Dear Parents, Students and Community Members,

We are now entering the second half of our final term for 2014. Our class programs are gradually being completed, with assessments well underway. The timing of these assessments allows teachers to moderate achievements and ratings across each class of the year level. This ensures our assessment and achievement ratings on students’ report cards are credible, accurate and consistent across the whole year level.

Parents are reminded that this stage does not complete our work for the year. Teachers analyse their students’ strengths and weaknesses and provide valuable follow up teaching to either address areas of weakness or extend students further. This then demonstrates that these final weeks of the year are important and are used to great advantage. Yes, in the final week there will be end-of-year activities either as graduation or in-class activities but these will be fully explained by class teachers.

In essence, we expect that every child will be at school every school day. The usual expectations about attendance, advice to the office about absences etc remain in place. If parents have not been specifically informed of any activity / change to usual routine and there is doubt, please check with the class teacher or the office.

Traffic Concerns

There have been extensive stoppages to the flow of traffic on Smith St due to improvements. This has pushed a considerable amount of traffic back along Napper Rd. This does impact on the number of cars using Napper Rd and the level of safety around the lights at the front of the school and cars exiting from the side car park.

Please respect the facts that many cars using Napper Rd will not be our usual traffic and often will be hurried. Your support and care with this issue is strongly encouraged.

After School Collection of Students

As a back-up for families, students who are not collected by 3:30pm are to report to the school office. Here, they are supervised until parents arrive. Often when parents are going to be late, they call the front office to advise that they are running late. This strategy is for emergency situations only and not to be taken advantage of. We want parents to know their children will be cared for when late in traffic or held up for other reasons. However, every afternoon, there are students who have not been collected before 3:45pm and parents have not called the office to advise that they are going to be late. There is no reason why all students should not have been collected from school by 3:30pm.

Adventure Playground

The structure of the adventure playground is now completed. Further “finishing off” work is required in the next few weeks to ensure safety and precise completion of the surrounds of the area. It is envisaged that the playground will be available for students before the end of the school year. This is but one avenue where the funds raised by the P&C are used to provide further resources and facilities for our students.

Uniforms - Footwear

Our school uniform is very practical and presentable. The standard of students’ presentation to school daily is quite good with every student in uniform. However, the standard of shoe being provided to some students is a cause for concern.

1. Shoes must be predominantly black or white.

It is often difficult to find a reasonably priced sandshoe but we are requesting that the shoe be predominantly black or white. The bright often multicolour shoes that some
students are wearing are inappropriate for a school uniform.

2. **Shoes should be either lace-up or have Velcro straps fitted. The ideal shoe also provides a level of support to the foot.**

A number of students are wearing shoes which are closer to slippers. They do not have laces / Velcro straps and provide little support to students’ feet. They are slip-ons which easily slip off. The small, canvas slip-ons are cheaper to purchase. However, there are some very good shoes available for students that are much better and safer than these slip-ons. We have had experiences when students have sustained ankle injuries and been unable to participate in physical education activities. Students have had to be withdrawn from sporting fixtures due to inappropriate footwear. Further, the damage to students’ feet may not be evident immediately but may surface some years ahead.

In the rollover to the new year, parents are encouraged to ensure all students are in footwear consistent with the above.

**Prep 2015**

Enrolments for Prep for 2015 are progressing very well. The support of all families is sought to **spread the message** that early enrolment allows for the school to plan ahead, for a smooth start to the new year. **Prospective parents may collect an enrolment pack from the school office. Students should be born between 1st July, 2009 and 30th June, 2010. Each enrolling student requires a birth certificate.**

**Planning for 2015**

The period over Christmas is a time when many families experience changed circumstances. This often results in students having to change schools. **Families whose children are moving schools are asked to advise the school office either in person, by phone or email/letter.** Further, if a parent wishes to have advice about the process of changing schools or information about prospective schools in another locality, please contact the office. We are disappointed to lose students, but recognise that this is necessary at times and therefore are willing to assist with any transition into a new school.

Applications for 2015 Bus Passes are due now for all new passengers for 2015. To ensure timely distribution of bus passes in the New Year, please submit your application before the end of November 2014.

**Important Information for Existing Buss Pass Holders**

At the end of each school year, please ensure that the current pass is retained to be used in the new school year until the new pass is issued. Students with an existing bus pass need only re-apply for a 2015 bus pass if your child is moving from Primary to Secondary School or is repeating a grade or is changing their home address or school.

**Eligibility and Application Forms**


Surfside Buslines, PO Box 3036, Robina, QLD, 4230 or email schools@tagroup.net.au or fax 5571 655656. Applications will be processed over the Christmas school holidays. Once applications are approved, bus passes are sent to school for collection. Please allow 10 -15 working days from the start of Term One, 2015. **Prior to Government approval of bus travel assistance, all students can travel by bus to school using a TransLink Go card.**

**REMINDER** - A valid bus pass must be produced to the driver or the relevant fare paid via cash or Go card. Information on fares, Go Cards, zones and bus timetables is available from TransLink [http://translink.com.au/](http://translink.com.au/) or phone 13 12 30.

**Students and Parents Important Notice**

Afternoon Bus 3151

Effective from Monday, 1 December 2014, afternoon school service 3151 will be replaced by bus number 3022. Please note the new route and timing points for bus number 3022 will operate as follows:-

Depart Arundel Primary at 3:05pm, (L) Woodlands Way, (L) Uplands Dr, (R) Greenacre Dr (3:11pm), (R) Napper Rd, (R) Daintree Dr, (R) Wardley Dr, (R) Napper Rd, (R) Woodlands Way, (R) Napper Rd, (R) Parkwood Blvd (3:22pm), (L) Henry Cotton Dr, (R) Wintergreen Dr (3:30pm).

SENIOR SCHOOL SHARING – Years 3 - 7
Monday, 17th November, 2014 - 2:10pm

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UP AND COMING EVENTS

Mondays
Year 5 Swimming

Wednesdays
Year 3 Swimming

Fridays
Prep Swimming

Tuesday, 18th November
Year 6 & 7 Main Beach Beach Activities

Wednesday, 19th November
Performing Arts Information Evening

Thursday, 4th December
Christmas Concerts – 11:30am & 6:30pm

Tuesday, 9th December
Year 6 and Year 7 Awards Ceremony 9:30am - School Hall
Year 6 Graduation Dinner – Sharks Club – Doors opening – 6:30pm

Wednesday, 10th December
Year 7 Graduation Dinner – Sharks Club – Doors Opening – 6:30pm

Friday, 13th December
Last Day of School

1D NEWS

In Science this term 1D has been learning about light and sound. We have learnt that the sun gives us the most light; this is natural light. Artificial light are things like torches, light globes and car head lights. They use electricity or batteries to produce light. Sound travels to our ears through vibrations, sometimes you can observe sound through touch. Touch your throat and talk - that’s sound vibrations. What is the difference between pitch and volume? If you don’t know ask someone in Year 1.

PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

Our Senior Choir and Senior Band will be visiting two retirement homes this year. Leamington Nursing home and Arcare at Helensvale. It is the final year for some students that have been with us since we started touring. We will miss them all terribly. Our Christmas Concerts are coming!! Please put Thursday, 4th December in your diaries. The 11:30am show will involve Prep and Years 1 & 4, and the 6:30pm show will have our Years 2, 3, & 5 students. Our Drama Excellence students are presenting a play and Dance Excellence students will perform a couple of dances. Hope to see you there. We will send a letter home soon.

INSTRUMENTAL/PERFORMING ARTS INFORMATION EVENING

On Wednesday, 19th November @ 6:00pm in the Hall, there will be an Information Session for our School Band, Strings and Dance and Drama Excellence. If your child has expressed an interest in being in one of our wonderful and enriching programs, please come along.

P&C NEWS

On Monday we had the last P&C meeting for 2014 and had time to reflect on the many achievements we have made across the year. We have already started planning for 2015 with some great events for the kids to get involved in as well as the usual Discos, Fun Run etc. Again we thank the many volunteers who have helped us throughout the year and invite all parents to come and meet us early next year and have a voice in your school.

We wish everyone an amazing festive season and hope you spend the time with your families and enjoy the season. Prep students next year need to purchase a pack of sight cards. To make it easy we have pre-purchased these and they can now be bought through our Uniform Shop. We also had a visit from Athlete’s Foot at Westfield Helensvale. They offer us a reward program so that $5 is donated to our school for every pair of shoes bought there. Please remember to mention Arundel State School when purchasing next year’s school shoes.

RED CROSS

The main services run by The Red Cross on the Gold Coast are social support services, to those isolated and vulnerable people who need social connection in our community. One of our services is called Telechat. Volunteers provide free social telephone calls to people living in the community to provide support, friendship and community connection. Calls are made at an agreed time during the week between 9am-3pm, for a 2 hour shift at our Southport office. We currently need 10 volunteers to provide these calls. If you are interested in volunteering please call: Katie Omrod, Program Support Officer – Volunteer Services Social Support, 6 Welch St, Southport QLD 4215. Tel +61 5539 7130 | Email komrod@redcross.org.au.
THINK WELL BE WELL FESTIVAL
Here’s a FREE concert and festival event that’s not to be missed! Aiming to raise awareness of the role of psychology in positive mental health, *Think Well Be Well Festival* has something for everyone. Hot young bands Electrik Lemonade and Mayan Fox join Jahkaya, The Genes, and talented newcomers Jackson James Smith and Scott Dalton for the festival concert, with award-winning, highly danceable music that’s sure to please. The ‘don’t miss’ free community event of the year. Think Well Be Well Festival will be held at Broadwater Parklands Southport on Saturday, 15 November. Join us for a great time. Address: Marine Parade/Gold Coast Hwy, Southport. Date & Time: Sat.15\textsuperscript{th} Nov, 10am to 4pm. Cost – Free!!