Welcome back to another great year at Wheatlands State School. I trust the holidays were both relaxing and enjoyable and that you were all happy to have a break from the school routine. This year we welcome two new staff members to our little school. Mrs Hancock joins us from Murgon State School as a team teacher on the year one/two class as well as serving the Cluster as a District Relief Teacher (DRT). We also have Mr Craig Nelson taking the Year three/four class. Mr Nelson comes highly recommended by Murgon State School where he completed his final placement. We also have sixteen brand new prep students and ten new students in other grades. Please join us in welcoming all the new families to our school community.

I have been approached by a parent wanting to gauge interest in having ‘Before and After School Care’ at this school. It is a great program that assists working parents with a safe place for their children when they are unable to collect or deliver students to and from school due to work commitments. The first step in this process is to gather information from interested parents. If you feel that you would utilise this kind of service please contact the school administration to register your interest. If there is enough interest we will then investigate the feasibility of introducing a service here at Wheatlands.

The last week has brought several new families to the school please join us in welcoming Archer and Roxie Year 6, Maisie and Cheyanne Year 5, Parker Year 4, Talen and Chloe Year 3, Sereniti-Love Year 2 Khaleesi-Jean and Bryn Year 1. All students have been settling in well catching up with old friends and making new ones. Parent teacher interviews commence next week. I encourage all parents and carers to make a time to speak with your children’s teachers. It is a very important part of education and gives you a good insight in to their progress.

Staying safe during extreme weather events and natural disasters
In Queensland, the weather during summer can be unpredictable. As always, but particularly during these times, the safety of our school community is paramount. To keep safe, we remind parents to:

- keep students at home if conditions pose a threat to their ability to travel safely to school.
- advise the school of any absence due to extreme weather or natural disaster – this will not be recorded as an absence on student report cards.
- if necessary, liaise directly with your child’s bus company for changes to bus routes and/or timetables.
- stay informed by checking the School Closures website (www.closures.det.qld.gov.au/) or following the Department’s Facebook (http://www.facebook.com/QueenslandDepartmentofEducation) and Twitter (twitter.com/QLDEducation) accounts.

If our school is closed, any children already at school will be looked after until they can be safely collected.

All proceeds for the raffle at the Yellow Belly competition to be held at Boondooma Dam on Saturday 9th February will go to the Year 6 Canberra camp. Thank you to Mr Nielsen for organising this raffle.

Once again welcome back to the new school year I look forward to catching up over the coming weeks.

Regards

Adam Head
Hello from Prep

News from Mrs Dunn:

What a great start to the year we have all had. The Preps have all settled in quickly to our school routine and are engaged in their learning.

In Maths we are looking at patterns, we are making them, drawing them and finding them in our environment.

We are looking at our families in History. Students can bring along a family photo next week to add to our display. Next we will be designing and making a family tree and starting a word wall.

Jolly phonics this week saw us learning the following sounds: s, a, t, p, i, n.

We made ants, snakes and turtles in craft to complement these sounds.

News from Miss S:

We have had an amazing first few weeks of prep. Settling into routine, fine motor and gross motor rotations, introduction to Jolly Phonics, Casey Caterpillar, online educational games to assist with laptop skills and of course HOMEWORK! YES, Preps LOVE homework!

My main focus this week was to conduct one on one testing with each student in our class. I completed the Literacy Early Start test on Tuesday and started the Numeracy Early Start test with students on Wednesday. We are also conducting alphabet ID and sight word testing. A big thank you to our prep parents who have mastered drop off each morning, continue to check communication books for notes and messages and their enthusiasm towards encouraging their children to complete homework tasks 😊 I will continue to send home resources based on what we are learning in our room so you can encourage student learning using the same language. The weekly “Cool Cat Times” will continue to go home on a Friday with updates in Jolly Phonics, Number and Home Reading messages.

Please note that our Sight Words program will not commence until week 5.

Important Dates / Reminders for Prep:

- A change for 3-way interviews for Prep students - Now Week 4 (refer to note)
- Library Day - Tuesday
- Banking & Tuckshop - Wednesday
The year 1/2 class have had a fantastic start to the beginning of the school year with everybody coming back ready and excited to start a new learning journey.

In English this term we are doing a unit called Characters in Stories. During this term the children will look at a variety of story books and examine how the characters in these different books change. It has been wonderful to see how interested and engaged the children have become in this unit.

In Maths we are starting with Number which investigates such topics as counting, sequencing, number patterns, odd and even numbers and fractions.

In science this term we are doing a unit called ‘Dinosaurs and More’. The children are very interested in this unit and have shared some great information about dinosaurs. The children also did some great illustrations of dinosaurs on their title page.

Year 1/2 Specialist Days.

- Monday: Health and P.E.
- Tuesday: Library.
- Wednesday: The Arts.

Yours in Education,

Mr Head, Mrs Hancock and Mrs. H.
IN THE 3/4 CLASSROOM

My name is Mr. Nelson and I am the new teacher of 3/4.
I am not the only new face in the class this year however, and I extend a warm welcome to new students Talen, Chloe and Parker.
The rest of 3/4 has tried their best to help them to settle in at Wheatlands.

In English students have been exploring texts to find out how verbs and verb groups can be used to change the tense of a narrative between future, present and past tense.

Both 3’s and 4’s have begun their work on whole numbers and place value in maths. They are beginning to understand that a digit's placement within a number, makes all the difference.

The students collected plant specimens from around the school and drew some scientific diagrams to show off their prior knowledge of plants.

In science we have begun an investigation into flowering plants and their extraordinary relationship with pollinators such as bees, possums and ants.

Alyssa Kresch

Ethan Gordon

GREEN SLIP RECIPIENTS

SHAUN GORDON AND JAYDEN HOCKEY-ALLISON
YEAR 5/6 NEWS

From Ms Fox

We have had a busy, but productive start to the year!

Over the last two weeks, we have welcomed four new students into the 5/6 classroom - Archer and Roxie in Year 6 and Cheyenne and Maisie in Year 5. I am very proud of all the students in our class for helping our newest students to fit into our Wheatlands family so effortlessly.

The first two weeks saw our kids completing many PAT tests in preparation for next week’s parent teacher interviews. I look forward to meeting with the parents of my students to discuss their progress and goals for the year ahead.

With many new routines in place, I am pleased to say that the 5/6 students have risen to the high expectations that Wheatlands students pride themselves on. They have been attentive during learning times, demonstrated many leadership qualities in the playground, been doing an outstanding job in remembering their classroom responsibilities and homework has been completed to a very high standard. Keep up the good work!

AWARDS
GREEN SLIPS
Week 1 - Peter Anderson
- Olivia Fox

BOOKWORK
Week 1 - Maddison Allan
- Tamika Ward

KEY DATES
TUESDAYS - Library
Borrowing
WEDNESDAYS - Banking
WEDNESDAYS - Tuck shop
orders due
FRI 8/2 (wk2) - GRIP
leadership excursion
MON-FRI (wk3) - Parent
Teacher interviews
MON 11/2 (wk3) - Lectureette
topics due
THURS 21/2 (wk4) - Year 6
Canberra meeting at
Murgon S.S. 6pm
FRI 22/2 (wk4) - Cross
Country, Clonoy S.S

CLASS CALLOUTS
GOOD, BETTER, BEST!
NEVER LET IT REST,
UNTIL OUR GOOD IS BETTER
AND OUR BETTER IS THE BEST!

RISE UP! RISE UP!
WITH MS FOX,
YEAR 5/6 ROCKS!

ENGLISH
We have been exploring the features and structures of narratives as we prepare to compare how narratives are depicted in both novels and films.

LECTURETTES
This term’s lecturette topic is "Wonders of the World". Students will be required to inform me of their chosen wonder on Monday. Research outlines will be due in a few short weeks!

MATHS
We started our first unit for the year - Whole Numbers. So far we have worked with place values and expanded notations.

TECHNOLOGY
This week we explored the technology cycle, and the requirements of the assessment task. Students are looking forward to designing their nutritious and tasty breakfast menu.

HISTORY
This week we began to explore the secondary settlements and colonies of Australia in the 1800’s. We will be exploring how the many facets of Australian life and landscape has changed and stayed the same since this time.

SCIENCE
This term we will be delving into an Earth & Space unit of work called Earthquake Explorers.
Representative Sport Opportunities

The following dates are for South Burnett Trials 10-12 years. Please note that these events are NOT ‘have a go’ events and are for students that have a high level of skill and understanding of the sport. Decisions will be made at a school level as to whether students are eligible to attend. We will send information out as soon as we get it. Information only comes out about 2 weeks before the trials. Please send your child to see me if they are interested in any of the following sports. Students will also need to have their own transport to and from the venue. PLEASE NOTE – 10 year olds are listed as eligible, however, they need to be exceptional to be considered for under 12 teams. It is very rare that a 10 year old is chosen.

Students need a permission form, a code of conduct form, a medical form and a project consent form to participate in these trials, with the information about venues, costs and equipment. Please note, this year a student, parent and spectator code of conduct has been added to the forms that need to be signed and returned. Failure to comply with the code of conduct may result in your child’s inability to compete at these events.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHAT</th>
<th>WHO</th>
<th>WHEN</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wide Bay Swimming nominations (These times must be recent 2018/2019 season and swim in a 50m pool at a QSA sanctioned meet. ALL Nominations attached must be verified and signed by swim club manager)</td>
<td>10-12 years</td>
<td>12 Feb (see me earlier than this)</td>
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<td>SB Softball Trials</td>
<td>10-12 years</td>
<td>1 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB AFL Trials</td>
<td>10-12 years</td>
<td>1 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB Touch Trials</td>
<td>10-12 years</td>
<td>12 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB Basketball Trials</td>
<td>10-12 years</td>
<td>12 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB Primary Winter Trials (G/B Soccer, Boys Rugby League (11yrs team and 12 yrs team), Netball, Tennis)</td>
<td>10-12 years</td>
<td>21 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Girls Rugby League</td>
<td>10-12 years</td>
<td>5 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cricket</td>
<td>10-12 years</td>
<td>6 August</td>
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Sue Goschnick

News From ‘The Arts’

This term all grades will be studying Visual Arts. Each lesson will begin with an ‘Art Appreciation’ session. A wide variety of examples will be explored throughout the term. Ask students to tell you what they know about this image of birds by Sunshine Coast artist Jann Kelly.

Prep are studying a unit about colour and are presently learning about primary colours. They have studied red, blue and yellow in glasses of water, building with blocks, beads and designing a house using those coloured shapes.

Years 1 / 2 topic is ‘What Are You Thinking?’ Students are studying facial expressions and the underlying messages. Years 3 / 4 enjoyed an introduction art lesson involving selected images of known and unknown characters. They are embarking on their unit entitled “Patterns In The Playground”.

Meanwhile the year 5 / 6 class are completing a unit called “Grand Shelter Designs” and enjoying a series of drawing lessons using the right side of the brain.
**Dates to Remember**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Library borrowing day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>School banking day and all tuckshop orders to be placed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Tuckshop Day and School parade (2.40 pm)</td>
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<td>22nd February</td>
<td>Cross Country—Cloyna SS</td>
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<td>5th April</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
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<td>23rd April</td>
<td>First Day of Term 2</td>
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**P & C News**

**TUCKSHOP**

Please phone Michelle on 0419650364 if you would like to volunteer to help out on Tuckshop.

**LOST PROPERTY**

Could all parents please check the lost property box in administration for missing items of clothing. Any clothing left in the box after Friday 22nd February will be donated to the uniform shop.

**Week 1 Awards**