7th February, 2017
Principal’s News

Dear Parents,

Day 8 has come and gone with us comfortably holding our current staffing. As you will know we are full in a number of classes so that is something we will need to keep an eye on moving forward. All in all though we predicted pretty well and things are pretty much status quo at this stage. Thank you for your support during this time.

Our SMS daily absence reporting is well underway so expect a message if your child is away. Responding to it is easy and then your absence can be easily updated. The message will be pretty simple usually just stating the date, that your child is away and asking you to make contact with the school. It is mandatory that we contact parents if your child has an unexplained absence so if that happens please expect an SMS or phone call from the school. It is important to keep us informed if your child is going to be away. Please note as well that even explained absences that go on for too long will need to be addressed. Every child — every day is the best way to ensure that your child develops socially and academically at school.

Please be aware that we are taking a firm stance on unacceptable language and physical contact at school and so your child may find that they have received a consequence for that sort of behaviour. We appreciate as well that as parents you model acceptable language when you are in any area where our children can hear you speaking. Thank you.

We have some supervised break time swims coming up that are fund raisers. Cost will be a gold coin donation. They are as follows:
- Tuesday the 7th – Year 5 – first break, Year 3 – second break
- Wednesday the 8th – Year 6 – first break
- Thursday the 9th – Year 4 - first break

This Friday is the Year 3 – 6 Swimming Carnival which will be a great day for the students as usual. We look forward to parents coming along and helping if necessary. By all accounts the weather we are experiencing will continue. According to the forecasts at this stage it will become more severe on Saturday so as long as that doesn’t occur earlier we will have the normal hot weather we expect at this time of year. Please ensure that your child has all the sun safety gear that they will need. Shade is provided up at the pool and they will be swimming from time to time in events but it will still be a very warm day.

A reminder to notify the school if your child is going to be, or has been away. If those absences are unexplained then we have certain legal requirements around them that culminate in parents receiving phone calls, letters etc. In the case of any absence please ring the school on 54830460 or email 1221_Admin@eq.edu.au.

### Date Claimers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed, 8th Feb</td>
<td>Relay for Life Swim - Yr 6 1st Break</td>
<td>Fri, 10th Feb</td>
<td>Year 3 - 6 Interhouse Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs, 9th Feb</td>
<td>Relay for Life Swim - Year 4 - 1st Break</td>
<td>Sun, 12th Feb</td>
<td>4ML and 4MV - Class markets</td>
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Great state. Great opportunity.
Last week and this week we have had Niki and the Life Ed van here presenting her usual wonderful program. Each year at this time we have access to this incredible learning opportunity in a way that it would be impossible for us to replicate in our classrooms. Our thanks to Niki and the sponsors of the program. If you want to find out more about this valuable resource simply search for Life Education on the internet.

Kind Regards

Doug Wilson
(PRINCIPAL)

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**YEAR 3 - 6 Swimming Carnival**

The Year 3 - 6 Interhouse Swimming Carnival will be on this Friday, 10th February (Week 3) starting at approximately 9.00 am. Students will do their nominations during PE lessons so they can choose the events they wish to participate in. Students are encouraged to dress up in their team colours but must remember to wear a sunsafe shirt and hat when not competing. A modified tuckshop will operate from the pool (see below). We will require some parents to assist with timekeeping and also 8 parents to swim in the Relay at the end of the day Vs Staff and selected students from each house.

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**South Tuckerbox News**

This week we commenced our normal Monday Sausage Sizzle. On the 10th February we will hold the senior swimming carnival and tuckshop will run normally for Prep to Year 2. Year 3 - Year 6 will be able to access sausage sizzle, bacon and egg burgers, cold drinks and lollies from the swimming carnival but are unable to access normal tuckshop.

Thanks Maree Eaton.

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**Gympie District Girl Guides**

“Empowering girls and young women to grow into confident, self-respecting, responsible, community members”

Guides is about having fun, making friends, learning skills and being part of the wider community. We have vacancies for all age groups, including 18-30 year olds. We are also on the lookout for women who like the idea of helping girls achieve all the above. We will train you and help with all aspects of becoming a leader, including getting a blue card. Call ASAP to get started early this term.

Gympie District Guides meet at 19 Shanks Street, Gympie at the following times:-

- **Monday** 4pm - 5.30pm  5-9 year olds  Jenny  0433 385 777  gympiegumnuts@hotmail.com
- **Tuesday** 3.30pm - 6pm  13-17 years  Leonora  0425 850 360  leonora.cox@gmail.com
- **Wednesday** 4.30 pm - 6.30pm  8-10 year olds  Heather  0413 674 457  brownies101@bigpond.com
- **Thursday** 4pm – 6pm  10-12 years  Kaz  0400 704 784  1stgympieguides@gmail.com

2016 is going to be an exciting year with lots of outdoor activities, community involvement, leadership development, arts and crafts, camping, music, cooking, and lots, lots more. In fact, any ideas the girls have, the leaders try to implement. There are badges to earn too if that’s what you want to do.

Come and try during week 3 and 4 of Term 1 and you will find there’s a lot more to Guides than you realise!

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**HOT SHOTS TENNIS EXCELLENCE PROGRAM**

Gympie and District Tennis Association Coaches Brett Cottrill & Matt Watkins will commence the HotShots Tennis program on Thursday 9th February at Gympie South State School. Lessons will be held Thursday Lunchtimes from 11.00am to 11.40am for grades 4 to 6 and 1.10pm to 1.40pm for grades Prep to 3 for a minimum block of 7 weeks. Costs will be $75.00/pupil, $140.00 for 2 children or $190.00 for 3 children in the same family. To register for the program please contact Brett Cottrill on 0417746795 or return the completed form back to the office by Thursday 9th February.

Name............................................................................................................ Age................. Grade/Class.....................

Contact Phone/s............................................................................................. Email............................................................

Parent or Guardian Signature.......................................................................

We accept the Get Started Sporting Vouchers. Cash or Cheques made payable to Brett Cottrill please. Direct Deposit B A COTTRILL BSB 014585 ACCT 583359786 students name as reference please. Join our Excellence Program and our weekly Hot Shots Competition for 1 child $140, 2 children $200 or 3 children $250 per term. Our Hot Shots Competitions start Thursday 2nd February at The Reg English Tennis Centre on Cartwright Rd from 3.30pm. Every player who registers receives FREE Gympie Junior Tennis Membership and Tennis Australia Membership.
BREKKY CLUB
Just a reminder that Brekky club commenced again this week. Brekky Club is free & will be serving toast, milk & fruit. Everyone is welcome to come. Hope to see you there.

STRING NEWS
Your children have had an excellent start to the ‘string’ year. I am happy to announce our morning rehearsal for String Ensemble will start next week (Wk4). This involves all year 5 and 6 children and will begin at 8.00am sharp in our string teaching area. I look forward to a productive and fun environment with performances at school and the Gympie Eisteddfod later this year.

Many thanks for helping with the commitment to this weekly rehearsal as we are only as good as our regular practice sessions with all members on board.
The Year 4’s will be joining us in Term 2.
Ms Luke (Strings)

BRING HOME A BIG BROTHER OR SISTER AND BRING FRENCH CULTURE TO LIFE!
Why not volunteer to host an international student from France mid year? We have a small group of delightful French students coming to Australia for 10 weeks to immerse in local Australian culture, experience our High schools, sports, environment and lifestyle. Arriving in June, all the French students are around 15 years old, speak excellent English, have their own spending money, cover all school expenses, and we arrange all aspects of their program. They are looking forward to joining an Australian family for a short term. It’s fun and interesting to help these young people achieve their Australian dream. If you’d like know more, please email your interest to Rob at Inter Cultural Management on rob.lindsay@icm-education.com.au or call 0438 689828.

DISTRICT SPORT SELECTION TRIALS
Students turning 10 (born 2007), 11 (born 2006) and 12 (born 2005) are eligible to participate in District Sports Selection Trials. Interested students should play the sport regularly and have an above average skill level in their chosen sport/s. Please see Miss Moy to get a Permission Note if you would like to attend any District Sports Trials as you have to be nominated through the School to participate. Keep an eye on the Date Claimers to know when District Trials are coming up. Please be aware that if you attend District Sport Trials, it is your parents responsibility to transport you to and from the venue.

P & C - AGM
Annual General Meeting has been set for Tonight
Tuesday 7th February 2017
AGM will commence at 7.00pm in the Conference Room
AGM will be followed by general meeting