Dear Parents, Students and Community Members,

I wish all members of our school community, an enjoyable holiday and for a wonderful Christmas. Christmas is a time for family and I hope that all families are able to meet with friends and relatives and thoroughly enjoy the occasion.

In this modern age, many families have had to be mobile to seek opportunities and getting together at Christmas presents its challenges. I hope that everyone shares this special time of the year with the people that mean most in their lives.

YEAR 7 STUDENTS

This week, our Year 7 students finish their primary school education to progress to secondary school. This year’s cohort has seen our very positive, engaged students, striving to achieve their personal best.

Arundel students progress to secondary at a range of high schools – Helensvale, Coombabah, Southport, Pacific Pines, Benowa and other schools. Many have been able to access “excellence programs” at their school of choice, which provides an opportunity for students to devote greater time and effort towards areas which are their strengths.

On behalf of all in our school community, I extend our best wishes to each Year 7 student, encouraging each to continue their learning pathway at secondary school, to see them fulfil their potential.

TEACHER TRANSFERS

This week we say farewell to three of our teachers.

Mr Matt Holland has been at Arundel for many years. He is a positive member of our staff and is well liked by his students and colleagues. Mr Holland has supported many children to do their best in class as well as supporting students with sport, particularly Rugby League.

Mrs Elizabeth Gill has served our school for several years. Her positive and supportive manner has seen her students develop positive attitudes to learning and progress significantly towards achieving their best. Mrs Gill has been very supportive of her colleagues and worked very well with parents.

Mr Brendan Giselle has taught prep for 2013. Mr Giselle has fostered high levels of enthusiasm in his students for learning and been a positive member of the Prep teaching team.

Our best wishes for the future are extended to each of these teachers and also our thanks for their contribution to Arundel SS.
Student checklist for the holidays
  Plan a holiday reading program.
  Check uniforms – ready for the new year?
  Check school shoes – is each student’s footwear predominantly black or white, with laces / Velcro
  Ensure books are ready for new year
  Plan some fun activities
  Do some jobs at home
  Talk to parents about safe play

**FRIDAY 13\textsuperscript{th} DEC – CLEAN UP DAY**
Friday 13th Dec, the final school day is a regular school day. Students will be well supervised and those attending will assist in tidying classrooms and generally cleaning up.
Many parents choose to keep their child home on this day – this is a parent’s decision, not a school decision.
Students who attend will be well catered for as per usual.

**2014 – READY FOR A GREAT START**
The new school year begins on Tuesday 28\textsuperscript{th} January. Monday 27\textsuperscript{th} is the Australia Day holiday.
In the week 20\textsuperscript{th} – 24\textsuperscript{th} January, the school office will be open from 8:00am to 3:00pm.
Teachers will attend their Pupil Free Days on Wed 22\textsuperscript{nd}, Thurs 23\textsuperscript{rd} and Fri 24\textsuperscript{th} January. The program for our teachers includes professional development on a range of topics, undertaking mandatory training and collaborative planning with year level teachers, in readiness for the new term.

On the first day of school, Tuesday 28\textsuperscript{th} January, there will be class lists and maps indicating rooms for each class, displayed in the major undercover area.

**PARKING**
This week student’s received a map intended to guide parking around the school.
Parents are encouraged to read the map and decide which location is best for parking.
It is envisaged that our traffic and parking will be easier if the side car park is left for the use of parents with children in Prep and Year 1. The front car park does empty quite quickly and allows children to be collected progressively from 3:00pm onwards under supervision.
Prep students will be available for collection at 2:45pm daily for the first 2 weeks of the new year. This is an endeavour to ease traffic congestion. Children not collected at 2:45pm will be supervised until collected at 3:00pm.

**ROTYRCLAY CLUB AWARD – “ARUNDEL SPIRIT”**
The Parkwood Rotary Club has introduced an award titled the Rotary, Arundel Spirit Award to be presented to a student from any year level for:
Positive behaviour and co-operation
Support community activities
Involvement in a range of school activities
Is motivated and enjoys learning
Supports peers in a positive and caring manner
Initiates positive interactions with others
Initiates leadership & learning opportunities

The award was presented at our Whole School Sharing on Monday afternoon. The first student to receive this excellent award is Rebecca from 5A. Rebecca is a positive, committed student, always striving to achieve her personal best. Her attendance record is excellent. Rebecca is a positive role model for other students and supports school activities enthusiastically. She often gives extra on gold coin donation days. Rebecca is a participant in the dance excellence program and has represented Qld in Athletics in the Discus and Shot Put events.

Congratulations to Rebecca.
Our sincerest thanks are extended to Rotary for making this award possible. We look forward to continuing our partnership with Rotary next year.

*Mick Quinn, Principal*
KEEP A WATCH ON OUR SCHOOL THESE HOLIDAYS

Parents and students can help take care of our school by reporting any suspicious after-hours activity to School Watch on 13 17 88. By keeping an eye out we can work together to create a safer school community and help to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in our school. If you see something suspicious, please don’t intervene. Call the School Watch number, police or State Government Protective Security Service to deal with the matter.

ENROLMENTS FOR 2014

To assist with planning for next year, parents whose children will not be at Arundel SS next year, are asked to advise the school office of your movements in writing. A Student Leaving Form is required to be completed. This form is available at the school office or via email to the.principal@arundelss.eq.edu.au.

The Christmas period usually is a time when a number of families change their residence or move interstate.

The new school year begins on Tuesday 28th January 2014. Should any students be returning to Arundel later than this first day, please inform the school office in writing. This practice is necessary for our school to meet audit requirements.

PREP ENROLMENT 2014

Enrolments for Prep for 2014 continue to be open for students. Enrolment should be carried out by contacting the school office.

While the formal information sessions provided by the school have been completed, parents can still enrol. Every child enrolled to begin Prep in 2014, will undertake a screening process. Screening appointments can be made through the school office.

Early enrolments ensure each child is sensitively placed within a class within the planning stage.

If there are prep-aged children in your street, please encourage their parents to enrol as early as possible.

AWARD – eBook PROJECT

Recently some of our Year 6 students took part in a “boot camp” creating multimodal eBooks. The task involved planning and drafting a written text, creating picture collages and animated videos, with the end product being an eBook, which they published and shared on a blog.

The students gained much enjoyment as they created their eBooks. It was a learning curve for all, teachers included, making use of the 21st century tool, the iPad, to create the multimodal product. Our thanks go out to all involved in making the day possible: Mrs McKay and Mr Kennon for setting up the iPads and Mrs Burger for answering all our questions about the iPad apps. Of the eleven who participated, nine entered a competition by submitting their completed eBook. Elizabeth from 6C won one of the draws, which was a $20 iTunes card for the school. Well done, Lizzie!

It was excellent to see our students participate in the web conference with the wider community, confirming that we do not live in a bubble, as technology links us all. Our school will be participating in more boot camps like this in 2014. Last but certainly not least, thanks go out to our brilliant P&C who had the foresight to purchase these iPads that the students used in this multimodal eBook boot camp.

The names of the other Year 6 students who participated are Dale, Jayden, Lily, Erin, Chloe, Graham, Byron, Page, Brandon and Anthony.

BOOKLISTS FOR 2014

Arundel State School Student Packs for 2014 have now been distributed to all students. Student packs can now be ordered online at www.kookaburra.com.au. To ensure delivery prior to the commencement of Term 1 - 2014, orders must be completed by Friday, 13 December 2013.

Please use the following details to access the online ordering system.

www.kookaburra.com.au
Username: ARUND002
Password: studentpack

All students have received the student pack ordering instructions and 2014 booklists. Please follow the directions when placing your order. If your child/children have not received a booklist, further copies are available from the school office. Please contact the office if you require further assistance.
UP AND COMING EVENTS

Term dates for 2014
Term 1 – Tues 28th Jan to Fri 4th April (10 weeks)
Term 2 – Tues 22nd Apr to Fri 27th June (10 weeks)
Term 3 – Mon 14th July to Fri 19th Sept (10 weeks)
Term 4 – Tues 7th Oct to Fri 12th Dec (10 weeks)

MATHLETICS/READING EGGS/PRESS + HOME READING
All parents are encouraged to support students to access Mathletics and/or Reading eggs throughout the holidays when time permits.
Also, ensuring students have access to books and time to read, is a positive way to ensure their progress continues over the next 6 weeks. The choice of a good book is often all the stimulation a child needs to want to read.

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS
OPENING HOURS - JANUARY 2014
Monday, 20 January 8:30am-2:00pm
Tuesday, 21 January 7:30am-2:00pm
Wednesday, 22 January 8:30am-2:00pm
Thursday, 23 January 12:00noon-6:00pm
Friday, 24 January 8:30am-2:00pm

First week of school – Tuesday 28/1/14 to Friday 31/1/14 – 8:30am-11:30am

PLEASE NOTE TUCKSHOP WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY, 13TH DECEMBER FOR CLEANING.

CAROLS ON THE BEACH
Bring a blanket and settle in for a magical evening of carols! Hosted by Shelley Craft, enjoy singing along to traditional carols with an Australian Christmas twist… and perhaps even catch a visit from Santa Claus himself!
An incredible array of talent will take to the stage, with finalists from The Voice, Caterina Torres and Simon Meli; USA Motown legends The Drifters; Frankie J Holden and many more. A spectacular fireworks display at the end of the evening will top off a memorable night.
DATE/TIME - 6.30pm to 8.30pm, Sunday 22nd December.
LOCATION - Surfers Paradise Beach, end of Hanlan Street, Surfers Paradise.

WE WISH ALL OUR FAMILIES A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY
ARUNDEL STATE SCHOOL – Car Park Plan

Parking around the school can be problematic. The following tips will help the school environment to be safer and more efficient:

- Always obey safe road rules whether a driver or a pedestrian
- Patience is critical. Working with others makes it safer for all.
- Years 3 to 7 students who do not have younger siblings are encouraged to be dropped off/collected at the front car park.
- Collection of older students does not have to be at 3pm. Arriving at 3:10pm/3:15pm is usually less congested.
- All students not collected by parents by 3:30pm are brought to the admin where they are supervised until collection.

Parking along roadside.

**Carpark** attached to council park. Parents may drop children here and they walk along Woodlands Way to lights. Crossing supervisor supports students to cross Napper Rd.

**SIDE CARPARK**
Recommended for Prep to Yr 2 students to be collected. Cars must travel clockwise. Parents must park. Exit to left along Napper Rd only.

**FRONT CARPARK**
Is suited for students who are able to wait for parents to arrive to collect them. Students wait along the fence/under bus shelters. Students are supervised until 3:30pm. Parents who arrive approx. 3:10pm have easy access.

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