Dear Parents,

S&P  Jaxon – Great sentence writing.

LLs  Ethan P. - for being a responsible and reliable class member.

PJs  Brooke – for making a big effort to keep her desk tidy and be more organised.

Chanel – for always trying her hardest in her school work, and being a nice and helpful classmate.

MACS  Mitchell G. – for his fantastic attitude in class and being a great friend to others.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday, 3 December -  Maccs’ Parents Info Session for 2015 (5:30 pm)
Thursday, 4 December - Prep-Yr 2 Sleepover at School
Friday, 5 December - Prep-Yr 2 Excursion Day
Monday, 8 December - Graduation Dinner
- Last day for money & permission for movie day.
Wednesday, 10 December - Concert Night
Thursday, 11 December - Break Up Day
Friday, 12 December - Clean Up Day

CHRISTMAS APPROACHING

The “oldies” amongst us are amazed that we’re already closing in on Christmas for another year. It’s an exciting time of year but can also interfere with behaviour and learning at our school. Can I ask parents to help us with the following to ensure a productive and happy end to our school year?

1/. Candy canes. They look sweet and harmless but they really don’t go well at school. In previous years, we noticed students shovelling the sugar-laden sweets into their mouths before school. The sugar hit does little for their concentration or behaviour during the first teaching session. Other students would save them for lunch and, surprise surprise, concentrate on enjoying the candy canes first before starting on their “real” lunch. Sometimes these students “didn’t have time” to eat their real lunch. Please help us by not allowing candy canes to come to school.

2/. Shirt Signing Some our Year 6/7s will want to get one of their uniform shirts signed by friends and teachers as a memento of their time at Sharon. Please remember:

1. T-shirt signing is not compulsory. While I’m happy to allow it to happen, it’s your decision as to whether or not your child brings a shirt in to be signed.
2. The only day for signing is Thursday, 11 December, break-up day.
3. If your child wishes to get their shirt signed, they need to bring their own felt pens or marker pens. In the past, we’ve had some people amazed when we didn’t hand out school markers. The school markers are only to be used for school work.

3/. Christmas Clothing We sometimes get requests about “Christmas clothing” from students and parents. While not meaning to sound like Ebenezer Scrooge, I’d ask that you hold off until Wednesday of the last week of school. Believe it or not, we are working on learning tasks right through to, (and including!), the last week of school. The Christmas clothing can be “distracting” and, at times, even competitive rather than festive.

If you do decide to send your child along in Christmas clothing on the last couple of days, please be aware of the following:

- No matter what your children might say, wearing Christmas clothing is not compulsory.
- The sun’s harmful rays do not take a break because of the festive season. We will still be enforcing our sun-safe policy with regards to broad brimmed or legionnaire hats and shirts covering shoulders, upper arms and “bellies”.

Ben gives a big “thumbs-up” after being presented with his medallion for topping the state in the Year 4 UNSW Maths Competition. The presentation took place in Brisbane on Monday. Well done, Ben!
ENROLMENTS FOR 2015

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

Bundaberg Life Education

Life Education will be visiting Sharon School on Monday 8 December and Tuesday 9 December. The cost is $5.00 per child. However, sausage sizzle and school funds will cover the cost of participation for every child. Thus, do NOT send any money. Unless you tell us otherwise, we will assume your child has your permission to attend the Life Education session. Life Education presents health and drug education modules with different learning outcomes relevant to early, middle & upper primary years. Drug knowledge focuses on medications, caffeine, tobacco and alcohol (relevant to year levels). It is important for your child’s benefit to attend each year from Prep to Year 7. Children and teachers are also given resources to allow for pre and post work in the classroom.

Bundaberg Life Education does NOT receive any state government funding so donations are welcome. Receipts will be issued by Life Ed if $2 or over.

CONCERT NIGHT – WEDNESDAY 10 DECEMBER

Our concert night is being held on Wednesday, 10 December with a sausage sizzle operating from 6:00pm until 6:45 pm. Please aim to arrive by 6:30 pm if you are planning to have a sausage sizzle. One year, we had a massive queue at 6:45 pm and simply couldn’t get everyone served by 7:00 pm. Please remember that our servers are volunteers who are keen to watch all the performances as well. Cold soft drinks will also be on sale. Concert items are due to start at 7:00pm. Small concert items will be performed by the children as well as presentations. Our P&C Association will be selling raffle tickets on the night so bring your money! It’s also a good idea to bring your own chair and insect repellent.

A space will be left at the front for children to sit. Although students are mainly under the care of their parents on the night, I’d ask that parents help us by encouraging their children to sit in this group at the front. This allows teachers to quickly organise the performance groups as well as giving the children a good spot from which to view other performances. We have tried having the children sitting in amongst the main audience in the past. However, this has resulted in delays “searching” for kids along with children occasionally missing out on their performance.

I do need to remind everyone that Education Queensland has a No Smoking Policy which applies anywhere within the school boundary at any time. Please understand that this is a legally enforceable policy.

Being a night for the kids, I’d also request that alcohol be left at home.

BREAK UP DAY – THURSDAY 11 DECEMBER

Our Break Up Day at school for 2014 is Thursday, 11 December (not Friday). This day usually involves a movie trip, lunch and a final tidy up. We’ve organised a movie morning at the Reading Cinema for students who:

1. wish to go
2. have written permission (school envelopes can be used for this) and
3. pay their money on time.

The Movie is “Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, NO GOOD, VERY BAD DAY”. It has a “PG” rating.
Cost, after subsidy from sausage sizzle funds and our P&C Association, will be $6 per student. This is great value as it includes:
1. admission to the movie (actual cost is $8.50 per child)
2. morning tea and
3. transport to and from the Reading Cinema.

Please pay money in school envelope with permission section completed by **Monday 8 December**. If you can get your money and permission in sooner, **that’s even better**.

Children who do not have permission, or have not paid, will remain at school with teacher supervision.

Our P&C will provide the morning tea. Lunch will also be provided back at school. If your child doesn’t eat the foods on offer, or you wish them to have something else, you will need to provide this for them. Please remember this is fun day for our students.

**High school students, ex-students and students from other schools are not invited to attend.**

**What do the students wear on Thursday?**
Being “break-up day”, the children do not have to wear school uniform – even if they are going in to see the movie.

However, the sun’s damaging rays do not take a break on this day. With this in mind, our students are still expected to wear sunsafe clothing, i.e. shirts/tops that protect the shoulders and upper arms along with legionnaire or broad brimmed hats. Wearing singlets or caps to school is a waste of time. Therefore, the sun’s damaging rays do not take a break on this day. With this in mind, our students are still expected to wear sunsafe clothing, i.e. shirts/tops that protect the shoulders and upper arms along with legionnaire or broad brimmed hats. Wearing singlets or caps to school is a waste of time. In previous years, we have supplied students with spare uniform shirts to wear.

Parents are welcome (encouraged – urged) to collect their children early after lunch on break up day as the afternoon will be tidying up.

Please understand, however, that we’re legally obliged to supervise children until 3:00 pm unless they are taken under the care of THEIR OWN PARENTS.

We cannot, (and will not!), let a child go with another family or leave for home early simply because of a “Mum said I could” coming from the student. If students are to leave early, (which most do by the way!), they must have a signed note or be picked up by THEIR OWN PARENTS.

**CLEAN UP DAY – FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER**
Sharon is having a “Clean-up” Day again this year. While most families will choose to finish their year on Thursday, we are still on duty, and will have jobs for students to help us with on the Friday.

Old clothes that can get wet, (not uniforms) and hats are needed on this day.

Please note: As for break up day, children will need to be picked up from school by THEIR OWN PARENTS or have a signed note from their parents if they wish to leave early.

**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 yourself** can be as simple as walking in and around buildings, and on cement.

**SPLELODROME HIGH FIERS**
Students in the Macs class only have to score 300 points in Spelldrome each week. However, there’s usually someone who lives up to our school motto of “Aim Ever Higher” and will go well beyond that minimum expectation.

Special congratulations to Charlie (1 440 points), Scarlett (2 000 points), Cloe (1 100 points) and our top scorer, Natalie (2 400 points), who all achieved fantastic scores in Spelldrome last week.

**QSchools Smartphone App**
Queensland school communities can interact with their favourite state schools using the QSchools smartphone app.

The QSchools app is a convenient way to receive up-to-the-minute information from and about schools.

While all schools are searchable using the app, the full app features are designed to integrate with the department’s preferred school website platform, to allow users to see when news, events and newsletters are posted to their selected school website. Users can also see other useful information provided by the school, such as tuckshop menus, uniform shop information, class times and the school’s and the department’s social media feeds.

The school community can also receive emergency announcements such as natural disasters and school closures through the app.

The QSchools app is particularly useful to parents who have students in different schools, as the app manages updates from multiple schools.

**SMILE AWAY**

**Why are a lion at the beach and Christmas alike?**
Because the lion has sandy claws.

**Why does Santa Claus go down the chimney on Christmas Eve?**
Because it soothes him.

If athletes get athletes foot, what do astronauts get?
**Missletoe!**

**What did Adam say on the day before Christmas?**
It’s Christmas, Eve.
KEEP A WATCH ON OUR SCHOOL THESE HOLIDAYS

Parental and students can help take care of our school by reporting any suspicious after-hours activity to School Watch on 13 17 88. By keeping an eye out we can work together to create a safer school community and help to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in our school.

If you see something suspicious, please don’t intervene. Call the School Watch number and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter.

MUSIC LESSONS AT SHARON
We’ve sent home a flyer from “MusicEducation Australia”. They’re offering music lessons after school, for Sharon students in 2015.

WANT OUR NEWSLETTER EMAILED?
If you’d like our newsletter emailed to you, please email me with “newsletter email” in the subject heading. By emailing newsletters, we save lots of paper, heaps of time and can be sure the newsletter will make it home. Please keep in mind that, if I email a newsletter to you, I won’t be handing a paper copy out to your child at school.

Kind regards,

Tuckshop
Tuckshop will NOT be running in the last week of school.

Concert Night is on Wednesday 10 December and Break-Up Day is Thursday 11 December – our last two events for the students for 2014.

If you would like to volunteer prior to or on the day or night of the event please contact Hayley Lerch on 0407 652 056. As little as half an hour would be a great help.

Dad’s to help with the cooking of sausages on Wednesday night from 4:30pm until 6:45pm. If we can get a couple of dad’s we can share the burden.