Dear Condamine State School Families,

**Camp – Tallebudgera – Term 4**
Just a reminder about Tallebudgera camp next term. We are currently well into the planning process. The camp will be held from Sunday 16\(^{th}\) November through to Friday 23\(^{rd}\) of November (Week 7, Term 4). We will be sending out camp information packs at the end of week 9 (Next Friday). The pack will have information with times, costs, what students need to bring and activities.

**South West Athletics**
Well done to Callum, Tink and Bonnie who last week participated at the South West Athletics Carnival held at St. George. All reports back from the carnival were positive and it is great for students to experience the next level of competition. Excellent work!

**South West Representatives**
Congratulations to Tink and Callum who were selected to represent South West at the upcoming State titles held in Brisbane. Great work and keep up the training. We wish you all the best!

**Under 8’s Day**
Wow! What a morning. Painting, Play dough, Face Painting, Beading, Obstacle Course, Biscuit Decorating. Very enjoyable morning at Condamine SS Under 8’s Day on Thursday. Big thank you to all parents, students, staff for making the morning so enjoyable.

**Book Week – Dress Up Day - Reminder**
10:00am Thursday the 18\(^{th}\) September Condamine State School will celebrate Book Week with a dress up day. On the day students can come dressed as their favourite book character. In class students will write a book report of their favourite book and participate in a best costume competition. We ask students to bring a shared morning tea and look forward to celebrating reading at Condamine! As this a playgroup day we encourage the playgroup students to be a part of the dress up fun. Parents are more than welcome to attend the morning.
**Importance of Attendance – Every day counts**

School attendance is vital for all students. Attendance is something that in education we talk about regularly. I have attached a copy of the schools attendance rate. From this graph you can notice a trend in our school’s attendance. On Monday’s and Friday’s there is a drop off in attendance. With the way our curriculum is structured it is vital students are attending school as much as possible. We have just gone through a very rough patch with illnesses. These absences along with school activities cannot be avoided. It is an important issue and one that we will be tracking through our newsletter through to the end of the year. We are hoping to achieve an attendance rate of 92.5+.

Remember – EVERY DAY COUNTS

![Attendance Rate Graphic]

**Problem Solving**
Starting this Friday Mrs Lesley Van der vlugt will be working with a small group of students and focusing on extending their problem solving skills. Mrs Van der vlugt is a trained secondary maths teacher and will visit the school every few weeks to work with the group with the focus on extending their problem solving/maths skills. The sessions will be take place on Friday afternoons and run for approx. 20 mins. Each session students will focus on a different problem solving strategy and look to use this strategy to answer questions.

**Birthday – Thank You**
Big thank you to all parents, students and staff for the birthday well wishes. Had a wonderful day. Enjoyed my gifts, cards (and some chocolates). Thank you very much!!

**P and C Meeting Date – Tuesday 9th September – Week 9**

**Junior Secondary Visit**
Mr Sean Maher will be visiting our next Condamine State School P&C meeting. Mr Maher is the principal of Miles State High School. He will be discussing the junior secondary program starting next year. Any interested parents are welcome to attend. If you are unable to attend the meeting, but are interested in learning more about the program, let me know and I can arrange for the information to be forwarded on.

**Band 5 Principal’s Visit**
Tuesday 9th September some local band 5 Principals will be visiting our wonderful school. Miss Wendy Fergus (Drillham), Mr Mark Thompson (Dulacca), Mrs Robyn Westman (Grosmont) and Miss Pauline Kerwick (Guluguba). We look forward to their visit.

**Internet Safety Course – Reminder**
Just a reminder that Condamine will be hosting some only internet safety training. A note was handed out earlier this week detailing session times and information about topics being covered. If you require more information give Mr Duffy a call to discuss.

**Soft Mats For Sale**
Ideal for protecting the backs of utes or protect your deck. They’re approximately 1m by 1m. $15 each or 3 for $40.

Thank you.

Mr Duffy
There's no doubt that fathering has changed in recent years. Gone is the distant dad of the 1960s and 70s who saw his main job as keeping a roof over his family's head and bread on the table. An occasional game in the backyard and dishing out the heavy disciplining that mums couldn't deal with was the extent of his involvement with his kids.

Many dads tell me that they want a better relationship with their children, particularly their sons, than they had with their own fathers. Sadly, many men still don't enjoy a close relationship with their fathers, but they are determined to change things with their own kids.

**Here are seven ideas to help you form close relationships with your kids, and maximise your effectiveness as a parent and a partner:**

1. **Find something in common with your kids**
   Dads need something in common with their children. They relate better when they have a shared interest or shared passion with their kids. Many men relate to their kids while being active, and teach many important lessons through games and play. But if sport is not your bag, find something else that you and your kids have in common. A common interest is a great help for fathers who live apart from their kids who are looking to maximise the time they have with them.

2. **Spend time with your sons**
   A dad can do little wrong in the eyes of a young boy. From around the age of five years a boy thinks his dad is like superman. Ironically, he may give his mum a hard time at this stage. Dads need to spend as much time with their sons as possible. They just need to be careful not to push their sons too hard or turn every game into a lesson. That's when boys turn off their dads.

3. **Don't whimp out on discipline**
   Dads are traditionally the kings of play, but they can go missing when it comes to discipline. They get their kids excited in a game before going to bed, then expect their partner to settle them down. It helps if both parents can take their share of managing children's behaviour.

4. **Treat your daughters well**
   There are strong links between close fathering and the healthy development of girls. Dads teach their daughters strong lessons about how they should be treated by males. So dads need to treat their daughters respectfully so they learn to expect this treatment in their future relationships with men.

5. **Say good bye Superman, hello Clarke Kent**
   Adolescent boys are programmed to challenge their fathers. It's part of the growing up process. Australian author John Marsden refers to this phenomenon as the 'old ram, young ram syndrome'. He's right. It's a type of rite of passage that plays out in many Australian homes. Verbal jousting matches are a popular father-son game where boys take great delight in proving their fathers are fallible. A dad at this stage needs a sense of humour as well as a willingness to stand back and allow other mentors in to his son's life.

6. **Support your partner**
   Fathers may play an integral part in the lives of their children but they also have a profound effect on the quality of mothering that children receive. There is little doubt that a woman who can share the emotional and financial burden of child-rearing with a supportive partner is more likely to be a loving, affirming mother. Supportive fathering is one of the keys to better mothering.

7. **Change as your child changes**
   Kids grow up at the speed of light and change before you know it. They're kids one day and teenagers the next. They can catch many fathers unaware. The most effective dads are those who change their parenting to suit the needs of their kids at each stage of development, rather than stubbornly hold to outmoded ideas of how they think their kids should be.

Those fathers who are a little apprehensive or lack sufficient confidence should become involved in as many aspects of parenting as they can. The best way to learn about parenting is by doing it. Children are a terrific resource for fathers - men can learn about children from children themselves. By being alert, watchful and learning to listen to their children, fathers can learn all they need to know about parenting.
### SWPBS (School Wide Positive Behaviour Scheme)

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

Thursday 11th September will see Condamine Staff go to our next round of SWPBS training. As a staff we have learnt a lot through the training and look forward to learning more about behaviour strategies and how we can improve behaviour at our already great school.

**SWPBS Focus Lessons – Speaks politely to others**

Our behaviour focus this past fortnight has been **RESPECT – speaking politely to others**. I am always impressed with the way students talk to each other and how they address adults. Our students will be participating in role plays to act out situations where speaking nicely to people is encouraged.

**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**
This fortnight in the P-3 classroom, students have been working towards completing assignments across all of the Key Learning Areas.

This week they have had the pleasure of participating in Under 8s Day activities hosted by members of the upper grades. These activities were also enjoyed by playgroup members. Favourite activities from the day were face painting, biscuit icing, and crown making.

The P-3s have also enjoyed a visit from Grant Bignell, who ran a Backyard League program with the students. The program focused on fair play, fitness, and fun and was greatly enjoyed by all.

Garden Club members have been assembling the new garden beds and collecting seeds and plants to fill them. They have also been keeping up the regular maintenance of our pre-existing gardens.

We in the P-3 class would like to wish all the fathers a happy Father’s Day this Sunday!

**CHALLENGE:** Ask your child what their favourite Under 8s Day Activity was and why.

Kind regards,

Miss Walker, Mrs Barkle, Mrs Eather, and Mrs Bobo

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**Year 4 – 7 Classroom News**

Condamine Anthems

Over the last fortnight year 4-7 students have been working hard on their Condamine SS anthems. The students have really impressed and done an amazing job. Attached are a few examples. If you would like to see more examples, pop into the year 4-7 classroom as they are currently on display.

Mr Duffy
CONGRATULATIONS!!
To Callum Bell and Tahlia Morgan

Well done Bonnie, Callum and Tink who on Friday participated the South West Athletics Carnival in St George

Congratulations Tink (Shot Put and Discus) and Callum (Long Jump) who last week were selected for South West to compete at the State Titles held in Brisbane in October.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday 9th September</th>
<th>P &amp; C Meeting—3.15pm</th>
<th>Condamine SS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 10th September</td>
<td>ThinkUKnow - Online Safety-Parent Session</td>
<td>Condamine SS</td>
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<td>Thursday 11th September</td>
<td>Primary Internet Safety</td>
<td>Condamine SS</td>
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<td>Thursday 11th September</td>
<td>SWPBS</td>
<td>Miles</td>
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<td>Friday 12th September</td>
<td>Mr Duffy Sports Meeting</td>
<td>Miles</td>
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<td>Thursday 18th September</td>
<td>Book Morning Dress Up</td>
<td>Condamine SS</td>
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<td>Monday 22nd Sept to Monday 6th October</td>
<td>Term IV Begins Tuesday 7th October</td>
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DATE CLAIMER
THE GUMS STATE SCHOOL
LADIES INDULGENCE DAY
SATURDAY 14th NOVEMBER 2014
For further information contact:
Ruth Nixon
The Gums State School
P and C Assn

DATE CLAIMER
MEANDARRA SHOW
SATURDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER

***PLEASE NOTE***

CONDAMINE STATE SCHOOL DISCIPLINE AUDIT

Condamine State School will be having a discipline audit on Wednesday 8th October 2014.

As part of this process, members of the community and parents may be contacted and asked questions about Condamine State School.

The purpose of this is to provide the auditor with valuable information about processes at school and see how clear out behaviour message is, not only at school, but also in the school community. Not all parents will be contacted in this process. However, I do want everyone to be aware so they are not caught off guard.

18 September - 6 October 2014
WHODUNIT?
CAPTAIN CURLY COBB AND THE CASE OF THE LOST TREASURE
Ahoy there mates!! Join us for some swashbuckling fun. Collect your treasure map and follow the clues to find Captain Curry’s treasure. AARRRRRGGHHHH!

Time: 10am-4pm (just drop in) | Age: 3-12 | Cost: $5 per child
Cobb & Co Museum, 27 Lindsay Street, Toowoomba | Ph 07 4659 4900
cobbandco.qm.qld.gov.au
Melbourne Cup Vintage High Tea
(presented by the Condamine State School P&C)

in the garden of Kate and Ben Taylor
"Home-Leigh", Condamine Q 4416
(25km South of Condamine on the Leichhardt Highway)

Tuesday 4th November 2014 from 10:30am
Tickets must be pre-booked.

Fashion Parade by:

Moskie
CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES BOUTIQUE

Tickets $35 pp

For Bookings please contact:
Jenn Philp
0429 495 078
luke.jenn@bigpond.com
or
Heidi Beeton
0427 277 278
heidi@condamineseeds.com

Stalls by:

4littleones
LK Homewares
Spirited Style
Kylie Bourne Mosaics
Scott Bridle Photography
Heidi's Gifts
The Fudge Lady

If your "other half", wants to come, but does not want to partake in High-Tea there is the option of them attending for the "Live Racing Coverage" and having some nibbles for $10.

By supporting this event you will help the Condamine SS P&C raise funds for IT Resources. Thankyou!