Dear Parents, Students and Community Members,

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE

At Junior Sharing on Monday, our local MLA, Mr Rob Molhoek, presented 202 certificates to students for their achievements in the Premier’s Reading Challenge.

Students had to agree to read a specified number of books within a given time frame. Mr Molhoek indicated that our school was one of the top ten in the state for numbers of students who achieved their goals with their reading.

Students from Years 4 to 7 were also presented with their certificates at this Sharing.

Congratulations to every student for joining in this challenge and for showing resilience to achieve your goal.

Our sincere thanks are also extended to Mrs McKay, our librarian, for coordinating this challenge, to teachers for supporting their students and to the many parents who encouraged our young readers to sustain their focus.

Well done, Arundel!

SCIENCE ON THE GO

On Friday (tomorrow) students will be attending a Science on the Go presentation in the hall. The presenter is from Griffith University. The presenter will demonstrate a series of Science experiments to stimulate students’ interest in Science.

This is a particularly valuable experience for our students. The only cost is for the materials used by the presenter.

Every student is asked to make a gold coin donation as they enter the hall.

Year levels will attend the session in the following order – Prep, Year 1, Year 2, Year 4, Year 3, Year 5, Year 7 and Year 6, throughout the day.

PLANNING FOR 2014

Planning of classes for 2014 is well underway at this stage. Students will be advised of their teacher, their room and their classmates during the final week of the school year.

Booklists for 2014 will be distributed to students in the coming weeks. A due diligence process is undertaken with major suppliers invited to quote for our school orders. The successful tender will be the one which provides a mix of quality products, best price and suitable delivery arrangements.

The uniform shop is open regularly in the next few weeks. Parents are encouraged to purchase new uniforms early, to avoid the rush at the beginning of the new year.

Year 6 and 7 students should have already ordered their “leaving shirts” for next year. These will be available early in 2014.
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 roll over to the new year, parents are encouraged to ensure all students are wearing suitable shoes to school.

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 are now open. Already there have been many enrolments. At this stage, it appears as if we will have 6 or 7 classes in Prep for the new year.

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.

PARENTS ARE ASKED TO REFRAIN FROM PARKING ACROSS THE BOOM GATE ENTRY IN THE MORNING. There are parking spaces available. Parking here is blocking the flow of traffic.

EXCEPTIONAL YEAR 12 RESULTS

If you are seeking exceptional outcomes for your young person, Coombabah State High School should be your school of choice. In 2013, our students have received the highest achievement levels possible (VHA 10) in several of the most challenging Year 12 subjects - Maths B; Maths C; Chemistry; Biology; Music; and Information Processing and Technology. This is not merely a reflection of student effort and ability, but also the expertise and commitment from our teachers to deliver the highest standards in curriculum design, implementation and classroom teaching.

(Article provided by Coombabah High)
YEAR 7 AWARDS CEREMONY AND GRADUATION DINNER
11/12/2013
To celebrate and farewell our Year 7 students, 2 major events have been organised. The first event is the Year 7 Excellence Awards Ceremony which will be held in the school hall on Wednesday, 11 December starting at 9:30 am. At this ceremony students will be acknowledged for excellence in a number of academic, sporting, performing arts and citizenship areas.

The second event is the Year 7 Graduation Dinner which will be held on Wednesday, 11 December at the Southport Sharks AFL Club starting at 6:30 pm. Tickets for this second event will go on sale shortly.

Free Dress Day to Farewell Our Year 7 Students
A free dress day has been organised for Friday, 22 November. We are asking students to bring a gold coin donation to support Year 7 farewell activities.

Year 7 Graduation Committee
We are looking for Year 7 parents to be part of the Year 7 Graduation Committee. If you can help in any way please contact Karen Barker on 0414 940 054 or email: bug99@bigpond.net.au.

ARUNDEL STATE SCHOOL CHAPLAIN – Zane Howell
Hi my name is Zane and I have recently had the privilege of being appointed as the new chaplain at Arundel State School. I’m excited about starting this new role and am looking forward to being a part of the school community and getting to know the kids, teachers and parents. I am 26 years old, married and work part time as an urban planner. I will be in the school every week and available each Monday and Wednesday.

School Chaplains are responsible for supporting the spiritual, social and emotional wellbeing of their students. Chaplains in particular have a key role in supporting the spiritual wellbeing and needs of students regardless of faith or beliefs. School chaplains are in schools to provide support for a range of day to day matters affecting the school community.

SUPPORT FOR CHAPLAINCY
There has been a High Court Challenge against legislation for Federal Government funding for school Chaplains.

As you may be aware we have been involved in the school Chaplaincy program for 5 years. Our Chaplains have provided an invaluable support for many of our children and families over that time. Our new Chaplain is Zane Howell and in the few weeks that he has been at the school he has made some meaningful connections with our students and staff.

Scripture Union is the accredited employing authority for school chaplains and they are asking for support to defend this challenge.

This new High Court challenge means School Chaplaincy is under threat. You can take action right now to ‘back our chappies’ by signing a Statement of Support.

For anyone who wishes to support this cause please complete a Statement of Support, at the office or the tuckshop.
CHRISTMAS CONCERTS -
Wednesday 4th December
Concert 1 - 9.15am-10.30am - Prep and Year 1 supported by Senior Choir and Dance & Drama Excellence.
Concert 2 - 11.30am- 12.45pm – Year 2 and Year 3 supported by Junior Choir and Dance and Drama excellence.
Concert 3 - 6.30pm – Year 4 and Year 5 supported by Senior Choir, Dance and Drama Excellence.

TUCKSHOP COMPETITION
WIN a brand new bike with Flexischools online ordering.
It’s easy to enter: Just order your tuckshop lunch online at www.flexischools.com.au between 28th October to 22nd November. Prize will be drawn at the next whole school sharing after 22nd November.

Breaking News Flash.....!
For those of you who are unable to access the internet at home, we now have a computer at the tuckshop you can use to access Flexischools, set up your account and place your orders. It will be available to use every day. Orders can be placed a couple of weeks in advance with Flexischools. So come along and register and order some lunches online for your child/ren to go into our prize draw.

UNIFORM SHOP 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

HELPING HANDS
We are welcoming new families for BSC and ASC for 2014. Please call or come and see us if you would like to enrol. We have vacancies every day.

A few Reminders - BOOKINGS POLICY
As you know we have a permanent and casual booking system at Helping Hands. A casual booking fee is charged when you give us less than a week’s notice for extra days or days you require care. This is because we need to work on a ratio and an extra booking can mean we need to organise an extra staff member. Bookings can only be accepted in writing and will not be confirmed until a staff member has responded. If you have any questions please see Tamara or Jacqui.

It is really important that you notify us if your child is going to be absent from ASC.

Our vacation care program should be out in the next couple of weeks. We are really looking forward to Christmas Vacation Care. We have a lot of fun planning for these school holidays.
Thank you for your continued support at Helping Hands Arundel.

Is your child afraid of seeing blood or having an injection or other medical procedure?

GRiffith University
At Griffith University, we are conducting a study to evaluate the effectiveness of a one session intensive treat-ment for children and adolescents (7 to 18 years of age) who have Blood, Injury and Injection Phobias. We are providing this service at no cost to families. To find out more about this project, please contact Dr. Ella Milliner and Dr Lara Farrell on (07) 567 88317or email e.milliner@griffith.edu.au