Everyday Counts
We have now hit the halfway mark of term one! One of the core priorities of our school is attendance. I encourage you to ensure "Every Day Counts" and have children here every day on time. Your child’s best learning time is the start of the school day – that’s when every minute counts. The student should present a note from a parent/caregiver explaining the lateness or parents can ring the school and leave a message to explain absence. All student absences need to be explained and are reported on the student’s end of semester report card. Persistent lateness and absence will lead to contact with home, and can result in centre link payments being withheld.

- If a child misses even 10 min of school per day, then they have missed a total of 6.5 days per year, (1 ¾ terms) which equates to 84.5 days in 13 years of schooling.
- If a child misses 5 days of school per year, then they have missed a total of 65 days (1 ½ terms) in 13 years of schooling.
- If a child misses 10 days of school per year, then they have missed a total of 130 days (1 semester and ½ terms) in 13 years of schooling.
- If a child misses 15 days of school per year, then they have missed a total of 195 days (nearly 1 whole year) in 13 years of schooling.
- Fifteen days is not even 4 days per term, however, this means missing 1 year of school over 13 years from Prep to Year 12.

Gotcha Awards!
It was very pleasing to see so many cards in the "Gotcha Box". Congratulations to the following students who were drawn out this week.

Olivia Anderson: Working hard during English.
Amina Banda: Brilliant writing of letters 'on the line'.
Tallon Booth: Working hard during Maths.
Jacob Frazer: Improved counting to ten.
Elly Pearson: Neat handwriting.

Student of the Week
Congratulations to Kye Kuskey who receives Student of the Week for using extremely neat handwriting everyday!

Readers of the Month
Congratulations to our Readers of the Month for March, Moselle Findlay for demonstrating effective Reading Comprehension Strategies and Nazareth Mitchell for working hard at her Comprehension.
Well Done Moselle & Naz!

Tuckshop Update
Special this week Friday 07th March
Chicken Wings with Fried Rice & choice of drink - $4.50

Special next week Friday 14th March
Sweet Corn Fritters & choice of drink - $4.00

Special Friday 21st March
Chicken Caesar Salad & choice of drink - $4.00
Japanese Girls Festival
Each year Girls’ Festival day is celebrated in Japan. It is an annual festival celebrated to bring young girls happiness and good luck. As well as learning a lot of interesting facts about Japan and the Girls’ Festival day we also completed various activities such as mapping, comparing landforms in Australia to those of Japan and craft. When comparing the size of Japan to our country, did you know that you would be able to fit Japan into Australia 21 times?

Leadership Lunch
Today I had the pleasure of accompanying our school captains to the Leaders Meet Leaders Luncheon, held at the Bundaberg Civic Centre. The afternoon was spent networking with other student leaders from the Bundaberg Region and listening to guest speakers.

Sports Report
On Friday the 28th of February, we travelled to Maroondan to play T-Ball against Gin Gin’s team Fritz. The score was 25 to 6. WE WON! We had some good hits and some good catches. We played great as a team, but two people really stood out. Jeremy Anderson with his four home runs and Bree Wallace with her great catching at short stop and a good organiser. Awesome effort for our first game! This week we travel to Mt Perry to play cricket. We will be leaving school at 11:00am.
-By Emily Jenner

Forks & Spoons
Please note that we are not able to lend out forks or spoons to students as we currently do not have any. Students are encouraged to bring throw away plastic forks and spoons to school. That way it will not matter if they are placed in the wheelie-bins.

Smoking on School Grounds
We have noticed that there have been cigarette butts thrown just inside the school grounds. No smoking on school grounds, which includes the car park. Parents are asked to refrain from smoking in this area.

Remember to keep these important dates on your calendar!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>March</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 05th</td>
<td>AASS – Softball – 8:00am SHARP!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 05th</td>
<td>Tuckshop Orders Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 07th</td>
<td>AASS – Aerobics – 4:00pm Collection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 07th</td>
<td>Sport @ Mt Perry Vs Mt Perry</td>
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<td>Fri 07th</td>
<td>Tuckshop – Chicken Wing Special – Mrs Wagenkecht &amp; Mrs Anderson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 07th</td>
<td>Library Borrowing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 12th</td>
<td>AASS – Softball – 8:00am SHARP!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 12th</td>
<td>Tuckshop Orders Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 14th</td>
<td>AASS – Aerobics – 4:00pm Collection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 14th</td>
<td>Tuckshop – Corn Fritter Special – Mrs Dean &amp; Mrs Carseldine</td>
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Be Safe
Be Responsible
Be Respectful
If children follow these three rules they will have success in all activities!
Curriculum

Home Readers
All children are expected to be reading every night. If children don’t have time to read at home due to extra-curricular activities they are encouraged to sit down and read to a staff member before playing each morning on arrival at school. Parents are also asked to ensure they sign the individual reading logs indicating when the child has read.
Attached are good examples of Reading Comprehension Strategies that you may like to practise with your child.

Comprehension Strategy
This week we are focusing on finding the main idea of a text and looking for the topic sentence of the paragraph. A great way to practice this strategy at home is to ask your child to read a passage and then the following questions:
- What was the main idea?
- Where or how did you find the main idea?
- Does the title give you a clue to the main idea?
- Can you give another suitable title for this text?
- What is the story mostly about?

Phonics
Preps are learning to recognise the letter ‘iI’ and the sound ‘iI as in igloo’.
Through their spelling words all other grades are consolidating the following letter combinations.
- ‘i’ as in igloo

Robotics
The senior students have decided to take on the challenge of Dance Theatre, which involves choosing a theme for your performance and programming the robots to tell/show the story. The children have decided on ‘Madagascar - Africa’ as the theme and have lots of great ideas. Today students are continuing to familiarise themselves with the new programming and next week will commence on their performance.

Japanese
Our Japanese students are currently learning how to say the following personal information details in Japanese
- Name
- Where they live
- Date of Birth
- Nationality
- Age
Students are also learning how to write these details in both Romaji and Hiragana.

こんにちは konnichiwa

Rugby League Clinic
Our students participated in the Rugby League Skills and Drills Clinic held over three weeks. Students were taught rugby league skills and participate in a number of drills. Today students were presented with NRL merchandise by Dwayne McKay.

News-Mail iPad Competition
We have 116 Tokens!
Please rally your family, friends, neighbours, local businesses and anyone else you know to collect the special tokens that will be published in the News-Mail every day until Monday 31st March. The school with the most tokens at the end of the five week period will win the set of iPads. All schools stand an equal chance of winning as the News-Mail will pro-rata entries across the number of enrolled students to determine the winner.
Student Council Update

Jakes Candy Easter Drive: Please ensure you ask all family members, friends and neighbours. The more funds we raise as a school the more our students benefit.

Orders are due back in two weeks, on Tuesday 18th March and chocolates will be returned to school and sent home on Thursday 27th March.

P&C Update

P&C AGM: Tuesday 18th March. Please note the date for the upcoming AGM. At this meeting we will be accepting nominations and voting for the executive positions and presenting reports for the 2013 year. This short meeting will then be followed by a general meeting. Please pass on any agenda items to Tanya Anderson, President, or Muppie Dean, Secretary.

Tuckshop: The following specials will fall on the following weeks: Please keep these in a safe spot at home.

- Friday 07th March: Chicken Wings with Fried Rice & choice of drink - $4.50
- Friday 14th March: Sweet Corn Fritters & choice of drink - $4.00
- Friday 21st March: Chicken Caesar Salad choice of drink - $4.00
- Friday 28th March: TBA
- Friday 04th April: Burger Day! Beef or Chicken Burger & choice of drink - $4.50

Maths Information Session

Parents and Carers are invited to come along to Gin Gin primary school for an information session on Numeracy. This presentation will be beneficial to parents and carers of students in all year levels. At this session we will discuss:

- The Australian Curriculum
- The importance of deep understanding
- Some common misconceptions
- Number facts
- Activities to do with your children

The session will be presented by Mr Greg Robinson (Principal Education Advisor Australian Curriculum). Dates and times are to come. If you have any further questions please don’t hesitate in contacting me.

Childers Art Space: sundae duration

Sunday, 09th March 1:00pm – 4:00pm at the Palace treat yourself to an afternoon of wine and jazz at the Childers Arts Space! Tickets are $10.00 and include music, wine and nibbles. Go in the prize for some lucky door prizes! We will also be raffling an original painting by Chern’ee Sutton – tix are only $1.00 or 3 for $2.00. Music by the Dan Papariny Trio. Bring a friend and enjoy an afternoon on the veranda at Childers Arts Space and watch the world go by! Childers Arts Space is located in the Palace Memorial Building on the first floor at 72 Churchill Street, Childers.

Upcoming Workshops

Positive Discipline

Parenting 0-13yrs: Positive Discipline uses warmth and firmness to teach children long term skills in self-discipline. The program will help you to build a mutually respectful relationship with your child.

When: Monday March 10, 2014 (4 week duration)
Time: 6.30pm to 8.30pm
Cost: Gold coin donation

Create Dream and Connect

Workshop for women: This workshop is designed for women to encourage you to imagine a vision for your future, set some goals and create an action plan to guide you.

When: Tuesday March 25, 2014 (1 day workshop)
Time: 9.30am to 4.00pm
Cost: Free

Cool, Calm and Collected

Stress: Cool, Calm and collected is a 2 hour workshop that explores the causes of stress and offers some practical tips and exercises for managing stress.

When: Wednesday March 26, 2014 (2 hour session)
Time: 9.30am to 11.30am
Cost: Gold Coin donation

Introduction to Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT)

Mindfulness: During this two hour workshop, you’ll learn some basic skills using techniques from ACT to assist you to achieve mindfulness, as well as many strategies to help you come to terms with aspects of your life that may be troubling you.

When: Wednesday April 2, 2014
Time: 9.30am to 11.30am

Thanks but no Thanks

Life skills: This course explores the difference between assertion and aggression. We learn some basic assertion skills and discuss the importance of assertion in relationships and how a lack of assertion can be personally unhealthy.

When: Wednesday April 30, 2014
Time: 9.30am to 12.30pm

Tree of Life

Workshop for Children and Young People: The program assists participants in identifying their strengths, the challenges that children and young people may face in life, and how to deal with these challenges in healthier ways.

When: Wednesday April 30, 2014 (6 week duration)
Time: 3.30pm to 5.00pm

Contact: UnitingCare Community on (07) 4153 8400
(Bookings essential)

Yours in Education

Felicity Wallace