Dear Parents, Students and Community Members,

READING
Discussions within teacher committees last week, focussed on reading, including Home Reading and Library usage.

In some classes, every child is reading nightly and having his/reading record signed by a parent. In other classes, there is spasmodic attention to home reading.

Our school days are crowded at the best of times. To benefit students’ improvement in reading, home reading for every child is essential.

Home reading provides a sustained period when the child can be focussed and uninterrupted for a longer period than can be provided within the school day. Children can be asked general questions about the plot, characters etc by parents who are unable to sit with the child. Older students are quite independent but can talk about what they have read or ask questions about unclear happenings, thus engaging the parents for a few minutes only.

Our school has a strong focus on reading and comprehension – aiming for the highest standard for each individual student.

Students are strongly encouraged to ensure reading continues over the holidays, supported by parents. Reading is easier when the child can select a book according to their taste.

The Reading Eggs Program is also accessible over the holidays.

3D TAKES ON THE WORLD
After the week long worldwide Mathletics Challenge, Arundel finished on top in Australia and fourth in the world.

The competition was open to all students from Year 1 to 12 and the stiffest competition came from Saudi Arabia. Other countries in the top fifty included England, Ireland, Canada, America and the Netherlands.

Class 3D worked diligently throughout the week, at school and home, expanding their mathematical intelligence. Everyone did well with 16 students completing all of the year three tasks with a ‘perfect’ result and were promoted to year four.

A big thank-you to all the parents that let their child monopolise the internet over the week. Mathletics is a great way to reinforce the mathematical concepts that are taught in class and students can participate on any computer with internet access, even during the holidays.

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.
VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION SCHEME

The school is again conducting a Voluntary Contribution Scheme in 2014. The Voluntary Contribution Scheme is based on parents contributing the sum of:

$90 per student from Prep to Year 7 for the first child in the family and ..

$60 for each other child in the family.

Funds raised through this process and also through the P&C will continue to contribute to your student’s education by providing:

- Access for every child to Mathletics, free of charge (a saving to families of $99 per child). Mathletics is a valuable online computer program, accessible both at school and at home by every student, supporting learning in Mathematics.
- eLearning (additional digital cameras/video cameras, data projectors, computers and interactive whiteboards etc.) Access to the internet and wireless capability is extremely expensive.
- Photocopying (provides additional teaching resources without the cost of extra textbooks).
- Art and Craft (additional paints, craft materials etc).
- Additional class requirements to enhance literacy and numeracy.
- Additional specialist resources (P.E. - sports equipment, Music – scores, CDs etc, Learning Support – educational games & computer software programs).

Information will be provided to parents re this contribution in Week 1 of the new year.

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.

SENIOR SHARING
Monday, 2 December 2013 - 2:10pm

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UP AND COMING EVENTS

Friday, 29 November Chess Competition – Arundel SS

Wednesday, 4 December Christmas Concerts

Wednesday, 11 December 9:30am Year 7 Excellence Awards Ceremony – School Hall

6:30pm Year 7 Graduation Dinner Southport Sharks AFL Club

LIBRARY NEWS

The library’s Christmas Book Fair continues this week. It will be packed up at around 12pm Friday, 6 December. This book fair is for the sale of books only; pencils, pens, erasers etc. are not included in this book fair. Eftpos facilities are available. All parents/caregivers are welcome to browse the book fair any time during the day. We open at 8:30am and close at 3:20pm each day.

Library borrowing has finished for the year. Please return any books to the library.
CHRISTMAS CONCERTS – WEDNESDAY, 4 DECEMBER – SCHOOL HALL
All families are invited to the Arundel Christmas production this year “Santa and the Wicked Wazoo”. We have three shows this year:

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.

To support the Performing Arts Department at The Arundel State School, we are asking for a gold coin donation on admission.

Please come along and join the festivity with songs performed by the choirs and students from our school. Our Drama and Dance Excellence groups are performing in our play. Make sure you wear your Christmas outfits!

YEAR 7 AWARDS CEREMONY AND GRADUATION DINNER
11 DECEMBER 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 on sale now.

BOOKLISTS FOR 2014 - NOW AVAILABLE
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 booklet, further copies are available from the school office. Please contact the office if you require further assistance.

MONEY PAYMENT WINDOW
Please note the money window will be open next week on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8:15 to 9:15am.

GOLD COAST PUBLIC TRANSPORT CHANGES ARE COMING
From 20 January 2014, if you or your child catches an urban bus route or Queensland Rail train to school on the Gold Coast you may be impacted by upcoming changes to the public transport network. To find out if your service is changing, visit translink.com.au.

Detailed information booklets will be distributed to all Gold Coast households prior to the changes. Handheld timetables will be provided closer to the introduction of the network change in January and will be accessible online from the TransLink website. It is important to note that these changes are for urban bus routes operating on the Gold Coast. Dedicated school services, operated by Surfside Buslines will still service local schools. Information on school service timetables and routes can be accessed online at www.surfside.com.au.
UNIFORM SHOP HOURS
The uniform shop will open an additional day in the last week of school for your convenience – Wednesday, 11 December 2013 8:30am to 11:30am.

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

RUNAWAY BAY NETBALL CLUB
Introducing a new local sporting Club - Runaway Bay Netball Club.
If you have an interest in having fun while playing a team sport, come and give netball a try. Runaway Bay Netball cater for junior and senior teams and beginners are most welcome.
Please join us at our inaugural FAMILY OPEN DAY to be held on Sunday, 1st December from 11am – 2pm at the Runaway Bay Seagulls Leagues Club, 225 Morala Drive, Runaway Bay.
Come down to say hello, enjoy the sausage sizzle, netball fun games or even a jump on the jumping castle.
For any further information please contact us on runawaybaynetball@gmail.com or 0424 509100.
We look forward to seeing you at the Bay!

PARKWOOD SHARKS RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB
If you are interested in joining our great Club, we would love to see you on our early sign-on day from 12noon to 3:00pm, Sunday 8 December 2013. To get a special early sign-on day discount we are offering shorts, socks and discount club vouchers for $190 when fees are paid in full on the early sign-on day only.
Our next sign-on day will be on the first weekend in February – check www.parkwoodsharks.com for more details. For any inquiries email us at parkwoodsharks@yahoo.com.au or call Justin (President) on 0413 534 288.

CURRUMBIN COMMUNITY FARM SCHOOL
VALLEY CHRISTMAS FAIR
Sunday 1st December, 9.30am – 2.00pm
Live Music, Rock Climbing, Farmyard Feeding,
Jumping Castle, Market Stalls, Food & More!
STALL HOLDERS WANTED – From $10
1226 Currumbin Creek Road, Currumbin Valley
Phone: 5533 0312   Email: alock16@eq.edu.au

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.

CHRISTMAS BOTANICA ARTS AND CRAFTS IN THE GARDENS
Come and have some fun creating Botanica Art and Craft with a Christmas theme using materials from Nature. Suitable for children aged 4 till 12.

When: Thursday 19 December 2013. 2 sessions 9:00am till 10:00am; 10:00am till 11:00am
Cost: $5.00 per child       Bookings essential: 0449561674