G’day everyone,

Welcome to Term 4, which is sure to be an extra memorable ten weeks for our school community, not least of all because on 19\textsuperscript{th} November past students and staff, from near and far, will return to help celebrate our school’s centenary. How exciting!

Much of our classroom work will be linked to this special occasion as we create precious memories for the current students and showcase some of their work to our visitors. It is hard to imagine that when we celebrate the next (125\textsuperscript{th}) milestone in 2041 our current prep students will more than likely have school age children of their own. It is very exciting to think of all the possibilities that lie before them and equally mind-blowing to think what changes will have taken place in the world by then. Hopefully, no matter what happens, they will each have fond memories of their schooling years here and be leading happy, healthy and successful lives.

\textbf{Staff changes:} Mrs Kovacs is enjoying two weeks of long service leave. Ms Clair will replace Michelle for the first week. At this stage, I am unsure who will be the other replacement.

Did you know that babies are born without knee caps? The knees don’t show up on x-rays, as they are made of cartilage. They only turn into bone around the age of three in girls and 5 in boys.
Life Education:
The annual Life Education visit is scheduled for next Monday, 10th October at Wallaville State School. Thanks to sponsorship from the Gin Gin Community Bank there will be no charge to families this year. Students will be transported in Chook’s bus. A permission note is attached.

Students will be broken into two groups; Upper: Years 4 - 6 (9.30 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.) and Lower: Years P-3 (12.30 p.m. - 1.45 p.m.). Peer influences, cyber safety and cyber ethics are themes used to explore decision making in the upper unit. More details can be found at www.lifeeducation.org.au/what-your-child-learned (Your Call module).

The lower grades will study a module called 'Clued Up' which is a fun and interactive session where your child's class become junior detectives to find clues about: what we need to stay healthy and safe, safe and unsafe behaviours and environments, how to help people, safe people and places to go to for help and healthy food choices. More details can be found at https://www.lifeeducation.org.au/images/Parents/WYCL/NewLogoWYCL/CLUED%20UP%20MODULE%20JAN15%20WEB.pdf

An order form for Healthy Harold merchandise is also attached to the permission letter. If you wish to buy anything please return the form and payment before we depart.

SCHOOL CAMP; 17th - 19th October. Camp permission notes and payment are due back at school no later than next Wednesday (12th), however the camp organisers are requesting that we let them know exact numbers this Wednesday (5th), otherwise there are expensive penalties. Thank you to everyone who has either returned the permission form/payment or replied to the text I sent on Sunday. I will touch base with everyone else before tomorrow so that I can let the Currimundi staff know.

Camps generally have a cultural, environmental and outdoor emphasis and are an important aspect of the educational programs offered at our school. School camps are an integral part of the curriculum and, in general, all children are expected to attend.

Students will not be excluded from camps for financial reasons. Parents experiencing financial difficulty are invited to discuss their individual situation with Mrs D. Alternative payment arrangements can be offered on a case-by-case basis. If I can be of help please contact me before 5 pm tomorrow, (Wednesday, 5th October).

The Booyal Memorial Hall committee are producing a historic Booyal calendar to coincide with the school’s centenary. They would like to include a photograph of the current school students but require parental permission. A consent form was sent home late last term. If you are happy for your child/ren to be included in this picture please return the form no later than this Friday morning (7th). The photographer will be here at 9 am.
2017 Staffing: Teacher transfers were released at the end of last term. I am delighted to announce that Mrs Sue Hollier will be transferring here as the second teacher next year, probably in a full-time capacity (certainly at least 3 days a week). Mrs Hollier has a wealth of teaching experience and is very excited to be joining the Booyal team. She currently works at Childers State School.

Mrs Lennox has enjoyed her time at Booyal and done great things with the junior class. Since Kirsty was not registered on the transfer list she was not a candidate for the 2017 position. However, if able, we hope that she will return to Booyal as a relief teacher from time to time. We thank Mrs Lennox for being such a great member of the team and look forward to finishing the rest of the year off together.

Footpath: The Bundaberg Council workers were busy over the holidays building a footpath along the edge of the sports shed. It looks great.

Grounds Beautification: In the lead up to the centenary Mr Kreis will be busy with some beautification work including laying some new turf, painting the deck of the library, oiling the old bench outside the library, erecting some memorial plaques and generally making the school look extra spick and span. Thanks, Mark. 😊

Reminder: Arrival times: Thank you for ensuring that students do not arrive before 8.30 a.m., unless prior arrangement has been made. As always, on these occasional times we are happy to assist with an early arrival. Our priority is always to roster staff from 8.30a.m. so that they can support your (and every other) student’s reading development, rather than provide before school supervision. Since ‘Daily Rapid Reading’ is a very costly project we prioritise teacher aide hours from 8.30 a.m. onwards, knowing that it is of benefit to every child in the school. We have proven that this is very worthwhile, having seen impressive improvements in reading levels across all grades. If other staff are at school prior to 8.30 a.m. they are undertaking planning, in meetings or completing administrative tasks so not available to supervise students.

Students who arrive prior to 8.30 a.m. will be required to sit out for the corresponding amount of time during their break, unless parents occasionally request an earlier arrival by phoning beforehand. Thank you for working with us to maintain the good order of the school and ensure that your child has the optimal opportunities to learn and achieve.

Attendance: As always, I continue to stress how vital it is that students attend school every day, unless they are genuinely ill or other family emergencies or events occur. Absences directly affect a child’s ability to achieve in class, since they miss out on vital information, get further behind and often flounder or struggle to catch up. This leads to a lack of confidence that can have a negative compounding effect. It is awful to watch and can have long term repercussions. The Department set attendance rate target for schools such as ours is at least 94%. Last term our overall rate was below that and for some students was significantly below that. We and Steve Case (Regional Director) are closely monitoring absences as a whole school and for individual students.
The most uptodate 2016 attendance rates for our school are below and indicate that there is definitely room for improvement in most grade levels. Some individual attendance rates are even lower.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Yr 1</th>
<th>Yr 2</th>
<th>Yr 3</th>
<th>Yr 4</th>
<th>Yr 5</th>
<th>Yr 6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rates</td>
<td>86.8%</td>
<td>79.5%</td>
<td>89.3%</td>
<td>92.3%</td>
<td>95.8%</td>
<td>95.4%</td>
<td>85.3%</td>
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A school mobile is currently being set up by Education Queensland’s communication department. When it is operational it will be used to send home messages if your child is absent and we have not been notified by the time the roll is marked, just after 9 am. This is in line with a departmental policy that is being rolled out and becomes compulsory at the start of next year. Many schools, especially high schools, have been using a similar system for some time to communicate with parents and monitor student attendance.

‘Kidding About For Drought’ DVD News:

**QCWA Donations:** Our school leaders travelled to Western Qld at the end of last term and during some of their holidays. On behalf of the Booyal Bunyips, they proudly presented the first of our school’s drought relief donations; $3,000 to the Longreach QCWA and a further $3,000 to the Muttaburra QCWA.

AJ, Jessica and Kaylah were wonderful ambassadors for Booyal Central, in every way. Communities in both towns humbly and gratefully accepted the Bunyips’ donations and assured us that the funds would be used to assist those in most need.

Whilst we were out west it rained from time to time, which was an added bonus. Hopefully this is the start of the end of this dreadful drought, with falls being widespread and increasingly frequent.

This trip would not have been possible without the generous support and sponsorship from so many people. It was all funded externally (not from the school budget). All sponsors have been thanked privately and most also acknowledged on the school’s Facebook page. If you are ever travelling to the Central West we can thoroughly recommend all the tourist ventures listed.

Since drought assistance will be needed for a considerable time to come, even after good rains fall, we will continue to sell the ‘Kidding About For Drought’ DVD until the end of the year. We aim to send at least another $2,000 each to Blackall and Barcaldine QCWA’s.
It will make a terrific Christmas present. 😊 The first stall for this term will be at the Apple Tree Creek markets this Saturday, 8th October. We have been approached to tell some jokes and promote the DVD, if we wish. Please contact me if your Bunyip would like to come along and be involved.

**QCWA State Conference:** The QCWA have also invited us to talk about the Bunyips’ project, share some jokes and sell DVDs at their State Conference in Gladstone on Thursday 27th October. There will also be the opportunity for these Bunyips to meet sports star, Shane Webcke.

Mrs Vaughan and I will transport the children in my car so three students will be able to participate in this activity. The lucky students selected from a random draw of names today (which excluded those Bunyips who travelled to Western Queensland) were Doc, Jayden and Mary. I am sure that they will be excellent representatives of our school.

‘Kidding About For Drought’ is now in the DVD library on Richard Branson’s Makepeace Island. During the holidays I was lucky enough to visit there and meet Brett Godfrey, the co-founder of Virgin Australia and co-owner of Makepeace. Bret was lovely and very gracious. Stay tuned….exciting news to come!

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**Booyal Bunyip Entrepreneurs:** Jayden is about to conduct some market research for his unique biscuit business. A survey will be sent home this week. Please take a moment to share your thoughts so that his venture can become as successful as possible.

Some of the other Booyal Bunyip Entrepreneur groups are putting in a great deal of behind the scenes effort and enjoying creating their own businesses. All students receive training and support in entrepreneurship during our Friday lessons, as well as some time to develop their own projects, but it is up to those students with the motivation and ‘fire in the belly’ who want to put this knowledge into practice to work in their own time to make their business a success. I will always be available to help and advise them during lunchtimes and after school, but (other than gentle encouragement) I am not going to chase them up or pressure them to build a business because, I believe, that this approach does not teach children real life skills. I am also willing to give up time on weekends to take the children to markets/fetes etc. (if they wish) to sell their goodies. The motto in class is that ‘Effort Reaps Reward,’ which is so true in so many aspects of life.

**Help requested:** Mr Kreis is going to lay some new lawn and has asked if any parent with a backhoe or similar might be able to remove about an inch and a half of compacted dirt from the area he wants to replant. If you are able to assist please let me know. Thank you.
(1) What five letter word becomes shorter when you add two letters?
(2) If post is spelt POST and most is spelt MOST, how do you spell the word for what you put in a toaster?

(Both answers are at the end of this Waffle)

In The Upper Classroom:

Homework - homework, other than nightly reading, starts in Week 2. Students know that they reading is to be done each night and return the reading record, signed, the following day. Students who fail to do so are required to read for 10 minutes at morning tea or lunchtime. It was terrific to see how nightly reading improved last term. Well done everyone.

Handwriting: It often happens that handwriting standards drop when children return from holidays so there will be an unrelenting focus on handwriting in all subjects from the first day back. We know that every child is capable of writing properly so if they choose not to do so they will be expected to redo the work. It is this gentle but consistent focus on high standards that achieves results and enables students to feel proud of their work.

Junior Jottings

This term certainly is a busy one for the junior class! In English the preps are working super hard on writing their own sentences. It’s really exciting to see their ideas come to life; they really are doing their Booyal Best and nothing less! The Grade Ones are working on making their writing more interesting.

In Art this term we are working on directed drawings. The children loved doing pictures of minions at the end of last term so I thought we would continue to do more this term, I think they look fantastic!

We are all looking forward to the school camp and doing activities with our friends, as well as the centenary which is also coming up.
Booyal’s Biggest Party  
Saturday 15th October  
Flyer with details is attached.

THE  

A time capsule was buried during our 75th anniversary, 25 years ago. Did it survive? What is in it?

You are invited to join us on Sunday 16th October at 4 p.m. to find out. Please bring a plate for a shared afternoon tea. BYO drinks.

Did you know that the average lifespan of a rat is 18 months? They breed so quickly that in that time they could have over a million descendants.

AND FINALLY......

What is the best piece of advice that someone has given you?

Beau: Do your ‘Booyal Best’
Callum: be nice
Tiah: always be good
Keenan: be good at school and home
Lucia: always do what people ask you to
Hayley: do your jobs
Jessica: be kind to Callum
Peter-Craig: do your ‘Booyal Best’ and nothing less
Aliyah: keep your room clean
Charlie: don’t fight with your sister
Danica: don’t do anything dangerous
Hamish: be careful when climbing trees
Taigh: absent
Mason: wear a helmet when you ride your bike
Danita: always hold a glass with 2 hands
Leeroy: look out for snakes and crocs and don’t lie like the boy who cried “wolf”
Cooper: never walk behind a horse
Deklyn: be careful of snakes
Jayden: think before you do
Mary: don’t judge a book by its cover
Clinton: never throw the first punch
Kaylah: keep an eye on the ground for snakes
Kees: absent
Doc: be aware
Jessica: try and cram as much stuff as you can into life - you only live once
AJ: things are replaceable but life/people ‘aint
Boodz: absent
Mrs D: ‘If the plan doesn’t work, change the plan... but never the goal’ and (my all-time favourite) ‘It is what it is.’ 😊

What do you call girl with two toilets on her head?
Lulu 😊

A woodworm goes into a pub and says, ‘Is the bartender here?’ (It might take a second but you’ll get this one eventually! 😊)
**DIARY DATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 a.m. Mondays</td>
<td>Parade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 14th October</td>
<td>Yrs 4 - 6 Bunyips to Cordalba SS - robotics and entrepreneurship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 15th October</td>
<td>Booyal's Biggest Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 16th October - 4 pm</td>
<td>The Big Dig</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 14th October</td>
<td>Yrs 4 - 6 Bunyips to Cordalba SS - robotics and entrepreneurship</td>
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<td>Monday 17th - Wed 19th October</td>
<td>School Camp</td>
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<td>Friday 21st October</td>
<td>Mrs D away - Childers</td>
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<td>Central Qld University visiting Yrs 5 &amp; 6</td>
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<td>SEAT Spinal Awareness visit - afternoon</td>
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<td>24/25th October</td>
<td>Financial Audit</td>
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<td>Thursday 27th October</td>
<td>QCWA State Conference - Bunyip Presentation</td>
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<td>Thursday 3rd November</td>
<td>Swimming starts - every Thursday until the end of term</td>
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<td>Thursday 17th - Friday 18th November</td>
<td>Possible school swap locations: venue to be confirmed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 19th November</td>
<td>Centenary Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date to be confirmed</td>
<td>Awards &amp; Graduation Ceremony</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 9th December</td>
<td>Picnic Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 17th December</td>
<td>Booyal Community Christmas Party - Booyal Memorial Hall</td>
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**Answers:** (1) short (2) bread

Isis District State High wouldn't want you to be late for this very important date!

The Performing Arts and Visual Arts departments at Isis High have put on their mad-hatter hats and cheeky Cheshire grins in preparation for this year's Arts Gala production of *Alice In Wonderland*. An entertaining evening featuring all the weird and wonderful characters of Alice in addition to student art works, live music and dance. The whimsical world of Alice will come alive **Friday the 7th October** at the Isis Cultural Centre where supper and drinks will be available for purchase. So bring your family and friends and come follow us down the rabbit hole! Tickets are currently for sale from the Isis High School office at 3 Ridgway St, Childers or call 07 4192 1222 for more details.

We always do our ‘Booyal Best’…..and nothing less! 😊