

Coming Events

February

16 P & C AGM 7 pm

16 Allan's Bus Route
AGM

17 – 19 Leader ship
camp

19 Sec Arts Council

March

4 Primary Arts
Council

10 Deadly Australians

April

9 Cross Country

NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL: Mrs Ruth Miller

UNIFORM DELAYS

It appears the demand for school uniform's was much greater this year so our school uniform supplier has run out of uniforms in all sizes. We are advised however that uniforms will be available from the supplier next week. We do have a small number of size 14 and larger primary uniforms and many black skorts. We also have several size 10 secondary uniforms available. These are all available at the reduced priced of \$20 for the shirts and \$5 for the skorts.

The black hats for Years 7 to 10 have been ordered, but not yet arrived. In the meantime, this isn't an excuse for the students to "flaunt" the wearing of caps. In some cases, students have turned up to school with their black hat from last year, but have already reverted to the wearing of their cap, with no sign of their black hat. In these cases, caps were confiscated. We are a **sun safe school** and every attempt will be made to ensure sun safety practices are met, whilst we wait for the new hat order to come in. The good news is that over 95% of students in Years 7 to 10 are doing the right thing! Mrs Ross and myself have a small collection of second hand, sun safe hats and are lending these out each day.

Prep to Year 6 students are wearing their maroon and bottle green bucket hats with pride. We do have some stocks left but they do seem to be quite big, even the "small" size.

Overall the uniforms are looking great, with nearly every student complying with the rules around "reasonable" and "plain" jewellery. Please note, wearing make up at school is not considered appropriate.

SCHOOL START TIMES

8.20 am is the designated start time for school. Students should not be entering the school grounds earlier. If this does need to happen, parents must have made contact with myself or Mrs Ross. If they do arrive slightly earlier, as is sometimes necessary, they are required to sit down under the covered areas, nearest their classroom. Parents are reminded that before school teachers prepare lessons, and we are not able to provide supervision before school.

HOMEWORK DIARIES – Years 7 to 10

Checks on homework diaries commence this week. I am very impressed to see these being used by the majority of students already. Homework will very much be part of our whole school's persistent focus on improvement and it is expected that every effort is made for students to complete this. The third break at school is an ideal time for students who can't manage to get it done at home, to do it at school. If supervision is needed at this time, students may come and see either Mrs Ross or myself, and we will organize a place for homework to be done. Similarly, parents who want their child to use this time for homework, may contact Mrs Ross or myself.

Homework for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will include questions and tasks presented in a similar manner (and difficulty level) to the NAPLAN tests to take place in May. I have noticed the ease with which the Year 3's are flying through their homework which has been set out in the manner. They will be very confident and not phased by the National test when it comes.

Swimming

Swimming starts this week. It is a compulsory part of the school curriculum and only if students are sick or injured, should they not be joining in. With Sun Safety, it is essential that the students travel by bus to and from the pool. This also maximizes time in the water. Although this is an added cost, swimming is an important skill that all students have must acquire for their own safety. It is not reasonable to have large numbers of students not swimming, and therefore requiring additional staffing to supervise. It is very frustrating that valuable time has to be provided to supervise non swimmers, when in fact, another class could be accessing that time for extra help with reading, writing or maths.

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**SPELLING MASTERY
WORKBOOKS
AVAILABLE NOW
THROUGH THE OFFICE
– COST \$20.00**

Protecting against dengue fever

With recent outbreaks of dengue fever in Cairns and Townsville, parents in our northern regions are encouraged to apply insect repellent to their children on a daily basis. Dengue fever can be found in any tropical or subtropical area and is most prevalent during the warm and humid seasons.

As there is no vaccine available to prevent dengue fever, people in high risk areas are advised to avoid getting bitten by wearing clothing which protects the skin and by using insect repellents on exposed skin. It is also recommended to remove all potential breeding sites for mosquitoes such as still water found in containers, pots, and old tyres. Mosquitoes carrying dengue fever typically bite during the day, especially at dawn and dusk.

For more information visit the Queensland Health website:
http://www.health.qld.gov.au/dengue/dengue_fever/disease.asp

ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS

This year we are conducting organised activities each Monday – soccer and Wednesday – ball games. These activities help children to build skills, promote team work and social skills. This is a free program, fully supervised, with a variety of activities, afternoon tea is provided.

An information letter and medical form have been given to all 5 to 12 years. Come along and join our after school activities.

P and C News

Welcome to 2009. Hope everyone is looking forward to a fantastic year. Don't forget P & C AGM on Monday 16 February at 7 pm in the staff room. All executive positions will become vacant. Hope to see you there.

Community Announcements

Barambah United Soccer Club

Barambah Bears cater for all children aged from 5 through to 15 regardless of ability. Our player base extends to a wide area of Proston, Wondai, Murgon, Goomeri and even as far as Winderam and Boobyjan. The club aims to support and develop players to the best of their ability, while having fun and learning to work together as a team.

Barambah sign on will once again be held in the Rotunda in Lamb St Murgon on Saturday 14th February from 9am – 12noon. It is important to sign on as early as possible or let the club know of your intention to play, so teams can be formulated on time. For this purpose we are having a Second Chance Sign-On at the Barambah Club Grounds, Bunya Highway Wondai, on 21st February from 9-11am. Barambah Juniors like all sporting clubs are in need of parental support. If you would like to help with coaching, managing a team or a job on the committee please indicate to someone at sign on.

For further information please contact Therese Jensen on 41684967.

Free Student Exchange Info Nights

Learn all about student exchange, WEP Australia and the 2009/2010 exchange programs available at one of WEP's FREE information sessions in Brisbane.

24 February, 7 April

7.30 - 9.00pm
Metropolitan Motor Inn
106 Leichhardt Street
Spring Hill

Students can choose from over 20 countries to live and study with the support of a host family, school and community. Explore new opportunities beyond the classroom!

WEP Australia is a not-for-profit student exchange organisation registered with the education departments.

SOUTH BURNETT CATTLE HANDLING & JUDGING SCHOOL WONDAI SHOWGROUNDS

20 – 22 February 2009

The school will be open to people of all ages; is TAFE Qld accredited and participants, 15 years and over are eligible to receive certificates for courses

- **Selecting Livestock for Market**
- **Preparing Cattle for Competitions**
- **Preparing to Exhibit Cattle** (more experienced handlers)

JUNIOR TENNIS

After school **junior tennis lessons** will begin during the **3rd week of school**, starting **9 February 2009**. Lessons will be offered for students from beginner to advanced levels and will be held on Monday and Wednesday afternoons at the Murgon Tennis Courts, Gore Street, Murgon.

Students who participated in 2008 will need to confirm their spots for 2009 – preferably at their earliest convenience.

Lessons will remain at \$7 per child for a 45 minute class as per the previous 2 years. Fees will be charged by term account payable by the 3rd lesson of each term.

Should you wish to book your child or children in to class, please do so on the below listed numbers. Please note that **I will be unreachable from 24-31 January**, however please feel free to leave a message on my home phone or by email and I will contact you on 1 February. During this time my mobile will be out of range.

My contact details are: Phone – 4169 5930 or 0438 684 705
Or email – leannesippel@hotmail.com

Kind regards
Leanne Sippel

Wondai Proston Junior Rugby League Sign Up

- Wednesday 4 February 4.30 pm
- Saturday 7 February 10.00 am

Wondai Sports grounds
Any questions contact Arnie
4168 5523

STUDENTS - REMEMBER TO SLIP SLOP SLAP