Dear Condamine State School Families,

Welcome back
Big welcome back to term 3, Semester 2, 2014. First two weeks back at school have been fantastic and all students have returned recharged, refreshed and eager to learn. We have lots of wonderful things planned for this term so make sure you keep an eye out for our newsletter, website and any important notes making their way home.

New students – Playgroup – time, dates, rules etc.
On Thursday 31st of July will be beginning our school transition program. In this program we are looking to invite future students into our school to be a part of a transition program.

The official title for this program will be: Playgroup on a school site
This program will cater for children from birth to school age with parents remaining on site (if parents choose to car pool, not all parents are required). Our program will be facilitated by Mrs Alison Topp. The program will be held on Thursday’s between 9am-11am. Our first session will start Thursday 31st July, 2014. In this session we will be able to go into more details with interested parents. If you have any queries or questions regarding the program, please call Mr Duffy on 46 277 147.

Intensive Support starting date
On Wednesday the 30th of July Mrs Alison Topp will be joining us once again to work with small groups of students in an intensive program. The program will run till the middle of term 4, 2014 and will run between 9.00am – 11:00am on Tuesday’s and Wednesday’s. We are all excited to be able to run a program for our students as it allows us to give students extra support in key areas. Our overall goal of the project is to improve student learning.

Naming winter clothes
Just a reminder to parents about naming students clothing. We have had a lot of winter clothing left in and around the school. It makes it very difficult to track down their owners if these articles of clothing are not named. Could you please do a check of your child’s clothing to make sure they are clearly labelled. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

$500 Hart sport voucher – iAIM Project
The iAIM (Increasing Activity & Intelligent Minds) Project is a Queensland Government initiative aiming to develop and share innovative tailored strategies and approaches to support Darling Downs South West Region schools and teachers to regularly incorporate physical activity for children in school time. The dedicated teaching staff at our school collated ideas and entered a submission into a competition to share the innovative practices we currently incorporate in our school and classrooms as ‘great practice’ ideas. Our school was successful and won a $500 HART SPORT voucher as recognition of our great work! Congratulations to our staff members who submitted their teaching strategies and ideas to the competition.

The iAIM Project key message that is supported by Queensland Health and the Bureau of Statistics is that children and young people should be participating in at least 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity every day, along with healthy eating, for a healthy lifestyle. Remember to keep active and find your 60 minutes of physical activity every day!
School Opinion Survey – Due Date - 3rd August
Earlier this week the school sent our School Opinion Surveys to parents. This process is a very valuable one as it allows parents, students and staff to have their say about our school. It would be greatly appreciated if you could fill out this survey before the due date: August 3rd, 2014. Staff and students have this week completed our surveys and we look forward to seeing the results in September.

Reading Folders
Just a reminder about reading folders. Extremely important that reading folders are brought in every single day. Reading every night is a mandatory part of homework (10mins – 30mins). A reminder that Condi Coins are given to students for completing this nightly homework task.

New shade structure
Last year one of our shade structures was destroyed in a storm. We are pleased to announce that over the past 2 weeks work has been started and completed on our new shade structure. It looks fantastic and everyone is excited about having a nice shady place to play at playtime.

Mr Michael Grose
Keep an eye out in upcoming newsletters for education based articles written be Mr Michael Grose. Michael is an author. His popular parenting columns appear in newspapers and magazines across Australia. He appears regularly on television including Channel 10’s The Circle, and is a popular & entertaining speaker as well as a frequent columnist for a variety of written media. He also has a regular fortnightly half hour parenting segment on ABC radio Victoria. Michael has an education background and holds a Master of Educational Studies. He provides a valuable insight into families and education. Always a good read!

National Literacy and Numeracy Week
25th August – 31st August is this year’s National Literacy and Numeracy Week. Below is the link to the website. Lots of wonderful information for teachers and parents. Log on and check it out:
http://www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au

Interhouse Athletics
Nurture your child’s thinking skills

Take advantage of your role modelling position and take an active interest in your child’s learning and in the activities, such as reading and questioning, that foster learning.

How can you nurture your child’s thinking life in the pre-primary and primary years? The purpose is not so much for your child to excel at school, but to instil a desire to learn and the ability to think for themselves and be resilient enough to resist following the crowd in thoughts as well as actions.

Children spend more time at home than at school yet parents often feel most children’s learning occurs behind the classroom door. Learning is natural and has no boundaries and can happen anywhere.

Parents teach their children both implicitly and explicitly. Take advantage of your role modelling position and take an active interest in your child’s learning and in the activities, such as reading and questioning, that foster learning. If your child sees you reading and taking an interest in a myriad of subjects he or she will be more interested in reading and more than likely develop a sense of curiosity as well.

Curiosity may be the most important learning behaviour that your child develops. Bake a cake with your child and see it rise. Make a model plane and see it fly. Help your child dismantle a broken clock. Ask questions of yourself and of your child. Curiosity needs to be fed by experiences and they don’t have to be expensive or externally provided. They can be provided at home by parents.

It is worth considering how your home environment fosters a sense of curiosity and enquiry in children. Consider the following:

- **Spaces for doing and thinking:** Look at your home through the eyes of a child and his or her learning needs. Do you have spaces that invite your child to explore, create and think? Do you have a quiet place for reading and drawing? Do you have a space for kids to be creative and messy? Do you have a place for noise and music? Do you have a space for kids to be tactile with plenty of textures (this can be outside or inside)?

- **Materials:** Look at the materials available that can stimulate the senses of a child. These include art materials, books, costumes and masks, sketch pads, construction materials, puzzles and games. Take a minimalist approach. That is, the more bells and whistles that a toy has the less opportunity a child has to be creative with it. Kids don’t need much to be creative.

- **The role of television:** Some specifically designed children’s programs such as Play School are great but much of television promotes a spectator mode of consciousness and suppresses active thinking. Don’t let the TV dominate your child’s free time.

- **Teachable moments:** Be on the lookout for teachable moments. These are the opportunities to explain, question and prompt exploration with your child. Looking at insect wings, ants walking in a line or moths flying around the lights can provide teachable moments as long as you are lead by your child and don’t get too heavy handed with the ‘lessons’ learned. Sometimes the experience is enough.

Nurturing in children the ability to think openly about their world starts with their own environment. It involves a mixture of free, open exploration on their own and interactions with adults that stimulate discussions and prompt them to explore new ideas and think. It is these types of experiences that can foster in kids a love of learning and thinking that can help them succeed at school and beyond.

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For more ideas, support and advice for all your parenting challenges visit: www.parentingideas.com.au
Soft Mats For Sale
Ideal for protecting the backs of utes or protect your deck. They’re approximately 1m by 1m. $15 each or for 3 or $40.

Thank You

Mr James Duffy
Acting Principal

**SWPBS (School Wide Positive Behaviour Scheme)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Focus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/4</td>
<td><strong>Respect – Classroom</strong></td>
<td><strong>Respect Others</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td><strong>Respect – Whole School</strong></td>
<td><strong>Play Fair</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/8</td>
<td><strong>Respect – Open Areas</strong></td>
<td><strong>Speak to each others in a friendly way</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td><strong>Respect – Classroom</strong></td>
<td><strong>Listen to my Teacher/Teacher Aide</strong></td>
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**OUR SCHOOL CREED**

I’m proud of who I am and where I’m from.
I love my country and my school.
I respect my teachers and my friends.
May I do my best:
to enjoy my time at school,
to be a good friend,
to be honest and obedient
and to learn.

HONOUR AND ENDEAVOUR
P-3 CLASSROOM

It has been a great start back at school for term 3. Students in the P-3 class have thoroughly enjoyed writing about their holiday experiences, both good and bad, and sharing these with the whole class. The students have started their new English and Maths units. This term the English units focus on poetry (Prep-Year 2) and the portrayal of characters and experiences (Year 3). In Maths students have begun the unit by sorting objects, revisiting number patterns (Prep-Year2), and learning about multiplication and division (Year 3).

This week the students have had the pleasure of a visit from the teachers at Columboola. Students spent the day learning about aboriginal artefacts, dot painting, and playing aboriginal games. Garden Club members have begun picking snow peas and carrots, replanting vegie gardens, and making plans for new vegie gardens.

CHALLENGE: Ask your child how to say hello in German.

Kind regards,
Miss Walker, Mrs Eather, Mrs Bobo

Year 4 – 7 Classroom News

Great start in the year 4-7 classroom. All students have had a well deserved break and are looking forward to an exciting term.
In English students will be looking at a variety of different styles of poetry with the year 4’s writing their own humorous poem and year 5-7’s analysing a range of poems for their folios.
It will be a busy time in the Maths classroom with students learning about measurement, mL, L, working with multiplication and mental calculation strategies.
Big thanks to members of the 4-7 class on their excellent effort earlier in the week at our Sports Carnival. Behaviour, effort, team work and enthusiasm were all first class. Well done to students who received 1st, 2nd, 3rd and well done ribbons for their events. Congratulations to students who won age champion awards and of course a big congratulations to JONES who this year took out the overall trophy.

Mr James Duffy

Year 4 – 7 Classroom News

English
Each Thursday we are spending time developing vocabulary through a range of literature. This term we will be studying a book by Frances Hodgson Burnett, author of “The Secret Garden”, “The Little Princess” and “Little Lord Fauntleroy” among others, called “The Lost Prince”. The emphasis is very much on widening the students’ vocabulary to improve their reading and writing skills.

Science
The topic for this semester is “Living Things”. Ask the year 5-7 students about the Water holding Frog and the way it has been adapted to its environment.

Geography
Year 3 and 4 are currently learning about vegetation and the different types of vegetation around the world while year 5-7 are learning about diversity in our society.

Mrs Christine Snars
CONGRATULATIONS!!

Well done to Goff who recently competed for South West at the Regional Cross Country Carnival.

Congratulations to the following students who won this years age champions:

5 yrs - Brodie and Annabel, 6 yrs Millie, 7 yrs Mitchell, 8 yrs Travis, 9 yrs Alastair,

10 yrs - Callum and Tamara, 11yrs Harry and Bonnie, 12 yrs Moses and Tahlia, 13 yrs Emma

RECORDS Athletics Carnival

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>HELD BY</th>
<th>OLD RECORD</th>
<th>NEW RECORD</th>
<th>BROKEN BY</th>
<th>AGE</th>
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<tr>
<td>80M</td>
<td>CALLUM BELL</td>
<td>13.57</td>
<td>13.22</td>
<td>WILL HORNER</td>
<td>8 YRS</td>
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<td>800M</td>
<td>CHLOE BAUER</td>
<td>3.39.21</td>
<td>3.27.09</td>
<td>EMMA JACKSON</td>
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<td>CALLUM BELL</td>
<td>1.10M -2013</td>
<td>1.11M</td>
<td>ALASTAIR PHILP</td>
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<td>H/J</td>
<td>WILLIAM CAMPBELL</td>
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<td>1.27M</td>
<td>CALLUM BELL</td>
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<td>1.17M</td>
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<td>KATELYN COLLIE</td>
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<td>4.01M</td>
<td>ANNABEL TAYLOR</td>
<td>5 YRS</td>
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<td>S/P</td>
<td>RAIDEN VANKUIJK</td>
<td>7.40M-2005</td>
<td>7.76M</td>
<td>WILL BEETON</td>
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<td>S/P</td>
<td>ROSIE STATHAM</td>
<td>7.85M-2011</td>
<td>8.18M</td>
<td>TAHLIA MORGAN</td>
<td>12 YRS</td>
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DATE CLAIMER

- Tuesday 29th July: Tristars Athletics at Dulacca SS
- Thursday 31st July: Jamie at Like Schools Meeting at Dalby
- Tuesday 5th August: ARD Russell Simpson Visit
- Friday 8th August: Road Safety Visit
- Friday 15th August: Miles & District Sports at Miles
- Friday 29th August: South West Sports at StGeorge
Melbourne Cup Day Fundraiser

DATE CLAIMER

TUESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER 2014

Miles Regional Arts Council Presents...

‘Confessions of a Control Freak'
Thursday 25 July
Show Starts 7:30pm. Doors Open 6:30pm

The virtues of procrastination and the results of mixing yoga and alcohol are all part of Frances’ slightly misguided quest for a more balanced life. Raise your glass to a little risk, a little raunch and a whole lot of unravelling as Frances loses control.

Adults: $15 (members) $20 (non-members)
Family: $30 (members) $40 (non-members)
Students: $5

Miles Artisan Bootcamp (MAB)

Are you an artisan engaged in creating unique handmade items such as furniture, homewares, decorative items, jewellery, accessories, clothing, paper, gourmet foods... just to name a few?

Are you a hobbyist who would like to attend your first market or a seasoned artisan who wants to increase their income? Are you interested in developing or extending your skills to market and sell your work? The Miles Artisan Bootcamp (MAB) might be for you!

MAB is a four month program that will enable you to achieve more from your craft. It's personalised help, mentoring and business education that addresses the areas where you need support to grow your money making opportunities. Enjoy developing your skills and being part of the artisan community!

The program will cover all aspects of your artisan business including:

- Developing an achievable plan to help get you to where you want to be with your craft
- Understanding what website / digital technologies will work best for you
- Creating your artisan profile (the image you present to buyers)
- Understanding why your customers buy from you and how you can achieve more orders
- Working out pricing that makes sense to you and the buyer

But more than this, you'll have...

- An experienced business mentor working with you one-on-one
- Opportunities to attend markets and exhibitions
- Group learning session and involvement in collaborative creative projects that will inspire you

Sounds great doesn't it! If you want to be involved, there are a couple of things we need from you...

- Active engagement in the course, workshops and mentoring sessions. You'll need to dedicate 1 - 2 hours per week to accomplish the Bootcamp tasks and get the most out of the program
- Creating artisan products for sales opportunities
- Participation fee: $100—this is heavily subsidised at only 5% of the full cost of the program and can be paid via instalments

To find out more, come to the information session or contact the Cultural Development Officer
Anne Keam on 4679 4430 or email anne.keam@wdrc.qld.gov.au

Information Session:
Wednesday 6th August
5:30pm—6:30pm
The Murilla Room
Dogwood Crossing Miles

This project is part of the Miles Ahead Program and Dogwood Crossing, Miles through Western Downs Regional Council
UNDER 8’s DAY
Drillham State School
invites you to come and celebrate Under 8’s Day

When: - Thursday 31st July 2014
Where: - Drillham School
Time: - 9:00 – 12:00

Free activities to be enjoyed - open to all children 0 to 8 years old.
Morning tea, will be available for purchase on the day.
Cakes .50c
Sausages in bread $1.50
Poppers $1.50
Tea/coffee .50c

Please RSVP to Julie by Monday 28th July to assist us with catering
(Ph 46276289)
JUNIOR SECONDARY AT MILES SHS

Time is relative they say – well hasn’t this year already flown by! In just over 6 months, Miles SHS will have an influx of eager Year 7 and Year 8 students into our Junior Secondary precinct with our current Year 8 group moving into Year 9. Our Junior Secondary Learning Centre (also known as B Block) is well and truly taking shape. Learning areas for Year 7, 8 and 9 students have been established as well as Year 7 and 8 Chill Zones for lunchtime activities and study. A new playground area is being grassed for Year 8 students which will be in use by the end of this term. Alongside this is our Junior Secondary philosophy. Included below are the six guiding principles of Junior Secondary which are adopted in the school’s Junior Secondary Action Plan. If you have a chance to drop in and have a look at our Learning Centre and the school in general, the Junior Secondary team will be more than happy to give you a tour.

Primary school visits continue this term with our Principal, Mr Sean Maher, attending P&C meetings and Year 7 Transition Coordinator, Mrs Raelinda Allwood, meeting senior primary school students and staff and discussing Junior Secondary with Year 6 & 7 students. Discussions so far have shown that often the fears we have as parents are not the fears of the students themselves who display a readiness to “get to high school”. Don’t forget our team can answer your questions about Miles SHS and Junior Secondary – even if your child is not attending Miles High in 2015, it is often better and more reassuring to have up to date in-

What does Junior Secondary look like?

While it will look different in every secondary school, six principles have been developed to underpin Junior Secondary. Under six guiding principles, Junior Secondary will provide challenging educational offerings that engage young adolescents, while giving them a sense of belonging and support through the changes they face.

1. **Distinct identity** Junior Secondary students will be encouraged and supported to develop their own group identity within the wider high school. This can involve dedicated school areas and events.

2. **Quality teaching** Teachers working with students in the Junior Secondary years will be given the skills they need through additional professional development, so they can support young teens through these crucial early high school years.

3. **Student wellbeing** We will meet the social and emotional needs of Junior Secondary students with a strong focus on pastoral care. For example, schools could provide a home room to support students as they adjust to new routines and greater academic demands.

4. **Parent and community involvement** We want parents to stay connected with their students’ learning when they enter high school. Parent involvement in assemblies, special events, award ceremonies and leadership presentations will be welcomed.

5. **Leadership** Schools will be encouraged to create leadership roles for students in Years 7, 8 and 9. Dedicated teachers experienced with teaching young adolescents will lead Junior Secondary supported by the principal and administration team.

6. **Local decision-making** The needs of each school community will influence how Junior Secondary is implemented in each school.

Department of Education, Training and Employment (DETE) website