Dear Parents,

Salt and Preppers

Lester's Learners
Bryce - for excellent application of knowledge to his daily maths.

Double Js
Charley – for using great expression when reading, in her oral presentation and during musical rehearsals.

Annabella – for making a huge effort to write neatly in her Mad Minute book.

Macs
Amelia – her positive attitude and great behaviour.

October
4th - Logan

DATES TO REMEMBER FOR TERM 2
Thursday, 19 September School Photos
Friday, 20 September Final day of Term 3

TERM 4
Monday, 7 October Pupil Free Day
Tuesday, 8 October Students return to school
Thursday, 17 October P&C Meeting
Thursday, 31 October Prep 2014 Parent Information Morning

Last Sausage Sizzle for Term 3
Friday, 20 September
Thank you to the parents who have already volunteered. Please contact Kaz on 0423 338 253 if you can help.

SAUSAGE SIZZLE IS ON EVERY FRIDAY
with sausages and Home Ice-cream ice blocks.

Sausage and bread $1.20
Ice block $1
Sausage and ice block deal $2.00

Roster Term 3
2013 Hayley Lerch

NAPLAN RESULTS FOR 2013
NAPLAN results for 2013 have just been released. Keeping in mind that the results are all products of one-off tests, they are, generally, extremely pleasing. Apart from Year 7 spelling, our results are not only above the Qld average, but also the national average as well. Look at how well our champion Year 3s went!
Yes, we are concerned with the Year 7 spelling results. However, we’re unlikely to make drastic changes to teaching methods, (or staff for that matter), as these approaches have produced far better Year 7 spelling results in other years. In fact, several schools adopted our spelling approaches because of our strong results in the past. These schools are now reporting great success.

Both the frustration and thrill of teaching can be found in the fact that something that worked brilliantly for one set of kids won’t work as well for another. We’ll look at, and perhaps even tweak, what we do with our upper school spelling. However, we need to be careful not to throw the baby out with the bathwater.

Last year, Year 5 reading was our concern. Since then, we haven’t made massive changes but did introduce Sheena Cameron’s comprehension strategies. Once again, we need to look at these results with some caution as they are just one-off tests. However, the reading results do suggest the students are progressing well in across the board.

WANT OUR NEWSLETTER EMAILED?

If you’d like our newsletter emailed to you, please email me with “newsletter email” in the subject heading. Please keep in mind that, if I email a newsletter to you, I won’t be handing a newsletter out to your child at school.

PREP STUDENTS FOR 2014 – PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

Please contact the office for an Enrolment Pack early next term if you have children starting Prep at Sharon School next year or know someone who is enrolling in Prep at Sharon next year.

A Parent Enrolment/Information session is organised for Thursday morning 31 October 9:00am-10:15am in the Salt ‘n’ Preppers’ classroom with Mrs Wendy Searle. Please bring your completed enrolment forms and birth certificate for your interview with Mrs Searle.

Parents of children born between 1 July 2008 and 30 June 2009 who are starting Prep in 2014 will need a birth certificate to enrol them in the Prep Year.

The Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages is encouraging parents to apply for birth certificates now to avoid the new fee. Parents of children born from July 2009 can call 1300 375 529 to order a birth certificate to enrol them in the Prep Year.

To apply for a standard or commemorative birth certificate you can:

• download an application form from www.justice.qld.gov.au/bdm

• visit the registry at 110 George Street, Brisbane or your nearest courthouse.

Don’t leave it to the last minute – apply for a birth certificate now.

Further information for parents and carers wanting to enrol their Prep-aged children in a state school in Queensland is available on the Department of Education and Training website at: www.education.qld.gov.au/studentservices/inclusive/prep/

SCHOOL PHOTOS – THURSDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

School photos will be taken by Paul Beutel on Thursday 19 September starting at 9am. Please plan to have your child in their best uniform for this day.

HEAD LICE

A case of headlice was brought to our notice last week.

Headlice, while not life-threatening, are a problem in any community. Unfortunately, they are not always easy to detect. Because schools are a gathering point in a community, inevitably we will notice a case at the school or a parent will let us know that they’ve found lice on their child.

Responses from parents on being advised of their child having headlice have ranged from embarrassment and apologies to outright “fury” at why we’re not doing something to stop the problem. Neither response is necessary. The school does NOT think you are dirty or negligent if your child has lice. It can happen to anyone at anytime. If anything, we consider you just plain unlucky! Headlice seem to have preferences for individuals in much the same way as mosquitoes will bother some people more than others.

At the same time, Sharon School is NOT responsible for the presence of headlice anymore than we’re responsible for the presence of the common cold. It is a society problem – NOT a school one. It’s just that the headlice are more likely to be noticed at school. We do what we reasonably can but cannot be expected to eliminate lice from the world. (N.B. If I could, I wouldn’t be working here. I’d be relaxing in one of my many coastal residences waiting for the royalty cheques to be deposited into a fat bank account!)

Over the years we’ve come to believe that the “Conditioner Comb Out Method”, is the best method for checking for the presence of lice. In turn, it is also very effective at eliminating the lice if it is carried out weekly. Please don’t assume that because your child doesn’t scratch, they won’t have lice. Research has indicated that up to 50% of people who have lice do not itch.

Head Lice Repellent

Unless you believe that:

1. Everyone at our school checks and treats their family for head lice. AND
2. They are checked/treated on a regular basis AND
3. The treatment is 100% effective AND
4. None of the children from Sharon come into contact with people outside our school community,

then we have to assume that head lice will inevitably appear in our school and an effective REPPELLENT is the best protection for your child from lice infestation.

I’ve had two repellent recipes recommended to me by school families in the past.

Recipe One

Into a Spray Bottle put 120 mL of water. Then add

• 1 tablespoon of hair conditioner (this must go in first)
• 20 drops of tea tree oil
• 20 drops of lavender oil
• 20 drops of rosemary oil
• 1 small teaspoon of white vinegar

Shake this together really well. You will also need to shake the bottle before each use. Spray into wet or dry hair – particularly around the ears and nape of the neck.

Recipe Two

In a spray bottle mix

• 30 drops of tea tree oil
• 20 mL of vinegar
• 1 tablespoon of conditioner
• 500 mL of water

Spray on hair daily as a preventative.
If you have had success with any other repellent recipes, or commercial repellents, please pass them on to me. I’m not supposed to promote specific commercial brands (but I can start a rumour!). I’m more than happy to publish recipes in the newsletter.

**SPELLDROME HIGH FLYERS**

Congratulations to Taylor (1 080 points), Sheay (1 300 points), Jemima (1 800 points), Maverick (1 000 points), Olivia (1 035 points) and our top scorer, Tameeka (2 060 points) who all finished with some great scores in Spellodrome last week. Well done!

There are no mathletics or spellodrome tasks for homework this week.

**LOWER SCHOOL MUSICAL**

Wow! What a great performance by the JJs, LLs and S&Ps this morning with their musical extravaganza. I was out the back and could hear the characters’ lines, listened to some terrific singing and saw some groovy dance moves. Thanks so much, not just to our talented performers, but also to the teachers and teacher aides who put so much time and effort into preparing our performers. Special thanks to friends and family who made time to come and support our kids. It really lifted the performers to have such a good crowd there to watch.

**BOOK CLUB MYSTERY**

We’re still looking for the people who paid for their book club order in issue No. 5. Please notify Sharon (in the office) or Sue (in the library). The books were handed out with the credit slip still intact and we have no record of those people who paid by credit card. We’re sorry for any inconvenience and thank you for your assistance in this matter.

**PAYING BY EFTPOS**

Our EFTPOS machine is now installed in the office. If you wish to make larger payments, (e.g. swimming $45), please see Sharon in the office.
SMILE AWHILE
At a rent-a-boat company, the caller said into the microphone, "Boat 99, your hour is up, please head in."

An employee walks up to him and says, "We only have 75 boats, there is no boat 99, sir."

The caller then said into the microphone: "Boat 66, are you in trouble?"

Q: Why did the boy put candy under his pillow?
A: Because he wanted sweet dreams.

Q: What's the best parting gift?
A: A comb.

Q: What kind of underwear to reporters wear?
A: News briefs.

Q: What did the one penny say to the other penny?
A: We make perfect cents.

Q: Why was the boy sitting on his watch?
A: Because he wanted to be on time.

Kind regards,

P & C NEWS

TUCK SHOP - Thank you to everyone who supported the tuck shop this term and our volunteer helpers. Tuck shop will resume on Tuesday 15th October, 2nd week of Term 4.

WHALE WATCHING RAFFLE - will be drawn this Wednesday after the JJs', LLs' and S&Ps' Musical. Last chance to buy tickets on the day.

P & C MEETING - The next P & C meeting will be held on Thursday 17th October, @ 7.00pm in the school library. All very welcome.