NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

SCHOOLS' FIRST – media campaign featuring Wondai!
On Tuesday of next week, we have special guests in our school from Melbourne. They are filming activities in our garden and talking with myself, staff and P&C around how we are spending our $50 000. It will be with great pride that we host our visitors, as in the coming weeks, our school will be one of only two schools in the state featuring in their national media campaign to promote this wonderful sponsorship opportunity. Of course, we will enter again! The winnings were as a result of the excellent partnerships we have with BIEDO, who work closely with us in all of our garden activities.

ART GALLERY – Year 4, 5, 6 Ancient Egypt art expo
In term 4 last year, our students in Years 4, 5 and 6 completed some amazing work in their Ancient Egypt unit. As well as producing some excellent diary entries for their English assessment, they produced quality artefacts depicting features of the Ancient Egypt world. These are going on display in the Wondai Art Gallery which will be available for viewing next week!

STUDENT INVESTITURE CEREMONY – 3 MARCH, 9.15 am
Please come along to Wednesday’s parade, and celebrate with our 2010 school leaders.

HAVE YOUR SAY ON YOUR CHILD’S EDUCATION
The State Government has big plans for education in Queensland and parents and carers are encouraged to provide feedback on what they think about the proposals.

A Flying Start for Queensland Children discusses the challenges that face our schools and outlines some practical steps the Government is taking to ensure that Queensland children and young people get a flying start.

The Government is planning to move Year 7 to secondary school in 2014 and setting a high bar for teaching, learning and discipline standards in all Queensland schools.

A reading awareness campaign to encourage parents and carers to read to young children has already started and an army of volunteer “Queensland Ready Readers” will be recruited in primary schools. These volunteers will read to young children and help them with their reading.

Don’t miss out on having your say on these plans to help shape the future of education in Queensland.

Visit the Queensland Government website at www.qld.gov.au to read a copy of the paper A Flying Start for Queensland Children and share your ideas.

A series of community forums will also be held around the state. Check the website for details of when one is coming to an area near you.

For more information about the discussion paper, or to have a copy posted out to your home, email aflyingstart@qld.gov.au or free call 1800 452 056.
Some parents may have noticed some severe weeding being undertaken near the music room (or noticed the muddy shoes worn home last week from lower primary). A big focus this year is for WSS to build upon their already existing sustainable garden areas and for students to involve as many students as possible throughout the year. In term 1, the year 1 and 1/2 class are learning about gardens in science and have the initial project to prepare the garden near the music room and hopefully start some planting soon. Year 4 are currently doing a Plants in Action science unit which is extended to involve their own project down in the sustainable garden area at the back of the oval. Year 8 are working on their enrichment project where they will design and build their own sustainable gardens and Uncle Noel will be taking various groups down to the sustainable garden area most days and working on numerous projects. As the year progresses, we hope to involve different classes in the garden.

A big THANKYOU to those parents and students who have already donated plants and seedlings for our gardens. We need to start planting seeds and seedlings now as they take a long time to grow. If anyone can donate any of the following it would be extremely appreciated: vegetable / fruit / herb or flower seedlings, in desperate need of some seedling trays (egg cartons or foam boxes) to plant initial plants in the seeds, potting mix or any types of mulch. We should have the chooks back in the school soon after their little holiday. If you would like any further information about our sustainable garden areas please feel free to visit the school any time.

Quick Science Question

By what process do bees produce honey from nectar? a) purification, b) regurgitation, c) denitrification, d) pollination

Answer
b. Bees regurgitate nectar several times, often as a group, to produce honey. Yum! Honey isn't the only thing they produce - they also make silk. CSIRO scientists have used out strands of honeybee silk from a 'soup' of proteins to produce - they also make silk. CSIRO scientists have used out strands of honeybee silk from a 'soup' of proteins produced with the help of bacterium E. coli.

Did you know?
The average shopping basket of groceries in Australia has required over 70 000 km of travel for the ingredients to make it from the producer to your fridge. Buying local can reduce it by nearly 50 000 km.

Emily Grimsley
Sustainable Science Team

OPSM’S EYE LOVE BOOKS PROGRAM

Eighty per cent of childhood learning is visual yet the Australian Department of Health and Welfare found that eye disorders are one of the most common long term health problems experienced by children. More than 660,000 Australian school aged children have some form of undetected vision defect, but most aren’t aware of the vision issue. They assume they see the world as normal, allowing the vision problem to go easily undetected.

To help Australian children can see clearly at school, OPSM has developed the Eye Love Books program to encourage parents to take their child for an eye test. Between February 1 and April 1 2010, OPSM will donate $5 worth of books to registered schools for students’ eye tests. For further information, please visit www.ops.com.au/prc/Year9HPE/news/Year9HPE/DrParmar/eye当 seeing is not the same as being able to see.

Dancefever

Dancefever has continued for all primary students in year 4-7. Most students are enjoying the program and we have been offered an opportunity to compete at this year’s Dancefever Challenge in Brisbane on Sunday March 28. The cost for this would be approximately $20 to cover transport costs. The competition involves dance couples competing against each other (similar to dancing with the stars). Schools participate from all over Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast. St Johns from Kingaroy also compete. For the school to be involved, we would need about 20 students willing to attend.

Please let the school know as soon as possible, if you would like your child to become involved in this excursion. No money is required at this stage, but please tear off the slip below and return it, if you are interested in sending your child to the Dancefever Challenge. If there is sufficient interest, I will start planning for event.

Yours sincerely, 

Mr Grimsley
Sports Co-ordinator

Dancefever Challenge

My child would be willing to attend the Dancefever challenge in Brisbane at a cost of $20.

Please tick

☐ I would also be willing to attend and assist with supervision.
☐ I would not be able to attend as a supervising parent

Signed
Date

Community Announcements

South Burnett Orchid Society Inc.
Annual Show
Saturday 17 April 2010
9.00 am – 4.00 pm
Entry $3 – refreshments available
Flower and Plant Sales
To be held in the Wondai Memorial Hall
For further information please call Alwyn and Beryl on 4168 1695 or Murray and Felicity on 4179 9070.

GOLF LESSONS – WONDAL GOLF CLUB
Children aged 8 and over are invited to attend golf lessons from 9.00 am-11.00 am at a cost of $1.00 per child per day. Monday and Tuesday Term 1. Parents are encouraged to assist with the children in this friendly and enjoyable atmosphere. So come along and join in!