within the special needs category this year.

Most teachers enter the profession with hopes of making a positive difference to the lives of kids. Shirley certainly achieved this – and then some. Rest in peace, Mrs Halpin. You’ll be deeply missed.

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**INTERSCHOOL SPORT**

We’re travelling to Oakwood State School on **Thursday, 17 September** for games of Netball & Touch. This will involve students primarily from Years 4, 5 & 6 who have been playing these games during organised sport days. Being the day after our musical, there’s also a possibility that we might need to ask other students to have a run as well.

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**FREE DRESS DAY**

Our last day of term is **Friday, 18 September**. On this day, students will have the option of coming to school out of uniform. The cost will be a gold coin donation. Money raised will be sent to the Bundaberg Salvation Army who do so much to help people and families in the Bundaberg area.

Please be aware that, while the day is “free dress”, clothing with inappropriate slogans/illustrations seek assistance from Mr or Mrs Mac and/or work independently. This is not a social gathering, and any children who are here after school on a Wednesday will be expected to work until their parents collect them.

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**MATHS TEAM CHALLENGE**

Students from Bundaberg primary schools will come together this Thursday, (tomorrow), at North Bundaberg State High School for the annual Maths Team Challenge. Sharon has a proud history in the event, and we’re the current title holders for B Schools, (enrolment 100 to 300 students). A few sample problems from previous years are shown below. Students only have a limited time to answer. How would you go??

Answers next week.

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**MATHLETICS 100% CLUB**

Students in the Macs for maths are 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: Dermott, Fletcher, Annabella, Skyla, Travis, Lara, Jahvin, Jess S., Mitchell G., Noah, Xander, Cloe, Byron, Jack L., Alex & Kateisha.

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**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 Skyla (1 005 points), Tahlia (1 095 points), Olivia (1 100 points) and our top scorer, Lena (1 400 points), who finished with fantastic scores in Spellodrome last week.
WOOLWORTHS EARN AND LEARN

Thanks to all those who have already dropped off sheets and stickers – we already have 75 full sheets. Yahoo! Keep ‘em coming!

Only 11 more days to Collect.

Once completed, simply place the Sticker Sheet in the Classroom Collection Boxes in your child’s classroom. You are also welcome to place just the stickers in these locked boxes in the classrooms if you don’t have a sheet.

Our “Earn & Learn” Collection Box is now located outside Woolworths at Hinkler Central Shopping Centre.

School Sport
Free Dress

Kind regards,

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

More Volunteers Needed for Term 3
Funds raised support school camps to reduce the cost for parents. We’re looking for kind-hearted volunteers to roll some sausages on a Friday. Please contact Sharon in the Office if you are able to help.

Roster for Term 3
4 Sept – 11 Sept – Kate Giles
18 Sept –

Alfresco Movie Nights: FREE school holiday event!

Maleficent, Bargara Neilsens Park, Tuesday 29 September, 5:30pm
Into the Woods, Bundaberg North Lions Park, Wednesday 30 September, 5:30pm
Movie, Gin Gin Showgrounds, Thursday 1 October, 5:30pm
Bring a blanket and a picnic. Food Stalls Available! All welcome!

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Being a great dad

Many dads tell me that they want a better relationship with their children, particularly their sons, than they had with their own fathers.

There's no doubt that fathering has changed in recent years. Gone is the distant dad of the 1960s and 70s who saw his main job as keeping a roof over his family's head and bread on the table. An occasional game in the backyard and dishing out the heavy discipline that mums couldn't deal with was the extent of his involvement with his kids.

Many dads tell me that they want a better relationship with their children, particularly their sons, than they had with their own fathers. Sadly, many men still don't enjoy a close relationship with their fathers, but they are determined to change things with their own kids.

Here are seven ideas to help you form close relationships with your kids, and maximise your effectiveness as a parent and a partner:

1. Find something in common with your kids

Dads need something in common with their children. They relate better when they have a shared interest or shared passion with their kids. Many men relate to their kids while being active, and teach many important lessons through games and play. But if sport is not your bag, find something else that you and your kids have in common. A common interest is a great help for fathers who live apart from their kids who are looking to maximise the time they have with them.

2. Spend time with your sons

A dad can do little wrong in the eyes of a young boy. From around the age of five years a boy thinks his dad is like superman. Ironically, he may give his mum a hard time at this stage. Dads need to spend as much time with their sons in those impressionable years as possible. They just need to be careful not to push their sons too hard or turn every game into a lesson. That's when boys turn off their dads.

3. Don't whimp out on discipline

Dads are traditionally the kings of play, but they can go missing when it comes to discipline. They get their kids excited in a game before going to bed, then expect their partner to settle them down. It helps if both parents can take their share of managing children's behaviour.

4. Treat your daughters well

There are strong links between close fathering and the healthy development of girls. Dads teach their daughters strong lessons about how they should be treated by males. So dads need to treat their daughters respectfully so they learn to expect this treatment in their future relationships with men.

5. Say good bye Superman, hello Clarke Kent

Adolescent boys are programmed to challenge their fathers. It's part of the growing up process. Australian author John Marsden refers to this phenomenon as the 'old ram, young ram syndrome'. He's right. It's a type of rite of passage that plays out in many Australian homes. Verbal jostling matches are a popular father-son game where boys take great delight in proving their fathers are fallible. A dad at this stage needs a sense of humour as well as a willingness to stand back and allow other mentors in to his son's life.

6. Support your partner

Fathers may play an integral part in the lives of their children but they also have a profound effect on the quality of mothering that children receive. There is little doubt that a woman who can share the emotional and financial burdens of child-rearing with a supportive partner is more likely to be a loving, affirming mother. Supportive fathering is one of the keys to better mothering.

7. Change as your child changes

Kids grow up at the speed of light and change before you know it. They're kids one day and teenagers the next. They can catch many fathers unaware. The most effective dads are those who change their parenting to suit the needs of their kids at each stage of development, rather than stubbornly hold to outmoded ideas of how they think their kids should be. Those fathers who are a little apprehensive or lack sufficient confidence should become involved in as many aspects of parenting as they can. The best way to learn about parenting is by doing it. Children are a terrific resource for fathers - men can learn about children from children themselves. By being alert, watchful and learning to listen to their children, fathers can learn all they need to know about parenting.


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