Welcome to 2013 at Wamuran State School!

From The Principal

I would like to take the opportunity to welcome everyone - students, parents and staff to a new and exciting year. A warm welcome to our new families and our returning families, as together we get to know you all. We have a bright and bubbly group of Preps and a number of new students across all class levels that commenced their learning journey at Wamuran last week.

Over the next few weeks, Parent Information sessions have been scheduled along with Parent Teacher Interviews. These sessions are offered to enable parents to gain a clear picture of the 2013 school year in regard to curriculum and the expectations of the class teacher. The interviews are at an individual level where you can personally share your expectations for your child for 2013. This is the ideal opportunity to connect with the class teacher and discuss your child’s educational progress to date.

The anticipated date of our new school’s website launch is late February. To assist with our communication with you, a Monday email will be sent out on the off - newsletter week. This will keep you informed about important dates and when notes are due back. Please check our diary dates (above) and upcoming events (left).

Our P&C are having a Meet and Greet Sausage Sizzle and I look forward to catching up with you all. Our Year Seven students departed today for their week long leadership camp at Tallegudgera. We know they will have a fantastic week getting to know their teachers and classmates. The process of selection of our Sports’ Captains for 2013 will be conducted after the camp. Best wishes to all the candidates.

We have a number of new staff members to welcome to Wamuran, Prep B – Miss Rachel Hemingway, 2A – Miss Lauren Hanlon, 4/5C – Mr Charlie Roy, LOTE Teacher – Mrs Lily Elvery, Music Teacher – Mrs Gail Wyss and Library – Mr Greg McLoughlin (continuing on from 2012). In the Office we have Mrs Kristel Moir – Acting Admin Officer and Mrs Jayne Clark – Acting Business Services Manager. Mrs Trachel Rapley – Our Business Services Manager has transferred to Maleny State School. We wish all of the above mentioned a fruitful experience in their new positions.

The recent storms and flooding have hit many schools, personal properties and businesses across the state and our nation. These have been hard times again for families. We were very fortunate to escape any major damage to our school. Only one classroom was water affected and our grounds were littered with debris, but overall Wamuran SS is business as usual.

Enclosed with this newsletter are a number of important handouts. Please action them and return them to school this week. If you have any queries, please contact the office and Kristel will make an appointment for you. It is great to have you as a parent at Wamuran State School.

Warmest regards, Sue Clement
Positive partnerships between school and home are a powerful way of ensuring that your child’s primary school experience is a happy and productive one. It is important to remember that at all times we use the Plaza entrance when entering and exiting the school. In the interest of ensuring the safety of all, please do not use this as a short cut into the school. It is important we model to children that at all times we use the Plaza entrance when entering and exiting the school.

Updating Student Medical Details
Medical information will be recorded in student files and used when students go on excursions and participate in other activities around our school and community. It will be the responsibility of parents to ensure this medical information is kept up to date throughout the year by contacting the office.

Email Addresses
This year we will be emailing the newsletter each fortnight and each Monday of the non-newsletter week we will send out an “Updates & Reminders” Email to assist parents with planning and information. Please let us know if your email details change on admin@wamuranss.eq.edu.au.

Media Consent Forms
Each year parents are asked to sign a Media Consent Form for each of their children at Wamuran SS. This form allows us to use photos of your child and/or their work and achievements in our school, newsletter, website and local papers. If you would like to add in your own conditions (eg photos in the school are ok but not in the newsletter) please let us know in the limitations section of the form. It is a detailed form please read carefully and complete the several pages required. If you do not wish your child’s photo to be used please return the front page marked “I DO NOT GIVE PERMISSION”. All forms need to be returned by February 15.

Report Cards in Prep
You may have read an article in The Sunday Mail, 3 February 2013, which informed readers that this year, the Prep children will be receiving report cards for the first time. At our school, we have been successfully underway with this process for one year already. In 2012 at Wamuran SS, every Prep child received a report card in both Semester One and Two. To allow parents to understand how their child is developing at school, our report cards provided information on the Australian Curriculum subjects of Mathematics, Science and English. In these subjects, children were allocated an achievement standard of: Applying, Making Connections, Working With, Exploring or Becoming Aware. Feedback was also provided in the areas of motor skills and social and emotional well being. It is important to remember that report cards, whilst informative, are only the beginning.

We encourage the parents of all students to take advantage of the parent teacher evenings and parent teacher interviews in order to be informed, forge partnerships with your child’s teacher and become involved in the school community. Positive partnerships between school and home are a powerful way of ensuring that your child’s primary school experience is a happy and productive one.

Pam Carlile DP/HOC

Text Books for 2013
The Cars & Stars Text books required for every student can still be purchased from the office for $13.00. Please contact the office if your child does not have their textbooks.

Drop Off/Pick Up Zones
Parking around schools is limited and drivers have been parking in drop off zones, and No Stopping/Standing/Parking zones and bus stops. These actions are dangerous for children travelling to and from school and also illegal. Some parents often park across driveways which results in calls from irate home-owners unable to get their cars in or out of their own driveways. Parking across driveways is also illegal.

Police and the council have advised they will visit schools periodically during the year to issue traffic offence notices to offending drivers. The success of the drop off zones requires cooperation from all parents to ensure quick movement of vehicles through the area.

Please only stay in the area for as long as it takes to get the children into or out of the car. The driver must not park the car in these signed areas and go into the school with the children. In some instances parents stop their car and stay in it while waiting for somebody to take their children to class and then come back. PLEASE NOTE! This area is designed to for dropping off and picking up passengers only. It is not to be used in this manner.

Please
• Plan your trip to avoid arrival at peak times
• Pick-up or drop-off children via the car’s kerb doors
• Drive out safely
• If your children are not at your arranged spot, go around the block and try again

Do not
• Get out of your vehicle
• Double park
• Stay and wait
• Use staff parking areas
• Arrive early in the afternoon and sit in the zone

Staff Car Park

In the interest of ensuring the safety of all, please do not use this as a short cut into the school. It is important we model to children that at all times we use the Plaza entrance when entering and exiting the school.

Parent / Teacher Partnership
Communication with parents and teachers is essential to ensure great relationships and achieve optimum student outcomes. All students should have brought home a class newsletter last week. Please take advantage of Class meetings over the next couple of weeks where teachers will explain to parents how their classroom operates and outline the activities your children will be involved in this year.

Individual parent teacher interviews will be held in week four. Please book online (a flyer with details was sent home today) or call our office to book a time if you have no net access.

Class Parent Representatives (CPR’s)
If you would like to be your child’s CPR please see your child’s class teacher. Your role may include:

• To promote our school within the community in a positive manner helping to foster a strong community spirit between our school community and Wamuran’s wider community.
• Source volunteers to assist class teacher with organisation of activities, change home readers, find volunteers for class excursions, help source needed class resources, etc.
• To give feedback as a forum group on ideas/issues, systems or processes the school uses or may desire
Welcome back everyone, its great to be back.

Chappy News
Welcome back everyone, its great to be back.

Chappy Breakfast starts Thursday 14th Feb 8:15am, and every Thursday morning.

Chappy Fundraiser Garage Sale: at St. Laurence's Anglican Church on 23rd Feb from 8:00am, 165 Kings St, Caboolture. Any volunteers or donations please call Chappy (Wed, Thurs, Fri) on 5429 9444.
Blessings, Chappy Tania

Library News
Borrowing
Borrowing by children from our Resource Centre will commence in the third week of school on Monday 11 February. Teachers will notify the children of their class borrowing day.

Library Bags
Please make sure your child has a library bag so that he / she may borrow from the library. Library bags may be purchased from the office for $3.50 each.

Scholastic Book Club
It would be wonderful if you could support the Scholastic Book Club this year. It is run voluntarily for our school by Nicole Enright. When you or your children purchase books from the Book Club brochures, our school receives bonus points / vouchers which enables us to obtain “free” books/resources for our library.

Community News
There are various sign on dates as follows:

Girls Brigade: Tuesday Nights Caboolture Uniting Church - Call Janette 0419 029 774
Suncoast Hinterland Softball: Mooloolah – Call Karen 0422 204 661
Elimbah AFL: Saturday Call Jason 0419 995 869
Stanley Rivers JRL: Call Kev 0448 118 532 www.stanleyriversjrlfc.sportingpulse.net
Caboolture Junior Rugby Union: Call Fola 0403 564 020

Gotchas & SWPBS
SWPBS (School Wide Behaviour Support)
Our school rule focus for weeks 2 & 3 is: Be Respectful (“Follow instructions – first time every time” & “respect yourself and others”). Our Program Achieve focus is Organisation (“successful students are organised (have their equipment ready etc) & “make good choices”).

P & C News
Welcome to Wamuran - P&C Sausage Sizzle
We are looking for your input and feedback to help us improve our school in 2013. All families are invited to please join us for a sausage sizzle on Wednesday 13 February from 5.30pm in the top undercover area.
Meet our 2012 P&C Committee, ask about the roles of our P&C, what does our P&C do in our school, meet some of our staff members and ask about their roles in our school, ask questions about helping in the Tucker Box, let us know your ideas & suggestions you have to improve our school facilities, do you have great fundraising ideas to share with us, talk to us about how we can encourage more volunteers in our school and share your stories and experiences.
Please bring a plate for dessert and RSVP by Tuesday 12th February 2013 to the office on 5429 9444 or email admin@wamuranss.eq.edu.au

Next P & C Meeting & AGM - Tuesday 19 February
Our first 2013 meeting & AGM for the P&C (Parents and Citizens) will be held on Tuesday 19 February, 6pm - 8pm in the Staff Lounge. P & C meetings are a great place to meet other parents and find out more about coming events in our school.

Tucker Box News
Please download the new Tucker Box menu for 2013 located on the front page of our website by following this link: www.wamuranss.eq.edu.au.

The Wam Tucker Box is open every Monday, Wednesday & Friday.

Volunteers for 2013 Please contact Ange at the Tucker Box if you are interested in assisting in 2013. We require 15 volunteers to successfully operate our busy Tucker Box. Volunteering is great fun and comes with training and a free lunch* 😊 Tucker Box phone: 5429 9407 or Ange: 0412 055 703.

Donations of low fat Chocolate, Blueberry or Apple Cinnamon muffin mixes are always appreciated.

P & C - We Need You!
Each year we rely on new parents to be involved in our P&C committee to ensure our school stays in touch with our parent body and local community. Our P&C helps to create the ‘outstanding’ rating in culture that our school was awarded. Our P&C also provides our school with additional teacher aide time for all students and invaluable funds to purchase student resources. Our first P&C Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 19 Feb at 6:00pm in the Staff Room. We hope to see you there.

Feedback on. (Meet once a term with Principal and Parent Liaison/P&C Member)

❖ To assist the “Many Hands Make Light Work” strategy to access volunteers for school activities from your child’s class by at times seeking out (by phone, in person or email) other parents in your class who are able to provide voluntary assistance in the following areas:
   o Sports club dinners
   o Children’s community carnival
   o Tuckshop
   o Fundraising activities/events
   o Take home jobs

❖ Encourage participation of our school community in school and P&C events.
(In reality many of the above tasks may occur through normal school communication processes that won’t require your assistance).

At some stage throughout the year your child’s CPR may contact you to seek assistance with classroom or school activities that require volunteers as part of our ‘Many Hands Make Light Work’ or seek your opinion on various issues. Our CPR meetings allow new ideas and issues to be raised and the beauty is that we have a representative from all areas of the school.

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