Dear Parents, Staff and Students:

Attendance target 94% or better. Last week’s attendance rate was 93.6%. Let’s together make every day count…including Fridays where our attendance level does drop!! (Bundy Bowl and Leisure Complex now sponsor our attendance drive)

Kids come to school to learn in a safe, supportive and challenging school environment and no one has the right to make others frightened, uncomfortable or unhappy.

Bullying Behaviour… Part 3

Some of the factors which hinder our best intentions to reduce bullying incidents occurring are:

- Children not telling teachers of incidents
- Children not telling the complete story. They often only tell their side of the story
- Often Prep - Year 3 children believe that every bump or accident is an example of bullying behaviour
- Children not telling a teacher…. but going home and informing parents. Although telling parents is fine, dealing with it immediately is better
- Children who choose to make matters worse by inflaming a situation
- Children failing to use strategies e.g. Three Step Plan that are taught in class
- Children who witness bullying and fail to do anything about it

Teachers are humans too! (We can’t be witnesses to all things that occur. We can’t be everywhere and see everything).

Bullying is long-standing physical or psychological abuse by one or more individuals against another, particularly one who is not able to defend him/herself. Physical bullying includes hitting, punching, kicking, etc. Psychological bullying includes teasing, excluding from groups, taking things. Bullying affects 15 - 25% Australian school students each week. Boys generally

Some home factors which contribute to bullying are:

- Inappropriate role modelling
- Violence
- Lack of supervision
- Overly strict parenting
- Child abuse
- Overly permissive parenting
- Inconsistency

Parents can help their child by:

- Encouraging them to tell you if they are being bullied
- Teaching them not to show the bully that they are upset
- Encouraging them not to retaliate
- Fostering good self-esteem and confidence
- Reinforcing the 3-Step plan used at school

Schools can help by:

- Developing a whole school approach to bullying
- Raising awareness of the issue
- Fostering a supportive school environment
- Taking bullying seriously by having responsive strategies e.g. 3-Step Plan
SCHOOL NEWS

How You Can Help Your Child with Writing
The best way to help your child with writing is to encourage them to use real occasions in family life to practise. This can include writing notes, messages, reminders or even helping to keep a family diary.

Here are some other ways to help your child with their writing:
♦ If they are unsure of how to spell certain words, encourage them to have a go. Keep a dictionary close by and start a spelling list
♦ Read your child’s writing and discuss what you like about it. This makes writing fun and encourages children to keep writing
♦ If possible, give examples of your own writing to your child to show how it is important in your daily life and your work
♦ Talk to your children about the types of writing they do at school and praise their efforts as well as correcting grammar or spelling
♦ Encourage them to use a computer keyboard if there is one available
♦ Encourage your child to make greeting cards for special times of the year and suggest they write their own verses or messages

When reading their draft writing and commenting on what you like about it, remember not to change the writing. Leave all the creative decisions to the writer.

Parent Teacher Interviews
The school will have parent/teacher interviews later this term. Interviews will be conducted as follows.
First Parent Teacher Interviews will focus on “Where Your Child Is”. It will be a short interview of approx. 10 to 15 minutes. It will focus on reading ability, number aspects of mathematics, writing ability, behaviour, work habits, social interactions and areas of focus/goals. A second interview is available in September, with written reports in June and December. This interview will be very important as it will provide parents with information about critical areas of the curriculum. At these interviews, no written proforma/summary will be presented to parents. The offering of 2 interviews and 2 written reports will give comprehensive detail of where your child is. These interviews are important and we expect everyone to attend. A note will come home very soon with offers for interviews at the following times:

- Prep B - week 8 & early week 9
- Prep J - week 8 and early week 9
- Year 1L - week 8
- Year 1C – week 9
- Year 1GM - week 9
- Year 2KC - week 8
- Year 2L - weeks 8 and 9
- Year 2V - weeks 8 and 9
- Year 3B - week 8
- Year 3W - week 8
- Year 3R - weeks 8 & 9
- Year 4E - weeks 8 & 9
- Year 4H - weeks 8 & 9
- Year 5L: week 8
- Year 5PR - week 8
- Year 6D - week 8
- Year 6V - week 9

Please make every effort to attend this first interview.

Student of the Week
This section will appear every week in the Newsletter and provides the students with a chance to shine. Students are awarded a Student of the Week Certificate for displaying high achievement levels or efforts in the classroom and quality behaviour and positive attitudes.

Prep BK Sam L Meredith S
Prep J Sophie E
1C Lilly C Lachlan W
1GM Tyler M
1L Zeb R
2KC Lukkah R
2L Nate P
2V Charlie G
3B Lilly D Isabelle L
3W Isabelle H
4E Bailey R Keely R
4H Jayce W
4/5L
5M Emily B
5PR Keenan M
6D Logan T Shakira B
6V Scott B

Quote: “Loneliness and the feeling of being uncared for and unwanted are the greatest poverty.” Mother Teresa

Jeff Irwin

Instrumental Music Notices -
No Strings Orchestra Rehearsals or Lessons will be happening on Tuesday the 15th of March- Mrs C will be away with some of our Woonies at the Strings Starfish Workshop.

Bundaberg Basketball Trials
Last week a number of our Woongarra students attended the Bundaberg school trials for basketball. Congratulations goes to Lachlan S, Bill M, Keenan M and Izzi G; as they were selected for the boys team. This is a great achievement, as there were only 10 boys chosen and Woongarra had 4 selected out of the 10! They will now travel to Hervey Bay in late April to attend the Wide Bay trials. Well done and good luck to our Woonies!

Fiji Donations
After Cyclone Winston devastated Fiji many houses were destroyed and many belongings were lost.
So the student council have come up with a way to help. Could anyone that has any clothes, books, toys, stationary or shoes please bring these items in by Friday the 18th of March. Some student council members will be coming around to your classroom each day to collect these items. All items must be suitable to wear or use, make sure you check with your parents before bringing these items in.

Workshop.
**2016 Easter Raffle**

**Tickets - $1 each**

All sold and unsold tickets to be returned to office by 17 March 2016

**Drawn: Monday 21 March 2016**

**DON’T FORGET ... DONATIONS**

If you would like to donate Easter Eggs, or anything to do with Easter, to the raffle it would be greatly appreciated. Items may be left at the school office.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

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**A word from Chaplain Paula**

All of us have unique gifts. If we were good at the same stuff, a lot of things would be left undone. Some of us have the gift of speaking. Some of us have the gift of making others laugh. You might have the gift of being a great friend or listener. Maybe you excel at math, writing or science. Gifts come in all different varieties. Don’t hide your talents or be embarrassed by them.

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**Scholastic Book Club**

**- Closing 3pm Thursday 10 March -**

Book Club catalogues have been distributed to students. All catalogues are available to be viewed on the Scholastic Book Club web site scholastic.com.au. Additional catalogues are available at the Library.

A reminder that payment can be made via the LOOP app (all instructions are on the back of the catalogue) or by credit card over the phone. Alternatively, orders and payment are to be handed in to the school office by 3pm Thursday 10 March.

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**SCHOOL NEWS**

**It’s that time of term again! DISCO**

On Tuesday 22 March, Woongarra is having another awesome disco!

**Time:** 5:30 - 7:30pm  
**Location:** Woongarra SS Hall  
**Entry fee:** $2

- Scrumptious sausages $2 each  
- Chilly cold drinks: $1  
- Chocolates: 50c

Glow sticks will be on sale at the door.

The theme is **YOUR IDOL**, so dress up as your favourite person! Have fun.

**Please note this disco is for Woongarra students only!**

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**Overdue Swimming Money**

All Year 4-6 swimming fees ($55) for this term are now overdue. We did ask for all fees to be paid up by Thursday 25 February 2016.

Please be aware that, for your child/ren to participate in the fun day at swimming on the last day of term (Thursday 24 of March), FEES MUST BE PAID IN FULL.

**NO PAYMENT IN FULL = NO FUN DAY** for your child/ren.

Certificates will only be handed out to those students who have had their fees paid in full.

Thankyou to the many families who have already paid their fees. This is greatly appreciated by school staff.

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**SPIN OFF - SPIN BIKE CHALLENGE**

"A CHAPPY FUNDRAISER"

Awesome news Woongarra State School have 4 registered teams! All students participating need to meet at the YMCA in Queen Street 3pm this Saturday.

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**TUCKSHOP ROSTER**

**Thursday 10 March**

Shani Paulsen  
Tracy Balto  
Natalie Miller  
Leisha Bartholomai (9.00 - 11.00)  
Leesa Courtice (9.00 - 11.30)

**Monday 14 March**

Belinda Loeskow  
Mattie Neil  
Ashika Kumar

**Thursday 17 March**

Shani Paulsen  
Tracy Balto  
Leisha Bartholomai (9.00 - 11.00)  
Leesa Courtice (9.00 - 11.30)  
Kelly Hooper (11:30 - 2:30)

Thank you all for your continued support. Please contact me ASAP if you are unable to attend your rostered day so a replacement may be arranged.

**Specials**

- Mini Pikelets $ 0.30  
- Jelly Cups $ 0.50  
- Mini Blueberry Muffins $ 0.50

**Help wanted in the Tuckshop**

Lyn Dobbs  
Convenor  
(H) 4152 6381  
(M) 0418 235 722

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**WANTED**

**Sponsors for our School Newsletter**

Once again, it is time to find sponsors for the next twelve months supply of newsletter covers. If you wish to be a sponsor for the next order, please phone Chris on 41506333. Each ‘block’ will cost approximately $110.

**FREE MASSAGE WEEKEND**

12 & 19 March!!!

A Working Body Massage Clinic, 23 Boston Street, Bundaberg  
Becky & Aaron are giving away 30min massages all weekend.  
Call Becky 0457 355 611 to book your spot!  
COME AND TRY … IT’S FREE!