Welcome to the first newsletter of 2012. I trust you and your families had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday and that we are all refreshed and focussed for the year ahead. It has been a great delight to welcome many new families to our Wooroolin community. Our school continues to grow, this year with an expected enrolment on Day 8 of 52. As many of you will be aware, Day 8 is a particularly important census date for the school as this date sets our staffing for the next 12 months. At present, we are one student short of retaining a third teacher. With this now in the forefront of our thoughts, the staff is now considering all possible options for restructure of classes and teaching practices. Watch this space.....

The Preps have settled very well under the direction of Miss Kate Corrie. Kate has a number of years’ experience teaching the Early Years and it is a blessing to have her at Wooroolin. In separating the Preps for the first two weeks, we hope we have allowed them to have their own “space” and develop good habits for the beginning of their school journey. Look out for the next editions of the South Burnett Times where we expect a photograph of our Preppies.

At the other teaching end of our school, those Year 6s and 7s interested in leadership roles, have already received their Leadership Package and will be delivering their leadership speech next Wednesday afternoon from 2pm. Voting will take place immediately afterwards and announcements made at the following Parade (Week 3). For Year 7s this is an exciting part of their year: Leadership nominations and speeches, Year 7 Leadership Camp, Young Leaders’ Day and choosing the design for a Year 7 shirt.

Please read with care the Upcoming Events section of the newsletter. This is updated fortnightly and keeps the community informed of the important events for this term and beyond. There are also a number of important attachments which may need your attention.

Also, in direct response to parent input from the 2011 School Opinion Survey where it seems parents are interested in having more information from the school on education, curriculum, and pedagogy, we have decided to take the initiative in presenting a number of Parent Information Sessions this year. Please see the attached information sheet on this.

Many parents ask at the beginning of the year how they can help in the classroom and at school. My response is usually – “What are you interested in?” There are many ways parents may help in and around our school. When prompted, many parents find they have a general interest in a particular area. If you would like to help this year, we have compiled a Helper’s List. Please tick off your interest and willingness to help and we will keep this in mind when opportunities arise. This List is certainly not finite, so if you have other ideas, we would be happy to hear them.

2012 heralds an important year in Queensland education. This year is the first that Queensland will be delivering the National Curriculum. For Wooroolin, this means the delivery of discrete 5-week units in English, Maths and Science. For more information on this Curriculum parents may like to access the ACARA website at http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/.
Slow down around our school

With our students returning to classes, parents and carers are being urged to slow down in school zones.

Most school areas have 40km/hr speed limits in place.

Parents can set an example to other drivers by observing these limits when dropping off and collecting the kids from school.

Being cautious and slowing down in school zones doesn’t make a big difference to your trip time, but it could save a child’s life.

Parents should also take the time to teach their children about road safety and the safest ways to travel to and from school.

Some basic tips:

- ensure your child knows the safest route to and from school
- teach your child to always walk on footpaths
- make sure your child crosses at traffic lights, pedestrian crossings or supervised school crossings (where available) and ensure they know the safe times to cross
- accompany young children when they are walking or riding to school until they are old enough to understand road safety
- teach your child to be alert for cars going in or out of driveways
- discourage your child from playing with balls or toys while walking to school.

Next P & C Meeting:

Tuesday 31 January 7:15pm
at the SCHOOL LIBRARY

Wooroolin State School P & C
2011 Committee
President: Janine Hockenhull Ph: 41641011
Secretary: Kurstin Lanser Ph: 41690835
Treasurer: Sharon Young Ph: 41642167

Accident insurance cover for students

Some school activities and physical education, particularly contact sports, carry inherent risks of injury.

Parents are advised that the Department of Education and Training does not have Student Accident Insurance cover for students.

If your child is injured at school as a result of an accident or incident, all costs associated with the injury, including medical costs, are the responsibility of the child, parent or caregiver.

Some incidental medical costs may be covered by Medicare. If you have private health insurance, some costs may also be covered through by your provider. Any other costs must be covered by parents.

Student accident insurance pays some benefits in certain circumstances should your child have an accident.

It is up to all parents to decide what types and what level of private insurance they wish to arrange to cover their child.

Please contact your insurer or an approved Australian insurance broker if you wish to take out student personal accident insurance cover for your child.
Quick Quiz

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat 14</td>
<td>Holly Paterson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 18</td>
<td>Angus Lanser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 23</td>
<td>Imogen Child</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How well do you know Australia?

1. The Northern Territory has a huge rock called...
2. What is the building in Sydney that has a roof shaped like a sail?
3. The biggest reef in the world is called...
4. Dolphins will not eat out of your hand at Monkey Mia, in which State?
5. The ocean off the east coast of Australia is called the...
6. An extinct animal from Tasmania is the...
7. Adelaide is known as the City of...
8. The capital city of Queensland is...
9. The capital city of Victoria is...

Advance Australia Fair

Australians all let us rejoice
For we are young and free
We've golden soil and wealth for toil,
Our home is girt by sea:
Our land abounds in nature's gifts
Of beauty rich and rare,
In history's page let every stage
Advance Australia Fair,
In joyful strains then let us sing
Advance Australia Fair.