2016 School Improvement Focus:
Reading Comprehension & Numeracy skills

Prep News-Mail Photos
The Bundaberg News-Mail will be publishing their annual special feature, “My First Year of School” on Wednesday 23rd March. Keep an eye out for our youngest students who will be featured with all other Prep classes in the Bundaberg Region. The News-Mail can be purchased locally from the Gin Gin Newsagency and the IGA. A copy of the photo can be ordered from the Bundaberg News-Mail.

Fun with Maths Day
This Friday, 09th March 2016 we will be departing McIlwraith shortly after 9:00am to travel by bus to Wallaville School. Students are to ensure that they are in full school uniform and have their hat and water bottle. A reminder to bring your own lunch if you have not purchased tuckshop. Chips, drinks and ice blocks will available to purchase on the day.

State School Consent Form
State School Consent Forms are a new requirement of the Education Department. These forms are now overdue and must be returned to the school office before the commencement of next week. If you have misplaced your form, we have spare copies available from the office.

Remember to keep these important dates on your calendar!!

March
Fri 11th  Fun with Maths Day @ Wallaville SS
Tues 22nd  Easter Raffle Tickets Due Back
Wed 23rd  Easter Raffle Drawn
Thurs 24th  Easter Bonnet Parade – Free Dress Day
Thurs 24th  Last Day of Term 1!!
Fri 25th  Good Friday – No School Attendance
Sat 26th  Easter Saturday
Sun 27th  Easter Sunday
Mon 28th  Easter Monday

SPECIAL FEATURES

Weekly Homework Award
Congratulations to Richard Dean and Riley Macaulay who receive this week’s homework award for minimal corrections required, neat presentation and displaying 100% effort towards their sentences.

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.

Richard Dean: Great effort with Guitar.
Brodie Jenner: Good manners and working well.
Hannah Johnson: Beautiful Neat handwriting during English.
Misty Kevill: Trying your hardest to have neat handwriting.
Oakley Wagenknecht: Awesome sentence building and writing.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
Congratulations to Hunta Adams for his effort and improved understanding when working with time.

Well Done Hunta!

Upcoming Events!!!
Booyal Bunyips

Congratulations to the students of Booyal Central School who call themselves the Booyal Bunyips. Over the past 12 months the students have made a drought-relief fundraising joke DVD called ‘Kidding About For Drought’. The students were supported by The Academy for Young Entrepreneurs and received contributions from several country music artists, TV stars, students from some other schools, staff, parents and others in the community. All profit will be donated to the QCWA’s Public Rural Crisis Fund and directed, on their behalf, to drought affected graziers in western Queensland. More information is available on the Booyal Central State School Facebook page and at www.booyalbunyips.com. It is there that copies can be purchased too, or payment sent by cheque or money order to the school. Alternatively, you may send your orders into our school office and we will pass these on for you. Congratulations Students of Booyal on a great initiative!

Scholastic Book Club

Orders and money are due in **tomorrow, Thursday 10th March 2016**.

T-Ball Competition

On **Friday 18th March 2016**, Students in Year 3 – 6 will participate in the Cluster T-Ball Carnival. This will be held at Gin Gin Primary School from **10:00am-2:00pm** with each team playing approximately 6/7 games depending on the number of teams. A canteen will be operational on the day selling chips, Zooper-Doopers, bottles of water and sausage on bread. More details on the food items will come out closer to the date.

We will be travelling by bus with Bullyard and Maroondan State Schools. Please complete and return the attached permission form to the school office by **Wednesday 16th March 2016**.

Reading

If anyone is available on Tuesdays, either mornings or afternoons, to listen to our students read, we would love to have your help.

International Women’s Day

This week is Queensland Women’s Week, and yesterday was International Women’s Day (IWD). These events prompt us all to reflect on how we can contribute to achieving the IWD vision of gender parity, and also provide the opportunity for us to recognise and celebrate the achievements of women on a local, state and national level.

Phonic Focus

The sounds that be have been consolidating this week are ‘f’ as in fish, ‘ff’ as in coffee and ‘ph’ as in phone.

Prep Letter Focus

This week our Prep students will be learning the letters ‘iI’ as in Itchy Indian and ‘dD’ as in dog. Helping students recognise these letters at home will provide support for their education.
Prep/Year 1 History
Attached to the newsletter last week was a sheet & answer question for the Prep and Year 1 History assessment. These were required for the beginning of our assessment yesterday but we still have some outstanding. Please return these to school before next Monday 14th March 2016.

Maths Concepts
This week we have been learning:
Prep: directions such as up, down, left and right, positions and positional words such as in, out, beside, below, under, on top of, above, in the middle, in between, in front of, at the back and behind, shapes, numbers 0-10, recognising numbers in different ways and forms, counting forwards and backwards. The number of the week is 7.
Yr 1, 2: Counting in 5’s, analogue time (5 min intervals), money: making equivalent amounts with 5c, 10c, 20c, using tally marks, partitioning numbers, reading numerals in word form.
Yr: 3, 4: (x & ÷4/5)Place value - up to 5 digits including tenths and hundredths, addition and subtraction of numbers with decimals, determining how much time has passed, converting units of time, finding mean/average. Matching minutes to and digital time.
Yr 5, 6: (x 8, ÷8) analysing graphs and frequency tables, 24hr time, adding time, reading timetables, triangles (equilateral, isosceles, right angled, scalene).

English
This week students will commence their assessment pieces.
Yr 1, 2: will complete a modified assessment task, comprehending a letter to the editor and then composing persuasive statements.
Yr: 3 will examine ways persuasive language features are used to influence an audience in letters to the editor. Students will read and comprehend the letter to the editor and then plan, write and edit a persuasive paragraph.
Yr 4, 5, 6: will be analysing how the character of Jarred is represented in Part 1 of our novel of study, The forests of Silence. Students will explain the way Jarred’s character was depicted by the author, their point of view about how Jarred reacted to moral and ethical dilemmas and how Jarred’s character was developed or changed by his reactions.

Student Council Update
Icy Poles: Student Council is selling Zooper Dooper Icy Poles at lunch from Monday – Thursday for $0.50c each.
Easter Raffle: We are currently seeking donations to make an Easter hamper for first prize. Please do not send in perishable items. Items such as Easter books, plush bunnies, mugs, stickers, decorations, eggs cups, chocolate moulds etc.

Thank you to families who have sent in items for the raffle. This is what we have collected so far.

Keep selling those tickets! Extra tickets are available from the office should you require more. Thank you everyone for your support.
All tickets sold or unsold must be returned by Tuesday 22nd March 2016.
Raffle drawn on Wednesday 23rd March 2016.
Easter Bonnet Parade: The Easter Bonnet Parade is on again this year. Students are asked to make a gold coin donation if they participate in this event. Prizes will be awarded. This event will take place on the last day of Term 1, Thursday 24th March 2016. We will provide different ideas on each week’s newsletter. With plenty of notice we anticipate most students will take part in this event.

You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child.
Dr. Seuss

Only two weeks until Easter!
**P&C Update**

Our first fundraiser, which is the Mothers’ Day stall will be held on **Saturday 07th May 2016** and is well supported by the Gin Gin community. Our stall is situated in the main street of Gin Gin and we are becoming quite well known for the beautiful flower arrangements, delicious home baking and pretty bunches of chrysanthemums that we sell, grown locally by the Endeavour Foundation in Bundaberg. Each year we rely on our parents to make this stall a success. Volunteers are required to bunch flowers on the day before to sell at the stall. This usually starts about **2:00pm**, is very easy and with many hands is generally completed in approximately an hour. Many hands make light work, so if you are available, we would certainly appreciate your help.

On the day of the stall we ask each family to volunteer an hour to sell the flowers, arrangements and baked items. It is usually all sold out by lunch and is a great fundraiser for our school. Please mark this date on your calendar as we will require volunteers and home baking such as cakes, slices, pikelets, cupcakes, etc.

**Flower Boxes Wanted:** Please keep an eye out for any containers that would be suitable for flower arrangements. Small and medium sized gift boxes are ideal as are pretty coffee mugs, jars, canisters, pots and larger yoghurt containers. If you think you may have containers that would be suitable, we would love to have them to use for our flower arrangements.

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**AGM:** A reminder that our Short Annual General Meeting will be held on **Tuesday 15th March 2016** at **6:30pm** followed by a quick general meeting.

At the AGM the executive committee will be elected. If you are interested in nominating for one of the following positions, please let me know. Nominations for the positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and the P&C Workplace Health & Safety Representative, will be opened.

Everyone welcome.

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**Gin Gin Little Athletics**

GGLA’s would like to invite children ages 5 & up to join our club Run, Jump, Throw give Athletics a go! Trial days. Cost $3.00. When: 16th April, 2016

Starting Time: 8.30 am. Where to find us: Athletics Grounds, Gin Gin Sport & Rec. Grounds Gin Gin Qld 4671, Opposite Mt Perry turnoff.

Contact: Carmel Galea Centre Manager 0437 935 874
Gin Gin Library News
Come along to Gin Gin Library story time sessions commencing **Monday 21st March** from **9:30am-10:30am**. Stories, craft and activities for preschool children. Sessions are held on the first and third Monday of the month. Sessions do not run during the school holidays. **Bookings essential.** Bookings can be made by phoning (07) 4130 4620 or at the Library counter. **Gin Gin Library is ONLY open on Mondays for booked sessions.**

**SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES At the Gin Gin Library:**

**Hands on Robotics Activities Friday 01st April**
10:00am – 11:00am. Come along to a fun workshop with Josh and Ashlea.

**Caterpillars and Butterflies Monday 04th April**
10:00am – 11:00am. Munch your way through some nibblies, create some craft and enjoy some stories.

**Movies and Popcorn! Monday 04th April 2:00pm – 4:00pm.** Come dressed as your favourite movie character and watch a movie while chomping on popcorn. Lucky door prizes!!
Ages 5 and up. All children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult.

**Bookings essential for all activities.** Bookings can be made at the Library counter or by phoning (07) 4130 4620.

Yours in Education

Felicity Wallace