DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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<th>Day</th>
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<th>School Event</th>
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<td>*</td>
<td>M &amp; F</td>
<td>Koala Joeys - 9:00 to 9:45</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td>18-Feb</td>
<td>“Meet the Teacher” afternoon</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>22-Feb</td>
<td>Snr Assembly - 4C presenting</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>29-Feb</td>
<td>Jnr Assembly - 2B presenting</td>
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<td>Tues</td>
<td>1-Mar</td>
<td>Student Leader Induction - 9:30am Lone Pine Hall</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
<td>4-Mar</td>
<td>Cross Country - 9am-11am</td>
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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It’s hard to believe, but did you know that we’ve nearly completed four weeks of school and only have five weeks of this term left? I would like to congratulate staff, students and parents for getting 2016 off to a great start. Our children have settled quickly into classroom routines and it is encouraging to see them hard at work in their subject areas.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new families and trust that they have settled into the Windaroo community. A reminder to all parents to please discuss any issues that may arise concerning your child with the classroom teacher. I would rather an issue be dealt with immediately than have it turn into an unpleasant experience.

Meet the Teacher (Parent Information Afternoon)

Parents in our school will get the opportunity to meet their child’s teacher to gain insight into class expectations as well as homework policies etc. The date to mark on your calendar is:

Date: Thursday 18 February 2016 (Week 4)
Time: 3-4pm
Venue: Your child’s classroom

Year 6 Camp

This was held at Camp Goodenough with 100 students attending. I was fortunate enough to attend Wednesday and Thursday and I was very impressed with how quickly the children settled into a supportive and cohesive group. Mrs Roff attended Thursday and Friday and also involved herself in the various activities on offer. My sincere thanks to Mr Cuskelley, Miss Paterson, Ms Francis, Ms Shaab and Mrs Nabbs who attended and who made this camp such a special occasion for our students.
Animals are not Permitted on School Grounds

A reminder to all our parents that dogs or any animals are not permitted on government property. The safety of our students is very important, and even the smallest and unsuspecting animals can be unpredictable.

Accident Insurance Cover for Students

We are again heading into our sporting season. 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. Therefore, 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 parents have private health insurance, some costs may also be covered through the private health insurance. Any other costs would be borne by the parents.

Student Accident Insurance is an insurance policy that pays certain benefits in certain circumstances should your child have an accident. It is a personal decision for parents as to the types and levels of private insurance they arrange to cover their child for any accidental injury that may occur. Parents should contact their insurer or an approved Australian insurance broker if they choose to take out student personal accident insurance cover for their child.

Emergency Procedures

As you may know we have been having a number of bomb threats at various schools in Queensland. These have all turned out to be hoax calls. This however, does not mean that we do not take these seriously and as a result the Department in consultation with Police services have developed a plan of action regarding this. We have had a practice evacuation this week in order for our new students to familiarise themselves with our procedures.

Coffee - Part 1

Over the next few weeks you'll be able to read my story about COFFEE. I hope you will enjoy the article.

A young woman went to her mother and told her about her life and how things were so hard for her. She did not know how she was going to make it and wanted to give up. She was tired of fighting and struggling. It seemed as one problem was solved, a new one arose.

Her mother took her to the kitchen. She filled three pots with water and placed each one a high fire. Soon the pots came to a boil. In the first she placed carrots, in the second placed eggs, and in the last she placed ground coffee beans. She let them sit and boil without saying a word.

In about twenty minutes she turned off the burners. She fished the carrots out and placed them in a bowl. She pulled the eggs out and placed them in a bowl. Then she ladled the coffee out and placed it in a bowl. Turning to her daughter she asked, “Tell me what you see.”

To be continued……

The happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the most of everything that comes along their way.

FROM THE PREP, 2, 4 & 6 DEPUTY

Year 6 Camp

One hundred of our Year 6 students headed to Camp Goodenough (northern NSW) last week to take part in our Year 6 Leadership Camp. Camp Goodenough offered the students a number of challenging activities. These included a High Ropes Course, Leap of Faith, Crate Stacking, Giants Playground and Team Pursuit Challenge.

These challenging activities helped to strengthen trust and co-operation amongst our Year 6 students, as well as inspiring confidence and a positive attitude in each student.
A special thank you to the WindarooSS staff who attended - Mr Cuskelly, Miss Paterson, Ms Francis, Mrs Nabbs, Miss Shaab and Mr Harding.

**Year 6 Camp Reflection**

After returning from Camp, students in 6F wrote some poetry about their experience. Below are two of these poems.

**Best ever**

Exciting, amazing, challenging
Bushy, mostly hill, animals
Leaping off new incredible heights
Team work was its main meaning
High up walking on the wobbly rope
High in the air standing on unbalanced crates
I found Leap of Faith challenging holding the bars
Camp was enjoyable with yummy food and new, crazy activities.

By Ryan K

**Camp**

Fun, great
Exciting, climbing, eating
Bush, cabins, trees, hills
Leap of Faith was fun
Crate stacking was fun, but hard
The Giants Playground was tricky and fun
The High Rope Challenge was easy and hard
Nine metre was a challenge because of the height
Camp was fun and all of the activities were awesome.

By Tabina

**Safe Bus Travel**

A number of our students travel to and from school on buses. All students have the right to a safe and enjoyable journey between home and school.

**A Code of Conduct for Students Travelling on Buses** exists to ensure appropriate and safe behaviours while travelling on buses.

Click on **Bus Code of Conduct** to read the document.

**Whole School Virtue - RESPECT**

At WindarooSS we encourage a culture of character where respect, patience, tolerance and a joy of learning are among the virtues our children learn. Throughout each term teachers spend time to discuss virtues that help children to be good citizens within our school, family and wider community. These virtues are placed in our School Newsletter so that conversations can be had within the family setting also. This week teachers and students will focus on the virtue of Respect.
Respect is an attitude of caring about people and treating them with dignity. Respect is valuing ourselves and others. We show respect by speaking and acting with courtesy. When we are respectful we treat others as we want to be treated. Respect includes honoring the rules of our family or school, which make life more orderly and peaceful.

FROM THE 1,3,5 DEPUTY

Personality and Character Traits

Personality is easy to read, and we're all experts at it. We judge people funny, extroverted, energetic, optimistic, confident—as well as overly serious, lazy, negative, and shy—if not upon first meeting them, then shortly thereafter. And though we may need more than one interaction to confirm the presence of these sorts of traits, by the time we decide they are, in fact, present we’ve usually amassed enough data to justify our conclusions.

Character, on the other hand, takes far longer to puzzle out. It includes traits that reveal themselves only in specific—and often uncommon—circumstances, traits like honesty, virtue, and kindliness. Ironically, research has shown that personality traits are determined largely by heredity and are mostly immutable. The arguably more important traits of character, on the other hand, are more malleable—though, we should note, not without great effort. Character traits, as opposed to personality traits, are based on beliefs (e.g., that honesty and treating others well is important—or not), and though beliefs can be changed, it's far harder than most realize.

Talking to Kids about Gender Stereotypes

Images of men and women in the media are often based on stereotypical roles of males and females in our society. Because stereotyping can affect how children feel about themselves and how they relate to others, it's important that they learn to recognize and understand gender stereotypes in different media.

Here are some tips to help kids understand how boys and girls and men and women are stereotyped in the media.

Start talking about gender stereotyping early on. Familiarize young children with the concept of stereotyping (simple, one-dimensional portrayals of people, based on generalizations based on gender, race, age, etc.) and help them understand the role gender stereotypes play in the storybooks and cartoons they enjoy. Point out non-traditional heroes and heroines in children's media.

Look at how boys and girls are stereotyped in advertisements and in movies and TV programs. Talk about how these images are limiting for children, who may feel they aren't "normal" because they don't fit the mould, for example, a girl who plays sports aggressively or a boy who likes reading and drawing.

Ask kids to think about how realistically males and females are portrayed in the media. Ask them to compare the images of men and women they see on TV with people they know in real life. Are the standards for attractiveness the same for men and women? Are females generally more concerned about personal relationships, while men are more concerned about their careers?

Examine advertising for a stereotypical male (someone who is confident, physically active, aggressive, in control) and a stereotypical female (someone who is beautiful, helpless, domestic, sexually attractive). Discuss how such images can influence how we perceive sex roles.

Talk about the differences in video games designed for boys and girls. Look at the images of men and women in games designed for boys. Who are the aggressors and who are the victims? What about games where the women are the "shooters"? Is this a step forward for women? Why do so many girl-specific games promote stereotypical interests such as make-up and fashion?

Look at gender portrayal in popular music. Discuss the marketing of male and female musical artists: how does it differ? What role does attractiveness play in the promotion of female artists: is it the same for male artists? Talk about the sexism and violence directed at women in some music lyrics and videos.

Look for strong, realistic portrayals of men and women. The media can provide engaging, positive and non-traditional role models for boys and girls. Counter the many stereotypical gender portrayals kids are exposed to with media portrayals of sensitive men and strong women.

FROM THE BSM

Invoices now by Email

Our school has always sent home parent letters and invoices via your students.

Due to our OneSchool student and financial computer system and due to the fact that Windaroo Valley High is now emailing invoices to students, those families with an email address in our system will now receive student invoices by email.

This is because the systems between the schools is connected through the parent contact, and as the high school has chosen the email function, this automatically flows to all students with the same parents contact in our school, and has a current email address on file. This being the case, we will always make sure that as much information is on the invoice as possible.

Please note: You will still receive the parent permission note through your student as it needs to be signed and returned.

Those parents who do not have current email addresses in our system will still receive the invoice with the parent letter through your student.
Gradually, more and more families will receive invoices by email, so please let us know your email address and please keep it current.

**Expression of Interest - Mowers**

We are in the process of upgrading, in the near future, two of our old ride-on lawn mowers. A Husqvarna zero turn (11 years old) and a Kubota ride-on (7yrs old).

We are looking at trading them, but if anyone is interested in perhaps purchasing these, please express your interest in writing asap or email admin@windarooss.eq.edu.au

Robyn Parker  
Business Manager - WSS

**Updating Contact Details**

Life is very busy for all of us and things change! But.. it is really important for the school to have your current details so we can contact you in an emergency.

Friends and family members who are listed for your children may have changed and as we move toward emailing report cards, we need to ensure that your details are correct.

Please contact the office by note, phone call or the easiest way is by email: admin@windarooss.eq.edu.au

**FROM THE SPORTS DEPT**

Swimming News

Well done to our school swimming team that competed at the Pacific Rim District Swimming carnival held at Chandler Aquatic Centre on Monday.

Many of our swimmers swam personal best times which is a fantastic achievement.

Congratulations to Isaiah K Year 6 for gaining selection into the District team to compete at the South Coast Regional Carnival held early in March.

A big thank you to all the parents who came along and support of team.

**FROM THE CHAPPY**

I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to all those who support chaplaincy in this amazing school, and what a pleasure it is to be back again for another year working alongside of a very supportive support team in this school.

I would like to advise everyone of a change of venue for the Chaplains room. It is now found in C block next to the uniform shop. I am here Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and parents please note that my door is always open to you if you would like to come and chat if you have a need in any area, you have concerns about your child or just simply to say hi.

I hope you all have a fantastic first term (even in this heat).

This is a great quote to dwell on  
“Everyday do something that will inch you closer to a better tomorrow”

Robyn Lee

**SCHOOL BANKING VOLUNTEERS**

Just a reminder to parents that they need 10 tokens to redeem and cannot use their brothers or sisters tokens. The bank records entries and reconciles how many tokens each student number has accumulated according to the number of deposits made. Thank you.
FROM THE P&C

2016 P&C Committee

Congratulations to our new P&C Committee for 2016:

President - Melannie Markey
Vice President - Michelle Lockhart
Secretary - Monica Goethals
Treasurer - Aime MacDonald
Vice Treasurer - Amanda West
Fundraising Co-ordinator - Kim Hollier
Welfare Officer - Robyn Lee
P&C Representative - Danielle Heskins
Teacher Rep - Vacant

We are looking forward to a fantastic year ahead.

Families are invited to jump on board and be part of our Fundraising Committee who meet every Monday in the P&C Office / Uniform Shop at 9:00am.

Details for the next P&C Meeting will be available in the next newsletter.

Car Wash

Our first fundraiser for this year is the Car Wash we are hosting in conjunction with the Gonski Initiative to raise more awareness for funding for our schools. This event is happening at our school on Saturday 20 February 10am - 4pm. $10 per car wash and each family gets a free sausage sizzle (1 per family).

5c Drive

The 5c Drive will be happening again at the end of this month. Notes have gone home already to all families with details on what to do and how your child's class can win weekly (zooper doopers) and overall a Pizza Party. One class from P-2 and 3-6 will win at the end of the fundraiser. We are running this fundraiser to raise funds for implementing wifi in all our classrooms.

Uniform Shop - Chair Bags

Year 1 and Year 2 students who are still needing to get chair bags listed in the book list, these are available at the Uniform Shop for $9.00.

Contacting the P&C

If you would like to touch base with us or be kept up to date with all things P&C there are a few different ways:

Skoolbag App: We will post events and alerts onto the Skoolbag App to keep you all up to date.

Facebook Group: Search Windaroo State School P&C on Facebook. This will keep you up to date with information on the P&C and Uniform Shop and other important school news.

Email: Need to contact us? Email us at windaroopca@outlook.com
MERIT AWARDS

Senior Recipients - 8 February

A terrific effort by all of you. Keep up the great work!

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Junior Recipients - 15 February

Congratulations to our very special and hardworking students!

PA Harry | Lara | 1A | Lucas | Lily | 2B | Myley | Lukas
PC Jaz | Lincon | 1C | Kyle | Bladyn | 2H | Joshua B | Jayda R
PJ Rebecca | Aidan | 1DM | McKenzie | Jayden | 2K | Osmond | Thomas B
PK Sophia | Matthew | 1G | Hoani | Phoebe | 2L | Jayden B | Jorja
PN Byron | Abigail | 1M | Jayda | Mikayla | 2SR | Bronson | Riley F
PW Brock | Connie | 1W | Rylee | Chad | 2WA | Erika | Riley S

VALUES TOKENS - Jnr School

These children have displayed the values that we encourage at Windaroo State School. Congratulations to them all!

PW Coopah | 1A | Holly | 1A | William
1A Gabby | 1C | Charlotte | 1M | Nathan
1M Chloe | 2L | Claire | 2WA | Riley
2WA Meela |   | Well done, everyone!

Congratulations!

Special mention to Hannah M for her selection to dance in the upcoming performances of "Hairspray" the musical at the Brisbane Convention Centre. Have a great time!
Community News

Looking for a Running Coach?

Fast Track Athletics has an experienced Level 2 Runs Coach offering training sessions for sprints, middle and cross country at the Beenleigh Little Athletics Oval, Logan St, Eagleby on Tuesday and Thursday afternoon 4:00pm - 5:30pm. Cost is only $5 per session. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A MEMBER OF BEENLEIGH LITTLE ATHLETICS TO JOIN.

Contact Coach Brad Schofield via SMS only on 0449090594 for more details.

FREE Come & Try Junior Golf Day

Mt Warren Golf Club is having a FREE "Come and Try " Day for kids aged 5-16yr.

If you would like your child to put down their screens for a while and try something new, this is a great opportunity to have a go!

Please see the flyer for further details.