Dear Parents, Staff and Students:

Proud to be a Woonie!!

Having now completed four years at Woongarra, I am proud to call myself a Woonie!! Parents and guardians, you have every right to be proud of your children and your school. This hasn’t just happened but has been achieved by cooperation between school and home. The 5 Bs are five simple expectations we apply with all students at Woongarra State School and I know you must at home too.

Be RESPECTFUL of yourself, others and property.

Be POSITIVE: Give it your best shot.

Be RESPONSIBLE: Be safe and aware.

Be PROUD: Take pride in yourself, your work and your school.

Be TOLERANT: Understanding of others’ ideas, beliefs and feelings.

I also love the way these expectations are woven into the school song. The words of this wonderful song are recorded below:

1. Woongarra, we are red and green.
   Always ready, always keen.
   Proud to represent our school,
   Be it on the field or in the pool.

Chorus
We are Woonies, standing strong.
We are Woonies, at Woongarra we belong.
Everyone knows they belong.
Onward and upward, moving on.

2. We love to welcome a new guest
   With the Woonie insignia emblazoned on our chest.
   In school spirit we are strong.
   Everyone knows they belong.

3. Here at Woongarra we try our best.
   Until it’s finished, we do not rest.
   And when it is done,
   We all know we can have some fun.

Chorus
We’re respectful, we’re responsible,
We’re positive.
We are tolerant and proud
And that’s just how it is.

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools

At this time each year we invite parents to consider nominating their children in Years 3-6 to compete in ICAS. The competitions form the largest independent assessment program for schools available in Australia, Asia and the Pacific region.

All competing students receive a certificate and result sheet. These certificates, result sheets and test booklets are distributed to individual students when results are returned to the school. Each competition costs $8.00.

**Science:** Tuesday 31 May

**English:** Tuesday 2 August

**Mathematics:** Tuesday 16 August

Parents interested in registering students are asked to forward money in an envelope with competitions clearly indicated and your child’s name and class. **Nominations will be accepted until Friday 24 March.**

ICY CUPS

Wednesdays
second lunch break

$0.25 ½ cup for Prep students

$0.50 full cup

Each student may purchase 1 icy cup for themselves only!
Every Day Counts

Our school encourages all parents and members of our community to support the State Government initiative to improve student attendance.

The program – Every Day Counts – has four key messages:

- all children should be enrolled and attend school on every school day;
- schools should monitor and create ways to improve attendance in schools;
- attendance is the responsibility of everyone in the community;
- children may find themselves in unsafe situations if they choose not to attend or skip school.

While most students attend school consistently, there are a small number of students who are absent from school without an acceptable reason and this may harm their education. Going shopping, a birthday, visiting family, staying up late and being tired are not acceptable reasons to be away from school.

Research shows that, if your child has a record of good attendance, they are more likely to achieve high results in the future. If your child is away, you need to let the school know the reasons beforehand, or within two days of returning to school.

We are aiming to have an attendance rate, across the school, above 94% every day for every child. Think of it this way; if a child’s attendance is only 90% they miss approximately 20 days of school in a year…that is 4 weeks of school. Over 10 years of schooling that is a whole year. No child can afford that much time off!!

Our attendance rate across the school for the first two weeks of school was 97%. A great start exceeding our target!! Week three we hit the target rate of 94% but Friday was only 92% attendance. Let’s all make the effort to ensure “every day counts!!”

Please remember that if you are to be away for more than 10 continuous days of school you must approach the school for an exemption from compulsory schooling (e.g. extended family holiday).

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.

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<tr>
<th>Prep BK</th>
<th>Marley W</th>
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<td>Connor S</td>
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<td>1L</td>
<td>Zoe T</td>
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<td>2KC</td>
<td>Georgia G</td>
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<td>Bella D</td>
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Quote: “You have to dance like nobody is watching, dream like you will live forever, live like you are going to die tomorrow and love like it’s never going to hurt”

Jeff Irwin

Instrumental Music

Please ensure forms have been handed in at the office and fees paid so that your student can start lessons immediately. Students also need to have everything listed on their equipment list.

Band students playing on assembly

Make sure you bring your instrument to play on assembly this Friday and start setting up in the hall straight after morning tea.

Lisa Palmer

Gismos Gadgets and Machines

Tuesday 1 March

Prep- Year 6 $5.00

Our first performance for the year has the aim of raising students’ interest in robots and technology. The robot Algatron is joined by Metal Mickey, Ocker Bird-Dog, the talking bird, and Gismo, an amazing robot mask, worn by a volunteer from the audience. Songs and dance routines combine with explanations of how robots work to tweak students’ fascination with Technology and Science.

As is usual with school performances, the curriculum is supported, and it is expected that all students will attend to learn and enjoy.
**Polo Shirts in House Colours $20**
The P&C has sourced polo shirts in House colours with the House name printed on the back. Samples will be displayed in the glass cabinets near the main toilet block and there is also a shirt in the office.

These shirts would be worn on Sports Day and other events such as the School Fun Run and some designated days during the year.

An expression of interest form has been sent home with the oldest sibling. If you would be interested in purchasing a shirt, please complete the form below and return to the school office by Friday 19 February 2016. **At this stage, we are seeking an expression of interest only. Please do not send money.**

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**Bundaberg BMX Club Sign on Day**
The Bundaberg BMX Club will be holding its annual sign on day on Sunday 21 February 2 at the BMX Club Grounds at Airport Drive, Bundaberg from 9am to 12pm.

Come along and have a go – the first 25 to attend will receive a free showbag.

You will need to bring your bike and wear long pants, long sleeve shirt, gloves, closed in shoes and a full face helmet.

**For more information, please call Ian on 0421 314 042**

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**FREE MASSAGE WEEKEND!!**
20 – 21 February
Sore or injured muscles? Stressed? Need to relax and forget about the world?

Come and see the friendly Staff at A Working Body Massage Clinic, 23 Boston Street, Bundaberg for their annual **FREE MASSAGE WEEKEND!!**
Joanne, Aaron and Becky are giving away 30min massages all weekend. Bookings are essential. Be quick before spots run out!

Call 4151 0028 or 0428 794 126 to book your spot! COME AND TRY … IT’S FREE!

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**SCHOOL NEWS**

**2,500 Census Area Supervisors needed across Australia**

Are you a good communicator, care about your community, and have strong project and people skills? If you answered yes, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is keen to hear from you.

19 Area Supervisors are needed for the 2016 Census of Population and Housing on 9 August 2016 to manage Census operations in the Bundaberg Biloela District. Head of the 2016 Census Program, Duncan Young said that Area Supervisors will play a key role, earning close to $35 per hour and working flexible hours for up to five months.

"Area Supervisors will need to be tech-savvy and have a home based computer to access online training and manage team workloads.

"Each Area Supervisor will recruit, train, lead and supervise a team of up to 12 Field Officers who will visit homes to support people completing the Census. They will also quality check delivery and collection activities, protect data security, and ensure the health and safety of their teams," Mr Young said.

Applicants must be Australian citizens or have the legal right to work in Australia, and hold a valid driver’s licence. Applications close on 21 February 2016. To view the applicant information kits and to apply online, visit abs.gov.au/careers

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
FREE MASSAGE, ALL WEEKEND
RECHARGE FROM THE WEEK
HIGH START YOUR WEEKEND
BOOK YOUR SPOT NOW

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**FOR SALE**
- Kepnock High School Girls Formal Blouse 2 x size 6 $28 (new $38) ea
- Woongarra Senior Unisex Polo Shirts 3 x size 10 $10 ea
- Woongarra Girls Skort 3 x size 4 $10 ea

All VGC

Ph 0439 740 034 Deb