Dear Parents, Students and Community Members,

P&C SUPPORT
The P&C has worked very hard throughout the school year. There have been many fundraisers and other activities which have been well supported within our school community.
At a meeting of the P&C executive and the school administration held two weeks ago, the P&C agreed to support the school in a number of ways:

- Purchase of another yearly licence for “Reading Eggs” to continue to be available within the school.
- Purchase of iPads for Year 2.
- Purchase of 3 sets of 8 iPads to be borrowed from the Library in sets by classes.
- Extension of the internet wireless capacity within the school, to support laptops and iPads.
- Installation of the projection capability into those classrooms without an interactive whiteboard, completing this expensive project.
- Improvements to the hall – upgraded stage curtains, sound and lighting system and projection system.

These important projects will be very positive additions to our school. Their total cost is in excess of $90,000.
This is a great indication that the support from our community is able to make a positive impact on our students’ learning and school life in general.
The P&C must be congratulated in making the above projects possible.
Further, a decision has been made for one of our major projects for next year to be the installation of a substantial Year 4 & 5 adventure playground. This will cost approx. $75,000. With continued fundraising and applications for grants, this project will be achievable, satisfying a considerable need in our 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.
EARLY DEPARTURE PROCEDURES
There are genuine reasons for students to have to leave school early. In some necessary circumstances, the school is pleased to co-operate with families, to ensure their child is available for collection.

In recent times, our office has been inundated by a range of requests to withdraw children from classes immediately, for frivolous reasons or even at unnecessarily late times eg 2:45pm. This interrupts classes and takes our office personnel away from their workload, often unnecessarily.

There are generally two categories where children have to be withdrawn early from school. They are:

1. The child/ family member has an appointment during the day or at a time when the child’s care is in question. In such a situation, the class teacher or the main office should be advised by phone, letter or email that the child has to leave early and the approximate time of collection.

2. Emergent situations do arise where a family situation requires the parent to collect the child early from school. These situations will be very rare. In such cases, parents should phone the school in advance or if no time permits, speak to the office ladies. This will then require some patience for the child to be located and then to walk to the office before leaving.

In each case, the school will support the child / family. All students are to be signed out at the school office.

STUDENT BIRTHDAYS
It is wonderful that students have birthday parties and are able to invite classmates to attend. While it is not the school’s place to interfere, parents are asked to use discretion as to situations when most girls/boys in the class are invited but not all (especially younger children). Discretion should be used in the process of issuing invitations to minimise the impact on those who are not invited.

MEASLES OUTBREAKS
Queensland Health is concerned about the number of measles outbreaks in Queensland this year. There have been 24 people notified with measles so far this year, three of whom were school aged and one toddler.

Measles outbreaks in Australia usually commence with a person who was infected overseas. Measles is a highly infectious disease that causes people to feel very unwell. It can cause complications such as middle ear infections and more serious complications such as pneumonia (lung infection) and encephalitis (inflammation of the brain). Complications are more common and more severe in people with a chronic illness and very young children. The virus is spread from an infectious person during coughing and sneezing or through direct contact with secretions from the nose or mouth. Because measles is so infectious it can spread rapidly in schools and early childhood education and care services where non-vaccinated children and or adults attend.

Parents should be advised to ring their GP or 13HEALTH if they think their child has measles. Parents should ensure their children are fully vaccinated against measles. Students confirmed as having contracted measles are not to attend school. Unvaccinated children and staff will need to be excluded from any school or childcare where a measles case has been confirmed.

Anyone born in 1966 or after who has not had two documented measles vaccinations or documented immunity should get vaccinated. Measles vaccine is free.

A measles fact sheet and other measles resources are available at: www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/index/default.asp

PREP ENROLMENT 2014
Enrolments for Prep for 2014 are now open. Already there have been many enrolments.
Enrolment should be carried out by contacting the school office.
An information session will be held on:
Tues 12th November – 9:15am to 10:15am
The session will be held in the staffroom.
Every child enrolled to begin Prep in 2014, will undertake a screening process.
Screening will take place on:
Thursday 14th November and Thursday 28th November.
The Uniform shop will be open each day of the screenings. School tours will be offered after the completion of screening session.
**UP AND COMING EVENTS**

**Tuesday, 12 November**
Parent Information Session Performing Arts 2014 – 5:30pm School Hall

**Wednesday, 20 November**
Snr Band and Snr Choir visit to Leamington Nursing Home

**Wednesday, 4 December**
Christmas Concerts

**Wednesday, 11 December**
Year 7 Graduation

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**PARENT INFORMATION SESSION PERFORMING ARTS 2014**

There will be an information session for the Performing Arts Department at 5:30pm, Tuesday 12 November (week 6) at the school hall. This information session is for parents of students wanting to learn an instrument or join many other programs; The Strings, Band, Senior and Junior Choir, Dance and Drama Excellence. Teachers will give you all the information for your wonderful talented children to be able to join the programs.

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**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.

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**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](http://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.

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**NEWS FROM 5D**

Congratulations to the students from 5D for their commitment to learning in 2013! This term in English they are writing a comparison of the novel and film “Storm Boy” by Colin Thiele. Students are learning about Australia’s climates in SOSE and Technology then designing an appropriate house to suit their chosen climate. The science unit this term is “matter” with a focus on gases in everyday life. Last term students participated in art lessons with Mr Ram and are implementing these skills to sketch a scene from Storm Boy. We are also making “truffala trees” after reading “The Lorax” by Dr Suess.

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**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.
Thank you to all who have supported the Billy G’s Gourmet Cookie Dough Christmas Fundraiser. The response to the fundraiser has been fantastic!

WE STILL HAVE ORDER FORMS TO BE RETURNED.
THE FINAL DATE TO RETURN ORDER FORMS AND MONIES IS WEDNESDAY 13 NOVEMBER
WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ASSISTANCE BY RETURNING ORDER FORMS AND MONIES TO THE TUCKSHOP

We want everyone to have the chance to submit their order and enjoy the delicious cookie dough and Christmas cake mix. Once we place our order with Billy G’s Gourmet Cookie Dough, we are unable to place a second order.

Please take the brochure to your family, friends and work colleagues and even take the order forms to your child’s sporting activities. The more tubs we sell the more we make as a fundraiser.

We have included an individual prize program for every child that sells one or more tubs. The more tubs you sell the better the prize!

In addition to the fantastic prize program on offer, we are also offering the following incentive:
Each student/member has the chance to WIN an iPad and our school/group will also go into a draw to win two (2) iPads.
So get entering! For more details and how to apply, please see the inside of the order form.

Billy G’s Gourmet Cookie Dough and Christmas cake mix is not sold in supermarkets. If you want to purchase the cookie dough & Christmas cake mix, it is important that you put your order in by the final return date as you can only purchase Billy G’s Gourmet Cookie Dough through fundraisers such as ours.

DON’T MISS OUT!
Thanking you in advance for your support.
Arundel State School P&C Assoc

HELPING HANDS
We are starting a Junior Staff Member system. Some of the children are being a junior staff member. They have a special name badge and have some extra responsibilities around the service. Zac is taking charge of a dance class. He will be responsible for the class. We will guide him and help him, but the class is all his ideas. Camilla is starting a gymnastics class. We are all looking forward to this. Some of the younger children are also trainee junior staff. We will find extra responsibilities for them. This will encourage a strong sense of wellbeing and help them to contribute to their world.

Some Housekeeping
We are taking enrolments for 2014. Please come and see us or phone 0458 010 769 if you are wanting to book your child in. It is important that you sign your child in and out each day they attend.
Please advise us if you need extra days so we can roster staff accordingly.
It is really important that you notify us if your child will be away from ASC or if they go home during the day sick. If we can’t contact you and your child hasn’t turned up to ASC our policy states that we need to call the police.